



Technical Service Bulletin

26 Creaking noises are heard from exhaust flap at idle speed - V6 2.9TFSI

26 21 46 2062029/2 May 18, 2021. Supersedes Technical Service Bulletin Group 26 number 21-43 dated February 1, 2021 for reasons listed below.

Model(s)	Year	VIN Range	Vehicle-Specific Equipment
RS 6 Avant, RS 7	2020 - 2021	All	Not Applicable
RS 5, RS 5 Cabriolet, and RS 5 Sportback	2019, 2021	All	Not Applicable

Condition

REVISION HISTORY		
Revision	Date	Purpose
2	-	Revised header (Added RS 6 and RS 7) Revised <i>Condition</i> (Updated Customer statement) Revised <i>Technical Background</i> (Added information) Revised <i>Service</i> (Added information)
1	02/01/2021	Initial publication

Customer states:

- There are creaking noises from the exhaust system, from the exhaust flaps (with engine idling/when changing gear/maneuvering).
- The exhaust flap may open/close several times independently.

Workshop findings:

- A flap/motor operating noise can be heard from the rear silencer when the exhaust flaps are activated.

Technical Background

The exhaust flap system is a mechanical system that is exposed to significant influences due to weather, thermodynamics and other environmental conditions which may affect the flap mechanism and the noise emitted from the area of the rear silencer.

Although all of these influences can cause noises that may be heard inside or in the vicinity of the vehicle, this is due to technical design and is not a cause for concern.



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If the exhaust flap opens and closes several times independently while you are using the vehicle, this is part of a functional check of the exhaust flap mechanism that is initiated by the software. While the vehicle is being operated, the ECM may detect friction on the exhaust flap mechanism. A “loosening” function is implemented in many models to overcome this type of friction which may occur suddenly (self-rectification). This can be seen by the exhaust flap being activated several times in a row during an operating cycle. The customer may notice this happening in some cases.

Production Solution

Not applicable.

Service

Explain the Technical Background to the customer if necessary.

1. Evaluate the customer concern by comparing it with the video located at: <https://audi-external.kzoplatform.com/player/medium/1872019322604361204> (Figure 1).



Figure 1. QR code for viewing the supporting video.

- 2 The noise can be compared by following the sequence below:
 - Engine idling.
 - Drive select mode: dynamic.
 - Shift selector lever from P to D and N.
- 3 When shifting, the exhaust flap is activated and opens or closes, providing the best opportunity to check the normal operating noise of the exhaust flaps.
- 4
 - If the control motor and exhaust flap noise is found comparable to the audio file, then the concern is not valid and the noise is considered to be normal operation. In this case do *not* replace any components and explain to the customer that this sound is normal and caused by the operation of the exhaust flaps. The vehicle can be released to the customer.



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- If there is rattling, twittering or bubbling noises, then refer to TSB 2058998: *26 Noises are heard from the exhaust at idle, DTCs P047600, P048C00, P04A000, or P301B00 are stored in the ECM.*
- If the noise is different than the audio file and the above TSB, continue diagnosis outside of these TSBs.

Warranty

This TSB is informational only and not applicable to any Audi Warranty

Additional Information

The following Technical Service Bulletin(s) will be necessary to complete this procedure:

- TSB 2058998, *26 Noises are heard from the exhaust at idle, DTCs P047600, P048C00, P04A000, or P301B00 are stored in the ECM.*

All part and service references provided in this TSB (2062029) are subject to change and/or removal. Always check with your Parts Department and/or ETKA for the latest information and parts bulletins. Please check the Repair Manual for fasteners, bolts, nuts, and screws that require replacement during the repair.

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