

All M17x - Oil Leak from Rear Main Seal Area

Topic number	LI01.40-P-079518
Version	1
Function group	01.40 - Crankcase, timing case cover, end cover
Date	7/16/25
Validity	All M17x Variants
Reason for change	

Complaint

Customer complains of oil use, oil leaking or oil smell. Upon inspection oil will be seen at or around the rear of the engine and at the engine/transmission interface.

Cause

Oil leaking from rear main seal and/or rear main seal plate.

Attachments	
File	Description
Rolled Seal.jpg	
	
Rolled Seal 2.jpg	



Remedy

If the rear main seal plate has been previously replaced per the instructions in this LI, open a TIPS case before proceeding.

Inspect the rear main seal very carefully. Make sure the seal is not sucked in, rolled, or cut (see pictures in attachments).

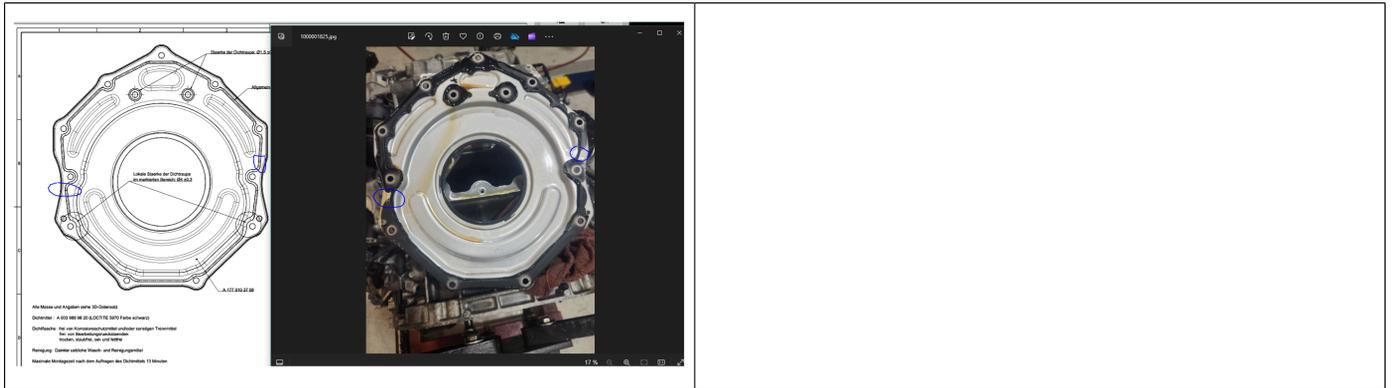
Confirm the leak location is at the rear main seal and/or rear main seal plate by cleaning the area thoroughly and applying trace powder to the suspected area. Allow the vehicle to run either on a lift or at low speed in a controlled environment (do not attempt at high speed or in wet areas as this will make the results difficult to assess).

If the leak is emanating from the seal: replace both air/oil separators. Then clean the bellhousing area completely and test with trace powder again to see if the leak remains. If it doesn't, release the car.

If the leak remains pull the rear main seal plate, clean the block mating surface completely and replace the rear main seal plate and rear main seal. When the new seal is installed make sure the sealant path is followed exactly as it is shown per the drawing in the attachments.

Apply the sealant to the BLOCK instead of the plate to ensure adequate coverage is attained. After installation lubricate a feeler gauge with oil and run it between the rear main seal and the crank to clear any small debris that may be present and to break any binding or stiction.

Attachments	
File	Description
RMS Sealant Path.png	



Disclaimer

NOTE: The information contained in this document is intended for use by trained, professional technicians with the knowledge to properly and safely perform diagnosis and repairs on Mercedes-Benz vehicles, using Mercedes-Benz approved tools and equipment. It informs service technicians about conditions that could occur in certain vehicles and provides information that could assist in proper vehicle diagnosis, service, or repair. It does not indicate that a defect is present in any vehicle referenced in this document nor does it imply warranty coverage. DO NOT assume that a symptom or condition, or a described cause of a symptom or condition, affects any particular vehicle or groups of vehicles, or that a described repair applies to any particular vehicle or groups of vehicles. There can be multiple causes resulting in the same or similar symptoms or conditions described in this document, and trained professional service technicians must use their diagnostic skills to make evaluations on a case-by-case basis. The information contained in this document does not guarantee warranty coverage nor does it extend the vehicle's warranty in any way.

Symptoms

Power generation > Engine lubrication/oil cooling > Leakage > External oil loss

Parts

Part number	ES1	ES2	Designation	Quantity	Note	EPC
A1770103708			Crankcase Cover	1	Must remove A 601 992 01 25 - CLAMPING SLEEVE (Cap to cylinder crankcase) before installing	X
N000000 001144			Screws	13		X

Operation numbers/damage codes

Op. no.	Operation text	Time	Damage code	Note