RCA-26-26-001-1: Water Contamination in Refrigerant System

Rivian is initiating a customer satisfaction campaign for some model year 2025 R1T and R1S vehicles that are susceptible to water contaminating the refrigerant system. Water contamination may cause premature failure of some refrigerant system components or, in some cases, cause a loss of HV isolation. A loss of HV isolation could cause the vehicle to enter a reduced performance safe state mode, and a "Limited Performance Mode" indicator light to illuminate on the driver display. Rivian will inspect the refrigerant system for water contamination and, if necessary, replace affected refrigerant system components. Rivian is launching this campaign for customer satisfaction and to ensure the quality of Rivian vehicles.

Document Type	Customer Satisfaction Campaign Bulletin
Date	March 11, 2026
Affected Region(s)	USA, Canada
Affected Model(s)	R1T, R1S
Model Year(s)	2025
Approximate Build Dates Refer to **Open Containments** in ServiceOS to determine if this document applies to a specific vehicle.	May 2024-May 2025
Vehicle System	26 - Thermal Management

Required Parts

Part Number	Quantity	Engineering Name	Service Name/Notes
PT00100520-A	1	Seal Washer 12.7mm	O-ring, High Pressure Refrigerant Line to A/C Compressor
PT01443307-A	2 or 4	DESICCANT O-RING	O-ring, Desiccant Insert Housing

Attention: The parts listed in this table are only for unique steps that are called out in this bulletin. Some sections of this bulletin might refer to Service Manual procedures which require additional parts. Always review the bulletin and all potentially related Service Manual procedures before ordering parts and beginning work.

Potentially Required Parts

Part Number	Quantity	Engineering Name	Service Name/Notes
C100349299-H	1	ACCUMULATOR BUNDLE	Chiller/Accumulator Assembly
PT00349298-E	1	COMPRESSOR; AC; HV	Compressor, A/C
PT00050471-C	1	SENSOR TEMPERATURE-PRESSURE; HIGH	Sensor, Refrigerant, Heat Exchanger/Chiller/ Accumulator, High Pressure
Refer to the tool use instructions	1		Filter drier in the A/C machine
Refer to the tool use instructions	2		Filter drier in the A/C refrigerant flush tool
R1S only:			
PT00007882-D	1	EVAPORATOR - HVAC; RR	Evaporator, HVAC, Rear
PT01105487-A	1	ETXV - HVAC; Rear HVAC	Valve, Expansion (TXV), Rear

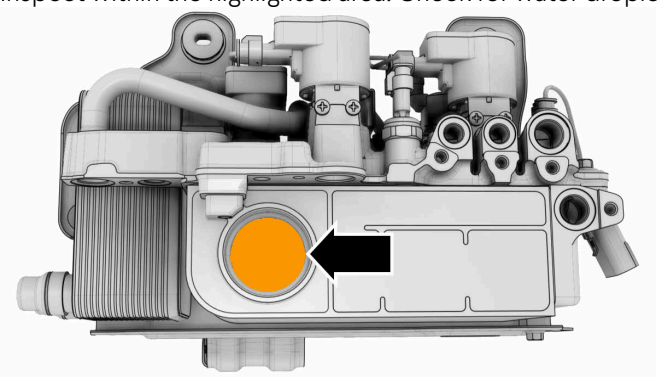
Attention: The parts listed in this table are only for unique steps that are called out in this bulletin. Some sections of this bulletin might refer to Service Manual procedures which require additional parts. Always review the bulletin and all potentially related Service Manual procedures before ordering parts and beginning work.

Inspection

1. Remove and retain: Desiccant Insert, Refrigerant System (refer to service manual procedure 264625010).

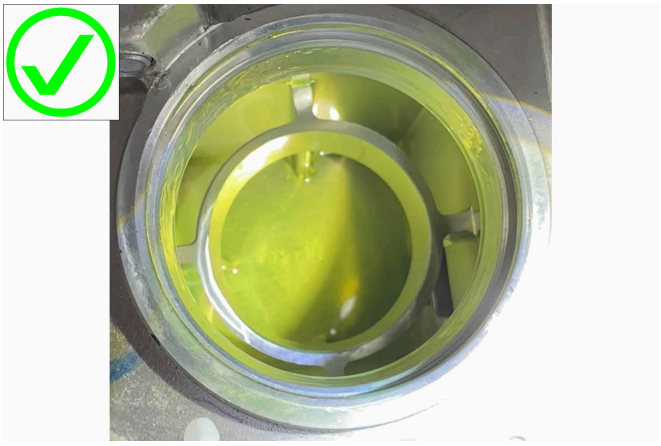
   Note: Do not remove the desiccant insert from the housing.

2. Inspect within the highlighted area. Check for water droplets in the reservoir.



Note: Shown with components removed for clarity.

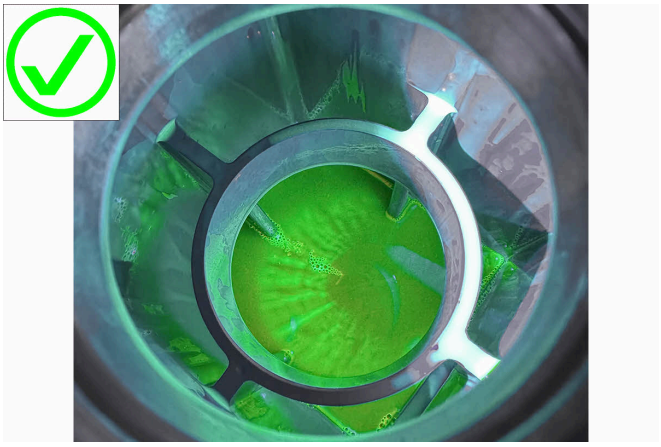
Uncontaminated oil



Note: In some cases, small gas bubbles float on the surface of the oil. These bubbles are acceptable, and are different from water droplets, which remain at the bottom of the oil.

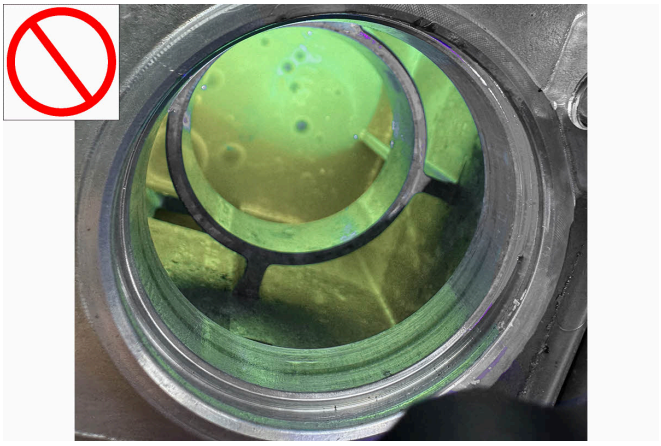
Tip: If necessary: Use a clean tool to touch the droplets. Water droplets move within the oil when touched.

Uncontaminated oil with gas bubbles on the surface



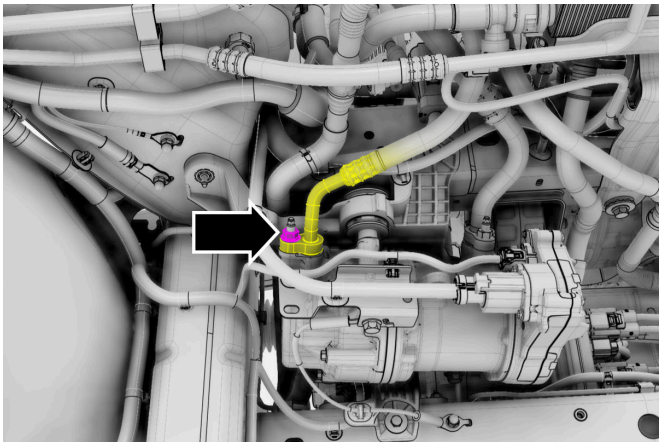
Contaminated oil with water droplets at the bottom

Contaminated oil with water droplets at the bottom

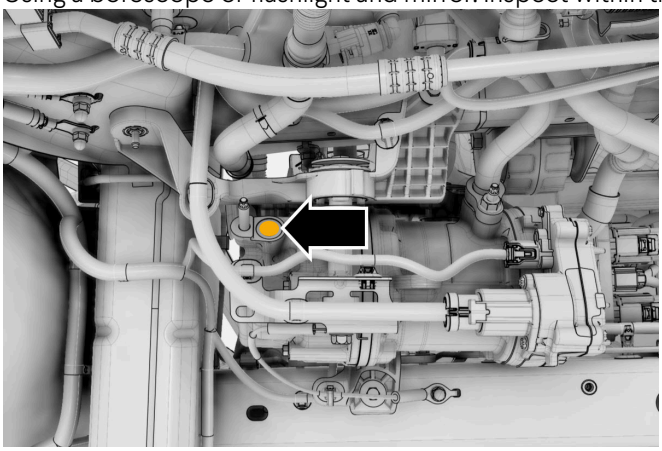


- If any water is present: Skip to the Procedure section.
- If no water is present: Continue to the next step.

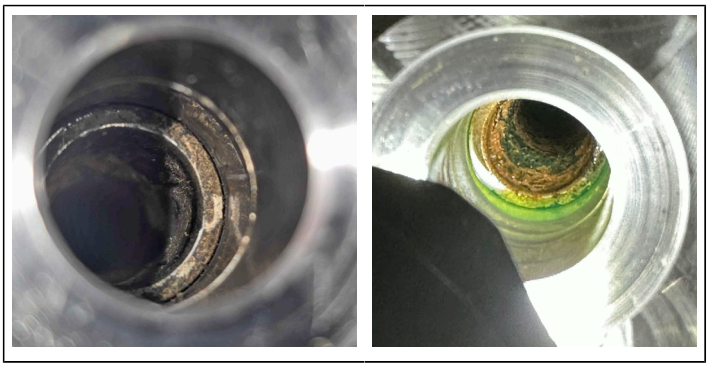
3.



4. Using a borescope or flashlight and mirror: Inspect within the highlighted area for corrosion.



Examples of corrosion



- If corrosion is present: Skip to the Procedure section.
- If no corrosion is present: Continue to the next step.

5. Reinstall: Desiccant Insert, Refrigerant System (refer to service manual procedure 264625010).
   - **Note:** Do not replace the component.
   - Replace the highlighted component(s).

6. Reinstall all components that were removed for access and replace all non-reusable components. Refer to the service manual procedures referenced in this document for additional component reusability information and torque specifications.

CAUTION: Replace all previously-installed o-rings and sealing washers.

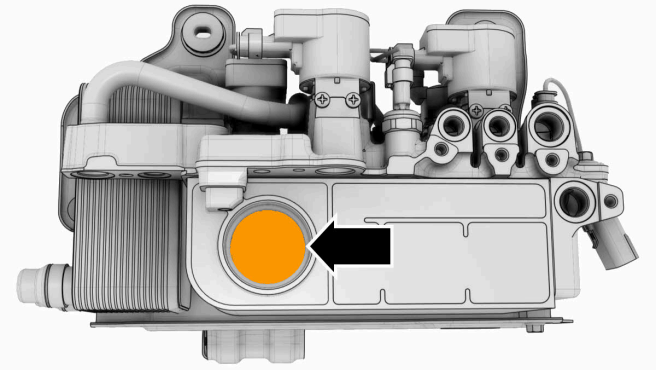
Torque specifications in this section

Step Number	Torque (Nm)
3	20

Procedure

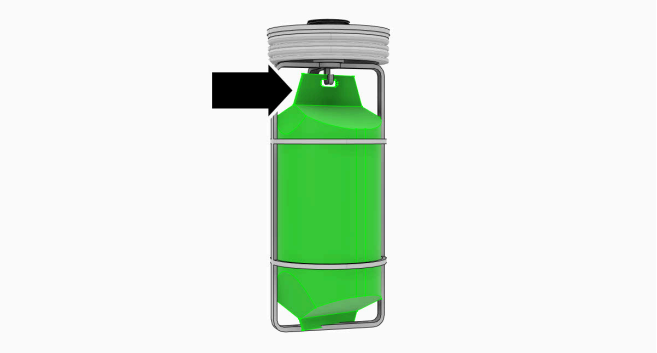
The filter drier in the A/C machine must be replaced before it is used on another vehicle. The filter drier is replaced in a later step, but if the A/C machine needs to be used on another vehicle before then, the filter drier must be replaced. Refer to the special tool instructions for important information.

1. Using a syringe: Remove as much oil and water as possible from the component.



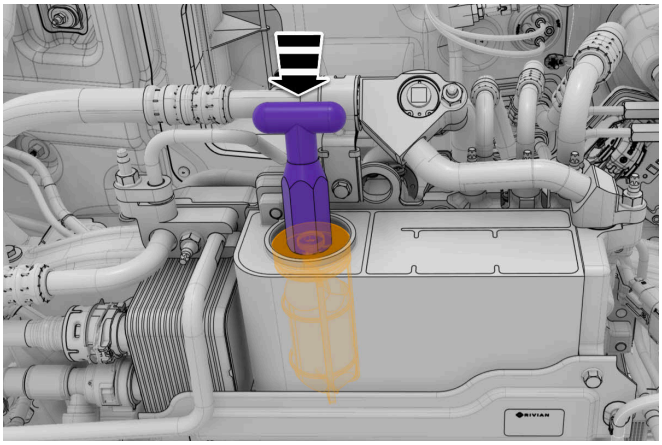
Note: Shown with components removed for clarity.

2. Using needle-nose pliers and a paper towel: Remove residual oil and water from the component. It is not necessary for the component to be completely dry.
3. Remove and discard:

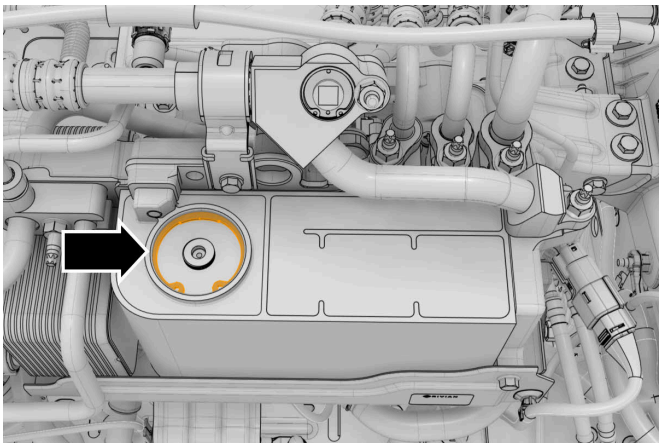


4. If necessary: Replace:

5. Reinstall:



6. Reinstall:



7. Review the following information, then: Perform: Flush Refrigerant System (refer to service manual procedure 264651017).
    - Replace the filter drier on the A/C refrigerant flush tool before connecting the tool. Refer to the special tool instructions for important information.
    - R1S: Do not replace **Evaporator, HVAC, Rear** or **Valve, Expansion (TXV) Rear** at this time.
    - Return to this procedure before starting the evacuation step.
8. Using the A/C machine: Pull a vacuum on the system for at least 2 hours.
9. Replace the filter drier on the A/C refrigerant flush tool. Refer to the special tool instructions for important information. The filter drier on the flush tool must be replaced after the tool is used on a vehicle that has water contamination.
10. Replace: Compressor, A/C (refer to service manual procedure 264610010).
    - Do not remove any oil from the new component.
    - Do not add any additional oil to the refrigerant system.
    - Ignore any instructions shown on other service manual procedures regarding the amount of oil to add to a component.

    Note: The new A/C compressor includes the appropriate amount of oil for the entire refrigerant system.
11. Replace: Chiller/Accumulator Assembly (refer to service manual procedure 264660010).
12. Replace: Sensor, Refrigerant, Heat Exchanger (refer to service manual procedure 264638010).
13. R1S only: Replace: Evaporator, HVAC, Rear (refer to service manual procedure 266412010).
14. R1S only: Replace: Valve, Expansion (TXV), Rear (refer to service manual procedure 264640510).
15.

Important: Replace the filter drier in the A/C machine. Refer to the special tool instructions for important information.

16. Recharge the refrigerant (refer to service manual procedure 264650024).

Labor Codes

Labor Code	Description
RCA262600101	Inspect for water in chiller/accumulator assembly, inspect for corrosion in A/C compressor
RCA262600102	Inspect for water in chiller/accumulator assembly, inspect for corrosion in A/C compressor, replace refrigerant system components