

Vehicle drops at rear axle, vehicles with electronic rear axle level control or AIRmatic

Topic number	L132.22-P-048597
Version	8
Design group	32.22 Air suspension
Date	03-09-2012
Validity	Model 212.0## with air suspension (SA code 489) Model 212.2## (station wagon) Model 218 with air suspension (SA code 489)
Reason for change	Part number of air filter added. Text in "Remedy" heading updated.

Complaint:
The vehicle drops at the rear axle after standing for a long time.

Cause:
Damaged sealing rings in the air suspension element on the rear axle can lead to a microscopic leak and thus to a gradual loss of air.

Attachments	
File	Designation
2.JPG	Figure 2
1.JPG	Figure 1

Remedy:

Check for water in the system:

1. Unscrew AIRmatic pressure line between compressor and valve unit.

If water runs out (Figure 1) or if water droplets are visible at the pressure line connection of the compressor or valve unit (Figure 2), the compressor, the valve unit and the air filter of the intake hose must be replaced.

If no water is visible, actuate compressor. If water runs out of the connection on the compressor, replace the compressor, the valve unit and the air filter of the intake hose.

If the components are replaced due to water in the system, this is to be encoded in the warranty and goodwill case as consequential damage for the air spring bellows.

(Observe WIS instructions.)

2. Unscrew air lines from valve block to air springs on the side of the air suspension strut and blow out with compressed air.

XENTRY

3. Replace both air springs on the rear axle.

Note: Since the end of December 2011 modified air spring bellows are available with which the problem can be permanently eliminated - see part numbers below. Even if one or both air spring bellows have been replaced in the past and the vehicle has started to drop at the rear axle again, the cause of the problem is still the air spring bellows. We are unaware of any other damage mechanism/focus. In this case both air spring bellows must be replaced again.

Possible check for confirming the complaint 'vehicle drops':

1. Park up the vehicle and after approx. 2 hours, when the vehicle has cooled down, measure the vehicle level at the rear axle on both sides from the wheel center to the fender.

2. Leave the vehicle standing overnight in the same place and next day check the vehicle level at both wheels.

If the vehicle level has dropped by more than 20 mm, both air suspension elements must be replaced.

Symptoms

Chassis/suspension / Suspension/Dampening / Suspension System Function / Vehicle level too low
Chassis/suspension / Suspension/Dampening / Suspension System Function / Level does not react
Chassis/suspension / Suspension/Dampening / Suspension System Function / Indicator lamp is on
Chassis/suspension / Suspension characteristic / Lopsided/crooked
Chassis/suspension / Suspension/Dampening / AIRMATIC / AIRMATIC leaks / Air leakage
Chassis/suspension / Suspension/Dampening / AIRMATIC / AIRMATIC display / Air Suspension- Stop, Vehicle Too Low
Chassis/suspension / Suspension/Dampening / AIRMATIC / AIRMATIC display / Air Suspension - Service Required
Chassis/suspension / Suspension/Dampening / AIRMATIC / AIRMATIC function / Vehicle is lopsided
Chassis/suspension / Suspension/Dampening / AIRMATIC / AIRMATIC function / Vehicle is too low
Chassis/suspension / Suspension/Dampening / AIRMATIC / AIRMATIC function / Vehicle lowers while driving

Parts

Part number	ES1	ES2	Designation	Quantity	Note	EPC	Other make part
A 212 320 39 25			Left rear air spring, except AMG	1	As required for station wagon & coupe	X	
A 212 320 40 25			Right rear air spring, except AMG	1	As required for station wagon & coupe	X	
A 212 320 37 25			Left rear air spring, except AMG	1	As required for sedan	X	
A 212 320 38 25			Right rear air spring, except AMG	1	As required for sedan	X	
A 212 320 04 04			Compressor unit	1	As required	X	
A 212 320 01 58			Valve unit	1	SA code 489 Air suspension	X	
A 212 320 02 58			Valve unit	1	SA code 488 Electronic level control	X	
A 212 320 01 69			Air filter	1	As required	X	