

### Issue no. 10/2017: Leaves in the water tank

The cabin filter is an important part of the vehicle air conditioning system and protects passengers as well as the HVAC system and heating components reliably from dirt and harmful environmental influences.

The HVAC system is designed in such a way that the cabin filter does not come into contact with water under normal conditions. Depending on the vehicle type, however, this can still happen in certain circumstances, most often due to leaves clogging the drains in the water tank. In these cases, rain water can no longer drain freely and backs up into the fresh air intake in the HVAC system and the cabin filter.



Figure 1: Leaves in the water tank

The consequences vary depending on the amount of water: fogged up windows, unpleasant odours, and even mould formation. If a substantial amount of water is involved, heavy damage can occur, for example, in the vehicle electronics.



Figure 2: Water drain (indicated by arrow) below the battery in the water tank

**Important:** Leaves should be removed from the water tank on a regular basis, particularly in autumn. In general, it is recommended to change the cabin filter at least once a year, or every 15,000 km.