



Issue-No.: 2/2011 – MAHLE In-line fuel filters for BMW diesel vehicles

Danger of confusion: KL 169/3 and KL 579 D

Due to the different original equipment systems BMW have different heaters and their respectively different in-line fuel filters. However, from the outside these filters look very much alike.

As a result there is a danger of mistaking one for the other and choosing the wrong one when they need to be replaced.

The **KL 169/3 D** is used in model series:

E60, E61, E63, E64, E65, E66, E70, E71, E81, E82, E83, E87, E88, E46 4WD, F10, F01 and F02.

The **KL 579 D** is used in the following model series:

E90, E91, E92 and E93 built to 2010.

The heaters, which have sealing domes of different heights, are not replaced when the filter is exchanged, they remain in the vehicle. That means when you replace the in-line fuel filter it has to correspond to the different height of the respective sealing dome.

If the **KL169/3 is fitted instead of KL579**, the heater will be pushed too far into the filter, touch the disc at the end of the filter and obstruct the fuel flow.

This can have two consequences:

- In the best case the error will be noticed immediately. No more fuel is transported and the engine will not start.
- In the worst case the fuel pump will still be able to transport fuel; the engine will start and run. However, this puts an enormous strain on the pump and causes it to fail after driving approx. 10 to 40 km. As a result the fuel pump will have to be replaced and that is an expensive repair.

Fitting the **KL579 instead of the KL 169/3** can lead to leakages at the O-ring.

To avoid causing damage, make absolutely sure you use exactly the filter specified in the catalogue for each appropriate vehicle.

Picture 1: So similar they can easily be mistaken – KL169/3 and KL579

Picture 2: The matching filter for each respective in-line fuel filter

Picture 3: Distinct differences in the heater interface (short and long piece)



Picture 1



Picture 2



Picture 3