



OEM BULLETIN

SEAT

The Union of the European Lubricant Industry (UEIL) is the umbrella association of the European Lubricants Industry, representing their members and, in particular, the interests of SMEs and independent lubricant companies. To date, the UEIL represents more than 450 lubricant companies, who manufacture and distribute lubricant products under their own various trademarks throughout the European Union. With members in more than 22 European countries and a unique collective experience of lubricants and the lubricants market, UEIL is the sole representative body for independent manufacturers of lubricants in Europe and has been recognised as such by the European Commission. It is UEIL's policy to favour free and fair competition within the scope of prevailing EU and national laws.

Several UEIL members drew its attention to the wording of the latest version of SEAT owners' manuals which do not mention anymore engine oil specifications for their vehicles. They only state :

« When topping up or changing oil, use only those that comply with VW standards. »

But the manufacturer does not mention the relevant VW specification. Consequently, customers are deprived of information regarding the right engine oil to be used in their vehicle.

SEAT only specifies that they can get information about the correct engine oil for their vehicle at their workshop and invites them to have the oil changed by a specialist workshop.

Furthermore, SEAT recommends *« using original SEAT oil to guarantee high SEAT engine performance. »*

Following this information, one of UEIL members, UNITI, explained our concerns to the Centre for Protection against Unfair Competition in Germany (Wettbewerbszentrale).

After studying the case, « Wettbewerbszentrale » asked SEAT to go back to the usual procedure and to mention the engine oil specifications requested in their owners' manuals.

In response to that request, SEAT has committed itself in a « statement of omission » to mention oil specifications in its owners' manuals again with regard to oil change and re-fill and to remove the reference to *« a specialist workshop »* by 2nd of August 2021.

Brussels, June 2021