

14 July 2021 Press release

Amsterdam District Court: Volkswagen, Audi, Seat and Skoda acted unlawfully by putting diesel vehicles with tampering software on the market.

In proceedings initiated by Stichting Car Claim against Volkswagen, Audi, Seat and Skoda and the dealers, the District Court of Amsterdam ruled today that the car manufacturers have acted unlawfully by introducing diesel cars with defeat device into the market. The court also ruled that Dutch car dealers must grant consumers a price reduction of EUR 3,000 for a purchased new car and a price reduction of EUR 1,500 in case of a used car.

The Diesel Emissions Justice Foundation welcomes the decision of the Amsterdam District Court in the proceeding by Stichting Car Claim. This is a first step towards a pan-European solution that does justice to all victims.

The court also indicated that this decision was rendered under the former legislation for collective actions. This means, the court also emphasised, that this judgment does not yet provide a basis for enforcing compensation for individual victims. This requires additional proceedings.

Today's decision is limited to Euro 5 vehicles (produced between 2009 and 2015) that were outfitted with a 1.2 litre, 1.6 litre or 2.0 litre TDI engine of the EA 189 engine series. The decision therefore does not relate to the later Euro 6 vehicles with EA 189's four-cylinder successor engine EA 288 (used by Volkswagen, Skoda, Seat and Audi). Nor does the decision relate to Euro 5 and Euro 6 vehicles with six- or eight-cylinder diesel engines of the engine type EA 897 (used by Volkswagen, Audi and Porsche).

The proceedings that Diesel Emissions Justice Foundation has started against Volkswagen, Audi, Seat and Skoda as well as Porsche and the dealers were initiated under the new legislation for class actions. The outcome of the proceedings initiated by Diesel Emissions Justice Foundation can therefore lead to compensation for all victims. Also, the proceedings by Diesel Emissions Justice Foundation also include the abovementioned models with Euro 6 EA 288 engines and with Euro 5 and 6 EA 897 engines. Moreover, the Diesel Emissions Justice Foundation offers a platform for the victims and Volkswagen, Audi, Seat and Skoda, as well as Porsche, to reach a pan-European settlement.

Any press enquiries are welcome to email us at press@emissionsjustice.com