

„To be installed only by a qualified specialist“ - An initiative by the VDA (German Association of the Automotive Industry)

By allowing replacement parts to be installed incorrectly by someone who is not properly qualified, you put the safety of the driver and other road users at risk.

The German Equipment and Product Safety Act (GPSG for short) is intended to protect consumers in the EU against dangerous unbranded products and the improper handling of end-user products.

In its essence, the legal text stipulates that:

- Products must be labelled properly -> The name and address of the manufacturer/distributor must be displayed on the consumer product or on the packaging when placed onto the market.
- The consumer product or its packaging must be labelled in such a way that it can be easily identified (e.g. by a part number).
- Consumer products are subject to a duty to supply information, including clear and coherent warning information, as well as coherent directions for installation/use for the consumer.



Based on legal framework, the VDA trade working committee developed a pictogram, which uses pictures to inform end-consumers that replacement automotive parts must only be installed by qualified specialists in an authorised service centre; or in other words, replacement automotive parts must not be installed by unqualified persons, as this can put the safety of the driver at risk.

Schaeffler Automotive Aftermarket oHG, a member of the VDA trade working committee, has acted on this recommendation and labelled all the packaging materials it uses with the suggested pictogram.

See the adjacent picture for an example of packaging featuring the pictogram.



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Technical subject to change

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