

# VDA QMC

Qualitäts Management Center  
im Verband der Automobilindustrie

## JOINT QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN THE SUPPLY CHAIN



VDA-compliant car washes

## Your benefits as an operator:

- + The use of car washes that conform to the VDA specifications and requirements is actively promoted and supported by the automotive industry (recommended by automotive manufacturers in operating manuals and via the dealer network)
- + The effective loads and stresses on the vehicle are below the maximum specified design values for the vehicle
- + Potential for damage is in line with the (generally) accepted technical rules and standards
- + Prevents complaints and irritation on the part of customers
- + Builds up a regular customer base through a high level of customer satisfaction
- + Increased sales potential
- + Displaying the VDA seal makes your commitment to the cooperation with the automotive industry visible to the customers
- + Opportunity to stand out from the competition



## **Representatives from the automotive industry, car wash manufacturers and wash chemicals producers, and the car wash industry joined forces to create the VDA publication on “Car Washes”, published in April 2010**

### **The reasons for this were:**

- + Vehicle leaks caused by water pressure and water volumes that exceed the design parameters and specifications for modern vehicles.
- + Increasing use of decorative and functional vehicle add-on parts made of materials that can be visually or functionally impaired by wash chemicals that were commonly used up to now.

Therefore, criteria were developed for existing and future car washes as well as for wash chemicals.

The new VDA publication intentionally does not address cleaning results, the central focus is solely on preventing damage.



**Operators of car washes (gantry/  
gate-type car washes, conveyor tun-  
nel systems, self-service car wash  
systems) whose facilities comply  
with the specifications stipulated by  
the automotive industry with regard  
to chemicals and technical require-  
ments can apply for a VDA seal.**

The VDA seal indicates that the certified car wash is operated in conformance with the specifications and requirements stipulated by the automotive industry.



## **The seal is only awarded if all criteria are met in full.**

**“VDA Car Washes” or “VDA-compliant Wash Programs” are not permitted.**

**In addition to criteria for wash chemicals, mechanical requirements were also specified:**

- + Minimum dimensions for car washes
- + Overhangs & undercuts
- + Protruding vehicle parts / Projecting bodywork sections
- + Hydrodynamic loads and stresses
- + Water volumes
- + Water pressure
- + Mechanical loads and stresses
- + Buckling strength of bodywork / Resistance of bodywork to denting
- + Firm fit of add-on parts / Firm retention of attached components
- + Tensile forces in gaps
- + Washing convertibles / coupés

The VDA seal is awarded for an annual fee of 100 euros for a period of 2 years (sliding discount scale for 6 car washes or more).

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**For more information on the  
seal certification process,  
please visit our website:**

[www.vda-qmc.de](http://www.vda-qmc.de)

**If you have specific questions  
regarding VDA-compliant car  
washes or the VDA publicati-  
on on “Car Washes” published  
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