

Today's heavy duty air filters are subjected to flow-rates that require a very robust design. Of all the air filter's functional features, the seal is one of the most important. For many years the axial seal, which is formed by compression between the filter and a flat surface in the housing, was the most common type found in the industry.



Today, the versatility of the radial style seal has made it equally as common. However, because of the familiarity of the axial seal, the radial style seal is often misunderstood.



Confusion can occur when the sealing surface of a filter is not recognized or understood. The axial seal is found on the end of the filter, commonly in the form of a gasket (A-1). This is not the case for the radial style seal. The WIX 49088, for example, is a large diameter, radially sealing heavy duty air filter. The sealing surface of this filter is formed along the inner diameter of the filter's polyurethane open endcap (A-2). This seal type effectively prevents by-pass as contaminated air passes though the filter's media at high flow rates.



Some of the benefits of the radial style seal are durability, polyurethane one piece design, and increased sealing area. The large diameter radial seal design is also found in other WIX constructions such as the 46870, 49779, and the 46922.



As a reminder, it has always been, and remains our recommendation that the selection of a replacement filter be conducted using only the most current application information available. In today's cataloging, the electronic (i.e. internet, interactive electronic) would be the most current application information available. For questions or more information, please contact your local WIX Filters District Manager or call Product Information at 1.800.949.6698