

Air  
Conditioning

Orifice tube

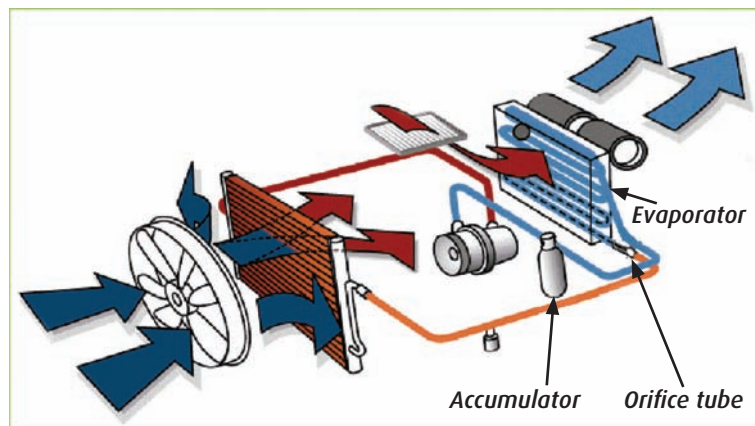
Information

Vehicles with  
Orifice tube

## Orifice tube

The orifice tube replaces the thermostatic expansion valve in some A/C circuits. Traditionally it has been fitted to the A/C loop in American vehicles (GM, Ford, Chrysler...) but in recent years it has been introduced in more European vehicles (Audi-VW, Fiat, Volvo).

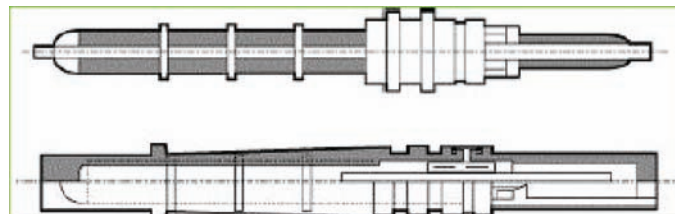
It is located just before the evaporator as you can see below:



*A/C Loop*

Its function is to allow the expansion of the refrigerating fluid but it does not regulate the volume that enters the evaporator.

It is essential to associate the orifice tube assembly with the accumulator assembly.



*Orifice tube cut-away figure*



*Orifices tubes are colour coded*

Each tube has a different calibration, therefore a different colour.

For example:

- White : Opel, Audi, Jaguar, Volvo, Vauxhall
- Purple : Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge
- Red : Ford, Mazda
- Blue : Ford, Nissan

Each colour indicates a different calibration of the orifice tube. If the incorrect orifice tube is used it could cause the introduction of an excessive amount of refrigerant fluid in the evaporator leading it to freeze, a lack of efficiency and in extreme cases, corrosion in the coating that could cause a refrigerant leak.