

GENERIC · POWERTRAIN

P0962

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

P0962

Pressure Control Solenoid 'A' Control Circuit Low

P0962 indicates that the transmission control module (TCM) has detected an abnormally low voltage or current on the control circuit for pressure control solenoid 'A', which is responsible for regulating hydraulic line pressure inside the automatic transmission. The TCM monitors the solenoid's electrical circuit and sets this code when the signal falls below the expected range, often resulting in degraded shift quality or limp mode.

SYSTEM

Powertrain

CODE TYPE

Generic (all makes)

SEVERITY

Medium

FIX DIFFICULTY

Professional

AREA

Transmission

Symptoms you may notice

- Illumination of the check engine light or transmission warning light, often with no other noticeable symptoms
- Harsh or delayed gear engagements, especially when shifting from park to drive or reverse
- Erratic shifting or slipping between gears due to incorrect line pressure
- Transmission may enter limp mode, limiting vehicle speed and gear selection
- Poor fuel economy or increased engine RPM at highway speeds due to torque converter clutch strategy changes

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Damaged, chafed, or corroded wiring in the pressure control solenoid 'A' control circuit, including the harness connector at the transmission
- 2 Faulty pressure control solenoid 'A' itself, with an internal short or open winding
- 3 Poor electrical connection at the TCM or transmission pass-through connector, often due to water intrusion or loose pins
- 4 Low transmission fluid level or contaminated fluid causing solenoid malfunction and altered current draw
- 5 Failed TCM driver circuit for the solenoid, though this is less common than wiring or solenoid faults
- 6 Internal transmission mechanical issues that affect solenoid operation, such as a stuck valve body or worn pump



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Verify transmission fluid level and condition; top off or replace fluid if contaminated or low
- 2 Inspect the wiring harness and connectors at the transmission and TCM for damage, corrosion, or loose pins; repair as needed
- 3 Measure resistance of pressure control solenoid 'A' at the transmission connector and compare to manufacturer specifications
- 4 Check for short to ground or open circuit in the control wire between the TCM and solenoid using a multimeter and wiring diagram
- 5 If the circuit tests good, replace pressure control solenoid 'A' and perform a transmission adaptive relearn procedure
- 6 If the solenoid and wiring are intact, diagnose the TCM for internal driver faults and replace or reprogram as required
- 7 Clear codes and road test the vehicle to confirm the repair and ensure no pending codes return

What the circuit test often reveals

- A common oversight is replacing the solenoid without checking the transmission pass-through connector, where oil wicking and corrosion frequently cause low current readings on the control circuit.
- The code can be set intermittently by a wiring harness that rubs against the transmission case or exhaust shield, so a wiggle test while monitoring live data is more reliable than a static resistance check.
- Low fluid level or degraded fluid can alter solenoid current draw enough to trigger P0962 without any hard electrical fault, so fluid condition must be verified before condemning parts.
- On many vehicles, a faulty TCM driver for solenoid 'A' mimics a bad solenoid, and swapping the solenoid without testing the TCM output can lead to a repeat repair.
- P0962 is often stored alongside other pressure control solenoid codes when the root cause is a shared ground or power feed in the transmission harness, so always check for multiple codes.

Can I keep driving with P0962?

Driving with P0962 is possible but not recommended for long distances, as incorrect line pressure can cause harsh shifts and accelerated transmission wear. Avoid heavy acceleration or towing, and have the vehicle diagnosed promptly to prevent further damage.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with live data and transmission code reading capability
- Digital multimeter for circuit and resistance testing
- Transmission fluid level dipstick or scan tool fluid level check function
- Wiring diagram and connector pinout for the specific vehicle
- Socket set and trim removal tools for accessing the solenoid and TCM



Reading P0962

- P** Powertrain: engine, transmission and emissions.
- 0** Generic (SAE) code: it means the same thing on every OBD-II vehicle.
- 9** Transmission.
- 62** The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

P0748 Pressure Control Solenoid 'A' Electrical · **P0841** Transmission Fluid Pressure Sensor/Switch 'A' Circuit Range/ · **P0960** Pressure Control Solenoid 'A' Control Circuit/Open · **P0961** Pressure Control Solenoid 'A' Control Circuit Range/Performa · **P0963** Pressure Control Solenoid 'A' Control Circuit High

See it working

Watch the animated explainer [How a Wideband Air-Fuel Sensor Works](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/p0962/>

