

GENERIC · POWERTRAIN

P0D8A

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

P0D8A

Battery Charger Coupler Status Indicator Control Circuit B Low

P0D8A indicates that the powertrain control module has detected an abnormally low voltage or current on the control circuit for the battery charger coupler status indicator, which is the lamp or display that shows whether the charge coupler is properly connected and charging is active. The circuit is monitored for expected electrical behavior, and a low condition means the control wire is shorted to ground, open, or the indicator itself has failed.

SYSTEM	CODE TYPE	SEVERITY	FIX DIFFICULTY	AREA
Powertrain	Generic (all makes)	Low	Intermediate	Hybrid propulsion

Symptoms you may notice

- The battery charger coupler status indicator lamp fails to illuminate or stays dark when the coupler is connected
- The indicator may flicker or show a dim glow instead of a clear on or off state
- A warning light on the dashboard and a stored P0D8A code are present
- Charging may still occur normally, so often no symptoms besides the warning light are noticed
- In some vehicles, the charge port door or coupler lock may not release or engage as expected
- The instrument cluster may display a generic charging system fault message

Common causes, most likely first

- A short to ground in the status indicator control wire between the control module and the indicator
- An open circuit in the control wire, often due to a broken wire or poor connector pin fit
- A failed status indicator lamp or light-emitting diode assembly
- Corrosion or water intrusion at the charge coupler connector or indicator housing
- A faulty control module driver circuit that cannot supply the correct voltage
- A poor ground connection at the indicator or at the control module



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Verify the code with a scan tool and check for any related charging system codes before probing wires
- 2 Inspect the charge coupler, indicator connector, and control module connector for corrosion, water intrusion, or loose pins
- 3 Measure resistance and voltage on the status indicator control circuit to confirm a short to ground or an open circuit
- 4 Test the status indicator lamp or light-emitting diode directly with a known good power source to rule out a failed indicator
- 5 Repair any damaged wiring or connector terminals, then clear the code and recheck the circuit operation
- 6 If the circuit and indicator are good, test the control module output and replace the module only if the driver circuit is confirmed faulty
- 7 After repair, cycle the ignition and coupler connection several times to confirm the indicator works and the code does not return

What the coupler status light circuit hides

- A low condition on this circuit often comes from a chafed control wire grounding against the charge port bracket rather than from a failed indicator lamp.
- The code can set even when the vehicle charges perfectly, because the status indicator is a convenience signal and not part of the high-voltage charging path.
- Technicians sometimes replace the charge coupler assembly when the real fault is a single corroded terminal pin inside the connector, which costs far less to repair.
- Water intrusion into the charge port area is a common hidden cause, especially on vehicles that are parked outside or driven in wet climates.
- The control module driver can be damaged by a shorted indicator circuit, so repairing the wiring before installing a new module prevents repeat failures.

Can I keep driving with P0D8A?

The vehicle is generally safe to drive because this code affects only the coupler status indicator and not the charging or propulsion system, but avoid using the charge coupler until the circuit is inspected if you notice any corrosion or water in the charge port. Have the fault repaired soon so the indicator works correctly and a shorted wire does not damage the control module.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool
- Digital multimeter
- Wiring diagram for the charge coupler status indicator circuit
- Back probe pins or breakout leads
- Trim removal tools for accessing the charge port area



Reading P0D8A

- P** Powertrain: engine, transmission and emissions.
- 0** Generic (SAE) code: it means the same thing on every OBD-II vehicle.
- D** Hybrid propulsion.
- 8A** The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

P0D89 Battery Charger Coupler Status Indicator Control Circuit B/O · **P0D8B** Battery Charger Coupler Status Indicator Control Circuit B H · **P0D8C** Battery Charger Coupler Status Indicator Control Circuit C/O · **P0D8D** Battery Charger Coupler Status Indicator Control Circuit C L · **P0D8E** Battery Charger Coupler Status Indicator Control Circuit C H

See it working

Watch the animated explainer [Turbocharger Trainer: Boost, Wastegate and Intercooler](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/p0d8a/>

