

GENERIC · NETWORK

U0039

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

U0039

Vehicle Communication Bus B (+) Open

U0039 indicates that the vehicle's communication bus B positive circuit is open, meaning the control modules that share this bus cannot exchange data because the positive voltage line is broken or disconnected. The computer that monitors the bus detects a loss of voltage on the bus B (+) wire, which prevents normal communication between modules.

SYSTEM	CODE TYPE	SEVERITY	FIX DIFFICULTY	AREA
Network	Generic (all makes)	Medium	Professional	Network wiring and bus faults

Symptoms you may notice

- Multiple warning lights illuminated on the dashboard, often including the check engine light, ABS, and airbag lights
- The engine may start and run, but other systems such as stability control or transmission shifting may behave erratically
- Intermittent or complete failure of dashboard displays, radio, or climate control functions
- The vehicle may enter limp mode or refuse to start if the open bus affects critical modules
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light if the open circuit is on a non-essential bus segment

Common causes, most likely first

- Broken or chafed wire in the bus B (+) circuit, often due to flexing, corrosion, or rodent damage
- Loose or corroded connector pins at a control module or inline harness connector
- Failed control module that internally shorts or opens the bus B (+) line
- Water intrusion into a connector or module causing corrosion and an open circuit
- Aftermarket accessory installation that cut or tapped into the bus wiring incorrectly
- Poor ground connection at a module that shares the bus, leading to a perceived open on the positive side



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Use a scan tool to read all stored codes and identify which modules are offline on bus B, then consult the factory wiring diagram for that bus topology
- 2 Perform a visual inspection of the bus B (+) wiring and connectors for damage, corrosion, or loose pins, starting at the modules that are not communicating
- 3 Measure resistance and voltage on the bus B (+) circuit at each module connector with the key on, comparing to specifications to locate the open segment
- 4 Disconnect modules one at a time to see if communication returns, isolating a faulty module that is pulling the bus down
- 5 Repair or replace the damaged section of wire, connector, or module as identified, using proper crimping and sealing techniques
- 6 Clear all codes and verify that all modules communicate and no codes return after a test drive

Open bus B faults that fool technicians

- A single failed module can pull the entire bus B (+) line low, mimicking an open circuit, so disconnecting modules one by one is often faster than chasing wires.
- Corrosion inside a connector that looks fine from the outside is a common cause, especially in vehicles with leaks or high humidity, so always check for green or white deposits on pins.
- Aftermarket alarms, remote starters, or dash cams tapped into the bus wiring can create an open circuit that only appears after the installation, so ask about recent electrical work.
- The code may set intermittently due to a wire that flexes with engine movement or steering, so wiggle-testing the harness while watching live data can reveal the fault.
- A poor ground at a module can cause the module to report an open on the bus B (+) side even though the positive wire is intact, so always verify grounds before replacing wiring.

Can I keep driving with U0039?

If the warning light is on but the vehicle drives normally, you can drive cautiously to a repair shop, but avoid long trips or towing. If multiple systems fail or the vehicle enters limp mode, stop driving and have it towed to prevent unsafe operation.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with live data and module communication capabilities
- Digital multimeter with resistance and voltage measurement
- Factory wiring diagrams for the specific vehicle
- Wire piercing probes or back probe pins
- Contact cleaner and dielectric grease for connector repair



Reading U0039

- U** Network: communication between the vehicle's control modules.
- 0** Generic (SAE) code: it means the same thing on every OBD-II vehicle.
- 0** Network wiring and bus faults.
- 39** The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

U0001 Loss of Bus Communication · **U0002** High Speed CAN Communication Bus (Performance) · **U0038** Vehicle Communication Bus B (Performance) · **U0040** Vehicle Communication Bus B (+) Low · **U0100** Lost Communication With ECM/PCM A

See it working

Watch the animated explainer [How Crank and Cam Position Sensors Work](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/u0039/>

