

GENERIC · NETWORK

U0056

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

U0056

Vehicle Communication Bus D (Performance)

U0056 indicates that the vehicle's communication network has detected a performance fault on Communication Bus D, which is a dedicated data link used by certain control modules. The computer has logged that signals on this bus are missing, corrupted, or arriving outside expected timing, preventing reliable data exchange between the modules that rely on it.

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

Symptoms you may notice

- Illumination of the malfunction indicator lamp (MIL) or a dedicated communication fault light
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, with the vehicle driving normally
- Multiple unrelated warning lights or system messages appearing at once
- Intermittent or complete failure of features that depend on modules on Bus D, such as stability control or adaptive lighting
- Rough running or stalling if the affected bus carries data needed for powertrain coordination
- A no-start condition if modules required for engine enable are isolated from the network

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Damaged or chafed wiring on the Bus D twisted pair, often at a flex point or near a connector
- 2 Corroded, loose, or water-intruded connector pins at a module or inline splice on Bus D
- 3 A control module on Bus D that is internally faulty and pulling the bus voltage out of specification
- 4 Missing or degraded termination resistors that are part of the Bus D network
- 5 Electromagnetic interference from an aftermarket accessory or a failing component near the bus wiring
- 6 A short to voltage or ground on one of the Bus D conductors
- 7 Low battery voltage or a poor ground that causes modules to drop offline intermittently



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Verify battery voltage and charging system output, then clear the code and confirm whether it returns
- 2 Inspect the Bus D wiring and connectors for chafing, corrosion, and water intrusion, focusing on areas near the fault
- 3 Measure resistance across the Bus D CAN (Controller Area Network) high and low lines at the diagnostic connector to check termination
- 4 With the key on, measure voltage on each Bus D conductor to ground and compare against the expected values for that bus
- 5 Disconnect modules one at a time to see if the bus performance recovers, isolating a faulty module
- 6 Repair or replace damaged wiring, pins, or termination resistors and recheck bus integrity
- 7 If a module is confirmed faulty, replace or reprogram it and perform any required network configuration

What Bus D faults really tell you

- A U0056 is often set by a single marginal connector pin that only loses contact under vibration or temperature change, so a static wiggle test of the harness is essential.
- The code does not always mean a module has failed; a shorted aftermarket device wired into the network can corrupt Bus D traffic and set this code without any factory component being at fault.
- Bus D is frequently a low-speed or dedicated bus, so a fault here may not affect engine operation at all, leading owners to ignore a problem that will eventually disable safety systems.
- Termination resistor faults can produce intermittent U0056 codes that clear on their own, and technicians who only check for hard shorts will miss a resistor that drifts with temperature.
- Multiple U-codes stored together often point to a shared power or ground fault rather than several separate module failures, so check powers and grounds before condemning any module.

Can I keep driving with U0056?

If the vehicle runs and drives normally, it is usually safe to drive a short distance to a repair shop, but avoid long trips and towing until the fault is diagnosed. If multiple warning lights are on or the engine runs poorly, stop driving and have the vehicle towed to prevent a loss of critical systems.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with live network and module communication capability
- Digital multimeter with resistance and voltage measurement
- Oscilloscope for viewing Bus D signal integrity
- Wiring diagram and connector pinout for the specific vehicle
- Breakout box or back-probe kit for testing connectors without damage



Reading U0056

- 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.
- 56** The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

U0001 Loss of Bus Communication · **U0055** Vehicle Communication Bus D · **U0057** Vehicle Communication Bus D (+) Open · **U0100** Lost Communication With ECM/PCM A · **U0140** Lost Communication With Instrument Panel Cluster

See it working

Watch the animated explainer [How ABS Works: Anti-Lock Brakes in X-Ray](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/u0056/>

