

GENERIC · NETWORK

U008A

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

U008A

Vehicle Communication Bus G Performance

U008A is a generic network communication code indicating that the vehicle's communication bus G is not performing as expected, so modules that rely on that bus cannot exchange data reliably. The computer has detected that the bus is either too slow, too noisy, or intermittently dropping messages, which can disrupt functions ranging from dashboard warnings to engine management.

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
- Intermittent or complete failure of communication with scan tools or diagnostic equipment
- Erratic operation of electronic features such as power windows, radio, or climate control
- The engine may start and run, but with reduced performance or limp-home mode
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, especially if the fault is intermittent
- Modules may reset or lose memory settings randomly

Common causes, most likely first

- Damaged or corroded wiring on the bus G communication line, including opens, shorts, or chafed insulation
- Poor electrical connections at module connectors or ground points causing high resistance
- A faulty module on bus G that is pulling the bus voltage down or transmitting corrupt data
- Electromagnetic interference from aftermarket accessories or failing components like alternators
- Water intrusion into connectors or modules causing intermittent shorts
- Failed termination resistors or bus biasing components within a module



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Use a scan tool to read all stored codes and identify which modules are unable to communicate on bus G
- 2 Visually inspect the bus G wiring harness and connectors for damage, corrosion, or loose pins, especially in areas prone to moisture
- 3 Measure resistance and voltage on the bus G communication lines according to the manufacturer's specifications to check for opens, shorts, or incorrect bias voltage
- 4 Disconnect modules one by one to see if the bus performance improves, isolating a faulty module that is disrupting communication
- 5 Check for aftermarket accessories wired into the bus or power circuits and remove or repair any that could cause interference
- 6 Repair or replace damaged wiring, connectors, or the faulty module as identified, then clear codes and verify communication is restored
- 7 Perform a road test and monitor bus G performance with a scan tool to confirm the repair under various operating conditions

Bus G faults often hide in plain sight

- A common oversight is assuming the code points to a single module failure, but bus G performance issues frequently stem from marginal wiring repairs or corrosion that only act up under vibration or temperature changes.
- Aftermarket electronics such as remote starters, dash cams, or phone chargers plugged into the wrong circuit can introduce noise onto bus G and set U008A without any factory component being defective.
- The code does not always mean the bus is completely dead; it can set when messages are delayed or corrupted, so intermittent symptoms like a flickering warning light may be the only clue.
- Ground integrity is critical for bus G, and a loose or corroded ground strap on the engine or body can cause communication errors that mimic a failed module.
- Technicians sometimes replace modules based on U008A without checking bus termination resistors, which are often integrated into a module and can fail without setting a dedicated code.

Can I keep driving with U008A?

If the vehicle runs and drives normally, you can drive it to a repair shop, but avoid long trips or towing until the fault is diagnosed because communication failures can suddenly disable safety systems. If multiple warning lights are on or the engine runs poorly, stop driving and have the vehicle towed to prevent unsafe operation.



Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with live data and module communication capabilities
- Digital multimeter for voltage and resistance measurements
- Oscilloscope for analyzing bus signal integrity
- Wiring diagram and service information for the specific vehicle
- Breakout box or terminal test kit for probing connectors without damage

Reading U008A

- 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.
- 8A** The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

U0001 Loss of Bus Communication · **U0100** Lost Communication With ECM/PCM A · **U0121** Lost Communication With Anti-Lock Brake System (ABS) Control · **U0140** Lost Communication With Instrument Panel Cluster · **U0155** Lost Communication With Body Control Module

See it working

Watch the animated explainer [How Drive-by-Wire Works: Electronic Throttle Body](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/u008a/>

