

GENERIC · NETWORK

U012C

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

U012C

Lost Communication With Active Vibration Control Module

U012C is a network communication code indicating that the engine control module or another primary module has lost the controller area network (CAN) signal from the active vibration control module. The computer detected a complete absence of periodic status messages from that module, not a performance fault within the vibration system itself.

SYSTEM	CODE TYPE	SEVERITY	FIX DIFFICULTY	AREA
Network	Generic (all makes)	Medium	Intermediate	Lost communication with a control module

Symptoms you may notice

- Illumination of the malfunction indicator lamp (MIL) or a chassis/suspension warning light
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, with the vehicle driving normally
- A noticeable degradation in ride smoothness or increased vibration at idle if the active mounts default to a stiff or fixed state
- Multiple unrelated warning lights or communication codes stored in other modules
- Intermittent operation of the vibration control system, such as the engine idle smoothing feature cutting in and out

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Open or shorted wiring in the CAN bus circuit between the active vibration control module and the network
- 2 Failed active vibration control module, often due to internal circuit board damage or water intrusion
- 3 Blown fuse or poor ground connection supplying power to the active vibration control module
- 4 Corroded or loose connector pins at the module or at a CAN bus splice point
- 5 Faulty CAN bus termination resistor within the module affecting network voltage levels
- 6 A separate module on the same CAN segment pulling the bus down and disrupting communication



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Connect a scan tool and record all stored codes in every module to confirm U012C is current and not history
- 2 Check the fuse and ground circuit for the active vibration control module using a wiring diagram and a multimeter
- 3 Inspect the module connector and CAN bus wiring for corrosion, chafing, or loose pins
- 4 Measure CAN bus voltage and resistance at the module connector to verify the network is intact
- 5 Perform a voltage drop test on the module power and ground circuits under load
- 6 Substitute a known-good module of the same part number to confirm the fault follows the module
- 7 Clear codes and perform a network communication self-test to verify the repair

When the vibration module is not the culprit

- A dead battery or low voltage during cranking can set U012C as a history code without any real module fault, so always check battery health first.
- The active vibration control module often shares a CAN segment with other chassis modules, and a single failed module on that segment can mimic a vibration module failure.
- Water intrusion into the module connector or housing is a common cause that visual inspection of the fuse box will never reveal.
- After replacing the module, some vehicles require a network configuration or learn procedure, and skipping it will leave U012C stored even with a good part.
- The code does not mean the vibration system has failed internally; it only means the module stopped talking, which can happen from a simple blown fuse.

Can I keep driving with U012C?

The vehicle remains safe to drive because the active vibration system is a comfort feature, but avoid long trips until the fault is repaired since degraded engine mounts can increase vibration and wear over time. If the warning light is accompanied by other communication codes or drivability issues, have the vehicle inspected promptly.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with module-level communication capability
- Digital multimeter
- Wiring diagram for the specific vehicle
- CAN bus breakout box or back-probe kit
- Trim removal tools for accessing module connectors



Reading U012C

- U** Network: communication between the vehicle's control modules.
- 0** Generic (SAE) code: it means the same thing on every OBD-II vehicle.
- 1** Lost communication with a control module.
- 2C** The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

U0100 Lost Communication With ECM/PCM A · **U0121** Lost Communication With Anti-Lock Brake System (ABS) Control · **U012D** Lost Communication With Generator A Control Module · **U0131** Lost Communication With Power Steering Control Module · **U0140** Lost Communication With Instrument Panel Cluster

See it working

Watch the animated explainer [How a Turbocharger Works, Step by Step](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/u012c/>

