

GENERIC · NETWORK

U01A8

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

U01A8

Lost Communication With Hybrid/EV Battery Interface Control Module I

U01A8 is a generic communication fault indicating that one or more control modules have lost contact with the Hybrid/EV Battery Interface Control Module I over the vehicle's high-speed data network. The module that set the code expected regular status messages from the battery interface module but stopped receiving them within the required time window, so it flagged the communication loss and may illuminate the hybrid system warning light.

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

Symptoms you may notice

- Hybrid or EV system warning light illuminated on the dashboard
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, with the vehicle driving normally
- Reduced electric-only range or the engine running more often than usual
- Hybrid system may fail to start or may shut down unexpectedly
- Loss of battery state-of-charge or power-flow information on the dash display
- Multiple unrelated warning lights if other modules share the same network segment

Common causes, most likely first

- Faulty or intermittent wiring and connector terminals on the battery interface module's network circuit
- Low 12-volt battery voltage or poor grounds causing modules to drop offline intermittently
- Failed Hybrid/EV Battery Interface Control Module I itself
- Open or shorted controller area network (CAN) bus wiring between the battery interface module and the rest of the network
- Corrosion or water intrusion at the battery interface module connector
- A module on the same network segment holding the bus down and disrupting communication
- Software or calibration issue in the battery interface module requiring reflash



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Verify battery voltage and perform a full scan of all modules to see which modules are online and which are missing
- 2 Inspect the battery interface module connector and harness for corrosion, loose terminals, or chafed wires
- 3 Check network continuity and resistance on the CAN bus at the battery interface module connector
- 4 Perform a voltage drop test on the module's power and ground circuits under load
- 5 Substitute a known-good module or use a breakout box to confirm the module is not responding
- 6 Repair or replace damaged wiring and terminals, then clear codes and verify communication returns
- 7 If wiring and power are good, replace or reflash the Hybrid/EV Battery Interface Control Module I and perform any required initialization

What most technicians miss on U01A8

- A weak 12-volt battery is a very common cause of this code because the battery interface module may boot up but drop offline when cranking or under electrical load.
The code can be set by a single intermittent connector terminal that only loses contact over bumps, so wiggle tests and road tests with a scan tool connected are essential.
- U01A8 does not always mean the battery interface module is bad; a different module on the same CAN segment can hold the bus down and prevent communication.
- After replacing the battery interface module, many vehicles require a learn or initialization procedure, and skipping it can leave the code stored even with good hardware.
Water intrusion into the battery pack area or module connector is a frequent hidden cause on hybrid and EV vehicles, especially after body repairs or undercarriage damage.

Can I keep driving with U01A8?

If the vehicle drives normally and only the warning light is on, you can usually drive it to a repair shop, but avoid long trips and do not ignore a hybrid system warning that appears with reduced power. If the hybrid system shuts down or the vehicle enters limp mode, stop driving and have it towed to prevent further electrical damage.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with full module communication and live data capability
- Digital multimeter with min/max recording
- CAN bus breakout box or network test harness
- Wiring diagram and connector pinout for the specific vehicle
- Battery load tester and charging system tester



Reading U01A8

- 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.
- A8** The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

U0100 Lost Communication With ECM/PCM A · **U0111** Lost Communication With Battery Energy Control Module 'A' · **U0140** Lost Communication With Instrument Panel Cluster · **U01A7** Lost Communication With Hybrid/EV Battery Interface Control · **U01A9** Lost Communication With Hybrid/EV Battery Interface Control

See it working

Watch the animated explainer [How Regenerative Braking Works in Electric Cars](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/u01a8/>

