

GENERIC · NETWORK

U0208

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

U0208

Lost Communication With 'Seat Control Module A'

U0208 is a generic network communication code indicating that the primary control module responsible for the vehicle's body functions has lost contact with the seat control module designated as 'A'. The computer detected a failure of the module to respond to periodic status messages over the controller area network (CAN) bus, which is the high-speed data link shared by all onboard computers.

SYSTEM Network	CODE TYPE Generic (all makes)	SEVERITY Low	FIX DIFFICULTY Intermediate	AREA Lost communication with a control module
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Symptoms you may notice

- The seat adjustment switches may become completely unresponsive, leaving the seat stuck in its current position.
- Memory seat functions, including the recall buttons and easy-entry/exit feature, stop working entirely.
- The seat heater and ventilation functions may fail to operate if they are routed through the same module.
- A warning light or message may appear on the dashboard indicating a communication or body control system fault.
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, especially if the seat is already in a comfortable position and memory features are not used.
- Other body-related features such as power mirrors or steering column adjustment may also malfunction if they share the same network segment.

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 A blown fuse or poor connection at the seat control module's power or ground circuit, which prevents the module from powering up and communicating.
- 2 Damaged or chafed wiring in the harness that runs under the seat, a common failure point due to repeated seat movement and passenger traffic.
- 3 Corroded or loose electrical connectors at the seat control module or at the body control module interface, often caused by moisture or spilled liquids.
- 4 A failed seat control module itself, where internal electronics no longer respond to network messages.
- 5 A fault in the CAN bus wiring or a shorted network node that disrupts communication on the entire bus segment.
- 6 A software or configuration mismatch in the body control module after battery replacement or module replacement, requiring relearn or reprogramming.
- 7 A weak or failing battery or charging system that causes low voltage conditions, leading modules to drop offline intermittently.

How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Verify battery voltage and charging system output, as low voltage is a frequent cause of spurious communication codes; recharge or replace the battery as needed.
- 2 Check all fuses that supply power to the seat control module, including those in the underhood and interior fuse boxes, and replace any that are blown.
- 3 Inspect the wiring harness under the seat for chafing, cuts, or pinched wires, and repair any damage found; also check that connectors are fully seated and free of corrosion.
- 4 Measure power and ground at the seat control module connector with a multimeter to confirm the module is receiving the correct voltage and has a solid ground.
- 5 Use a scan tool to perform a network integrity test or check for communication with the seat control module; if it does not respond, proceed to module-level diagnosis.
- 6 If power, ground, and network wiring are intact but the module does not communicate, substitute a known-good module of the same part number to confirm the fault.
- 7 After repair, clear the code and perform a road test to verify that communication is restored and the code does not return; some vehicles require a module configuration or relearn procedure.



Before you replace the seat control module

- A surprisingly common cause of U0208 is a simple blown fuse that powers the seat module, so always check fuses before condemning the module itself.
- Wiring under the seat is routinely damaged by seat movement, cargo, or cleaning, and a visual inspection often reveals a rubbed-through wire that a scan tool cannot show.
- The code does not always mean the seat module is dead; a shorted or failing module on the same CAN bus can pull the network down and cause multiple modules to lose communication.
- After replacing a seat control module, many vehicles require configuration or programming with a factory-level scan tool, and skipping this step can leave the code stored.
- Intermittent U0208 codes that appear only in cold or wet weather often point to a connector issue or water intrusion rather than a failed module.

Can I keep driving with U0208?

The vehicle remains safe to drive because the seat control module does not affect steering, braking, or airbag deployment, but the seat may be stuck in an uncomfortable position and memory functions will be unavailable. Avoid adjusting the seat repeatedly if it is unresponsive, and have the fault diagnosed at your convenience to prevent further network issues.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with CAN bus communication capability
- Digital multimeter
- Fuse puller and test light
- Trim removal tools for accessing connectors
- Factory service information or wiring diagrams for the specific vehicle

Reading U0208

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

Often seen with

U0100 Lost Communication With ECM/PCM A · **U0140** Lost Communication With Instrument Panel Cluster · **U0155** Lost Communication With Body Control Module · **U0207** Lost Communication With Moveable Roof Control Module · **U0209** Lost Communication With 'Seat Control Module B'



See it working

Watch the animated explainer [How Push-Button Start Works: Keyless Ignition](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/u0208/>

