Volkswagen Tech Connect

Your Source for Genuine Volkswagen Repair Information

Volume 2 Number 1 Spring / Summer 2010



Clean Engine Management TDI® Diesel Operation Electronic Throttle Operation TPMS Systems



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Caution: Vehicle servicing performed by untrained persons could result in serious injury to those persons or others. Information contained in this publication is intended for use by trained, professional auto repair technicians ONLY. This information is provided to inform these technicians of conditions which may occur in some vehicles or to provide information which could assist them in proper servicing of these vehicles.

Properly trained technicians have the equipment, tools, safety instructions, and knowhow to perform repairs correctly and safely. If a condition is described, DO NOT assume that a topic covered in these pages automatically applies to your vehicle or that your vehicle has that condition.





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Now, more than ever before, customers are concerned with the fuel mileage, performance and cost of ownership of their vehicles. Fuel mixture codes are definitely related, and are some of the most common codes we work on.

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Most people think of diesels as loud, smelly, and underpowered. Not anymore. Volkswagen has been refining and re-engineering Rudolf Diesel's ingenious invention for almost half a century.



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In 1996, Volkswagen introduced an electronic throttle on the AAA V6. Integrating this with traction control, cruise control, and idle speed control makes for a safer vehicle. Keeping the system working properly is our job.



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Cover Photo: The TPMS Valve Stem

22 TPMS Systems Occupant safety has always been the

highest priority at Volkswagen. Tire Pressure Monitoring Systems support that by reducing the number of flat tires and helping prevent tire failure. They also help improve tire life and MPG. Let's keep them working.



Δ



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Fuel Mixture Codes

One of the most significant developments in automotive history was the introduction of feedback fuel systems. Electronic fuel injection had already been around for quite some time, but in 1976 Robert Bosch developed the oxygen sensor as the linchpin of the closed-loop principle. This allowed computer-controlled systems to monitor exhaust oxygen content, calculate a rich or lean mixture, and make changes to the amount of fuel injected into the engine. This resulted in a substantial reduction in harmful emissions and increased fuel economy. As with any automotive system, at some point it will require maintenance and/or repair. This is where we come in.



Never underestimate the visual inspection. Here we have a broken vacuum hose. This vacuum leak will lean out the mixture to a point of setting a code. Adding smoke to the intake manifold will help locate hard-to-find leaks.

Feedback systems have come a long way. They started with a single-wire, unheated 02 sensor, and now there are four- and five-wire sensors. Initially, there was only one sensor mounted in the exhaust stream, now there are typically two per cylinder bank. Also, there are other emissions controls that work with the engine management system. Exhaust Gas Recirculation, Canister Purge, and Positive Crankcase Ventilation systems all assist in reducing harmful emissions and add complexity. The more complex the system, the harder it is to diagnose when something goes wrong. What approach should you take when testing the emissions feedback system? When you see an O2 sensor lean code are you always going to replace the sensor?

The Symptoms

There are two situations where you will need to diagnose the emissions feedback system. Number one would be a DTC, and the second would be a drivability problem. A DTC means the powertrain control unit has monitored the feedback system and has determined that there is a problem. If the problem is severe enough, this can lead to a performance complaint. It's your job to figure out the cause of the symptom. In the case of DTC, you can follow the Guided Fault Finding charts. These are found in your VAG 5052 scan tool. You can still test components and diagnose a vehicle without the factory scan tool, but it will probably be more time consuming.



Look at the voltage specs on this 2.0 liter engine. The average and current signal voltage is around 1.3 volts. Look at the maximum voltage. It is only 3.5 volts after a throttle snap. If everything else is okay, you may need to replace it with an OEM sensor from your Volkswagen parts supplier.

When dealing with fuel trim codes such as P017X and P0112X, you can evaluate scan tool data, perform electrical component checks, and, of course, basic engine tests. One of the best ways to get started is to evaluate scan tool data. This is a huge

step toward identifying where the problem is. Either with your VAG 5052, or your aftermarket equivalent, you can select "Read Measuring Blocks" and start looking at data. Select data blocks 030 to 039 on most Volkswagen vehicles and you will see fuel trim data. On most vehicles, data block 032 is an important one. This offers what is called "Additive" and "Multiplicative" fuel trim data. This data block number may change by year and model. A paid subscription to ERWIN allows you access to service information to identify the proper value block.

Fuel Trims Explained

As an engine is operating, the PCM is evaluating various inputs such at coolant temperature, throttle position and mass airflow. The PCM determines a base injector pulse width to add the right amount of fuel to the engine. If combustion is normal, a conventional oxygen sensor should read a stoichiometric mixture, aka Lambda, and maintain the injector pulse width and ignition timing. If the oxygen sensors pick up a rich condition (excessive fuel), or lean condition (insufficient fuel), it will report back to the PCM. The PCM will make the necessary changes to the mixture by altering the injector pulse width and/or ignition timing. The PCM can tell us the changes that it makes to get the engine emissions compliant.

These adaptations or changes are referred to as Fuel Trims. Trimming the air/fuel mixture corrects problems that may have come up during engine operation as components wear. If the changes are small, there is no problem and you will not set a code. However, there is a limit to how much the computer will change the mixture. If the Federally-mandated limit is exceeded by 1.5 times the norm, the computer is required to turn on the Check Engine Light, a.k.a. Malfunction Indicator Lamp (MIL), and flag a code for this condition. This is when the vehicle is no longer emissions compliant with EPA standards. Most of us are used to interpreting Long Term and Short Term fuel trim readings. Long Term would be the fuel adaptations over a longer period of time and short term readings would be immediate changes in fuel trim. You can find these numbers when scanning the vehicle using the Generic OBD II protocol and looking under "Data."



With a new MAF from your Volkswagen dealer's parts department you see a difference in peak signal voltage after a throttle snap almost reaching 3.9 volts. This is good for the 2.0 liter engine. Other engines may have different specs.

Volkswagen does not use the same scale as the Generic OBD II protocol. Volkswagen-specific software organizes fuel trim into two scales. They are called additive and multiplicative scales. The additive fuel trim occurs all the time. The changes made are at idle and throughout the rpm range. The fuel trim readings have a greater effect in the lower rpm range, at idle, and just off idle. Multiplicative readings only represent the fuel trims above idle and the higher part of the rpm range. This means the fuel trims will change when the vehicle is being driven around city streets and on the highway. Getting back to the measuring blocks, the fuel trim numbers are displayed in the 03X range. Most vehicles produced after 2000 display the additive and multiplicative numbers in data block 032. Field 1 shows the additive fuel trim and field 2 displays the multiplicative fuel trim on single bank engines.

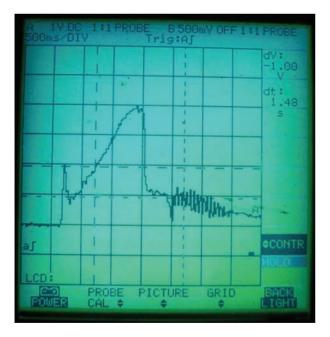
With the VAG 5052, fuel trim readings are displayed in milliseconds. Positive milliseconds means the injectors are being kept open longer. Negative milliseconds means the PCM is closing

Fuel Mixture Codes

the injector sooner. With aftermarket scan tools, the scales may change. Some display these readings with a scale based on Lambda, or the number 1.00. This means the number 1.00 is our midpoint or stoichiometric reading. If the number were to go above one, then the PCM is adding fuel to correct for the lean mixture. If the reading is below 1.00, then the PCM is subtracting fuel to compensate for a rich condition. Percentages can also be used to display changes in fuel trim. Here 0% is usually the midpoint. Above 0% is adding fuel and negative 0% means fuel is being subtracted.

How Do I Use This Information?

So, the additive fuel trim number tells us what the PCM is doing at idle, and the multiplicative number tell us what the PCM is doing at part throttle. When you first pull the fuel mixture codes, you need to look at these numbers to determine where the problem is. If you see the additive number has changed, you know the problem is mostly at idle, and this is where you should be performing your tests. If the multiplicative number has changed a lot, then the



Here is a scope pattern of a 1.8L turbo MAF. The first spike to three volts is the snap of the throttle. The second spike up to over four volts is when the engine revs to 4,000 rpm. This MAF is not creating any fuel trim problems.

problem is more at part throttle, or while driving. Of course, different combinations will steer you along different diagnostic paths, so it is important to look at these numbers if you can.

There are some symptoms that are a result of common problems. For instance, if you have a vehicle with high additive numbers, but the multiplicative is normal, you are probably dealing with a vacuum leak. This has more of an effect on mixture when the airflow is low than when the airflow is high. Check for broken vacuum hoses for the fuel pressure regulator, secondary air, and canister purge systems. You should smoke test the intake manifold and its plumbing to look for external vacuum leaks. You may also have internal vacuum leaks. Look to see if you have a code for incorrect purge flow as this may be a stuckopen canister purge solenoid "leaning out" the mixture at idle. This is an example of an internal vacuum leak.

If you have a vehicle where the additive number appears normal, but the multiplicative is high, you need to watch fuel pump pressure and MAF performance. The engine may be starving for fuel at higher rpm. When testing fuel pressure, remember fuel volume is just as important. A clogged fuel filter will restrict fuel flow to the engine. When testing the MAF, remember that if the air intake system has restrictions, you may get false low readings. Check the air filter and snow screens for debris that will restrict airflow. If the fuel pressure/volume tests pass and there are no airflow restrictions, you can now test the MAF. You can do this by monitoring the signal voltage while the vehicle is running, but how?

You can perform this test with either a digital multi-meter (DMM), or an oscilloscope. You will need to have some experience determining what a good voltage reading is for each engine type. For instance, the 1.8 liter turbo motor can have either a four- or five-wire MAF, depending on the engine designation. The signal wire typically puts out 1.3 volts when everything is normal. This is an indication that you have a good MAF. Next, turn on the MAX/MIN feature of your meter, which setting captures the maximum and minimum voltages sensed by the meter. Open the throttle as fast as you can to get the engine to rev to between 3,000 and 4,000 rpm. The rev limiter will prevent



When testing O2 sensors, you need to make sure the exhaust system is sealed. Here we have a leaking flex joint. This allows fresh air into the exhaust, which affects the O2 sensor signal. Use a smoke machine to check for leaks in the exhaust system.

the rpm from causing engine damage, but you only need to bring the rpm up once to capture the peak voltage.

The maximum signal voltage should be over 4.0 volts. Usually, a MAF that produces these signal voltages is okay for the 1.8L engine. A 2.0L AEG motor may only peak out at 3.8 volts on a snap throttle. You can also use your scan tool to check the MAF. For instance, on a 2001 Jetta with the 1.8 liter turbo AWW motor measuring value block 002 will give you grams per second. You should measure between 2.0 to 4.5 gps at a hot idle with all accessories off. If not, always replace with an OEM MAF from your Volkswagen parts supplier. Aftermarket new or remanufactured sensors are

not always properly calibrated for the different Volkswagen engines and have been known to set codes for a rich condition. You do not want a comeback due to an aftermarket MAF being installed.

Other Factors

Of course, the O2 sensor has an important influence on mixture. But when you see a mixture code like P0171/4 or P1128, do not shoot the messenger. Test. If the engine is a V6, and you had mixture codes for both bank 1 and bank 2, you should suspect a vacuum leak or a bad MAF. If only one bank set a lean code, then you should suspect an O2 sensor. Once again, looking at

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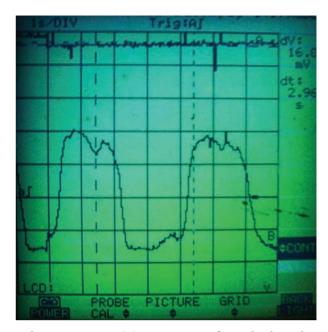
Fuel Mixture Codes

measuring block 032 would give you the additive and multiplicative values for both banks. Fields 1 and 2 are additive and multiplicative for bank 1, and fields 3 and 4 are for bank 2 respectively. There is a chance you may have a vacuum leak at one of the intake manifold runners affecting only one bank. You are going to have to test something to determine if it is an injector, a vacuum leak, or an O2 sensor.

There are a few different ways to test an O2 sensor. On four-wire sensors, you can monitor the signal voltage with a scan tool, a DMM, or an oscilloscope. You can connect your DMM and watch the voltage change as the vehicle is idling. This voltage will continually change between 1.0 to 0.1 volts on a warmed-up sensor. A graphing multimeter will give you a visual graph of the voltage as it changes. An oscilloscope will give the best voltage pattern. You can look at the rise time and switch rate just as a PCM would monitor the signal. Typically, you should expect to see the O2 sensor signal switch from rich to lean at least once each second at idle. This means you have a good, working O2 sensor. If the switch rate is lower, or the signal voltage range is not above .8 volts and below .2 volts, then you will probably need to replace the 02 sensor with an OEM from your Volkswagen parts supplier. Make sure you have power and ground to the heater circuits.

The five-wire heated oxygen sensor (a.k.a. Air/Fuel Ratio) is harder to test with a DMM or scope. These sensors do not use a signal voltage to indicate a rich or a lean condition. Instead, they use an amperage signal to tell if it is rich or lean. You can tap into the pump cell to measure this amperage signal, but you will need to connect your ammeter is series. This means you must open the circuit to connect. Inductive ammeter probes do not measure low amperage signals accurately. This is a very low amperage, only switching between +5ma and -5ma. With these sensors, it is best to use the Volkswagen-capable scan tool.

Volkswagen does offer a way to test these types of O2 sensors (a.k.a. air/fuel ratio) using their factory-specific scan data. By entering "Basic Settings," you can run tests on the various monitored systems. The component you want to test is the air/fuel ratio sensor. On most engine types,



When testing an O2 sensor waveform, look at the signal voltage's highest and lowest points. Also look at the total number of switches over time. You should see about one full switch per second. Volkswagen OEM O2 sensors will ensure performance to Volkswagen standards.

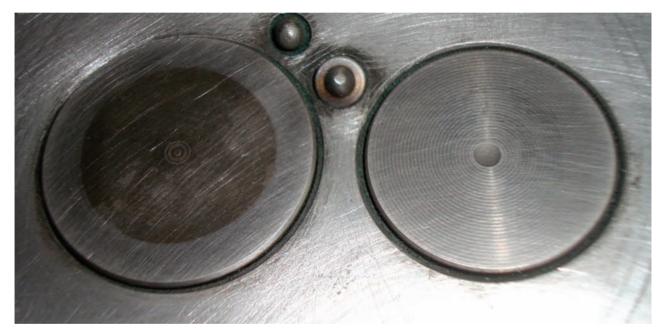
you can enter block 034 in Basic Settings. You will be instructed to rev the engine usually between 1,800 and 2,200 rpm for a few minutes. Look at field #4 and it will indicate if the air/fuel ratio sensor has passed or not. You can also perform this same test on a vehicle equipped with a conventional O2 sensor. Once again, you should get your Basic Settings block information from your paid subscription to https://erwin.vw.com.

In Conclusion

When diagnosing fuel trim codes, it's best to use Volkswagen specific data. Once you have identified the rpm range, you can start testing. However, if you do not have this data available you can still check basics. The importance of checking fuel pressure, smoking the intake system, and testing basic engine operation cannot be overlooked. If the problem lies in the engine management system, you can start testing MAFs, oxygen sensors and blocking off auxiliary emission systems. Getting to the root of the problem and fixing the vehicle the first time is what all of us are after. 10

Diesels– Not What You Think!

Most people think of diesels as loud, smelly, and underpowered. Not anymore. Volkswagen has been refining and re-engineering Rudolf Diesel's ingenious invention for almost half a century. Let's keep them running great for another 50 years.



TDI® engines use direct injection. High-pressure fuel is sprayed directly into the cylinder as the piston reaches TDC. This improves efficiency over previous pre-combustion chamber designs. The injector tip is between the two valves with the glow plug above it.

Volkswagen introduced its first diesel into the United States way back in 1978. Many of those early versions are still in use today, kept alive by enthusiasts who appreciate their reliability, fuel economy and driving performance. They are obviously a wise automotive choice in today's current economic and environmental conditions.

Volkswagen started to do major upgrades on its diesel engines for the 1993 model year with the introduction of the AAZ 1.9L turbo. Additional engines were developed, such as the 1Z turbo in 1996, and the AHU and AHH in '97. The 1999 model year brought us the ALH motor that stayed in service until 2004. All of these are 1.9L turbos.

In 2004, the more highly-evolved BEW, BRM, and BKW engines were introduced, and in 2005 the BHW was released. These engines are all turbocharged 1.9L fours -- except the BKW, which is the 5.0L 10-cylinder diesel offered in the Touareg. In 2006, the BKW motor was improved and renamed the BWF. Finally, in 2008 the latest 5.0L V10 motor was dubbed the CBWA.

Diesels

With proper maintenance, a Volkswagen diesel engine can easily exceed 250,000 miles in it's lifetime. The higher the mileage, the more maintenance and repairs these engines will need. You should be able to keep them running well with proper care and access to the factory diagnostic procedures. We will focus on the popular ALH engine here, but most of this information can be applied to other Volkswagen diesel systems as well.

Fuel Supply

Part of the success of Volkswagen's diesel systems is simplicity. There is no fuel pump inside or outside of the fuel tank. Look under the passenger side of the rear seat and you can remove the inspection cover. There is a filter screen, pick-up tube, and sending unit inside the tank. The fuel lines lead directly to the fuel filter, which is mounted under the hood by the passenger side inner fender. There is a bleed screw on the top of the filter to either fill with diesel fuel, or bleed out air in the system. Although Volkswagen recommends that the filter should be replaced every 20,000 miles under normal service, many service experts in the field suggest that you replace it at least once a year. Most of your customers drive these vehicles under severe service conditions. This means a lot of stop-and-go, and excessive idling. In addition, diesel fuel blends are changing all the time with new government regulations. Additives used to lubricate internal components can build up and solidify in the filter with every drive cycle, possibly slowing fuel flow. An OEM fuel filter provides the necessary quality to protect the diesel injector pump and the most resistance to clogging.

How does fuel get from the tank to the engine? The diesel injector pump has a rotary vane-type suction pump built into it that draws in fuel from the filter. This is why it is so important to have an unclogged filter. The vacuum generated should be enough to pull fuel from the tank without any assistance. If you are worried about a clogged supply line, you can run your own line to the pump from a can of clean diesel fuel. You are bypassing the screen in the tank and the fuel filter, so make sure the fluid is free of debris. Another way to test the pump is to put a vacuum gauge on the fuel inlet port and see how many in. Hg are generated while trying to start the engine. You should see over 10 in. Hg while cranking.



The fuel shut-off solenoid has a single wire to provide power. The body of the unit is the ground path. This solenoid is activated whenever the key is turned on. An anti-theft situation will turn off the solenoid, so monitor anti-theft data usually found in the instrument cluster, or immobilizer unit.

This test lets you know the pump is strong enough to provide a steady supply of fuel for the pressure side of the pump.

First Things First

Before the fuel can get to the pressure side of the pump, it must first pass through the fuel cut-off valve. This solenoid is mounted toward the back of the injection pump, underneath the fuel return line. It has a single wire bolted to the top of it. This wire provides battery voltage to the solenoid, which opens the valve to allow fuel to flow. The power comes from the Diesel Direct Fuel Injection (DFI) module, a.k.a. the Powertrain Control Module (PCM) as long as conditions are correct. With the ignition key on, the solenoid should be energized. The engine



When checking basic injector pump timing, be sure the crankshaft is at TDC. Look through the opening in the bellhousing and you should see an "0" mark. Line up the mark with the lower edge of the opening and check the pump timing.

does not need to be cranking or running. If it is not being energized, you need to check the power and ground supplies to the PCM.

Another input that can stop the PCM from activating the solenoid is the anti-theft system. If this does not like the transponder signal from the key, it will signal the PCM to "not" open the valve. You will have to look at data in the instrument cluster to determine if the anti-theft system is blocking the engine from starting. With a factory scan tool, you can perform an anti-theft system key alignment. This can be handled through any Volkswagen dealer's tool rental and Immobilizer Information program.

Things Are Going Well

If the fuel supply system is functioning properly and the fuel-cut solenoid is letting fuel into the high-pressure injector pump, it can now start running, right? Wrong. There are several components of the injector pump that need to work together. The drive pulley spins a shaft in the injector pump. As this shaft rotates, it creates high pressure. As this pressure passes the injector ports, the fuel is directed to the correct injector in the firing order. As well as base timing, the TDI Electronic Control Unit (ECU) can control injection timing to a small degree. It is also in total control of how much fuel will be delivered. These two readings are known as "Start of Injection Timing" and "Fuel Quantity" on your scan tool. Before you look here, you should check some basics.

Setting up base timing is, of course, critical to getting the engine started. This is performed with some special tools to lock down the camshaft and injection pump while the engine is positioned at TDC. This procedure will need to be performed if any of the timing belt components are replaced. First, you will need to turn the crankshaft to TDC. The mark to indicate TDC is in the oblong opening in the transmission bellhousing. Look for the "0" mark and line it up with the bottom edge of the opening. Now that the crankshaft is at TDC, you may as well line up the camshaft. Insert special tool VW #T10098 into the back of the camshaft with the valve cover off. You may have to remove a vacuum pump, if fitted.

Now that you have the crank and cam lined up, you can work on the injection pump. One of the slots in the pump gear has an opening that passes through the pump flange. Rotate the drive gear until this opening is at the 12 o'clock position. Then, insert special tool VW #3359 to lock the injection pump at TDC. You can now complete the timing belt installation. This level of timing will allow you to start the vehicle, but you may not have optimal performance. You may need to adjust the start-of-injection timing while the engine is running to get the best performance possible.

For this step, you must have a VAG5052, or equivalent, and monitor a few specific measuring value blocks. Injection timing is affected by several inputs. You must know these input values so that you can calculate what range the injection timing should be in. Look at measuring value block 000 and you will see 10 fields displaying information. The start-of-injection reading is in field #2. You will also need to watch coolant temperature. This reading is found in display field #7. Finally, you have to watch fuel temperature, which is found in display field #9. You need to watch all these



Diesels



When checking alignment at TDC, the slot in the flange is at the 12 o'clock position relative to the pump. Here is where you put the special tool through the pulley into the hole pictured here in the injection pump. Using a genuine Volkswagen timing belt will help ensure both proper valve and injection timing, and long life.

inputs while the engine is running. Compare the inputs to the start-of-injection chart and see if the timing is within the proper range. If not, some adjustment is necessary.

You must shut off the engine to make the adjustment. On the pulley of the injection pump, you will see a 22mm center bolt surrounded by three bolts that attach the pulley. The bolt holes are slotted, so there is some adjustment available when the bolts are loose. You can rotate the 22mm bolt that is threaded into the injection pump shaft, which changes the timing. Rotate the shaft counterclockwise to retard the timing and clockwise to advance. The gear will be held in place by the timing belt. Tighten the pulley bolts and restart the engine. Look at field #2 and see if you are between the upper and lower limits on the chart. If you are, no further adjustment is needed.

The computer detects the start-of-injection timing from the crankshaft and camshaft position sensors. The cam sensor is mounted in the #3 injector. When fuel is sent to the injector, an electrical pulse is sent to the PCM. You should make only very small adjustments at the pulley because small adjustments will result in large changes in start-of-injection timing. Also, an important point to remember is that the readings in fields #7 and #9 are not direct temperature readings. So, a reading of 75 is not 75 deg. C. For instance, a reading of 73 in field #7 means the engine coolant temperature is 85 deg. C. The fuel temperature reading should be between 50 and 210 in field #9 to perform this test. If is not within this range, you will have to either let the engine warm up or cool off.

The Computer Takes Over

How is the injection timing controlled? Inside the injection pump, a cam plate is mounted around the fuel distribution shaft. This is held in position by both spring and fuel pressure. An injection timing piston uses fuel psi to move the



Scan data is still a great way to start off a diagnosis. When it comes to testing the electrical/electronic controls, a VAG1598 breakout box allows you to directly monitor the electrical signals to and from the PCM. This is a big help since many components are mounted inside the pump.



Looking at the pump harness, you will see that one plug supplies all of the electrical components. The lower harness goes to the cold start injector. The upper harness goes to the fuel shut-off solenoid and the quantity adjuster (left). The position sensor and fuel temperature sensor are mounted inside the pump.

cam plate into the base or advanced position. The amount of advance can be up to five degrees. A component known as the "Cold Start Injector" controls how much fuel pressure is applied to either side of the injection timing piston. The PCM controls the cold start injector, either opening or closing it depending on rpm, temperature, load, etc. It only controls injection timing below 2,200 rpm. You can monitor the amount of advance with your VAD 5051/2/4 in either measured value block 004 or 005 for the ALH motor. Controlling the advance properly reduces HC emissions and noise, and increases fuel economy.

The second computer control has a bigger impact on fuel delivery. The PCM controls a "QuantityAdjuster" to increase or reduce the fuel delivered to the engine. This device moves a metering sleeve between the primary plunger and a spill port. If the metering sleeve blocks off the spill port passage, maximum fuel pressure is achieved. If the sleeve is commanded to open, all fuel pressure is directed to the spill port resulting in no pressure at the injectors. The adjuster can vary the pressure anywhere in between, and its position is monitored by a sensor in the injector pump itself. An AC pulse generated wave is sent to two resistor boards. The adjuster rotates on one board and the other remains fixed. One AC voltage remains steady and the other increases when the adjuster changes position. You can watch this signal with a lab scope, but looking at scan tool data will probably be a better indicator of the quantity adjuster position.

In Conclusion

As highly-evolved as it is, a Volkwagen diesel injector pump is still basically a pump. If any drivability problems arise, the base timing must be checked. Beyond that, the computer controls that advance injection timing and increase and decrease the injection pulse must be investigated since they can have a significant effect on drivability. Inowing how they function is half the battle.

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Volkswagen Tech Connect Special Feature

Volkswagen's Original TDI[®] Engine.

The biggest boost to diesel popularity in the U.S. was this praiseworthy engineering effort.



Direct injection increases fuel efficiency by up to 20% over the use of pre-combustion chambers.

Wolfsburg's four-cylinder diesel engine, which first appeared here in 1978, has always had the respect of the mechanically inclined. It just kept going and going, all the while providing fuel economy that gasoline engines simply couldn't approach by virtue of their very nature.

But since its engine management was purely mechanical and it used pre-combustion chambers, its emissions and noise levels were too high, and its performance and fuel efficiency too low to make it acceptable in more modern times.

VW continued to believe in the viability of the diesel, however, and figured its problems could be vastly mitigated. The result of this thinking was the TDI® 1.9L diesel engine, which was first available here in the 1996 Jetta, Passat and Golf models and offered excellent fuel efficiency along with spirited acceleration.

This transformation was accomplished through the application of thoroughly modern technology beginning with electronically-controlled injection, boost, EGR, and glow plug on-time. The computer gets the info it needs from numerous sensors, including those for MAF, MAP, ECT, TP, IAT, and fuel temperature, then decides which of 25 maps is appropriate.

The TDI® engine gets a big increase in efficiency from direct injection, as was previously seen only on heavy-duty diesels. The electronics allow fuel to be force-fed straight into the combustion chamber in two stages, which softens operation. A unique inlet swirl port and five-hole injectors that make a nice mist contribute, too. By the way, diesel injection pump outlet pressures are always high, but those of the TDI® engines are especially so -- nearing 1,500 psi (100 BAR).

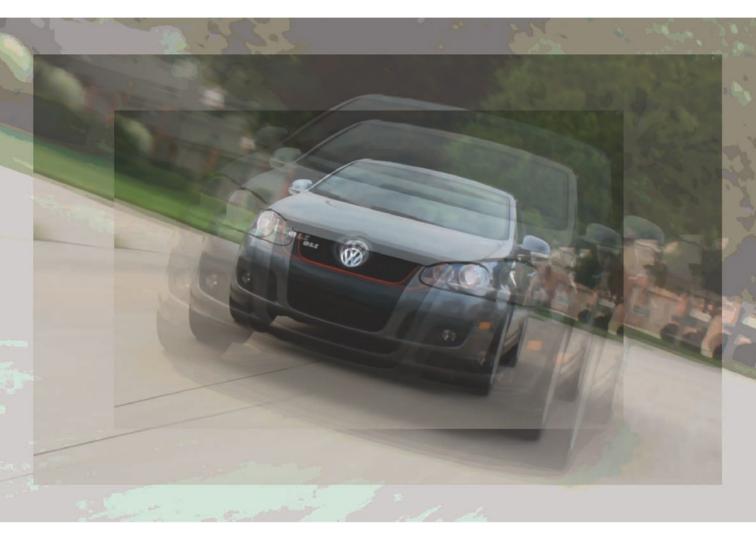
Another smoothness enhancement is the intake manifold flap. In any diesel engine, compression is so high that it tends to stop the pistons abruptly during shut-down, which causes an unpleasant shudder. This vacuum-operated flap cuts off intake air upon command from the PCM, thus lowering psi and allowing a kinder, gentler finish.

You may not expect to see a catalytic converter on a diesel, but the TDI® engine has one. While it helps a little on HC and CO, its big job is knocking down NOx. Speaking of NOx, the EGR includes a cooler to reduce the temperature of the recycled gases, which helps its efficiency.

The timing belt replacement interval is every 40K miles. This is definitely a hitter, so you'd better keep after your customers about this job as a way to avoid megabuck repairs. Just as in the original Rabbit diesel, a special tool is available to lock the injection pump hub in place while you R&R the belt (a setting bar holds the cam). Never, ever loosen or remove the hub from the pump shaft.

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Throttling away.



In 1996, Volkswagen introduced an electronic throttle on the AAA V6. Integrating this with traction control, cruise control, and idle speed control makes for a safer vehicle. Keeping the system working properly is our job.

Electronic Throttle

Believe it or not, fly-by-wire systems have been used on passenger vehicles for almost 20 years. For the driver, there's no change in the way the car feels. The benefits are at an engineering level. An idle speed motor is no longer needed. All the electronic engine management system has to do is open and close the throttle plate to adjust engine rpm. Without mechanical throttle linkage, cable-operated cruise control can't be used. That's okay, though, because the Powertrain Control Module (PCM) just has to command the throttle plate to maintain the desired speed.

With traction control, it gets more interesting. Let's say the amount the throttle is opened suddenly causes the wheels to start spinning. The driver could possibly go into a skid, or spin. With the traction control, computer and the PCM working together, the throttle can be automatically closed until traction is regained. Also, no longer do we have to worry about sticking or broken throttle cables. The benefits clearly outweigh the additional complexity of the system. But what do we do when something goes wrong?

If you want to diagnose something, it helps if you know how it's supposed to work. Volkswagen has used a few variations of electronic throttle over the years, so it's best to be familiar with the changes. Earlier models use an electronic throttle module, but it still have a throttle cable for the ME5.X system. The cable mechanically opens and closes the throttle for typical city and highway driving. The electric motor in the throttle assembly only controls low rpm and idle situations. There is a Throttle Position Sensor (TPS) attached to the cable, which relays throttle requests from the driver. A second TPS indicates the position of the throttle motor. This is how adjustments are made to better control idlespeed situations. The two voltages are monitored by the computer and compared. If the control unit does not like one of the signal voltages, it can stop throttle control and flag a code.

Over time, the throttle plates can cake up with carbon. This reduces the idle speed of the engine. The PCM can see this rpm drop and command the throttle plate to open slightly more until the proper idle speed is reached. There are limits for this compensation, however. If the PCM has to add too much air, it will flag a code and turn on the Malfunction Indicator Lamp (MIL, aka CEL for Check Engine Light). At this point, you need to clean the throttle plates and restore a normal idle. It's important that you do this right: Never spray cleaning solution into the throttle bore. With all the different carbon cleaners on the market, there is no safe way to predict if what you're using will damage the internal components unless you purchase a Volkswagen recommended throttle body cleaner from your local dealer. Then, spray the solution on a clean rag and wipe any carbon build-up out of the bore and off the plates. This will help prevent any cleaning solution from making its way into the electronics.



If you see a cable on the throttle body, you'll know this is a ME5 system. The electronic throttle only controls idle speed and low rpm functions. The throttle will have to be re-adapted if you get a code P1580 or P1582.



Over time, carbon and oil can build up around the throttle plate. This will reduce the flow of air and reduce idle speed. The PCM can compensate by opening the throttle more. When the idle adaptation is lost, low idle and decel stalls may result.

If the problem is severe enough, you may have to perform a throttle adaptation. This may also have to be done if the battery has gone flat or been disconnected. You can do this with a VAG 5052 from the "Basic Settings" menu. Look for the proper three-digit code under repair information at www.erwin.vw.com. The numbers are typically 060 or 098, depending on year and model. What this procedure does is align the throttle assembly with the PCM. Typically, this has to be performed if you get Diagnostic Trouble Code (DTC) P1580, or P1582. Just clearing the code may not keep the light off. During the adaptation, you will notice one of the TPS signal voltages change, and in field #4 you should see the message "Adapt OK" when it is completed. If the adaptation fails, the first thing you should check is battery voltage. It must be above 12V to perform the adaptation. If it is, you may have a problem in the throttle module.

To test the throttle module, you can start with a quick scan of the voltages using your VAG. You can select "Read Measuring Value" block 060, or 098 to see the position sensors. They may be dis-

played in either voltages or throttle angles. Do not assume that the throttle body needs to be replaced if the readings are not correct. You should always support your diagnostic tests with actual voltage readings from a Digital Multi-Meter (DMM), or lab scope. Verify that the fivevolt reference and ground are good, and check electrical connections. Fluctuating voltages from poor connections can lead to an incorrect diagnosis and a comeback. For instance, on the 1998 1.8L Turbo AEB engine you have an eight-pin connector for the throttle module. The pin layout is as follows:

- 1. Throttle motor positive supply
- 2. Throttle motor negative ground
- 3. Idle switch
- 4. Five-volt reference
- 5. Position signal driver input
- 6. Empty
- 7. Sensor ground
- 8. Position signal throttle motor

Electronic Throttle



Notice the gold-plated terminals for a better electrical connection. The terminals are numbered differently from what you might assume. Here, terminal 1 is in the lower left hand corner, and terminal 2 is in the upper left hand corner -- they power and ground the motor.

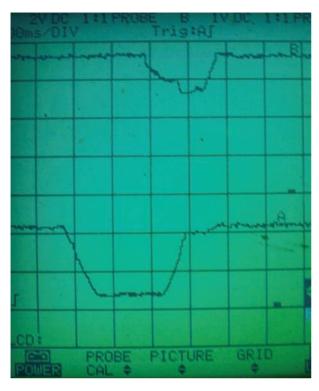
If the connector is unplugged, the throttle assembly defaults to a partially open position. The engine should rev to somewhere between 1,200 and 1,300 rpm, and, of course, codes will be flagged. With the control unit functioning normally, the idle speed should be about 900 rpm. You can monitor other measured value blocks to help determine what the problem may be. If you suspect a dirty throttle bore, search for idle adaptation values in your service information. This displays how much the PCM is opening the throttle to compensate for the low idle speed. If you have a vacuum leak, the computer may attempt to close the throttle to reduce the idle speed. This situation may also set additive lean system codes, so look for those as well.

Evolution

Volkswagen made a few changes on the ME 7.X systems, which make them true fly-by-wire. The cable has been eliminated, so the throttle plate is only opened by the motor. There are two throttle plate position sensors, which are opposites. With

the plate closed, one sensor reads approximately .5 volt and the other should read about 4.5 volts. As the throttle plate is opened, the wire with .5 volt gradually increases toward 4.5 volts, and the wire with 4.5 volts decreases to roughly .5 volt. The PCM cross-checks these two voltages to verify "plausibility." If the voltages do not make sense, the computer will go into fail-safe and no longer open the throttle plate.

If the PCM detects a binding throttle plate, it will also go into fail-safe mode and flag a DTC. There is an accelerator pedal position sensor mounted on the pedal assembly, which supplies input on the driver's request. It also has two TPS signals that provide signal voltages to the PCM. These increase as the throttle is opened, but at different rates. The #2 TPS signal is about half the voltage of signal #1 as the pedal is depressed. Once again, if the PCM does not like the signal voltages as it compares them, it will go into fail-safe. There are a few failure modes depending on what has failed. We'll look at the different possibilities.

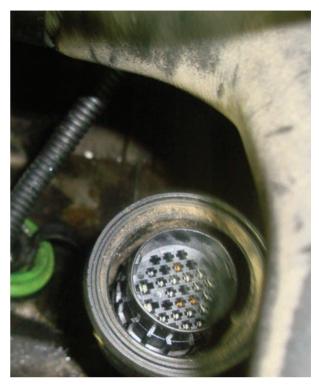


Here are the TPS signal voltages from a '97 ABA engine. Notice how the upper trace for the motor does not open that much with the vehicle revved in park. The lower trace is the TPS for the gas pedal.

Imagine the Possibilities

If a failure has been picked up by the self-diagnostic portion of the PCM, it will enter one of three failure modes. These fail-safes are referred to as Emergency Running Modes 1, 2, and 3. Mode 1 occurs when one of the throttle position sensors fails, and you will only have about 60% power. The PCM uses the properly-working TPS and the Mass Air Flow (MAF) sensor signals to crosscheck one another while in this limited-power mode. A new addition is the Electronic Power Control (EPC) light in the dashboard. This lets the driver know that one of the emergency running modes is active. The MIL will also be activated.

If a fault has been found in the actual throttle motor, its power and ground supplies will be shut down. This is Emergency Mode 2. The throttle plate will default to its mechanical position of 1200 to 1300 rpm. Mode 3 is similar to Mode 2, but the PCM enters this mode when two TPS signals readings fail. You will not see any substitute values in the scan tool, so check the measuring



If you still have intermittent codes for the throttle module, check this connector above the transmission. This engine harness contains the wiring for the throttle assembly. You may have corrosion on some of the terminals.

blocks in the 06X range and you should see either throttle plate angle or signal voltages. If you want to scope the signal key-on/engine-off, you will not get the throttle open completely. The trick is to put the vehicle in gear, then apply the throttle. It should open completely, and you can test the full range of both TPS signals. There are no serviceable components either in the accelerator pedal position sensor or the throttle module. They both need to be replaced as an assembly.

In Conclusion

Understanding how the electronic throttle functions and how it works with the PCM will reduce your diagnostic time and lead to more accurate troubleshooting. Try to point out that billable services such as throttle bore cleaning and resetting throttle adaptation are required for the system to function properly. If the customer enters one of the emergency running modes, inform him or her that these fail-safes provide for a safer driving experience, and who wouldn't want that?



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TPMS

The expression is, "Where the rubber meets the road." It means we are dealing with something important. No matter how powerful an engine is, or how capable the brakes are, if the tires don't provide traction with the road it's all useless. Maintaining the vehicle's grip on the pavement is one of the most important parts of safe driving. So, anything that can compromise this is dangeous. Properly inflated tires are, naturally, part of the equation. They're designed to work best within a specific pressure range. If you're outside of these boundaries, you're looking for trouble.

Pneumatic tires rely on internal air pressure to maintain their shape while under the load of a vehicle. If pressure were to drop below specifications, the weight of the vehicle can cause the sidewalls to bow out too much at the bottom. As the tire rotates, toward the top the sidewalls straighten out. This flexing is a bad thing. It generates excessive heat, which, when coupled with the heat of road friction can surpass what the rubber and cords can handle. It can cause the cords to separate from the rubber, eventually leading to tire failure. A system had to be devised that could monitor air pressure so that this scenario could be prevented.

Direct versus Indirect

The Department of Transportation and the National Highway Safety Administration have conducted studies of motor vehicle accidents. One of the major causes of these accidents is tire failure as a result of low inflation pressure. In an effort to reduce this, manufacturers were compelled to install Tire Pressure Monitoring Systems (TPMS) beginning in 2007 model year vehicles. These systems indicate to the driver if tire pressure is low in any of the road wheels, and in some cases even the spare. Two different types of systems are used. One is referred to as a direct sensor system. This has individual pressure sensors mounted inside the tires. They read tire pressure and send this information via a radio frequency signal to antennas mounted in the wheelwells.

The second system is called indirect TPMS, which Volkswagen will introduce in 2011 model



If you want to know if a vehicle has TPMS, look at the valve stem. If it has a silver retaining nut, it has the system. Set tire pressures to specs when the tires are cold.

year vehicles. It uses the wheel speed sensors of the ABS/Traction control systems to determine the circumference of the tire. If one tire wheel speed sensor signal indicates faster rotation than the other three, and the vehicle is not under acceleration, then the tire's diameter must be smaller. This can only be caused by low tire pressure. In either system, the actual tire pressure is shown in the driver information display, or a warning light is illuminated in the instrument cluster. This warns the driver to correct the tire pressure before there is a problem. When the tire pressure has been restored to specifications, the system will relearn the new pressure and turn off the light. This is easier said than done.



Starting in 2011 model year vehicles, you may see conventional valve stems on certain Volkswagen models. That's because the company will be switching to the indirect system that uses wheel speed sensors to detect underinflation. If this is present on an earlier model, the TPMS components have been removed, possibly by mistake. Most Volkswagen vehicles use the direct sensor system. Each wheel has its own sensor to indicate the inflation pressure. In some models, four sensors are fitted to the road wheels, and there's no sensor in the spare. If you have a TPMS warning light that you can't clear, find out if the spare has been mounted to replace a flat tire. This could save hours of wasted diagnostic time. In other cases, a five-sensor system with a sensor in the spare is used. When correcting tire pressure, don't forget to check the spare as this might keep the light on. Also note the position of the spare tire. You want to keep the sensor as close to the antenna as possible. While these sensors don't last forever, they do have some of the latest battery technology in them.

The TPMS sensors of direct systems use lithiumion batteries. They are designed to last 10 years under normal circumstances. When the ignition key is turned on, the TPMS system starts to monitor air pressure.

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TPMS



Here's the replacement sensor. It should last 10 years, but driving with a slow leak will constantly trigger the sensor to transmit the RF signal. This shortens battery life.

If everything is okay, the sensors go into a lowpower mode. This helps conserve battery life. If the tire pressure drops, the sensor wakes up and starts to transmit. The antenna picks up the signal and sends it to the TPMS control module, which communicates this information to the instrument cluster through the CAN system. What does this mean to us? If the CAN is down, the information cannot be sent or received. If you are having trouble resetting the light, look for CAN codes and repair the problem.

In certain Toureg and Phaeton models, a separate TPMS control module (J502) is used. In Jetta models, the five TPMS sensors send their information to the Central Locking and Anti-Theft control module antenna. Through the CAN, these signals are sent to the TPMS module, which is housed inside either the J519 Body Control Module (2010 Jetta, Jetta sportwagen, GTI, Golf, and EOS), or the Comfort and Convenience module. A sensor will start to transmit data with tire rotation and pressure drop. It won't begin to transmit with a pressure increase, so adding air will not activate the sensor. To get a sensor to transmit, you will need to drive the vehicle at over 16 mph after correcting the pressures. The tire pressure specs are on a placard taped inside the driver's door "B" pillar. These are for cold inflation pressures.

When replacing components, there are some rules you need to follow to do the job right. If the TPMS control unit must be replaced, it will have to be coded to the vehicle. When tires are replaced, be careful not to strike the sensor, which is mounted to the valve stem. If your tire machine rotates counter-clockwise, you should start with the sensor to the left of the bead removal arm so it rotates away from it. During mounting, be sure not force the bead down on the sensor. Do not use any puncture seal or bead



When replacing the TPMS sensor, it is a good idea to replace the valve stem assembly. OEM level quality parts are available from an authorized Volkswagen dealer.



Aftermarket tools are available for testing TPMS sensors. You'll need to activate the sensor and set the tool to pick up a 315MHz signal. The display will let you know that the sensor is transmitting.

sealer while mounting a tire. You can use solid lubricant on the bead, which will not touch the sensor and interfere with its operation.

Remember, in the Jetta, the TPMS control unit is mounted in the Comfort & Convenience module. This will need to be coded to the vehicle if is replaced. On Toureg models, the tire sidewalls are thicker and stiffer, so a stronger RF signal sensor is used. You can tell the sensors apart by four white stars printed on the sensor itself. Even though the sensor battery is supposed to last 10 years, frequent low tire pressure driving will shorten its life. It's best to advise customers to fix whatever slow leak is present and not drive around with the light on for long periods of time. Also, let them know that proper inflation pressure will give them the best gas mileage.

There are several ways to find out if a sensor is functioning properly. The BRT-DBL4 is the Volkswagen factory tool that reads the sensors' RF signals (there is no VAG number on this tool). There are also aftermarket tools available that detect the frequency generated by the wheel speed sensors when they are transmitting. Simply lower the tire pressure by 6-7 psi and hold the tool against the sidewall closest to the valve stem. It should pick up the signals from the sensor. If not, the sensor may be dead. If any of the sensors have to be replaced, make sure the vehicle has been parked for at least 20 minutes, then driving it at more than 16 mph for seven minutes. The 20-minute wait puts the computer into learn mode. The sensors will transmit their identification numbers, air pressure, temperature, and wheel velocity. Volkswagen presently uses sensors that transmit at 315Mhz.

Finally . . .

Although many techs have complained about the complexities of TPMS systems, they are really not that difficult. An authorized Volkswagen dealer's parts department can provide you with OEM valve stems, wheel sensors, antennas, and control units that are engineered for the vehicle, giving you the peace of mind of knowing the job was done right.

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