

VOLKSWAGEN P1603: INTERNAL CONTROL MODULE MALFUNCTION

OVERVIEW

Severity	:	High
DIY Difficulty Level	:	Advanced
Repair Cost	:	\$600-\$1500
Can I Still Drive?	:	No

What Does The Volkswagen P1603 Code Mean?

Ignition on, the ECM detected a control module malfunction. To achieve optimal anti-theft protection for the vehicle, an anti-theft immobilizer is installed. The anti-theft immobilizer is a system for enabling and locking the Engine Control Module (ECM). So that this system cannot be circumvented, it is necessary to perform adaptation of the anti-theft immobilizer using the Vehicle Diagnostic and Information System VAS 5052 in the On Board Diagnostic (OBD) function.

The great availability of equipment options makes it necessary to adapt the Engine Control Module (ECM) to the vehicle (e. g. throttle valve control module or cruise control system). This "writing" function is not possible with the generic scan tool.

What Are The Potential Causes Of The Volkswagen P1603 Code?

- (If ECM was replaced) ECM ID not the same as the replaced unit
- ECM has failed
- Voltage supply for Engine Control Module (ECM) has shorted

Reference Sources

[Volkswagen P1603](#), DTCDECODE.