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Multi-Tester

SYSTEM: OBD-II/EOBD

TITLE: No fault exists when checking DTC:s despite sensors disconnected.

ISSUE: When disconnecting important sensors on the engine management system, for example while performing demonstrations, it is important to know that the operating strategies are different between control units. For example if you disconnect the airflow meter from a Ford EEC-V system and read out the DTC:s using the OBD-II/EOBD application, it will tell you “no DTC:s stored”, despite the fact that the engine is running badly. This may seem strange.

BACKGROUND: It is important to understand that the definition of a DTC is not that the control unit has recognised a fault in the system. Sometimes for a DTC to be set, it is legally required that the problem occurs under two consecutive trips. If you pull an airflowmeter at idle, no trip has been performed.

ACTION: So, where do you find which irregularities the control unit has found before it flags a DTC to the driver ? Look under the “07 Request Continuous Test Results” menu, there you can check what the control unit has “waiting in line”.

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