

HONDA Service Bulletin



Applies To: 2005-06 Element - All Models With M/T

January 18, 2008

2005-06 Element: MIL Comes On With DTC P0420

SYMPTOM

The MIL is on, and DTC P0420 (catalyst system efficiency below threshold) is stored.

PROBABLE CAUSE

The ECM software misinterprets sensor inputs as a deteriorated catalytic converter.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

Update the ECM software, and check the three-way catalytic converter.

WARRANTY CLAIM INFORMATION

In warranty: The normal warranty applies.

OP#	Description	FRT
125517	Update the PGM-FI software.	0.3
125092	Test-drive the vehicle.	0.3

Failed Part: P/N 37820-PZD-A11

H/C 8213209

Defect Code: 03214 03203 Symptom Code:

Repair Technician Skill Level:

Out of warranty: Any repair performed after warranty expiration may be eligible for goodwill consideration by the District Parts and Service Manager or your Zone Office. You must request consideration, and get a decision, before starting work.

SOFTWARE VERSION

HDS Software Version: 2.012.013 (December 2007) or later.

Application Version: V6.10.06 or later. Database Update: 27-Nov-2007 or later.

NOTE: An incorrect HDS software version may indicate that the vehicle does not need an update.

The updated PGM-FI software program ID and P/N is shown below. If this, or a later program ID, is the Current Program ID displayed during the update, the

software for this service bulletin is already installed.

Model Year	Program ID	Program P/N
2005	ZDA130	37805-PZD-A13 or later
2006	ZD4050	37805-PZD-405 or later

REPAIR PROCEDURE

- 1. Update the ECM with the HDS and software version 2.012.013 or later. Refer to Service Bulletin 01-023, Updating Control Units/Modules.
- 2. Clear the DTC with the HDS, and leave the HDS connected.
- 3. Start the engine. Hold the engine speed at 3,000 rpm without load (in neutral) until the radiator fan comes on, then let it idle. Verify that the ECT sensor is above 158°F (70°C).
- 4. Test-drive the vehicle in 5th gear, between 45 and 75 mph, for at least 5 minutes, with the cruise control set, to warm up the three-way catalytic converter.

Then test the three-way catalytic converter by maintaining a vehicle speed of 25 mph or more, for at least 5 minutes, with the cruise control set.

NOTE: The optimal speed to test the catalytic converter is 55 mph.

5. Monitor the OBD STATUS for DTC P0420 in the DTCs MENU with the HDS while driving.

Does the screen indicate PASSED?

Yes - The vehicle is OK at this time.

No - If the screen indicates EXECUTING, keep driving until a result appears. If the screen indicates OUT OF CONDITION, go to step 4. If the screen indicates FAILED, replace the three-way catalytic converter.

NOTE: In most cases, DTC P0420 is caused by the ECM software. In rare cases, the three-way catalytic converter needs to be replaced.

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