# Soot deposits and slag leads to premature wear

An EGR module serves to add exhaust gas to the intake air and to therefore reduce the proportion of nitrogen oxides being emitted. To enable this, the exhaust gases must first be cooled from 700°C to around 400°C. This is done by directing the exhaust through water-cooled ducts.

The EGR modules have become renowned for premature wear. The background to this involves the soot deposits in these intake ducts, but also those around the valve and the swirl flaps. The cause of these soot deposits is the very narrow construction dimensions of the exhaust ducts in these modules. These duct dimensions are based on the construction specifications of the vehicle manufacturer. The sooting and malfunctioning of the EGR module is therefore not a production defect but a constructional issue. The effect is intensified through:

- Frequent short-distance operation
- Frequent driving at full throttle—e.g. when drivers like to "put the pedal to the metal"
- Incorrect engine adjustment causing unburned residual oil to enter the module and additionally block the module with oil slag

For this reason, in the OE area, service cases under a mileage of 30,000-40,000km are only recognised as a guarantee claim if the cause of the problem is not soot deposits.



Clogged intake ducts



New EGR module

## 🚺 NOTE

Especially the soot deposits around the valve and swirl flaps mean that they cannot return to their intended position and thereby impair the EGR module's operation. This can even lead to a fault being displayed in the cockpit and the shutdown of the module.

Important: For correct functioning, all engine control unit parameters for the ERG module must be reset.

### NO ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AS A GUARANTEE CLAIM

Even though we could improve the module construction in several respects, the soot deposits in the AIC products are also the result of the original specification of the vehicle manufacturer. That's why every claim is individually assessed, but we can only recognise cases as a guarantee claim if the problem is not due to soot deposits. If oil sludge residues are found in the EGR module, then the combustion is unclean or the vehicle has an increased oil balance. In such cases recognition as a guarantee claim is fundamentally excluded. In the case of a guarantee claim, please always include the fault log and inspection protocol, if possible.

## FAULT AREA 1 | AIR FLOW SENSOR

#### You identify:

You obtain the error code P0401 "Exhaust EGR Flow Insufficient" during the diagnosis, the engine exhibits performance deficiencies, runs only in emergency mode or shows visible diesel exhaust (black) and the vehicle has increased fuel consumption.

The engine has starting problems, runs roughly or

with curbed performance (emergency mode), jerks and jolts or exhibits performance reductions in the

lower (petrol engine) or higher (diesel) rpm range,

In the diagnosis, you obtain the error codes P0401

"Exhaust EGR Flow Insufficient" or P0103 "Mass or

In the diagnosis, you obtain the error codes P0402

"Excessive Exhaust EGR Flow Detected" or P0102

The EGR value exhibits discolouration and molten

parts, which infers damage has occurred due to extreme

A newly installed EGR valve does not work and/or the

engine idles high following the installation

"Mass or Volume Air Flow Circuit Low"

Volume Air Flow Circuit High"

temperatures (petrol engine)

the engine lamp is on in the cockpit or an error

code is shown.

#### Possible causes:

- Air flow sensor damaged/dirty due to:
- Pollutant particles from the intake air
- Leakages in the intake tract/Charge air system, water spray
- Uncleanliness during air filter exchange
- Oil-wetted sport air filter

Turbocharge damage

- Remedies:
- · Avoid water and pollutant particles in the intake tract
- Examine the air filter
- Examine the turbocharger
- FAULT AREA 2 | SOLENOID VALVES | VACUUM SYSTEM Possible causes: You identify: Remedies: • Damage to cable harness Check • Faulty hoses (porous, rodent damage) • All components of the vacuum system and • Leaks at connections of pneumatic valves replace as required • Cable harness and plug contacts The engine rattles or jolts, exhibits decreasing braking • Leaky check valves / vacuum tanks performance or runs inhibited (emergency mode) • Faulty porous membranes or seals at pneumatic actuators · Leakages at intake manifold Corrosion at plug contacts FAULT AREA 3 | AGR-VENTIL You identify: Possible causes: Remedies: Is the EGR valve clogged with soot or slag due to: • Check the engine control unit and (without fail!) the software status
  - Poor. unclean combustion?
    - Faults in the engine management? • Frequent short trips?

    - Leaks in the boost pressure system?

Are there leakages in the vacuum system?

- Are solenoid valves faulty
- Is there a malfunction in the vacuum system?

Is the intake or intercooler air very oily?

- Malfunctions in the crankcase venting system?
- Engine oil level too high?
- Poor quality engine oil?
- Worn valve stem seals or guides?
  - Saturation of the diesel particle filter? Check in the data listregeneration may be necessary

Is there a malfunction in the air flow or other sensor signal? Is the swirl flaps functioning correctly?

Does the EGR valve not open or is it not being accessed? Is the EGR system inoperative?

Does the EGR valve not close or is it constantly open? Is there continuous and uncontrolled exhaust gas recirculation?

Does the control work correctly? Is there excessive exhaust gas back pressure? Does the turbocharger's bleed valve not open? Is there any loss of cooling water?

Is the engine control unit running the latest available software version? Was the EGR valve configured to align with the control unit?

Check that the vacuum system is airtight as well as its electrical control and ensure that everything functions correctly

• Avoid only undertaking short trips

• Renew the EGR valve

Check the

- Oil separator and the engine bleed valve
- Wear to the pistons, rings, cylinders, valve stem seals
- Turbocharger for blocked oil return pipes

#### Change the

- oil and oil filter
- Check and, if necessary, renew the sensors to the target values or the swirl flaps for mechanical function. • After the repair, perform an extensive test drive with
- the engine at operating temperature

Check all relevant connections and controls

Renew the EGR valve. Check all relevant connections and controls

Renew the EGR valve and then check the

- Control of the EGR valve
- Exhaust gas back pressure
- Turbocharger bleed valve and its control

All settings for the EGR module must be reset in the engine control unit. Then conduct a software update. Finally, configure the EGR valve to align with the control unit.