

Overview This standard is about devising and implementing strategies to diagnose faults when the application of standard manufacturer diagnostic procedures has failed to reveal the source and cause of problems. You are also required to identify the best course of action to be taken to correct problems.



| Performance          |     |   |  |  |  |
|----------------------|-----|---|--|--|--|
| criteria             |     |   |  |  |  |
| You must be able to: | P1  | use suitable personal and vehicle protective equipment throughout all diagnostic related activities |  |  |  |
|                      | P2  | confirm with the relevant people that all standard diagnostic procedures and                        |  |  |  |
|                      |     | techniques have been systematically and correctly applied to the vehicle prior                      |  |  |  |
|                      |     | to undertaking further work   |  |  |  |
|                      | P3  | prepare the vehicle systems and work area for safe working procedures as                            |  |  |  |
|                      |     | appropriate to the vehicle  |  |  |  |
|                      | P4  | analyse all previous system fault information, diagnostic test methods and                          |  |  |  |
|                      |     | results correctly to verify the inconclusive results prior to undertaking further work              |  |  |  |
|                      | P5  | liaise with the relevant manufacturer's representative to obtain up to date                         |  |  |  |
|                      |     | information, advice and guidance relevant to the identified fault, when                             |  |  |  |
|                      |     | necessary   |  |  |  |
|                      | P6  | use diagnostic methods which are relevant to the symptoms presented                                 |  |  |  |
|                      | P7  | collect diagnostic information in a logical, systematic and structured way which                    |  |  |  |
|                      |     | progressively eliminates all possible causes of the fault   |  |  |  |
|                      | P8  | apply the checks and tests that are most likely to be effective in revealing the                    |  |  |  |
|                      |     | cause of the fault  |  |  |  |
|                      | P9  | carry out all diagnostic activities following:  |  |  |  |
|                      |     | P9.1 your workplace procedures  |  |  |  |
|                      |     | P9.2 health, safety and environmental requirements  |  |  |  |
|                      | P10 | work in a way which minimises the risk of:  |  |  |  |
|                      |     | P10.1 damage to other vehicle systems, units and components   |  |  |  |
|                      |     | P10.2 contact with leakages and hazardous substances  |  |  |  |
|                      |     | P10.3 contact with hazardous substances   |  |  |  |
|                      |     | P10.4 damage to your working environment  |  |  |  |
|                      |     | P10.5 injury to self and others   |  |  |  |
|                      | P11 | use any equipment required, correctly and safely throughout all diagnostic and                      |  |  |  |
|                      |     | rectification activities  |  |  |  |
|                      | P12 | collect sufficient diagnostic information to enable an accurate diagnosis of the                    |  |  |  |
|                      |     | fault   |  |  |  |
|                      | P13 | correctly identify the cause(s) of the fault  |  |  |  |
|                      |     |   |  |  |  |



- P14 identify and record any system deviation from acceptable limits accurately
- P15 accurately ensure your assessment of dismantled sub-assemblies, components and units identifies their condition and suitability for repair or replacement
- P16 make clear recommendations for a suitable course of action to rectify the fault
- P17 promptly inform the relevant person(s) where repairs are uneconomic or unsatisfactory to perform
- P18 complete all system checks and tests in the most cost and time effective way for the **fault** presented
- P19 complete all system diagnostic activities within the agreed timescale
- P20 ensure your records are accurate, complete and passed to the relevant person(s) within the agreed timescale and in the format required
- P21 promptly report any anticipated delays in completion to the relevant person(s)



| Knowledge and    |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| understanding    |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| You need to know |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| and understand:  | Legislative and organisational requirements and procedures |  |  |  |  |  |
|                  | K1   | the legislation and workplace procedures relevant to                           |  |  |  |  |
|                  |  | K1.1 health and safety   |  |  |  |  |
|                  |  | K1.2 the environment (including waste disposal)                                |  |  |  |  |
|                  |  | K1.3 appropriate personal and vehicle protective equipment                     |  |  |  |  |
|                  | K2   | legal requirements relating to the vehicle (including road safety requirements |  |  |  |  |
|                  | K3   | your workplace procedures for:   |  |  |  |  |
|                  |  | K3.1 recording <b>fault</b> location and correction activities                 |  |  |  |  |
|                  |  | K3.2 reporting the results of tests  |  |  |  |  |
|                  |  | K3.3 the referral of problems  |  |  |  |  |
|                  |  | K3.4 reporting delays to the completion of work                                |  |  |  |  |
|                  | K4   | how to formulate and construct your own diagnostic procedures and processe     |  |  |  |  |
|                  |  | in order for diagnostic activities to proceed                                  |  |  |  |  |
|                  | K5   | the importance of documenting diagnostic and rectification information         |  |  |  |  |
|                  | K6   | the importance of working to agreed timescales and keeping others informed     |  |  |  |  |
|                  |  | progress   |  |  |  |  |
|                  | K7   | the relationship between time, costs and productivity                          |  |  |  |  |
|                  | K8   | the importance of promptly reporting anticipated delays to the relevant        |  |  |  |  |
|                  |  | person(s) following your workplace procedure                                   |  |  |  |  |
|                  | Elec   | trical and electronic principles   |  |  |  |  |
|                  | K9   | electrical and electronic principles including types of sensors and actuators, |  |  |  |  |
|                  |  | their application and operation  |  |  |  |  |
|                  | K10  | how electrical and electronic vehicle systems operate, including electrical    |  |  |  |  |
|                  |  | component function, electrical inputs, outputs, voltages and oscilloscope      |  |  |  |  |
|                  |  | patterns, digital and fibre optics principles                                  |  |  |  |  |
|                  | K11  | the interaction between electrical, electronic, mechanical and hydraulic       |  |  |  |  |
|                  |  | components and systems within a vehicle, including multiplexing                |  |  |  |  |
|                  | K12  | electrical symbols, units and terms  |  |  |  |  |
|                  | K13  | electrical safety procedures   |  |  |  |  |



K14 the hazards associated with working on or near high energy electrical vehicle components

### Use of diagnostic and rectification equipment

- K15 how to prepare and check the accuracy of diagnostic testing equipment
- K16 how to use diagnostic and rectification **equipment** for mechanical, electrical, hydraulic/pneumatic and fluid systems, specialist repair tools and general workshop equipment

### Vehicle system faults, their diagnosis and correction

- K17 how vehicle mechanical, electrical, electronic, hydraulic/pneumatic and fluid systems are constructed and operate
- K18 how vehicle mechanical, electrical, electronic, hydraulic/pneumatic and fluid systems are dismantled, reassembled and adjusted to manufacturers' specification
- K19 the types and **causes** of vehicle mechanical, electrical, electronic, hydraulic/pneumatic and fluid system, unit and component **faults** and failures
- K20 vehicle mechanical, electrical, electronic, hydraulic/pneumatic and fluid unit and component replacement procedures, the circumstances which will necessitate replacement and other possible courses of action
- K21 how to find, interpret and use sources of information on vehicle mechanical, electrical, electronic, hydraulic/pneumatic and fluid system **operating specifications**, diagnostic test procedures, repair procedures and legal requirements
- K22 how to select the most appropriate **diagnostic testing method** for the symptoms presented
- K23 how to carry out systematic **diagnostic testing** of vehicle mechanical, electrical, electronic, hydraulic/pneumatic and fluid systems
- K24 how to assess the condition of the systems and components within vehicle mechanical, electrical, electronic, pneumatic, hydraulic and fluid systems
- K25 how to interpret, evaluate and analyse test results and vehicle data in order to identify the location and **cause** of vehicle system **faults**
- K26 how to carry out the rectification activities in order to correct **faults** in vehicle mechanical, electrical, electronic, hydraulic/pneumatic and fluid systems



- K27 your workplace procedure, policy and procedure for:
  - K27.1 work carried out under warranty
  - K27.2 liaising with manufacturers and outside agencies
- K28 the relationship between test methodology and the **faults** repaired the use of appropriate testing methods
- K29 how to make cost effective recommendations for rectification
- K30 the importance of inspecting the vehicle following any repairs



| Scope/range | 1. | Causes of faults are:   |  |  |  |
|-------------|----|-------------------------|--|--|--|
|             |    | 1.1.                    | mechanical   |  |  |
|             |    | 1.2.                    | electrical   |  |  |
|             |    | 1.3.                    | electronic   |  |  |
|             |    | 1.4.                    | hydraulic/pneumatic  |  |  |
|             | 2. | Faults                  | s cover the:   |  |  |
|             |    | 2.1.                    | vehicle engine area  |  |  |
|             |    | 2.2.                    | transmission and driveline area                                      |  |  |
|             |    | 2.3.                    | chassis system area  |  |  |
|             |    | 2.4.                    | electrical and electronic units and components area                  |  |  |
|             | 3. | Diagnostic methods are: |  |  |  |
|             |    | 3.1.                    | sensory  |  |  |
|             |    | 3.2.                    | functional   |  |  |
|             |    | 3.3.                    | measurement  |  |  |
|             |    | 3.4.                    | electrical and electronic systems testing                            |  |  |
|             | 4. | Diagn                   | ostic testing is defined as:   |  |  |
|             |    | 4.1.                    | verify the fault   |  |  |
|             |    | 4.2.                    | collect further information  |  |  |
|             |    | 4.3.                    | evaluate the evidence  |  |  |
|             |    | 4.4.                    | carry out further tests in a logical sequence                        |  |  |
|             |    | 4.5.                    | rectify the problem  |  |  |
|             |    | 4.6.                    | check all systems  |  |  |
|             | 5. | Equip                   | ment is:   |  |  |
|             |    | 5.1.                    | diagnostic and rectification equipment for mechanical systems        |  |  |
|             |    | 5.2.                    | diagnostic and rectification equipment for electrical and electronic |  |  |
|             |    | sys                     | tems   |  |  |
|             |    | 5.3.                    | diagnostic and rectification equipment for hydraulic/pneumatic and   |  |  |
|             |    | fluid                   | d systems  |  |  |
|             |    | 5.4.                    | specialist repair tools  |  |  |
|             |    | 5.5.                    | general workshop equipment   |  |  |
|             |    |                         |  |  |  |



# 6. Operating specifications include:

- 6.1. limits
- 6.2. fits
- 6.3. tolerances

Diagnose faults where no prescribed process or format is available in automotive environments



#### Glossary

Information

**Additional** 

This section contains examples and explanations of some of the terms used but does not form part of the standard.

#### **Alternative Fuel**

This is defined as any type of fuel that may be used to power an internal combustion engine, examples would include LPG, bio ethanol etc.

#### **Diagnostic equipment**

Examples include electronic testing equipment, brake testing equipment, steering geometry equipment, wheel balancing equipment, emission test equipment, measuring instruments, special service tools, charging service stations, noise and vibration detection equipment.

### **Recommendations**

Examples include: dismantling, return to manufacturer, repair or replacement.

### **Rectification activities**

These are a suitable repair, replacement, re-coding or re-programming that rectifies the fault(s) identified form the diagnostic activities carried out.

### Sensory testing methods

These may include looking, listening, smelling and touching for heat.

#### Vehicles

Light vehicles, heavy goods and public service vehicles, motorcycles, heavy vehicle trailers and lift trucks, to include SI, CI, Hybrid, Electric or Alternative fuel vehicles.

### **VEHICLE AREAS –**

#### Engine area:

Engines, cooling systems, electronic ignition, petrol fuel injection, diesel fuel injection, engine management systems, starting systems, charging systems.



## Transmission and driveline area:

Clutch assemblies, clutch operating systems, manual gear boxes, automatic gear boxes (including electronic control), drivelines and hubs and final drive assemblies.

#### Chassis or Frame area:

Suspension systems, assisted steering systems, non-assisted steering systems, braking systems, ABS/traction control, wheels and tyres, stability systems, bodywork and related areas.

### Electrical and electronic area:

Body electrical systems (including wiring harnesses, lighting systems, auxiliaries, CANBUS systems, fibre optics, vehicle condition and monitoring, comfort and convenience, alarm systems), supplementary restraint systems (SRS), heating and air conditioning systems, climate control, communication equipment, navigation systems and entertainment equipment.



| Developed by                | IMI   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Version number              | 1   |
| Date approved               | 31 March 2025   |
| Indicative review<br>date   | 31 March 2028   |
| Validity                    | Current   |
| Status                      | Original  |
| Originating<br>organisation | IMI Ltd   |
| Original URN                | LV14, HV14, HVT14, LT014  |
| Relevant<br>occupations     | Engineering; Vehicle Trades; Light Vehicle Diagnostic Technician<br>(Automotive); Light Vehicle Master Technician (Automotive); Light<br>Vehicle Fleet/Service Manager (Automotive) |
| Suite                       | Core Automotive   |
| Key words                   | Diagnose; faults; prescribed; process; format; motor; vehicle; guided; diagnosis  |