

BMW Group

July 2, 2007

To: State I/M Program Administrators

Re: **BMW Issue: SMG-Equipped Cars, "No Communication"**

BMW has determined that a problem exists affecting only certain models equipped with the Sequential Manual Gearshift (SMG), or "paddle shift", transmission. Communication is interrupted between the Transmission Control Unit (TCU, or "EGS", in BMW terms) and certain scan tool equipment. This means some customers are not able to pass the OBD portion of state I/M tests. Some scan tool equipment is able to ignore the fault and establish communication; other equipment, although properly designed, cannot ignore the fault. Therefore, cars that may communicate at one station (or state) may not communicate at another.

The following vehicles are affected:

Year	Test Group	Make	Models (SMG-equipped Only)
2004	4BMXV03.0SMG	BMW	525i, 530i (6-cylinder)
	4BMXV04.4LEV	BMW	545i, 645Ci (V8)
2005	5BMXV03.0SMG	BMW	530i (6-cylinder)
	5BMXV04.4LEV	BMW	545i, 645Ci (V8)
2006	6BMXV03.0N52	BMW	530i (6-cylinder)
	6BMXV04.8UL2	BMW	550i, 650i (V8)
2007	7BMXV03.0N52	BMW	530i (6-cylinder)
	7BMXV04.8UL2	BMW	550i, 650i (V8)

It is not possible to determine directly from the VIN or from the outside of a car whether or not it has SMG. But, all the SMG cars have a shift lever unique to SMG, and steering wheel-mounted "paddle" shifters. SMG-equipped cars are a small fraction of the BMW fleet.

BMW is working on a fix for these vehicles, but it will be some months before the fix is available at dealerships (no later than December). BMW asks that states provide for these owners whatever relieve is possible through normal policies and procedures, especially since registration may be linked to the emissions test. We also ask that you let us know what you can or cannot do in terms of assisting these customers. This will help the BMW Call Centers properly advise those customers who call for more information. If your state does not deny registration based on the OBD test, or if these cars are otherwise currently exempt in your state, we would appreciate knowing that as well.

BMW plans to notify these customers by mail when the fix is ready, and at that time I will alert I/M program administrators. Please contact me right away (see information, box, lower left) to let us know if and how you can help these customers, and to submit your questions or comments.

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Regards,



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