



ASSOCIATION OF INTERNATIONAL AUTOMOBILE MANUFACTURERS OF CANADA
L'ASSOCIATION DES FABRICANTS INTERNATIONAUX D'AUTOMOBILES DU CANADA



Canadian Vehicle
Manufacturers' Association
Association canadienne
des constructeurs de véhicules



Canadian Automotive Service Information Standard (CASIS)

Interpretation Guideline	I.G.#1
Subject:	Clarification: "Engine Calibration"
Issued by:	CASIS Task Force
Issue Date	10/14/09

Issue:

A question has been raised about the apparent exclusion of **engine calibration** information from the Agreement based on the definition of "**Data Stream Information**" in the CASIS. That definition states that **engine calibration** information is not part of the Agreement. The concern expressed is that this appears to imply that independent service and repair shops will not be able to access "calibration files" necessary to program and reset vehicle rewriteable on-board control modules.

Interpretation:

CASIS is patterned after the National Automotive Service Task Force (NASTF) Agreement in the United States and the wording in the CASIS in this regard is the same as that of NASTF, with the exception of minor changes to "Canadianize" the language.

For clarity, independent shops will have identical **Data Stream Information** as that provided to the OEM's authorized dealers. As such, the CASIS requires OEMs to provide the necessary information and application to independent service and repair shops to "flash" the vehicle's rewriteable on-board control modules in order to rewrite the relevant system's software.

Engine calibration information is not the same thing as **Data Stream Information**. Calibration information consists of specific software and settings in an on-board module that controls the operation of the engine or a vehicle system. Calibration information is not the act of reprogramming; it is the specific propriety control module firmware that gets passed to the vehicle's on board control modules during the reprogramming procedure.

Under the CASIS, a repair facility engaged in vehicle diagnostics and computer flashing will receive the **Data Stream Information** containing the engine calibration file from the OEM for reprogramming a specific vehicle's system(s). The information provided to independent service and repair shops under the CASIS will be identical to that provided to the OEM's authorized dealers. What the CASIS will not provide for is the propriety information contained within the on board control module firmware.

An analogy is the BIOS file for a personal computer. The technician does not need to know what data is in the BIOS file in order to download the file and reflash the computer. In fact, changing the contents of the BIOS file could have unintended consequences including causing damage. The BIOS file in a computer is the same thing as the calibration file we referred to herein.

OEMs do not want their calibration files altered, as the appropriate calibration files are essential to keep the vehicle in compliance with emissions and safety regulations. This is why SAE J2534 was developed. It is the approved, safe and secure way to get OEM authorized calibration files into vehicles through the aftermarket.

The CASIS will allow independent service and repair shops to do the following:

- Flash computer modules
- Update/reset computer modules
- Restart vehicles

The CASIS does not allow independent service and repair shops to do the following:

- Alter any OEM engine or vehicle system control module firmware
- Take vehicles out of compliance with environmental or safety regulations
- Alter the engine performance of vehicles