



This Service Information bulletin supersedes SI B66 02 11 **dated February 2012.**

NEW designates changes to this revision

SUBJECT

Remote Control and/or Comfort Access Functionality Is Inoperative

MODEL

All

Vehicles with remote control keys that have a replaceable battery

SITUATION

The radio remote control and Comfort Access functionality is inoperative:

- The vehicle can only be unlocked or locked with the mechanical key.
- The vehicle can only be started with the remote control key in the slot of the Car Access System (CAS) or when held very closely to the steering column.

CAUSE

The replaceable battery in the remote control key is either damaged or depleted.

CORRECTION

Step A:

A defective/depleted battery in the remote control key will mimic that no battery is installed in the remote control key; hence, no check control message will be displayed. This is why it is imperative to test the battery in the remote control key first.

Testing showed that even when performing diagnosis and following the test plan for the key battery charge/voltage status check offered in ISTA, a damaged/depleted key battery will not be recognized.

As a result, follow the recommendation below without performing a vehicle test:

1. Check the battery functionality by removing the original key battery in the key and install a known good key battery; or, even better, use a battery tester called state of charge (e.g., ZTS Multi-Battery Tester MBT-1) to test the key battery capacity
2. Retest the functionality of the remote control key.
3. When proper functionality is confirmed, replace the key batteries on all assigned remote control keys for the vehicle.
4. If proper functionality cannot be restored with a known good key battery, refer to Step B.

Note: The average life cycle of a battery in the remote control key is approximately 3 years from the day of production of the vehicle.

More details on the ZTS Multi-Battery Tester MBT-1 can be found in Attachment_A and on the ZTS manufacturer website, www.ztsinc.com/mbt1.html.

Note: The ZTS Multi-Battery Tester MBT-1 must be purchased through your center (e.g. from

Amazon.com, SEARS, etc.). It will not be offered through BMW.

Step B:

Perform diagnosis using ISTA (Integrated Service Technical Application). Complete any test plans related to the radio remote control system.

Note: If the remote control key must be replaced, swap the existing slide-in (mechanical) key into the new replacement remote control(s).

Important: If the rearview mirror must be replaced (remote receiver is integrated) on a Convertible, please perform a visual check on the mirror to assure that the frequency of the remote receiver installed in the mirror is 315 MHz.

NEW PARTS INFORMATION

Part Number	Description	Quantity
61 31 9 217 643	F Series: Remote control battery	1 per remote
66 12 6 912 985	E Series: Remote control battery	1 per remote

WARRANTY INFORMATION

Battery for radio remote control key (Correction “Step A”)

- NEW** Covered under the terms of the BMW New Vehicle/SAV Limited Warranty, up to and including 2012 model year vehicles only

Or for
- NEW** 2013 model year and newer vehicles: Due to changes in technology, the replaceable remote control transmitter key battery is a maintenance item. Refer to [SI B01 01 13](#) for more information.

NEW Correction “Step A” is excluded from the BMW Certified Pre-Owned Program.

NEW Defect Code:	66 10 15 12 00	Key battery, remote control – Permanent malfunction (Item # 1 Vehicles only)
Labor Operation:	Labor Allowance:	Description:
66 99 000	Work time (WT)	Work time - Checking function of radio/infrared locking system (without vehicle diagnosis system)

Work time (WT) labor operation code 66 99 000 is consider a Main labor operation. All other labor operations on the same line or other lines must be claimed using the Plus code labor operation when one is available.

Work time (WT) labor operation 66 99 000 – requires an individual punch time.

NEW Radio remote control key (Correction “Step B”)

Covered under the terms of the BMW New Vehicle/SAV Limited Warranty or the BMW Certified Pre-Owned

Program.

NEW Defect Code:	66 10 05 15 00	Transmitter function (remote control key), remote operation/radio remote control – Permanent malfunction
	Or	
	NEW 66 10 03 15 00	Receiver function (antenna, amplifier/rear view mirror or CAS), remote operation/radio remote control – Permanent malfunction
Labor Operation:	Labor Allowance:	Description:
00 00 006	Refer to KSD	Performing vehicle test (with vehicle diagnosis system)
and		
66 10 000	Work time (WT)	Work time - Checking function of radio/infrared locking system (with vehicle diagnosis system)
ONLY IF NECESSARY		
Refer to KSD	Refer to KSD	Programming/coding control unit(s), (after vehicle diagnosis)

Labor operation code 00 00 006 is a main labor operation. If you are using a Main labor code for another repair; use the Plus code labor operation 00 00 556 instead.

Even though work time labor operation code 66 10 000 ends in “000,” it is not considered a Main labor operation as it is used in Correction “Step B”.

Work time (WT) labor operation 66 10 000 – requires an individual punch time.

Refer to KSD2 for the corresponding flat rate unit (FRU) allowance. Enter the Chassis Number, which consists of the last 7 digits of the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN). Click on the “Search” button, and then enter the applicable flat rate labor operation in the FR code field.

NEW If a control module or component was working properly and/or had no related faults stored prior to vehicle programming and it fails to program correctly or requires initialization, this additional work must be claimed with separate labor operations under the defect code listed above; refer to KSD2.

NEW Repairs to control modules and components with pre-existing conditions are not eligible to be claimed under the defect code listed in this bulletin.

ATTACHMENTS

View PDF attachment [B660211 Attachment A](#).