	GROUP	MODEL
	ENG	2026MY K5 (DL3) w/ 2.5 GDI Theta III
	NUMBER	DATE
	265	March 2026

## TECHNICAL SERVICE BULLETIN

SUBJECT:

### SERVICE ACTION: THETA III 2.5 GDI ECM SW LOGIC IMPROVEMENT (SA642)

This bulletin provides information to upgrade the Engine Control Module 'ECM' system software on certain 2026MY K5 (DL3) vehicles produced from December 03, 2025 through March 09, 2026 equipped with 2.5 GDI Theta III engines. The affected vehicles may exhibit an intermittent "low oil level" message illuminated on the instrument cluster. This issue may be present due to improper calibration logic of the oil level sensor value to detect a low oil level, even if the engine oil level is within the recommended factory specification. Follow the procedure outlined in this publication to upgrade the 'ECM' software. Refer to [SST081](#) for software upgrade instructions using Kia Diagnostic System (KDS) tablet and VCI-II or VCI-III and confirm the Upgrade Event Number/Name, ROM ID Information, and Manual Mode passwords (if applicable) on the applicable vehicle.

**This software upgrade may also be available via an Over-the-Air (OTA) update on vehicles with an 'active' Kia Connect subscription.**

#### DTC Description:

P250F00 - Engine Oil Level Too Low



#### NOTICE

**A Service Action is a repair program without customer notification that is performed during the warranty period. Any dealer requesting to perform this repair outside the warranty period will require DPSM approval.**

Repair status for a VIN is provided on KDealer+ (Service → Warranty Coverage → Warranty Coverage Inquiry → Campaign Information). Not completed Recall / Service Action reports are available on KDealer+ (Consumer Affairs → Not Completed Recall → Recall VIN → Select Report), which includes a list of affected vehicles.

This issue number is [SA642](#).

Refer to [TSB SST081](#) for instructions to upgrade the 'ECM' system:

### ❗ IMPORTANT

The software update may also be available via **Over-The-Air (OTA)** upgrade feature through an 'active' Kia Connect account for customers. An OTA software upgrade may not be available at the time a TSB publication is released. Dealers can confirm OTA availability by checking for OTA release notes on the Kia Owners Portal: [OTA Software Update Release Notes](#). If the affected vehicle had the latest software installed via OTA, no further action is required by the dealer.

**Note: An OTA installed software is time-stamped for each VIN.**

To correct this condition, the specified system module should be reprogrammed using KDS as described in this bulletin in 'Auto Mode'.

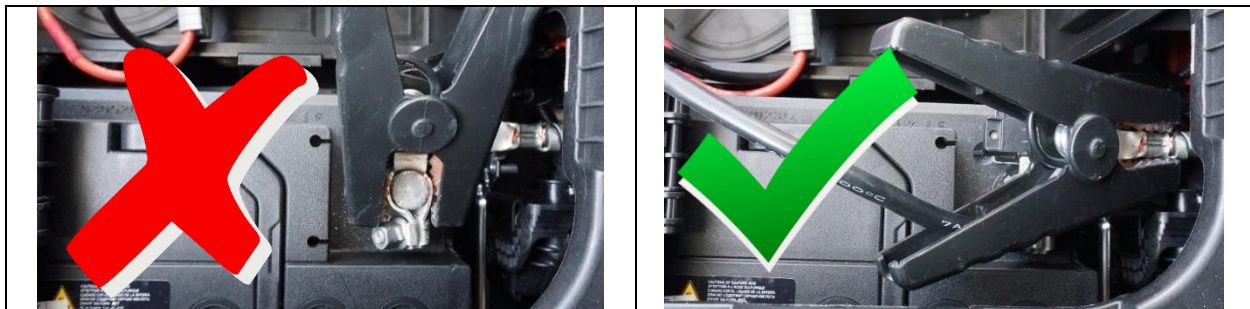
#### Upgrade Event Name

953.DL3 PE 2.5GDI engine DTC judgment logic improvement (P250F)

### 📄 NOTICE

- Confirm a fully charged battery (12.3 volts or higher is necessary) is used or utilize a fully charged jump starter box connected to the battery.
- **Ensure the KDS GDS is sufficiently charged at 60% or higher prior to reflash.**
- All ECU upgrades must be performed with the ignition set to the 'ON' position unless otherwise stated.
- **Damaged VCI II units should not be used and promptly replaced.**
- Be careful not to disconnect the VCI-II connected to the vehicle during the ECU upgrade procedure.
- **DO NOT start the engine during ECU upgrade.**
- **DO NOT turn the ignition key 'OFF' or interrupt the power supply during ECU upgrade.**
- **When the ECU upgrade is completed, turn the ignition 'OFF' and wait 10 seconds before starting the engine.**
- **ONLY use approved ECU upgrade software designated for the correct application.**


[Connect the negative \(-\) terminal to the battery as shown below.](#)



SUBJECT: SERVICE ACTION: THETA III 2.5 GDI ECM SW LOGIC IMPROVEMENT (SA642)

## ROM ID Information Table:


**NOTICE**

Before attempting an ECU upgrade on any Kia model, make sure to first determine whether the applicable model is equipped with an immobilizer  security system. Failure to follow proper procedures may cause the PCM to become inoperative after the upgrade and any claims associated with this repair may be subject to chargeback.

## Upgrade Event #953

**IMPORTANT**

It is recommended to ALWAYS check the Electronic Parts Catalog (EPC) to locate the ECU Part Number respective to Auto/Manual Mode ROM IDs. DO NOT reference the parts label affixed to the ECU.

AT	ISG	System	IMMO 	ECU P/No.	ROM ID	
					Previous	New
2WD	No	ECM	Yes	391X4 2S311	DPHVD5GMFCXX1RWA	DPHVD5GMFCXX1RWB
	Yes			391X4 2S312	DPHVD5GMF3XX1RWA	DPHVD5GMF3XX1RWB
4WD	No			391X4 2S313	DPHVD5GMGCXX1RWA	DPHVD5GMGCXX1RWB

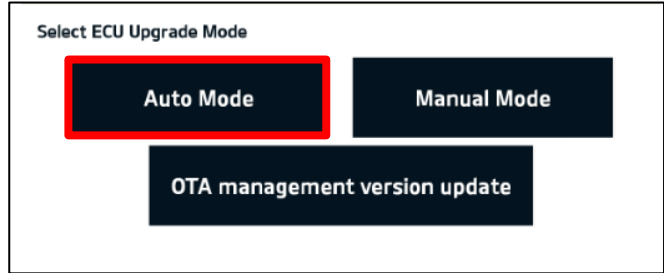
To verify the vehicle is affected, be sure to check the Calibration Identification of the vehicle's ECM ROM ID and reference the Information Table as necessary.



**Software Information:**

The required software must be installed by selecting the **'Auto Mode'** ECU Upgrade option.

**Note:** In some cases, the 'Manual Mode' installation option may be required **ONLY** if the 'Auto Mode' function fails or is otherwise noted above.



**NOTICE**

If the automatic upgrade fails, turn the ignition 'OFF' for about 10 seconds then place it back in the 'ON' position to reset the control unit **BEFORE** performing the manual upgrade.

'Manual Mode' passwords.

Event No.	Menu	Password
953	DL3 PE 2.5GDI +IMMO 2WD -ISG : 391X4-2S311	5038
	DL3 PE 2.5GDI +IMMO 2WD +ISG : 391X4-2S312	6871
	DL3 PE 2.5GDI +IMMO 4WD -ISG : 391X4-2S313	8349

**IMPORTANT**

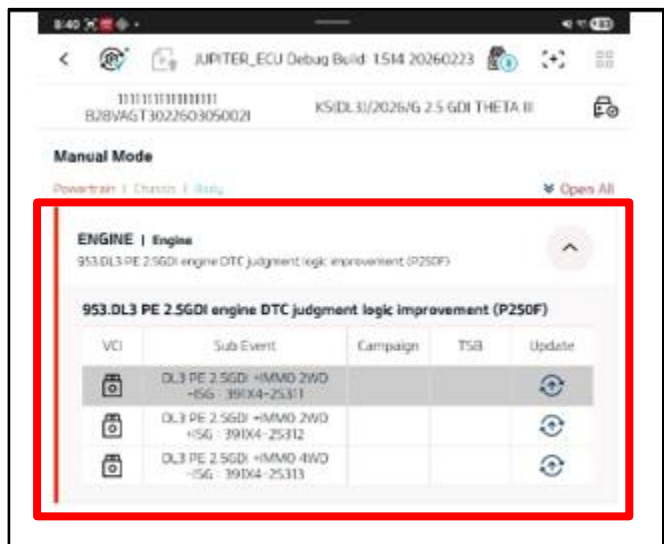
Prior to installing software even #953, follow **ALL** the steps in the exact order listed on page 5.

**UPGRADE EVENT:**

Select the applicable **'ECM'** system module and the Event Group.

- 953.DL3 PE 2.5GDI engine DTC judgment logic improvement (P250F)

Verify the affected vehicle Calibration Identification of the applicable ECU ROM ID and reference the Information Table on page 3 as necessary.



**❗ IMPORTANT**

The following steps **MUST** be completed in the exact order as listed. If these steps are not followed exactly, the procedure will need to be restarted at step 1.



1. Confirm the engine oil level is within factory specifications.
  - ❖ **NOTE: Ensure the engine is sufficiently warmed up. If engine is not sufficiently warmed up, engine oil level could be checked below the specified value.**
2. Turn the ignition 'ON' engine 'OFF'.
3. Using the KDS, perform 'ENGINE' fault code search.
4. Open the hood.
5. Turn the ignition 'OFF'.
6. Disconnect the VCI from the vehicle.
7. Wait a minimum of one (1) minute and then close the hood.
8. Reconnect the VCI to the vehicle and turn the ignition 'ON' engine 'OFF'.
9. If DTC P250F00 is stored, confirm DTC status is in 'History'.
  - a. If DTC P250F00 is NOT stored, proceed to step 10.
  - b. If DTC P250F00 IS stored in 'History' status, proceed to step 10.
  - c. If DTC P250F00 is NOT stored in 'History' status, repeat steps 2 - 7.
10. Install software event #953.
11. Perform 'ENGINE' fault code search.
12. Clear DTCs **(This step needs to be performed regardless if DTCs are stored or not).**
13. Turn the ignition 'OFF'.
14. Disconnect the VCI from vehicle.
15. Wait a minimum of ten (10) seconds.
16. Reconnect the VCI to the vehicle and turn the ignition 'ON'.
17. Turn the engine 'ON'.
18. Perform 'ENGINE' fault code search and confirm P250F00 is **NOT** stored.
19. Confirm normal operation.



**AFFECTED VEHICLE RANGE:**

Model	Production Date Range
K5 (DL3)	December 03, 2025 to March 09, 2026

**REQUIRED TOOL:**

Tool Name	Part Number	Figure	Location	Comments
Kia Diagnostic System (KDS)	N/A		SHOP	KDS + VCI
VCI-II Connector	N/A			Connect Directly to KDS Using Included Ethernet Cable

**WARRANTY INFORMATION:**

**N Code: N99 C Code: C99**

Claim Type	Causal P/N	Qty.	Repair Description	Labor Op Code	Op Time	Replacement P/N	Qty.
V	391X4 2S311	0	(SA642) ECM SW Logic Improvement	260062R0	0.4 M/H	N/A	0

**Note: When substitute transportation is provided, manually enter sublet code 'X2' for rental expense reimbursement or one roundtrip rideshare expense.**

**NOTICE**

VIN inquiry data for this repair is provided for tracking purposes only. Kia retailers should reference **SA642** when accessing the KDealer+ system.

