## On-Board Diagnostics (OBD) Computer

- Standard in 1996 and later vehicles
- Continually monitors the emissions control system to maintain proper engine operation.

#### **OBD Test**

- The vehicle's OBD computer is connected to the emissions test unit to directly analyze emissions control system information.
- During vehicle operation, a Diagnostic Trouble Code (DTC) is stored in the onboard computer when an emissionsrelated fault is found. The OBD test can reveal saved DTCs.

## Malfunction Indicator Lamp (MIL)

- "Service Engine Soon" or "Check Engine" dashboard panel light
- Illuminates when the vehicle's OBD computer detects an emissionsrelated fault.
- Lights up when the vehicle's emissions surpass the certification standards by 50 percent.

#### **Benefits of OBD Test**

- Greater accuracy and faster completion
- Analysis using DTCs aids in identifying problems with your vehicle's emission control system for a better diagnosis.
- Immediate detection and correction of engine fauilts helps avoid expensive repairs in the future, lowers emissions, and provides better performance and fuel economy.

For more information call toll-free in New Jersey:



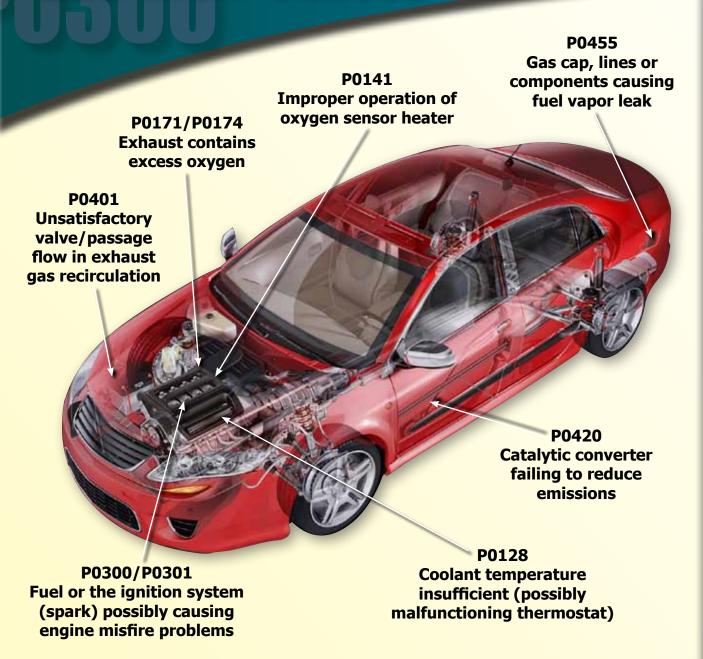
New Jersey
Motor Vehicle Commission
609.292.6500



866.337.5669



# Common Diagnostic Trouble Codes (DTCs) and their causes



### Readiness and No Communication

- An OBD test will indicate "Fail for Communication" if the vehicle's OBD system can't provide data.
- The OBD test will indicate "Fail for Readiness" if enough monitors have not executed their checks.
- A monitor is regarded as "Ready" when it has successfully executed a check.
- "Ready" monitors only default to "Not Ready" when battery power has been disconnected for repairs or if the computer memory has been erased.

## Getting Your Vehicle Ready

- Monitors will generally become "Ready" after several days of both city and highway driving.
- After a few minutes of normal driving, most vehicles without emissions control system problems will be "Ready", but vehicles with complications may need more time.
- Even when "Ready", emissions problems may be detected during the OBD test, which could return a failure.