2.6 The readinesscode

The readiness code is a check of whether
- components or systems are present and
- whether diagnosis have ended.

It was created to reveal manipulations. For example, it can determine whether the fault code memory was erased by disconnecting the battery. Depending on the scan tool used, the readiness code is expressed mostly in two 12-digit numerical series.

One of these numerical series indicates whether this component or this function is checked in this vehicle.
O Component not present/not within the scope of the test
1 Component present and within the scope of the test

The second numerical series indicates the status of the diagnosis carried out.
O Diagnosis carried out
1 Diagnosis not carried out or aborted

The arrangement of the numerical series (next or below each other, or in succession) is based on the scan tool used. Most offer a help feature in the display with information on what is being displayed.

The following is displayed:

Position*	monitored range
1	not used
2	remaining components
3	fuel system
4	combustion misfire
5	EGR-system
6	lambda probe heating
7	lambda probes
8	air conditioning
9	secondary air system
10	tank ventilation system
11	catalytic converter heating
12	catalytic converter

* from left to right

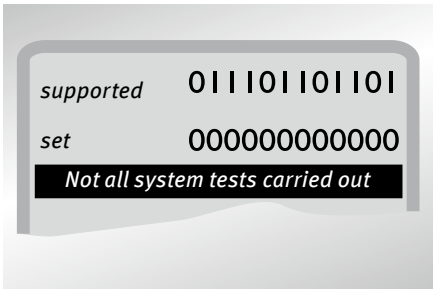

Fig. 3: readiness code when readiness is not reached (example)

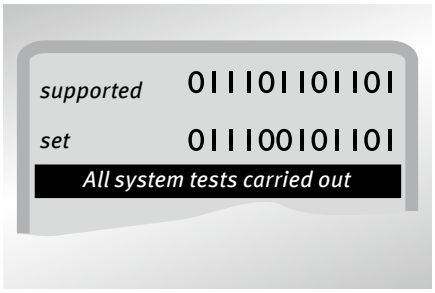

Fig. 4: readiness code after successful test (example)

Because not all vehicles have a secondary air system, for example, or an exhaust gas recirculation system, the scope of the test for the readiness code is based on the vehicle.

The readiness code is read out when an exhaust gas inspection (EGI) is being performed.It provides information on whether there has been a diagnostic result since the last time the fault code memory was erased or the control unit for all the individual systems was replaced.

The readiness code does not provide information on whether there are errors in the system.
It indicates only whether certain diagnosis were ended by the system (bit set to 0), or were not yet carried out or were aborted (bit set to 1).

The arrangement of the numerical series (next or below each other, or in succession) is based on the scan tool used.
Most offer a help feature in the display with information on what is being displayed.

So that the diagnosis of a certain system can be run, exactly defined conditions must apply (driving cycle).
For example, if a vehicle is being used only for short distances in city traffic, it can take a while until all the systems have been checked.
To “erase” the readiness code quickly, i.e., to set all the bits to 0, a driving cycle should be carried out.
The boundary conditions of such a driving cycle differ depending on the vehicle manufacturer.