

**Wheels:** What faults could cause the converter to fail?

**Halderman:** There are many possible reasons for the catalytic converter to fail, including:

- An ignition misfire caused by a fault with the ignition system
- A leaking fuel injector
- A defective fuel pressure regulator

Other items that a service technician should check would be a contaminated mass air flow sensor, an engine vacuum leak, or a degraded oxygen sensor. The diagnostic trouble code is set based on readings from two oxygen sensors – one upstream of the converter and one downstream from the converter. If either of these oxygen sensors is defective, this could cause the setting of the code for a defective converter. These tests are best handled by a professional.

