

**Electronic Data Retrieval From a Heavily Damaged Truck or Automobile**



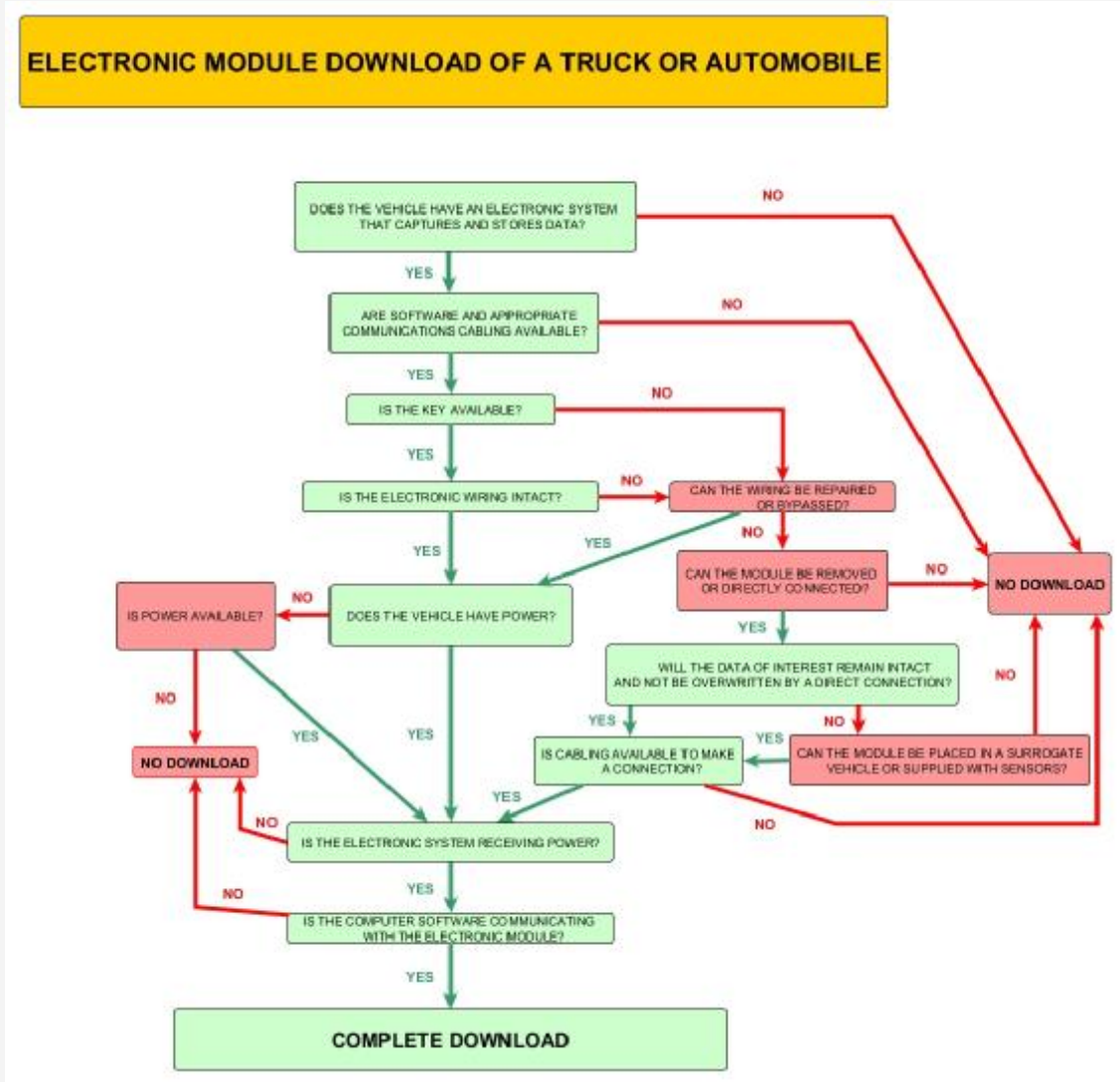
**Cummins Engine Module Download**

Many collisions involve extensive damage to the vehicle. The electronic systems and sensors will likely sustain some damage and disruption. *The proper procedure to “safely” extract data varies by module type and manufacturer.* Following the appropriate download protocols can minimize the risk of damaging or overwriting the data. In attempting to access data from a damaged vehicle, the following should be considered:

1. What type of vehicle is it? What information is retained in the electronic controls?
2. What happened in the accident? Is the accident scenario likely to have created data that could be important?
3. Can the data be extracted from the vehicle using the standard “maintenance” port access? Will disruption of the sensors affect the data? Should they be reconnected or repaired?

4. Can the data be “safely” extracted by direct access to the electronic module?
5. If the electronic module itself is damaged, data might still be retrievable by:
  - a. Repairing the damage to the module
  - b. Removing the EEPROM chip and reinstalling it into a surrogate module
  - c. Reading the EEPROM directly at chip level

The Flow Chart Illustrates the typical download troubleshooting sequence.



[Electronic Module Download Flow Chart Full Size PDF Link](#)

