VW Caddy - An ABS Repair Option



The ABS unit is fitted beneath the battery tray; the repair unit comes without the electronics which need to be fitted on

Having covered nearly 300,000 miles in his 2005 VW Caddy van, the owner was not too sure how much more he wanted to spend to keep the workhorse on the road. It did normally

breeze through the NCT, and was pretty reliable.

Just recently, the brake pedal had begun to sink slightly in use. Our first priority was to discover where the leak was coming from. With the VW up on the ramp, there were no obvious leaks. All the brake callipers were dry and were not the source of the problem.

The next check was going to be the brake master cylinder, which could have been leaking into the servo. Before getting to that, we spotted a damp patch around the gearbox. Looking slightly closer, we discovered that it was brake fluid leaking from the ABS unit which sits just under the battery tray, just above the rear corner of the gearbox. This was the source of the leak

A repair unit consisting of the ABS valve assembly minus the electronics was sourced for €300 and the owner considered this a fair price.

The fitting of the unit is not too complicated, but does require the battery and battery tray to be removed first. The important part of this job is to ensure that the six brake pipes are all started by hand, ensuring the threads are not damaged in fitting.

Once fitted, the brake system was bled out and the braking system was returned to normal, keeping this Caddy on the road for a bit longer.