



# TYPE #4



## Hardware Installation – Type 4 boards (V1.9.1)

(JECS 1990-2001 Engine Control Units)

## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Nistune.

The Nistune hardware and software solution provides a means for the car enthusiast to retune their vehicle whilst retaining their factory ECU and its default programming.

This solution provides many advantages over aftermarket ECUs in that the:

- Factory default tuning is maintained once the NISTune board is installed. Upon installation of the board, vehicle will be operational as usual.
- Additional tuning can then be made against the factory maps for modifications made to the vehicle. There is no need to tune the car to get it running from scratch, reducing time and costs of tuning required on dyno.
- There is no need for wiring loom modifications.

NISTune provides real-time tuning and maptracing. It provides the ability to make changes to the factory ECU while it is running the vehicle. When the desired results are achieved they are saved permanently to the NISTune real-time board (in non-volatile memory).

NISTune also provides data logging and playback facilities using the Nissan Consult Port. NISTune software also provides a user friendly, responsive graphical interface to perform modifications.

Contained in this manual are the instructions for installing a Type 4 NISTune board into the Nissan (JECS) ECU's containing the Mitsubishi 7700 series microcontroller. These ECU's support the use of the "Consult" diagnostic port – through which NISTune communicates.

### Type NISTune board vehicle application list

| Model | Name         | Engine    | ECU series                 | Comments                       |
|-------|--------------|-----------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| B14   | Sentra       | SR20DE    | OM76x, 1M86x, 2M08x        | to 1997                        |
| N15   | Pulsar       | GA16DE    | 1N90x, 1N91x               |                                |
| N15   | Almera Gti   | SR20DE    | 1N4xx                      |                                |
| P11   | Primera      | SR20DE    | 3J4xx, 3J5xx, 3J8xx, 3J9xx |                                |
| G20   | Infiniti     | SR20DE    | 0J2xx, 0J6xx               | to 1995 only                   |
| S13   | 180SX late   | SR20DET   | 60Fxx                      | 1994 – 1999 (Type X/R)         |
| S14A  | Silvia/200SX | SR20DET   | 80Fxx, 82Fxx, 83Fxx        |                                |
| S15   | Silvia/200SX | SR20DET   | 91Fxx, 93Fxx               |                                |
| W10   | Avenir       | SR20DET   | 95Nxx                      | Late W10 only (1997>)          |
| S14   | 240SX        | KA24DE    | 70Fxx                      | 1995 (takes regular T4 board)  |
| S14   | 240SX        | KA24DE    | 72Fxx                      | 1996 (takes Dual ROM T4 board) |
| ER34  | Skyline      | RB25DET   | AA5xx                      |                                |
| WC34  | Stagea S2    | RB25DET   | 0V8xx                      | JECS ECU only (NEO engine)     |
| U13   | Altima       | KA24DE    | 4E8xx                      | to 1995 only                   |
| Y33   | Cedric       | VQ30DE(T) | 4P2xx, 5P7xx, 6P5xx        |                                |
| K11   | Micra        | CG13DE    | 74Bxx                      | "facelift" model 98-02         |
| A32   | Maxima       | VQ30DE    | 40Uxx, 49Uxx, 54Uxx        | 1995 (takes Dual ROM T4 board) |
| A32   | Maxima       | VQ30DE    | 54Uxx                      | 1996 (takes Dual ROM T4 board) |
| Z32   | 300ZX        | VG30DETT  | 54Pxx                      | 1996 (takes Dual ROM T4 board) |

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- **ECU covers removal**



*Tip : The screws that secure the covers will have thread locking compound applied from factory. This is a high strength locking compound so make sure you use a screwdriver with a tip which fits the screw head properly. We use a cordless drill-driver. The combination of quality screwdriver tips available and being able to use an adjustable clutch makes this method far superior.*

- **Conformal coating removal**

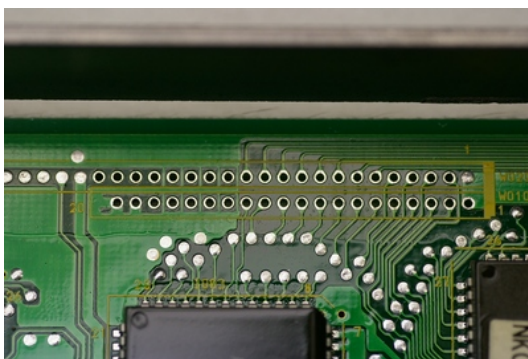


Remove the coating from around the header on both top and bottom of ECU circuit board and around SMD jumpers using solvent or contact cleaner (see later in document for jumper details).



- **Solder removal**

Using a de-soldering gun with a small tip carefully remove the solder for the connector matching your ECU type. This is best performed from the rear of the board.



**Pads de-soldered for Adaptor A**

#### **Adaptor A**

**SR20DET from Late S13 180SX, S14A & S15, UK N15 Almera GTi, P11 Primera, Late W10 Avenir, Late K11 Micra 98-02.**

On W010 (20 pads) de-solder pads 1 - 20

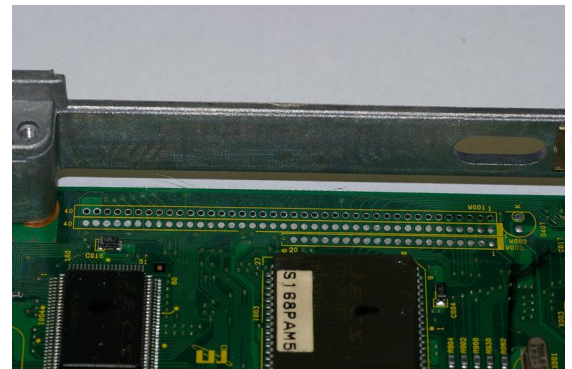
On W020 (30 pads) de-solder pads 2 – 21

*Note the 1 pad offset between the two rows.*

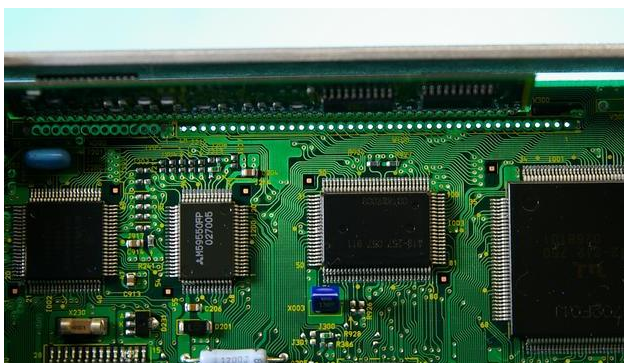
#### **Adaptor B**

**S14 KA24DE/U13 KA24DE/N15 GA16DE/B14 SR20DE/A32 VQ30DE/Z32 VG30DETT 1996 - De-solder the W001 row of pads 1 - 40 (outside row).**

**Y33 VQ30 – de-solder W010 pads 1 - 40 (no photo currently available).**



**Pads de-soldered for Adaptor B**



**Pads de-soldered for Adaptor C**

#### **Adaptor C**

**ER34 RB25DET / WC34 RB25DET (series 2)**  
De-solder the W100 row of pads 1 - 40 (inside row)

Autos will have the outside row of pads already used by a board containing auto control circuitry, as shown in this photo. You may need to carefully bend this board towards the ECU wall to obtain clearance.

Tips: The best way to de-solder the pads is to run a line of flux down the row of pads you intend to work on. This will provide a heat-bridge between the de-soldering gun and the solder in the pads. Do not push on the pads otherwise you will damage them – try to hold the iron so it only just touches the pad.

Note that these ECUs use multi layered boards. The middle layer usually consists of ground and VCC copper planes. These absorb a lot of heat and make the de-soldering process quite difficult, due the amount of temperature they soak up from the gun. Heating the area with a hot air gun will help. Apply heat mainly from rear of board to avoid damaging main components which are on the top side. Don't overheat the board. You should still be able to \*just\* touch the board.

Ground planes will connect to pads on these connectors, where one pad (pin 1) is VCC plane and two pads (19/20 on Adaptor A boards and pin 39/40 on Adaptor B/C boards) are ground planes. A good quality iron will remove the solder from these pads without a problem, although you may need to increase the time on the pad from the usual 0.5 – 1 second to 1 – 3 seconds.

Another technique is to stand the ECU vertically and use the de-soldering iron from one side of the board and a soldering iron from the other side. This heats the solder from both sides of the pad. This is a particularly effective method but requires considerable skill and is ideally done with help from an assistant.

**Warning: Pads on these ECUs are very delicate. Don't attempt this unless you have the right equipment. It's quite easy to damage the board. Don't overheat the pads (about a second per pad is a safe maximum) or damage can easily result. If in doubt get somebody with the right equipment to do it for you.**

### Check that holes are clear



Hold the ECU up to the light and check that all the holes are clear. If any holes still have solder in them do not try to clear them out using a drill bit! The boards are multi-layer and it is quite likely that an internal connection will be damaged.

If some holes are not clear then reapply solder to both sides of the hole – this helps create a more effective “heat bridge” between the iron and the solder. Then re-attempt de-soldering. It's usually only pads that connect to power or ground that cause problems.

It is very important the holes are completely clear, otherwise it will make the next step impossible when attempting to insert the strip connectors.



**Clean the row(s) of pads on both sides of the board with solvent and inspect to ensure there are no solder slivers/bridges/blobs between any pads.**

- **Adaptor fitment**

Type 4 boards are supplied with an adaptor board for your ECU type. They use a delicate flex strip cable. Be careful not to bend the ends of the cable when fitting through the de-soldered holes in your ECU. See Appendix A for a list of ECU vs Adaptor type.

Ensure the cable is facing the correct orientation (refer images below). Trial fit the board inside your ECU and make sure the adaptor cable will mate up properly. Square pad on the adaptor board matches up to pin 1 on the ECU (except for W020 on the Type A adaptor which is offset by one pin and so goes to pin 2 on the ECU end).



**Adaptor A**



**Adaptor B**



**Adaptor C**



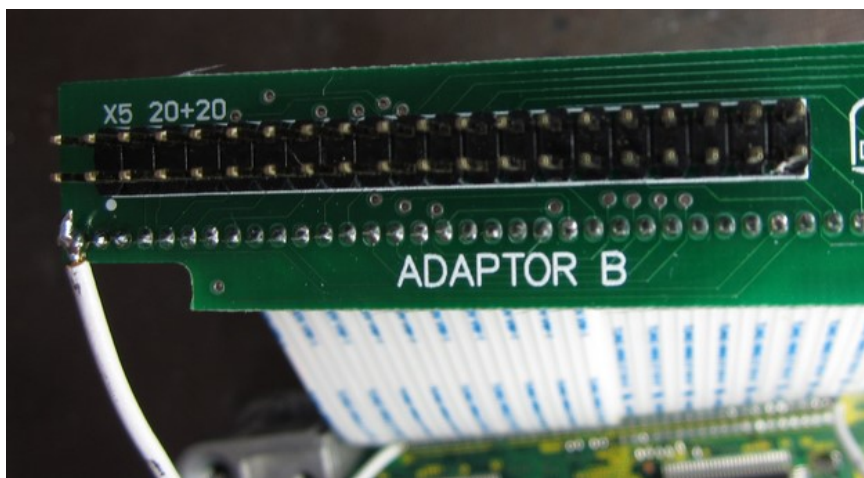
- **Fit Power Support Wires (for Dual Bank board only)**

*Applies only to dual bank Type 4 board: S14 KA24DE (1996), A32 VQ30DE (1995-1996), Z32 300ZX (1996).  
Not required for the normal Type 4 board as used on all other vehicles.*

Due to the higher current draw of the dual bank board it is necessary to fit additional power and ground wires from the ECU to the board for it to function correctly.

Run wires as follows

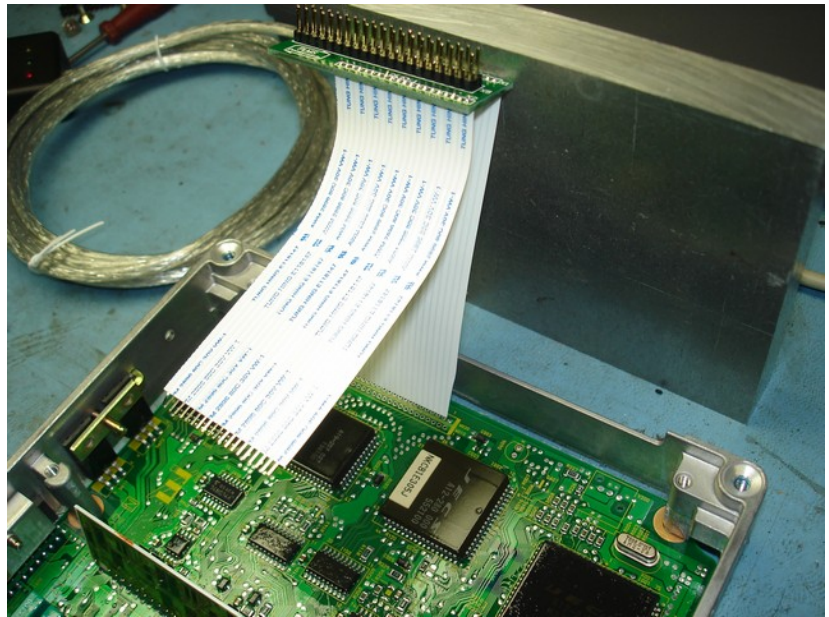
|                |   |                 |            |
|----------------|---|-----------------|------------|
| Adaptor Pin 1  | > | ECU W020 pin 1  | (5V power) |
| Adaptor pin 40 | > | ECU W020 pin 40 | (Ground)   |



- **Soldering Tips and techniques**

Feed the tips of the ribbon cable into the holes and then support the adaptor as shown. Working from the inside of the ECU, carefully solder one pad from the top to hold the adaptor in place. Take care not to short adjacent pads or melt the insulation of the ribbon cable. Clean around the pads with acetone/solvent and a cotton bud.

For Adaptor A temporarily bend one ribbon cable out of the way to gain access to the other as shown.



Photos show pads on each end soldered but you may find it easier to solder one pad towards the centre as end pads connect to power/ground planes making them more difficult to solder.



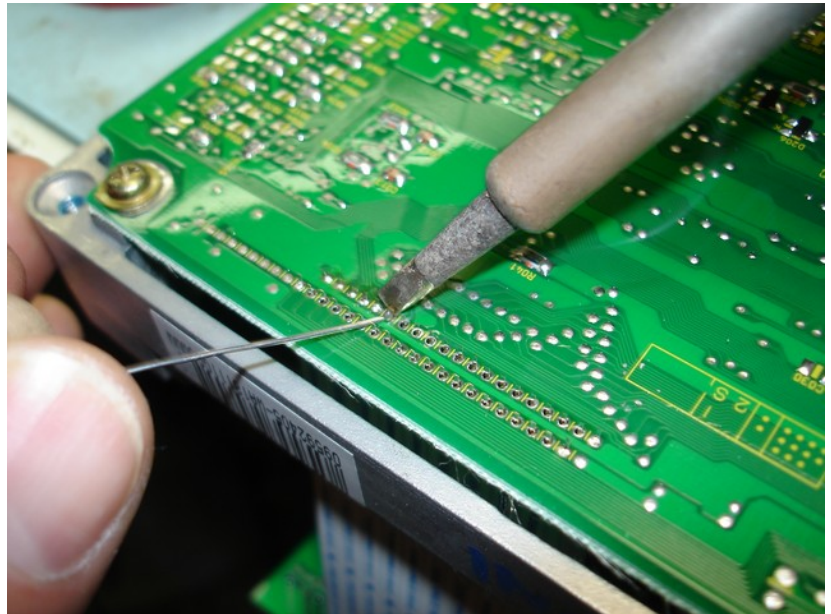
Turn the ECU over and place it so that the adaptor hangs over the edge of the bench.





Now you can solder away. Ensure the solder flows right through. Extra time may be required on the end pads due to power/ground planes. A large “chisel” style tip is ideal for this rather than increasing heat.

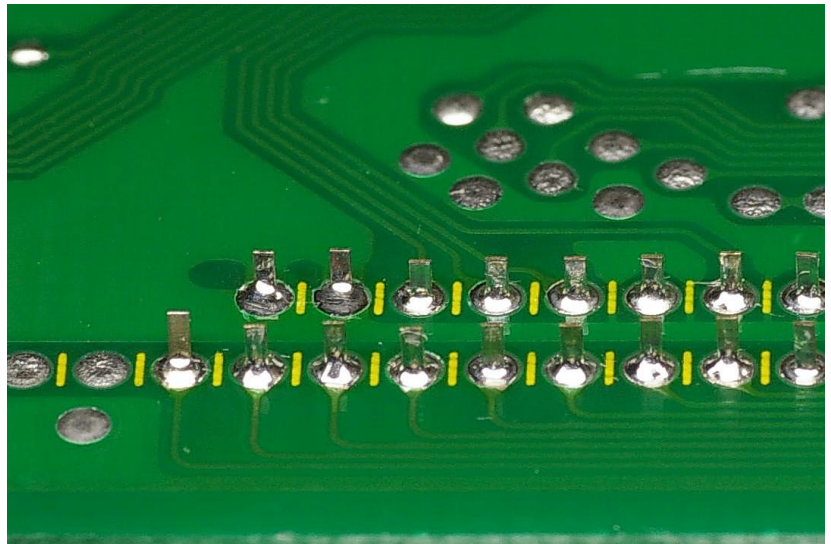
Note size of tip in use in the photo - using the corner of a large tip with thin gauge solder is a very effective technique. And the two ground pins can be soldered simultaneously – giving very effective heat transfer. No problems getting solder to flow through to other side of board here!



Clean off flux with acetone or similar solvent. Inspect solder joints with eyeglass.

Watch out for solder slivers between pads and make sure solder has flowed through to the top side of the board.

**Poor soldering is the number one cause of problems.**



- **Change ECU jumper settings**

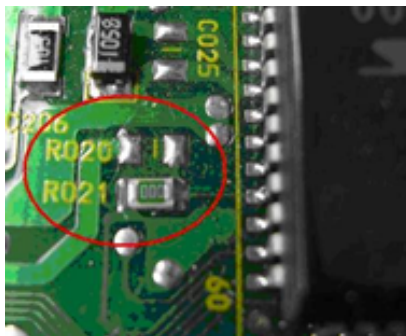
Jumpers are used on the ECU to tell it to read from either standard factory code (located in a memory chip on the ECU main board) or from the NISTune board. Move the jumpers as per the following table.

*Refer to Appendix B for some practical tips on moving the jumpers.*

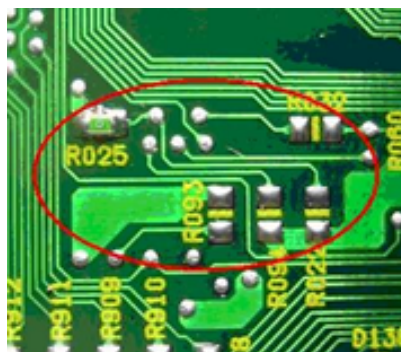
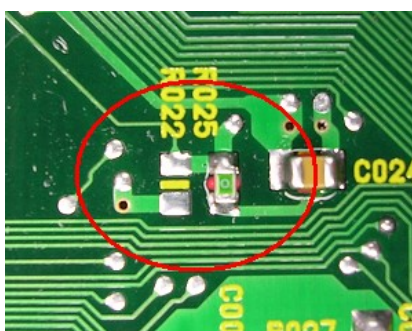
| Move Jumper                         | Model | Name         | Engine    | Jumper Position                         | ECU PN 23710 -                    |
|-------------------------------------|-------|--------------|-----------|---|-----------------------------------|
| R021 to R020                        | S14a  | Silvia       | SR20DET   | Top side of ECU<br>near large square IC | 80Fxx, 82Fxx, 83Fxx               |
|                                     | S15   | Silvia       | SR20DET   |   | 91Fxx, 93Fxx                      |
|                                     | P11   | Primera      | SR20DE    |   | 3J4xx, 3J5xx, 3J8xx, 3J9xx, 71Jxx |
|                                     | N15   | Almera Gti   | SR20DE    |   | 1N4xx (UK)                        |
|                                     | S13   | 180SX late   | SR20DET   |   | 60Fxx                             |
|                                     | W10   | Avenir late  | SR20DET   |   | 95N15                             |
|                                     | K11   | Micra        | CG13DE    |   | Rear of ECU                       |
| R025 to R022                        | N15a  | Pulsar       | GA16DE    | 1N90x                                   |                                   |
|                                     | P10   | G20 Infiniti | SR20DE    | 0J2xx 0J6xx (to 1995)                   |                                   |
|                                     | U13   | Altima       | KA24DE    | 3E6xx, 48Exx (1995 – 1996)              |                                   |
|                                     | S14   | 240SX        | KA24DE    | 70Fxx (1995 - regular T4 board)         |                                   |
|                                     | S14   | 240SX        | KA24DE    | 72Fxx (1996 - Dual ROM T4 board)        |                                   |
|                                     | B14   | Sentra       | GA16DE    | 0M2xx                                   |                                   |
|                                     | B14   | Sentra       | SR20DE    | 1M8xx, 0M76x, 2M0xx                     |                                   |
| J923 to J922                        | Y33   | Cedric/Cima  | VQ30DE(T) | 4P2xx                                   |                                   |
| J932 to J933                        |       |              |           | 6P5xx                                   |                                   |
| J904 to J905<br>and<br>J903 to J902 | ER34  | Skyline      | RB25DET   | AA5xx (NEO engine)                      |                                   |
|                                     | WC34  | Stagea S2    | RB25DET   | 0V8xx (NEO engine)                      |                                   |
|                                     | B14   | Sentra       | SR20DE    | Not available                           |                                   |
| J031 to J030                        | A32   | Maxima       | VQ30DE    | 40Uxx, 49Uxx (Dual ROM T4 board)        |                                   |
|                                     | A32   | Maxima       | VQ30DE    | 54Uxx (Dual ROM T4 board)               |                                   |
|                                     | Z32   | 300ZX        | VG30DETT  | 54Pxx (1996 only - Dual ROM T4 board)   |                                   |



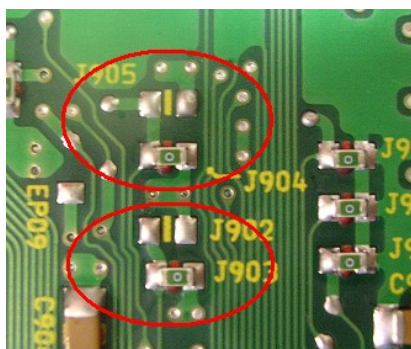
## ECU Jumper Illustrations



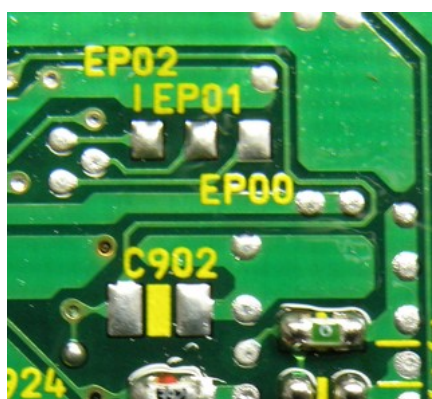
*R021 to R020 – found on top side of  
main board near the memory chip  
(large square device)*

R025 to R022 – for all except S14  
KA24DE (1996)

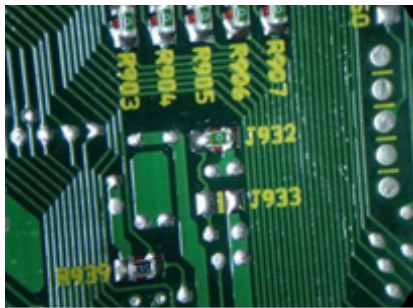
R025 to R022 - for S14 KA24DE  
(1996 model, dual ROM board)



J904 to J905 and J903 to J902 - for  
ER34/WC34 S2



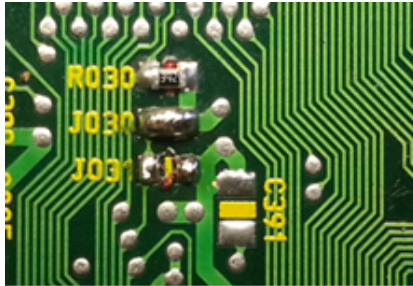
J923 to J922 - for Y33 4P2XX



J932 to J933 - for Y33 6P5XX



J031 to J030 – for A32 VQ30DE  
1995 model: Top side of ECU  
between two small square chips



J031 to J030 – for A32 VQ30DE  
1996 model: Rear of ECU as  
pictured



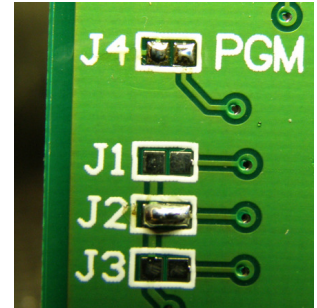
J031 to J030 – for Z32 1996 model

- **Check jumpers on NISTune board**

Most users will not need to change these as the board will be set up at the factory. Tuners/dealers who buy bulk boards and then program the base images themselves will need to set these jumpers after programming.

Jumpers J1 – J3 on the NISTune board are used to select between different ECU types. Details are printed on the Type 4 board for reference and there's a detailed list in Appendix A.

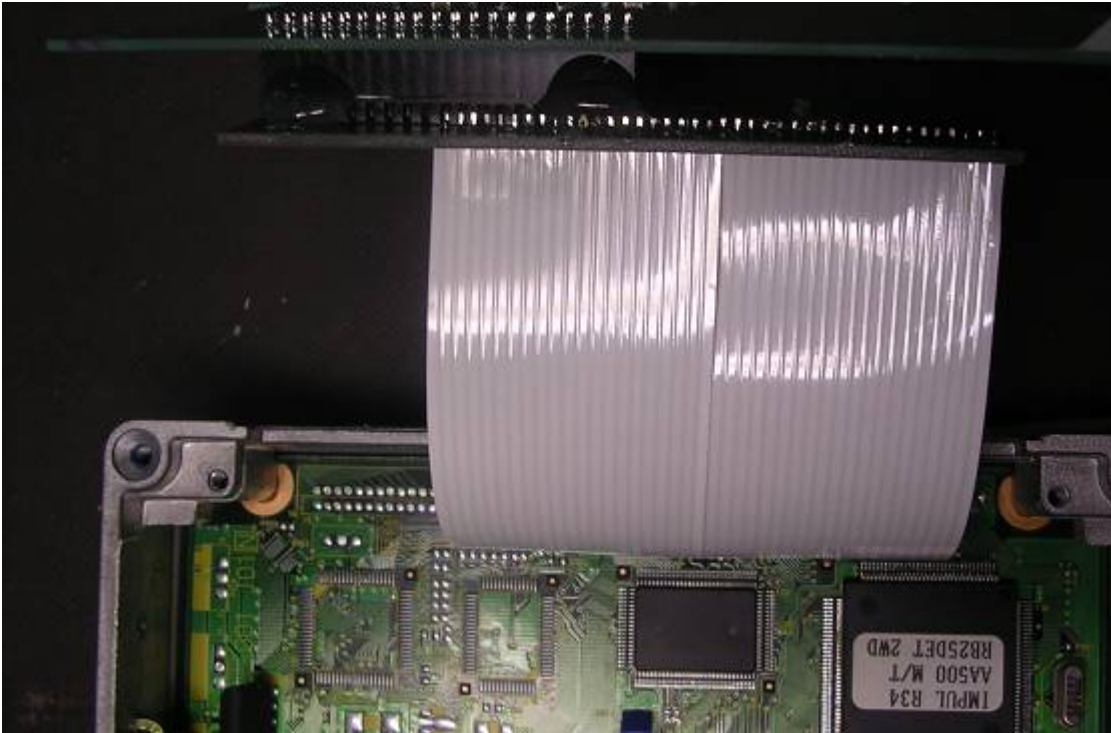
J4 “PGM” jumper is only used when programming the base image into the board and must always be removed when the board is fitted to the ECU.



- **Fit board to adaptor**

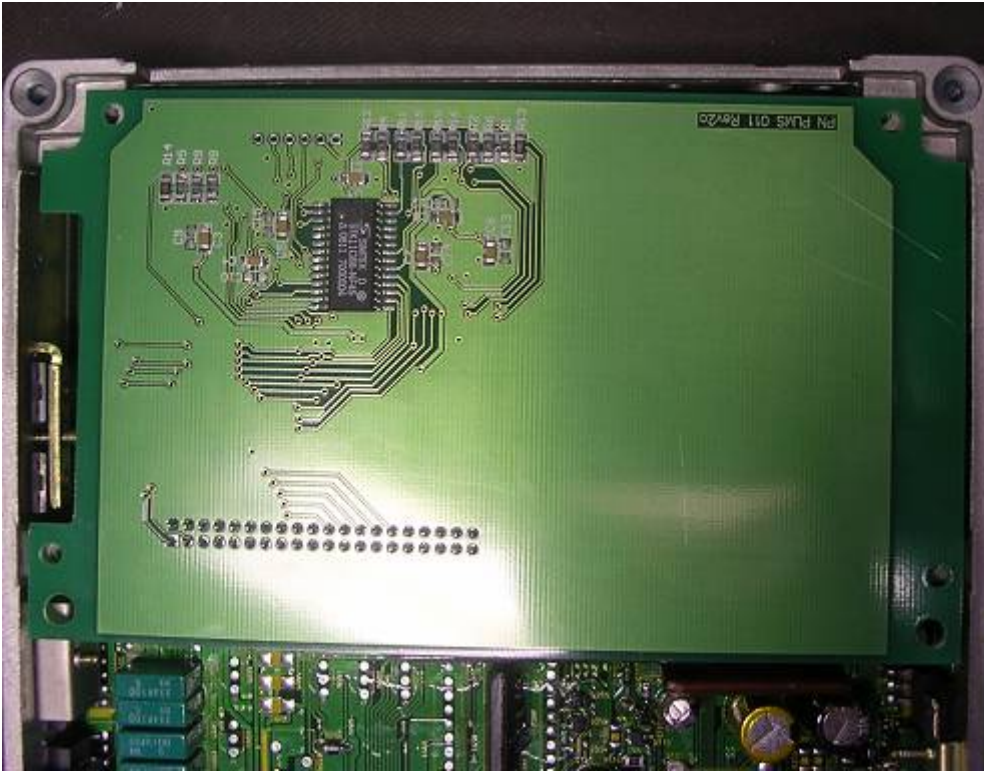
The NIStune board simply plugs onto the adaptor. Be careful to check that all pins line up correctly as the connector is not polarised. Installing the board offset by 1 pin will cause the ECU to run in “limp” mode.

It is recommended to use hot-melt glue (or similar) against the edges of the 20+20 connector to ensure it stays attached to the board. This will prevent movement if the ECU suffers vibration.





- **Fit board to ECU**



Place the Type 4 daughterboard inside the ECU and ensure that it does not push against any other components. It may be necessary to carefully bend some components back so they do not contact the daughterboard or adaptor.

Use supplied M3 screws to hold in the Type 4 daughterboard. Sometimes the screw threads may have conformal coating in them from when the ECU had coating applied at the factory – making it difficult to fit the screws. This may need to be removed using solvent or (preferably) by running an M3x0.5 thread tap down the hole.

*P11 Primera (3Jxx series ECU) and K11 Micra owners : These vehicles use a Bosch ECU and they do NOT have the features to mount the daughterboard. The only way around this is to remove the main board from the ECU and machine (mill + drill) the step + threaded holes into the case or use a case from another Nissan ECU.*

\*\*\* Special thanks to Steve at FC Tuning for testing of our Type 4 boards in the UK N15 Almera and P11 Primera \*\*\*

- **Appendix A**

### NISTune Board Jumper Settings Listing

| Fit Jumper     | Model | Name         | Engine   | Remarks                           | ECU PN 23710 -                    |
|----------------|-------|--------------|----------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>J2</b>      | S14a  | Silvia       | SR20DET  | Adaptor A, SR20DE not supported   | 80Fxx, 82Fxx, 83Fxx               |
|                | S15   | Silvia       | SR20DET  | Adaptor A, SR20DE not supported   | 91Fxx, 93Fxx                      |
|                | Y33   | Cedric       | VQ30DET  | Adaptor B                         | 4P2xx                             |
|                | K11   | Micra        | CG13DE   | Adaptor A, "facelift" model 98-02 | 0U4xx, 101xx, 74Bxx               |
|                | P11   | Primera      | SR20DE   | Adaptor A                         | 3J4xx, 3J5xx, 3J8xx, 3J9xx, 71Jxx |
|                | N15   | Almera Gti   | SR20DE   | Adaptor A, UK model               | 1N4xx                             |
| <b>J1+J2</b>   | N15a  | Pulsar       | GA16DE   | Adaptor B                         | 1N90x                             |
|                | P10   | G20 Infiniti | SR20DE   | Adaptor B, USDM to 1996 only      | 0J2xx 0J6xx                       |
|                | U13   | Altima       | KA24DE   | Adaptor B, USDM to 1997 only      | 3E6xx, 48Exx                      |
|                | S14   | 240SX        | KA24DE   | Adaptor B, USDM to 1995           | 70Fxx (takes regular T4 board)    |
|                | S14   | 240SX        | KA24DE   | Adaptor B, USDM 1996 only         | 70Fxx (takes dual ROM T4 board)   |
|                | B14   | Sentra       | SR20DE   | Adaptor B, USDM to 1997 only      | 1M8xx, 0M76x, 2M0xx               |
|                | A32   | Maxima       | VQ30DE   | Adaptor B                         | 40Uxx, 49Uxx (dual ROM T4 board)  |
|                | A32   | Maxima       | VQ30DE   | Adaptor B                         | 54Uxx (dual ROM T4 board)         |
|                | Z32   | 300ZX        | VG30DETT | Adaptor B 1996 only               | 54Pxx (dual ROM T4 board)         |
| <b>J3</b>      | S13   | 180SX late   | SR20DET  | Adaptor A, "Late 180SX" Type X/R  | 60Fxx                             |
|                | W10   | Avenir       | SR20DET  | Late model (>97) only             | 95N15                             |
| <b>J1 + J3</b> | ER34  | Skyline      | RB25DET  | Adaptor C, RB25DE not supported   | AA5xx                             |
|                | WC34  | Stagea S2    | RB25DET  | Adaptor C, NEO engine only        | 0V8xx                             |

For end user there is no need to change jumpers. This table is provided for reference only.

But for tuners/distributors who wish to program the board for use in a different type of ECU it must first be reprogrammed with the required BASE ROM IMAGE, and then jumpers set for the vehicle as per above table.

To program base image:

- 1) Solder the PGM (J4) jumper and open all others (J1-J3)
- 2) Program the board using NISTune Base Image Programmer (see separate instructions on NISTune website)
- 3) Remove PGM (J4) jumper and set other jumpers (J1-J3) as per table above

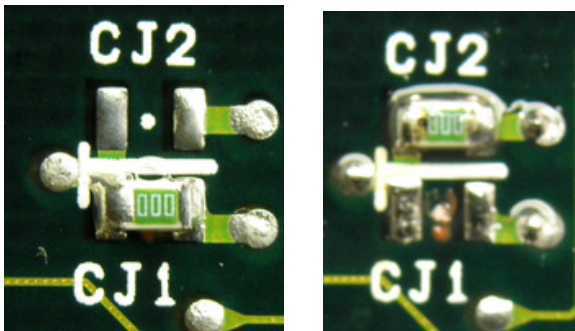
- **Appendix B**

### Tips/techniques for moving ECU jumpers

The jumpers used on Nissan ECU's are actually surface mount resistors of zero ohms value. If you're not familiar with working on surface mount technology (SMT) then you may find them somewhat fiddly to deal with. But it's important that they are done properly or unpredictable results may occur. Having the ECU jump randomly between its standard configuration and using the NISTune board can be a frustrating and time consuming fault to locate. Get it right.

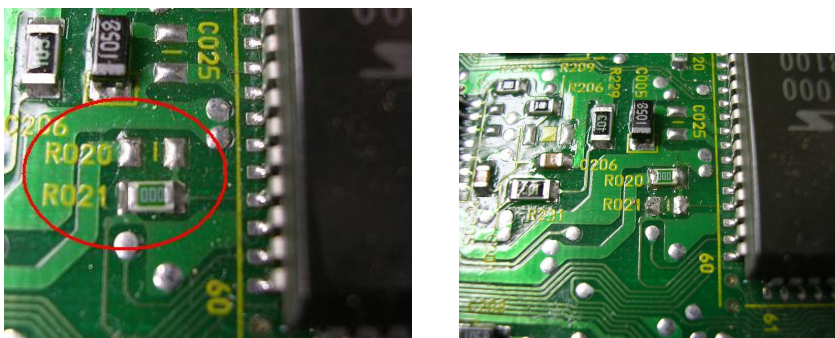
There are 3 different size jumpers commonly used in Nissan ECU's, and we use a variety of techniques to move them.

#### **1206 size (big)**



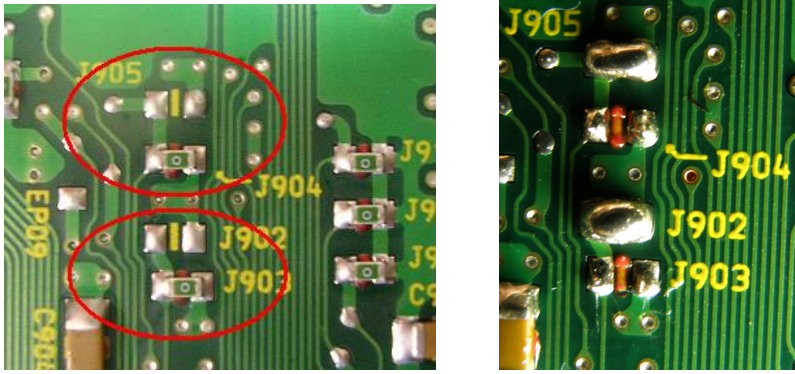
Found on S13 SR20 and similar vintage ECU's (N14/15, U13, RNN14). Remove conformal coating with acetone and cotton bud. Use soldering iron one end and de-solderer on the other end (or 2 soldering irons) to heat simultaneously. They come off quite easily. After removal clean the area again with acetone and cotton bud. Move to other position and solder in place. **Use flux**

#### **0805 size (med)**



Found on S14a/S15. Can be done same as 1206 size (fiddly though) but I've developed a technique using a large chisel tip that touches both ends at once. Remove conformal coating with acetone and cotton bud first. Then apply soldering iron from the side. Once the solder melts (sometimes you need to add a small amount of extra solder to make the heat bridge on both ends simultaneously) just push the resistor across to the new position (use tweezers to help hold the resistor). Works a treat – **relies heavily on using flux.**

### 0603 size (small)



Found on R34 and similar ECU's. VERY small. Remove conformal coating with acetone and cotton bud first. Then remove jumpers using large chisel tip applied to side of jumper as per 0805's – **use flux and extra solder**. The jumpers can be refitted in the new positions if you have the skills but in reality the pads are closely spaced and can be shorted with solder. The best technique is to clean the area of flux first, then build up the solder on each pad until it forms a tall spherical blob. Then quickly dab the soldering iron across both pads to join them. Helps if you turn iron temperature down a tad. **Do not use flux as it will tend to puddle between the pads and stop the solder bridge from forming..**

#### Main points of note for moving jumpers:

- 1) You need good light.
- 2) You need some sort of visual aid (the magnifying visors available for under \$20 are indispensable).
- 3) Keep everything clean – I use acetone and a cotton bud. Clean coating off first, do the job, then clean again after soldering.
- 4) **You must use flux – this is critical for a good job.**
- 5) Inspect the solder joints after you've finished – preferably with an eyeglass. It's very easy to have a joint that looks fine – but closer inspection shows otherwise.

Besides getting a decent soldering iron, the rest of the gear would total under \$50. Magnifying visor, eyeglass, bottle of flux, acetone, cotton buds and a pair of fine tweezers can all be had from common electronics retailers or eBay.



## Revision History

| DATE  | VERSION | DESCRIPTION   | AUTHOR |
|-------|---------|---|--------|
| Aug08 | 1.1.1   | Initial   | MB     |
| Sep08 | 1.1.2   | Fixed minor errors  | MB     |
| Nov08 | 1.1.3   | Added extra details and additional images   | PL     |
| Jan09 | 1.1.4   | Added details for UK N15 Almera   | PL     |
| May09 | 1.1.5   | Updated vehicle application list  | PL     |
| Jul09 | 1.1.6   | Added details for late S13 180SX “type X”   | PL     |
| Sep09 | 1.1.7   | Added details for late K11 Micra 98-02 & new disclaimer                                 | PL     |
| Jan10 | 1.1.8   | Added details for UK P11 Primera  | PL     |
| Mar10 | 1.1.9   | Added details for late W10 Avenir   | PL     |
| Aug10 | 1.1.10  | Added further detail for moving ECU jumpers   | PL     |
| Mar11 | 1.1.11  | Added further detail for moving ECU jumpers, added tips for dealing with solder jumpers | PL     |
| May11 | 1.1.12  | Fixed details for ER34 and S14 KA24DE/B14 SR20DE. Added images.                         | MB     |
| Dec11 | 1.2     | Added even further jumper detail.   | PL     |
| Jul12 | 1.3     | Added jumper detail and image for Y33 6P5xx   | PL     |
| Feb14 | 1.6     | Added detail for OBDII boards   | MB     |
| May14 | 1.7     | Differentiate 1995/1996 A32 jumper locations  | MB     |
| Jun14 | 1.8     | Add pictures for 1995 A32 and Y33 ECUs  | MB     |
| Aug15 | 1.9     | Change jumper for N15A GA16 ECU   | MB     |
| Mar18 | 1.9.1   | Update W10 95N15 jumper   | MB     |