Connecting a computer to BMW CIC (car information computer) using self built cable : DIY

1.) Parts needed :   - empty OBD Plug with 16 Pins

- CAT5 Lan Cable

- 510 Ohm Resistor (0,6 W)

- Soldering iron

- Laptop

2.) Building the cable :

Connect LAN Cable to OBD Plug as following :

ETH_TX+ (green/white) to OBD pin 12
ETH_TX- (green) to OBD pin 13
ETH_RX+ (orange/white) to OBD pin 3
ETH_RX- (orange) to OBD pin 11

Connect OBD Pin 16 to OBD Pin 8 through the 510 Ohm resistor (or use multiple resistors so that the final resistance will be close to 510 Ohm)

3.) Prepare Laptop (instructions for windows)

In the network settings, set a static IP Adress for the Laptop (e.g. 192.168.0.2 / subnet : 255.255.255.0)), leave any other settings to automatic

Download and install TFTPD32. Running this little app will enable a DHCP Server on the Laptop. Configure the DHCP Server Settings : IP pool starting address : 192.168.0.50 / Size of Pool : 50 (example values)

4.) Connect the cable to the OBD Plug of the car and the Ethernet Port of the Computer. Turn car ignition on.

After a few seconds, the TFTP32 DHCP Server Log Window will show that the CIC has been assigned an IP Address (in Fxx cars, you'll get 2 IP Addresses, one for the CIC, one for the other ECU's, CIC usually get's the second one).

5.) Launch FTP Client App on Laptop and connect to the CIC IP Address (anonymous login, standard port 21)

If everything is ok, you'll see the CIC Folders and Files.

You'll find the music library in /mnt/hbmedia/entertainment server