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TEXT AND PHOTOS BY NATASHA THORSON

EFFICIENT BREATHING

BANKS' MONSTER EXHAUST SYSTEM UPGRADE FOR THE '07 FORD F-250

ONE WAY TO IMPROVE THE EFFICIENCY AND POWER OF YOUR truck is to improve its exhaust flow. A high-performance after-cat exhaust system, such as the Monster exhaust from Banks Engineering in Azusa, California, can increase the power and performance of your truck by eliminating backpressure and reducing the engine heat load. The aftermarket exhaust is bigger and therefore maximizes the flow and lowers EGTs.

The '07 Ford F-250 Super Duty Lariat FX4 6.0L Power Stroke shown here was ready for an exhaust makeover. Extreme Truck Concepts, in

Mesa, Arizona, opened its doors for us to follow along with the Banks exhaust install. Banks says the Monster exhaust system increases the system flow up to 91.5 percent over that of the factory exhaust. The constant 4-inch-diameter intermediate pipe and tailpipe are stainless, and the muffler doubles the stock flow. The polished stainless 5-inch tailpipe gives it an aggressive, sporty appearance with its rolled edge. As for the exhaust note, the Banks system produces a rich and throaty sound. The new exhaust system will look and sound impressive while enhancing the performance of your diesel. **ETC**



Here's the '07 Ford F-250 Super Duty Lariat Power Stroke Turbodiesel V-8 FX4, ready for an exhaust upgrade.

1 The Banks Monster exhaust system parts included the 4-inch stainless pipe, the straight-through muffler, and the polished stainless steel 5-inch tailpipe tip with a smooth, rolled edge.



2 This factory exhaust will be replaced by the Banks Monster performance after-cat exhaust system.



3 Installer Drew Matthews removed the factory muffler by loosening and removing the factory hanger clamps.



4 Matthews installed the 4-inch pipe by connecting it to the catalytic converter, where the new exhaust system starts.



5 The new, wider, polished stainless steel muffler was attached to the intermediate pipe to dissipate the midrange exhaust drone. It features a straight-through, 4-inch-diameter flow path with a Banks-designed expansion chamber.



6 He attached the hanger clamps but left them loose for maneuverability in lining up the entire exhaust system.



7 Close to being finished, we installed the tailpipe using the factory hanger clamps.



8 Once the complete system was in place, the clamps were tightened. No holes need to be drilled to install the aftermarket system; it uses the factory clamps with rubber grommets and fits into the same factory location as the stock exhaust system.



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EFFICIENT BREATHING

9 The final step was to add the polished stainless steel tip and attach it to the tailpipe with the clamp.



10 For more of a custom install, the clamp was removed from the tip.



11 Matthews cut off approximately 3 inches of the tailpipe so the tip would not protrude from the truck as much as the clamped install. The shorter tailpipe gives the truck a cleaner look while still allowing the striking polished tip to be seen.



12 With the clamp removed, the tip was welded on for a clean installation.



13 Once the tip is completely welded on, the double-wall design and 1/8-inch air gap prevent heat from tarnishing the mirror finish.



14 The new Banks Monster exhaust system is installed, and the '07 F-250 is ready for the road. It looks, sounds, and performs better than ever.



PRODUCT PROFILE: |||

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