

EXCLUSIVE >> THE COLORFUL LIFE OF CHUCK STRANGE

THE VOICE OF OFF-ROAD MOTORSPORTS

DIRTSPORTS

BIGGEST LITTLE RACE

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EFI TECH:

- DIESEL PERFORMANCE GUIDE
- TUNING A REDLINE EFI SYSTEM

X GAMES RALLYCROSS:
BRYCE MENZIES
GOES FOR GOLD



A NEW RACECO?
THE ICONIC
BRAND LIVES
AGAIN!



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THE IQ FLASH

Banks' Amazing New Controller for Diesels



Diesels have always played a major role in the *Dirt Sports* Nation. Their ability to produce massive amounts of torque with little effort make them excellent choices for towing. Couple that prowess with great fuel economy and it is little wonder that diesels are often found under the hoods of many support and chase vehicles. Even racers have looked to diesels, with this year's Dakar-winning Monster Energy X-raid Minis utilizing diesel power. And, who can forget the beautiful and uber-exotic Volkswagen Touareg desert racer that made a brief appearance before being mothballed.

Recognizing the popularity of diesels early on, we kicked off our Project Heavy Metal way back in our January 2006 issue. The focus was on a 2005 Dodge Ram 3500 Quad Cab 4WD, and our very first step was to

take it to Banks Engineering to see what kind of power gains they could get from our 5.9L Cummins diesel. At the time they installed their Big Hoss Bundle that features the Six-Gun Tuner, giant Techni-Cooler intercooler, High Ram air inlet, Monster Exhaust and boost tubes. The results were dramatic with an extra 270 lb-ft of torque and 111 more horsepower at the rear tires for a total of 751.5 lb-ft of torque and 308.9 horsepower (again at the rear tires!). With over 700 lb-ft of that torque available from 1,800 to 2,300 rpm and 300 horsepower available from 2,200 to 3,000 rpm at the rear wheels, it is easy to see why diesels are a first choice for most when it comes to towing and heavy use.

While the Big Hoss Bundle works as a package, at its heart is the Six-Gun Tuner. An electronic programmer, it piggybacks onto

ABOVE:

The new iQ Flash is similar to the original in that it still features a five-inch, high-resolution display and acts as the interface for Banks tuners (in our case the Six-Gun). It also can still read and clear OBDII code, is portable with an internal battery, can control Banks exhaust brakes and perform performance tests such as a 0-60 mph and ¼-mile times. The major upgrades that distinguish the iQ Flash from the first-generation unit is that it now boasts a memory increase up to 4 GIG, has an AV input for the optional Banks backup camera, Bluetooth capability and an improved refresh rate for the built-in GPS navigation system.

**LEFT:**

One of the aspects of the iQ Flash that we really liked is the fact that it has a GPS Navigation system built right into it. This is not a watered-down version either, as it has all the same features found in a standalone system, including turn-by-turn voice instructions, adjustable maps and views, 7,000,000 points of interests, a variety of destination inputs and more. It is easy to use and eliminates having one more item on the dash, along with saving some money if one hasn't yet bought a GPS system. The Flash sports a quicker GPS refresh rate, making for smoother operation.

RIGHT:

An upgrade over the original iQ, the Flash has a built-in input for a backup camera. Banks installed their optional backup camera that mounted easily off one of our license plate bolts. It is small, unobtrusive, has a wide range of view and we found it also has great low-light capability, making it useful at night. The integration with the iQ is seamless, as putting the vehicle in reverse instantly powers the camera and changes the display to the rear view. As a bonus, it also makes hitching up a trailer by yourself a breeze.

**LEFT:**

To make installation easy, the iQ Flash comes with a suction cup mount that simply attaches to the windshield. The necessary cables can then be discreetly run up the side of the dash, making for a very clean and simple install.

ABOVE:

The iQ Flash is a Windows-based device allowing making it into a mini computer. It can view both Excel and Word files along with pictures in BMP, JPEG and PNG formats. Movies can also be watched in almost any format along with listening to music and reading books. With the upgraded Bluetooth capability, music can also be streamed directly from a phone or other audio source wirelessly. Of course, phone calls can also be answered directly on the iQ Flash as well.

RIGHT:

An economy mode is built into the iQ Flash and is surprisingly detailed. It can track fuel used (depending upon application), price per trip, instant MPG, average fuel economy, lifetime fuel economy and a host of other factors to help you keep track of spending on fuel and actual MPG as well. **Ds**

**SOURCE:****BANKS ENGINEERING**

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www.bankspower.com/iq6