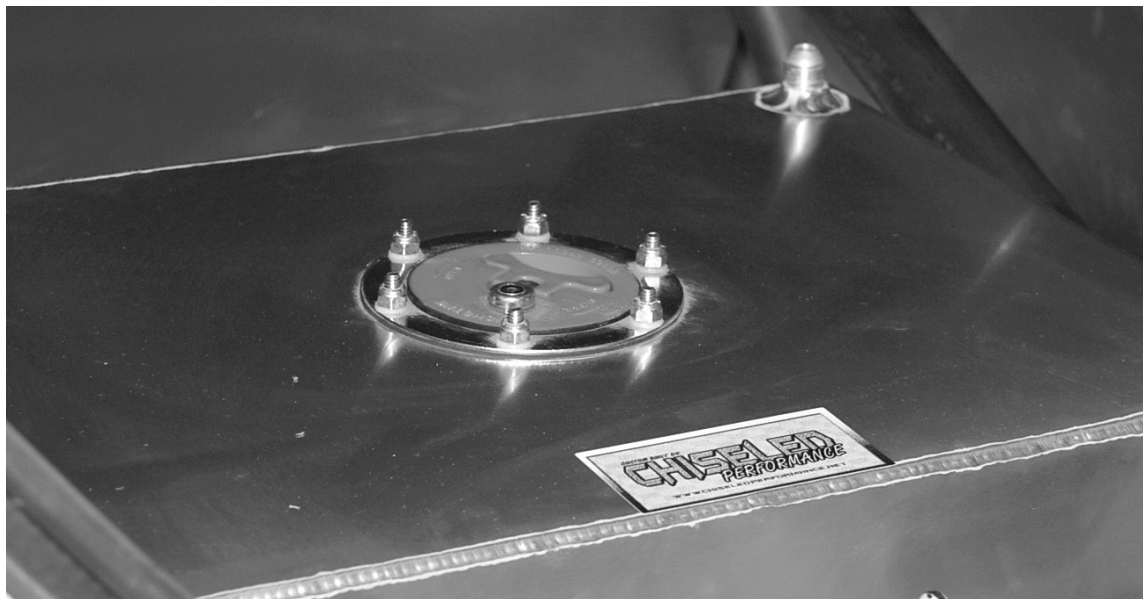


Tech Review

>> CHISELED PERFORMANCE FUEL CELL

During the course of creating a project car, many issues come to light that you wouldn't necessarily think about if you were buying a regular ol' daily driver from Honest Abe's Car Lot and House of Wax. As we've been compiling the parts and pieces we're going to be using in the construction of the Bionic Banana, our '99 GT project car, it's been a pretty straightforward process of picking parts from a catalog with a minimum of muss and fuss. Until it came time to decide on a fuel cell, of course. While we likely could have kept the stock tank, and put in a sump, we needed that area underneath the spare tire well to stay unmolested, just in case we end up needing a set of wheelie bars for safety.

With that constraint in mind, we started searching around for a fuel cell that would fit our needs. Since we needed a -10AN feed line to keep our Aeromotive belt-drive pump fed correctly, but wanted to retain a larger cell for those days where we actually plan on street-driving the car, our options were quickly cut down, and after looking at the Summit Online catalog, along with searching a few of our other trustworthy sources, we were stumped. Enter Robert Rojas of Chiseled Performance (www.chiseledperformance.net) down in Miami, Florida. It seems that our Editorial Director, Scott Sparrow, had secured the services of Chiseled Performance when having a custom fuel tank built for his '66 Buick Special that he's covering in the pages of our sister magazine, *Fastest Street Car*. Once we managed to touch base with Robert, we found out exactly why most of the racers we've spoken to rave about his products. Robert asked



us exactly what we were looking for, so we had Team Z Motorsports' Dave Zimmerman whip up a quick sketch, which we then emailed over to Robert. Robert gave us a build time of approximately three weeks (since all of the Chiseled fuel cells are constructed to order), and three weeks later, a fuel cell showed up at Team Z, exactly as we had pictured it. The weld quality is gorgeous, the cell dimensions match exactly what we had specified, and it fit right into the spot we had allocated for installation. While a fuel cell doesn't always

have the 'ooh, touch me' quality that a new set of cylinder heads or turbocharger does, there's something to be said for quality fit and installation. Chiseled Performance nails that down on all counts. In addition to the cell that we ordered, Chiseled Performance makes a full line of intercoolers, transmission coolers, water tanks, and combination fuel cell/water tanks. While you do need to allot the time for Robert to build you what you're looking for, the wait is well worth it! ■



^ Another issue that we were working with was the dimensions of the cell outlet. We needed a cell that featured a -10AN outlet at the back of the cell in order to feed the Aeromotive belt-drive pump we'll be running in the Bionic Banana. Chiseled Performance is able to craft anything you need in a fuel cell, along with the company's complete line of air-to-water intercoolers, trans coolers, and combination units.



^ One of the things that attracted us to Chiseled's line of fuel cells is that they would work with us on the dimensions we needed in order to fit the cell into the trunk. A quick sketch from Team Z's Dave Zimmerman, a few dimensions, and Chiseled's Robert Rojas was off to the races and creating what you see here.

SOURCE

Chiseled Performance
305-987-6295
www.chiseledperformance.net

>> WHAT WE LIKED

- + it's shiny!
- + the cell comes complete with the foam needed to reduce fuel sloshing
- + the company can design whatever you need for your fuel-cell needs

>> WOULD BE NICE IF..

- it had a built-in fuel sender

>> OBJECTS USED IN THIS STORY

- one chewed fingernail
- one 16.9 ounce bottle of Aquafina purified drinking water
- a BlackBerry Curve 8310, AT&T-style

