

# Project EVO VIII RS-T (Tarmac Edition)

*Customizing, tuning, personalizing – nowhere is this activity more prevalent than in Southern California. So, for the seventh year in a row, we've created an LA Auto Show project car with the help of our Kentia Hall aftermarket exhibitors.*



Far Left: Alpine IVA-D300 has Innovative PulseTouch Display and is XM Satellite Radio-ready. Middle: ARC Intake & Titanium Covers add flair to the engine bay. Right: APR Carbon-fiber wing produces downforce and envious glances.

Mitsubishi was kind enough to provide us with a 2005 Lancer Evolution VIII RS as the basis for our project. The Evo is Mitsubishi's 271 horsepower, turbocharged, all-wheel-drive rally homologation special, and the RS takes the motorsports theme one step further by eliminating the air conditioning, power windows/mirrors, radio, sound insulation, and rear wing. The result is an even lighter, and faster, Evo.

Addressing exterior appearance first, we applied Star Shield Armor's magic paint protection film, then added an APR Performance carbon fiber rear wing and side mirrors, as well as vinyl graphics from Auto Indulgence. Completing the new look are bronze 18-inch Volk Racing forged aluminum wheels wrapped in Nitto Tire's latest NT555 performance rubber from the experts at Wheel Warehouse.

To further enhance cornering performance, PSR Performance installed Vogtland performance springs and Tokico shock absorbers, complementing the Hotchkis Tuning rear anti-roll bar. And helping our Evo make the most of its factory-installed Brembo brakes is a set of Hawk Performance brake pads.

Assisting an already potent engine to make even more power is an ARC aluminum airbox and Espelir stainless steel exhaust and down-pipe, installed by Eurasian Autosport. Adding some high-performance bling-bling are ARC's titanium radiator and manifold covers.

Attention now turned to the interior, where Alpine and Al & Ed's Autosound crafted a cutting-edge audio/video system that includes a flip up touch-screen monitor, DVD player, XM Satellite Radio, iPod interface, PlayStation 2 and an array of speakers and powerful amplifiers. Many of the system components can be disconnected from the Scosche cables and removed from the car for those times when driving performance is the sole priority. Monitoring of all this performance is a Locator Solutions Autobug GPS tracking system, and keeping the driver in command is a Racetech performance driving seat.

It's no easy task improving on the performance of a car as good as the Evo, and it just goes to show the diversity of today's aftermarket. From show to go, there's something for every car and driver.



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