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ENTERTAINMENT

TESTS, TRENDS AND TECHNIQUES **ISSUE 33**

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## **All Blacks** SPECIAL EDITION

### 'BLACK LABEL' Jasmine & the Dark Starion

**BLACK EYE**

One Beemer, 12 screens!

**BLACK TOWER**

Full-on FT0 fit-out

**DARK KNIGHT**

A Fusion-flipped Lancer

**BLACK ARTS**

Fun & games in a Holden



REVIEWED >>>> AXIS >>>> BLAUPUNKT >>>> FOCAL >>>> HI-TV >>>> TRU TECHNOLOGY >>>>



Story & Images Gethen Sullivan

# SKYLINE SPECIALTY

With text messages displayed on the in-dash screen and then read out through the car's speakers — what more could you want in the way of extras?

This white Nissan Skyline was completely fitted out a year ago with all the goods, but a recent addition is a full-spec PC, giving the car a huge range of extra, 'out-there' features.

The owner and installer of the PC, Gethen Sullivan, admits it's a very small, single din-sized PC, but with a 100 GB hard drive, it stores around 20,000 songs, 2000 music video clips or 146 full-length movies.

Other features are wireless connectivity, DVD burning and touch-screen control. Gethen says one of his favourite features is a piece of special software which connects his PDA phone via Bluetooth. Using this, he can now view and dial all of his contacts via the in-dash touch-screen.

"An on-screen keypad lets me dial custom numbers, without having to struggle to manipulate my phone to make calls while driving," Gethen says.

### text messages onscreen

But the real icing on the cake is the fact when Gethen's phone receives an SMS, the message is displayed on the in-dash screen. And there's more — with the press of one button, the text message can then be read out through the car stereo speakers.

The system is based on Microsoft SAPI voices, so there are plenty of quality voices to choose from including AT&T, Realspeak etc. "My current favourite is a female voice with an Australian accent that actually does sound Australian," Gethen says.

### CAR PC SPECS

#### HARDWARE FEATURES

- PC CALU P4-M FROM WWW.CARTFT.COM
- MOTORISED IN-DASH VGA TOUCHSCREEN
- 2 GHZ INTEL CENTRINO PROCESSOR
- 512 MB OF DDR 400 RAM.
- 100 GB HARD DRIVE
- DUAL LAYER DVD BURNER
- 108 MEGABIT WIRELESS ADAPTOR FOR INTERNET AND NETWORK ACCESS
- BUILT-IN LAN
- BLUETOOTH
- BLUETOOTH GPS RECEIVER
- 5.1 CHANNEL AUDIO CARD
- 4 PORT USB HUB FOR ADDITIONAL DEVICES
- HI-DEF DIGITAL TV

#### SOFTWARE

- WINDOWS XP PROFESSIONAL WITH IN CAR TERMINAL 1.22
- PHONE CONTROL 1.75 (ENABLES CALLS TO BE RECEIVED VIA TOUCHSCREEN ETC)
- CITY NAVIGATOR GPS SOFTWARE
- WINDOWS MEDIA PLAYER 11
- 6-FORCE BEAT-ACTIVATED VISUALISATIONS FOR MP3 PLAYBACK
- KAZAA LIGHT CODEC PACK 2.77
- MICROSOFT OFFICE WITH EXCEL, WORD, OUTLOOK AND POWERPOINT
- PICTURE & PHOTO VIEWER
- MOZILLA FIREFOX
- TWINHAAN DIGITAL TV AND RADIO
- REALSPEAK SPEECH SYSTEM FEATURING KAREN WITH AN AUSTRALIAN ACCENT
- POWERDVD 7
- NERO 7.55

MOST CAR ENTERTAINMENT INSTALLERS SHOULD KNOW HOW TO DO

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TRU TECHNOLOGY

**AUDIO SYSTEM**