

Packed with Dana 70's, fed with biodiesel, wrapped in matte

By Ken Brubaker

Photography: Ken Brubaker

One of the most talked about rigs at the 2008 SEMA Show in Las Vegas was this incredible '08 Chevy Silverado 2500HD.

Built by Bigfoot 4x4 Inc., this massive rig is a study in striking good looks, custom craftsmanship, and innovative technology. It was built in 15 weeks by the Bigfoot crew in St. Louis, Missouri, and it gathered several awards at the show. From its modified Dana 70 axles to its fire-breathing, biodiesel-burning Duramax to its 30 inches of custom suspension lift, the truck is a wonder of customization and full of fascinating tweaks.

We had the chance see, and photograph, the truck in action at the J&N Entertainment 4Wheel Park in Bloomsdale, Missouri. Turns out, the Bigfoot team isn't shy about getting the truck dirty.

► The exterior of the Silverado sports an abundance of mods, including fiberglass fenders and bedsides made from the same molds as the fenders and bedsides used on the show-stopping Dale Earnhardt, Jr. "Big Red" Silverado that was featured in the GM booth at the 2008 SEMA Show. These fenders and bedsides feature a 3 3/4-inch flare. Bigfoot 4x4 made the inner fenders, and like the truck's frame and cargo area, they were coated by Xtreme Liners. Up front, there's a TrailReady Pro-Runner Guard front bumper and it houses a Warn M15000 winch. Out back, the bumper is also by TrailReady. The eye-grabbing exterior finish is DuPont Hot Hues Hot Poppy Red with black tribal flames covered in matte clearcoat. The team at Bigfoot also airbrushed the Silverado and Bigfoot logos. The rig rolls on massive 51x19.5 Firestone DuraForce AT-R tires that are mounted to custom 24x18 steel wheels made by Jacksonville, Florida-based Southern Wheel & Rim. These wheels are fitted with custom TrailReady beadlocks.

WONDER FULL



1 The Silverado uses a pair of Sway-A-Way Race-Runner piggyback shocks with Eibach springs at each corner. These contribute to the rig's generous 14 inches of front suspension travel and 16 inches of rear suspension travel.

2 The modified Duramax turbodiesel is fed biodiesel via a bed-mounted JAZ Products 20-gallon fuel cell. Also in the Xtreme Liners-lined cargo area is a pair of Nitrous Oxide Systems (NOS) 10-pound tanks. When we photographed the truck, the nitrous system was not yet operational, but Bigfoot says that when it is, the truck will undergo dyno tuning to coordinate the fuel system and programming mods so that it can all work in harmony. NOS says the system generates 75 horsepower in stock applications.

3 Like the front axle, the rear is also a high-pinion Dana 70 and it features 5.13:1 Yukon gears and hydraulic steering. Because this axle began life as a front axle, the team at Custom Differentials had to center the differential. The folks over at Moser Engineering splined the axleshafts. Also like the front, the team at Bigfoot added substantial trussing and the custom hydraulic steering with Parker hoses and fittings.

4 Like the exterior of the Silverado, the interior was designed to turn heads. Some of the many interior mods include DuPont Hot Hues Hot Poppy Red with matte clearcoat-painted panels, an airbrushed Silverado dash logo, and custom rear seating and console. The interior also showcases some of the latest and greatest electronics. The electronics gurus at Mach 1 Audio in Washington, Missouri, installed the incredible Sony A/V system, and the lengthy list of gear includes six 7-inch video monitors and three 10-inch subwoofers.

