

Cadillac Esplanade

United Kingdom

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Crestron is well known for its “total solutions” approach to automation. With inventive clients all over the world, Crestron is accustomed to unusual installations in unique environments; occasionally its technology is involved in a project that demands particular attention.

A project completed by Prestige Audio and SQ Plus gives a whole new meaning to the words motorized control. This stunning project sees the conversion of a brand new Cadillac Esplanade into a compelling anthem to the benefits of state-of-the-art technology. Manchester-based SQ Plus has over 20 years experience in the field of in-car entertainment, navigation and security. They have worked on a number of dazzling projects with Prestige Audio, but this Cadillac may be their most extraordinary collaboration.



The Crestron 12" tilt touchpanel forms the dashboard's centerpiece as well as the main controller for the car's controls, lights and AV system. It gives the interior a smooth, uncluttered finish.

The original concept was to control both the car and its AV equipment through a Crestron system designed and installed by Prestige Audio. Home equipment was used to the fullest extent possible, to showcase the technology's capabilities and potential in a creative way. The dashboard was completely rebuilt to hold the Crestron touchpanel, which is the dashboard's centerpiece as well as the main controller for the car's controls, lights and AV system, giving the interior a smooth, uncluttered finish.

The team from SQ Plus worked on the vehicle while Prestige Audio concentrated on the integration of all entertainment and control aspects. A huge automotive project involved the removal of roof bars, flushing the rear tailgate to remove the handle and rear wiper, a full-body kit with new dual-air scoop hood, plastic door handles removed and replaced with billet-polished alloy handles, new front grill, and the rear bumper section modified to fit a dual exhaust. The body was fully repainted in “House of

Kolor Black.” The car's panels were originally gray, so everything had to be changed to black, something that's not available from the factory; it was all either painted, stained or trimmed black. The end result is dramatic.

All of the switches and controls are wired into the Crestron processor via an array of low voltage relays. The controls that have been programmed into the processor are hard-wired in the center console as a backup. Thanks to the Crestron processor, every passenger in the Cadillac has a choice of what they individually want to listen to or watch. The Crestron technology allows everyone in the car to watch a different video, even the driver (when the car is stationary, of course).

A CCTV system was fitted to the Cadillac's wheels, so the driver can see the curb when parking or maneuvering. It also features a reversing camera and parking sensors. The technology is the same as that used in the home for security and viewing areas around the house. This is also true of the audio equipment installed in the car, which is similar to having a house wired for multi-room audio.

Other highlights include: 26-inch Gianelle alloys, a 500 CD digital server, 20" LCD TV in the trunk, blue Varad LEDs in the speakers and a 7,000 watt sound system. The interior of the vehicle was



lovingly completed to the very highest standards. No screws show; in fact, some are trimmed in white leather, and some are pieces of grille cloth-finished smoked Perspex (a lightweight plastic), which looks black in the daylight but glows with a blue light that shines through at night. Panels are custom-made, and finished in silver, white, and gray leather. Inside and out, the car features an eye-catching blue glow.

Even the rapid motorized amp rack (that zips out at the press of a remote control button) is illuminated in blue. Status of the wheels, fuel filler cap, four underbody kits and six circuits of lighting control appear on the Crestron touchpanel.

It is a stunning example of what can be achieved with a lot of imagination and a budget to match.