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2010
WHEEL & TIRE GUIDE



STREET CONCEPTS ELITE
CONTINENTAL GT SPEED
POWERED BY NUTEK WHEELS



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STREET CONCEPTS ELITE CONTINENTAL GT SPEED



WORDS: KRISTOPHER KU PHOTOS: ICON MEDIA

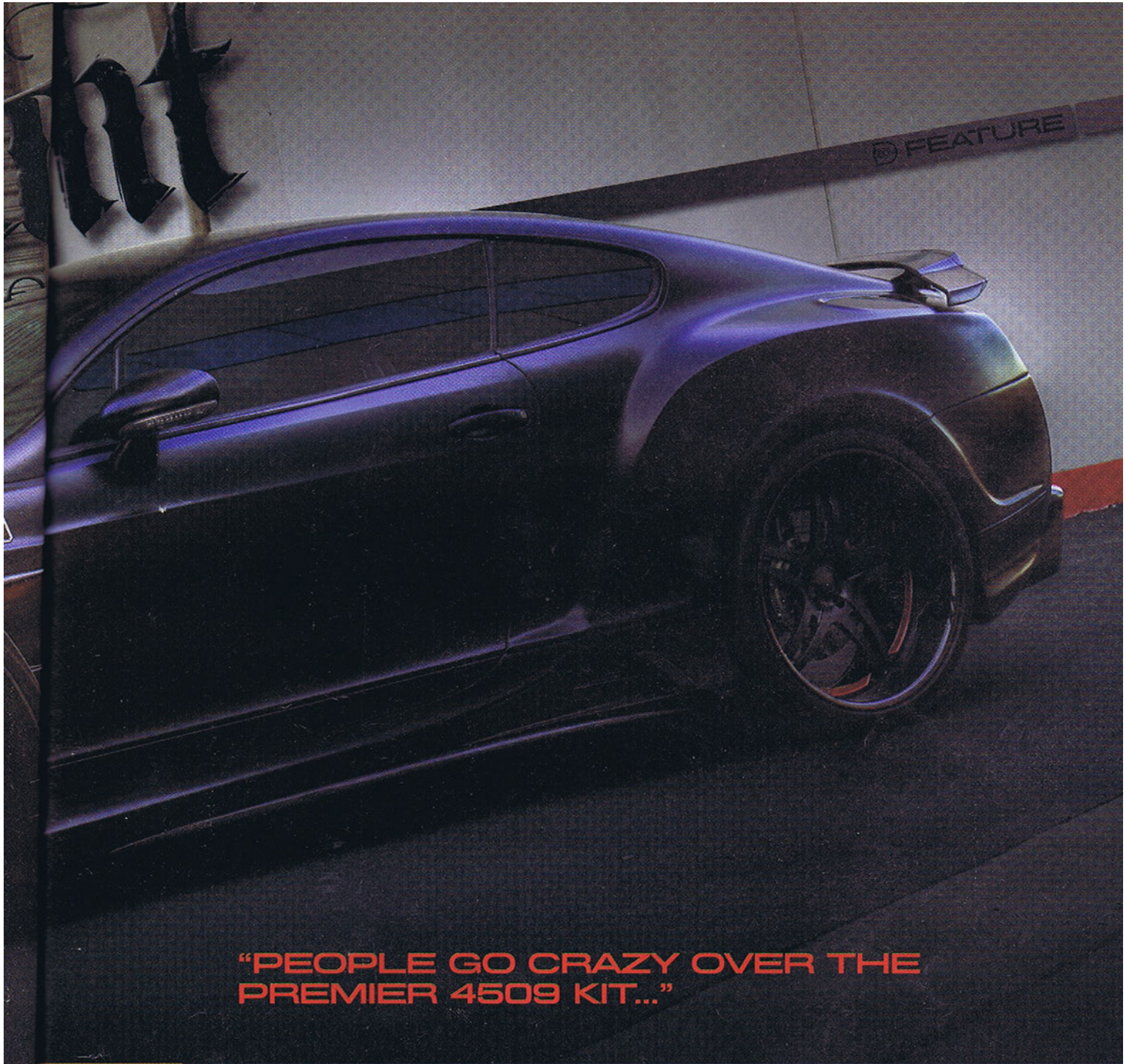
Industry veteran Shawn Williams is a firm believer that a car purchased directly from the dealership is not truly finished until it has been modified—even if that car is a \$200,000 Bentley. Case in point is his 2008 Continental GT Speed, which is already Bentley's improved and modified version of its venerable Continental GT. With a top speed of 202 mph, the GT Speed's performance features more torque and power and is complemented with tighter handling and improved agility. Behind the 20-inch multi-spoke alloy sports wheels, stopping power is provided via optional \$16,500 carbon-ceramic brakes, which handily decelerates it from three-digit speeds.

Aesthetically, only subtle nuances separate the GT Speed from the GT, mainly by way of the iconic, and now dark, chromed upper and lower front grille, the rear lower bumper valance and the lowered stance from the sports suspension. The interior is based on the ultra-luxurious, handcrafted Mulliner Driving Specification, which contributes to the overall driving experience of the GT Speed.

So why change anything on an already near perfect machine? For Shawn Williams, it's second nature. His life and business is based in and

around all things automotive. It's no surprise that his inspiration was drawn from his shop, Street Concepts Elite (SCE), when he was commissioned by a customer in the Middle East to outfit a white Continental GT Speed with exclusive Premier 4509 Limited wide body styling package. Upon completion of the job, he was blown away by "the beauty and aggressive stance of the newly transformed GT Speed" and set out to do his own version.

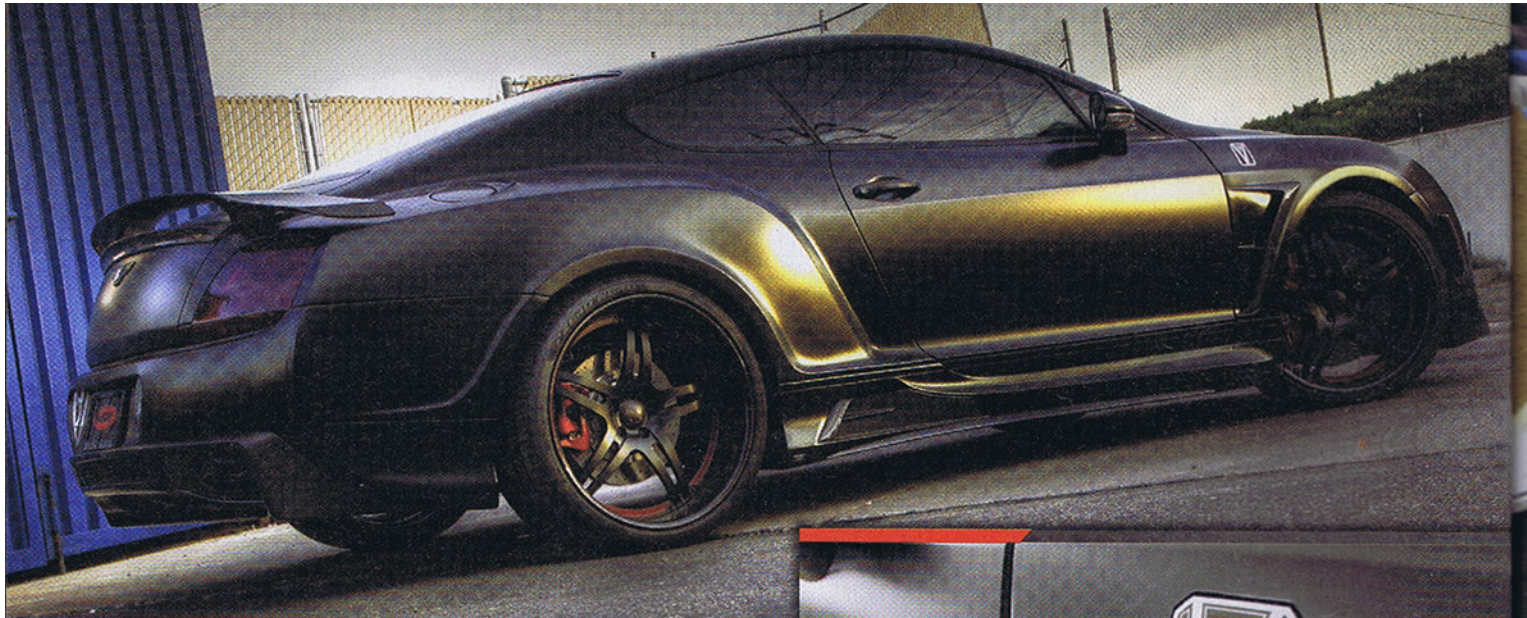
The process started with a vision in his head that made its way into several different digital renderings before he was finally satisfied with the line and accent of the vehicle. "All black everything" à la Jay-Z (with a hint of carbon fiber and red) was the end result. With No.18 out of 100 Premier 4509 Limited kits in hand, the project was under way. The installed wide body styling package, combined with a BASF matte-black paint scheme, blacked-out taillights and headlamps, transformed the mildly understated and powerful GT Speed into a menacing, yet elegant, street machine. The carbon fiber accents further accentuate the widened, flowing lines of the Speed, as well as the carbon fiber framed all-black Strut grille. To complete the look, one-off 22-inch Nutek 505 wheels paired with Pirelli P-Zero Ne



**“PEOPLE GO CRAZY OVER THE
PREMIER 4509 KIT...”**



■ SPECIALLY MADE 22-INCH NUTEK 505 WHEELS WITH MATTE-BLACK CENTERS AND GLOSS-BLACK LIPS ARE WRAPPED IN PIRELLI P-ZERO NERO 265/30R22 FRONT AND 315/25R22 REAR TIRES.



tires were chosen to fit the new wide body of the GT Speed and encompass the massive brake system. A combination of gloss-black outer lips, matte-black centers, with red flange accents to match the red "Bentley" calipers, were matched to fill the fenders justly.

Performance wise, the GT Speed is already a beast, but to help it breathe easier and sound a tone meaner, a Fabspeed stainless steel mid exhaust was added and was then tuned by the automotive tech wizards at Singh Autosport to allow performance to be pushed to *maximum potential!* Inside looks as luxurious and as a Bentley should to the untrained eye. But, what was already a custom handcrafted interior was changed to suit Shawn's taste. It was refitted with black Alcantara seat inserts and arm rests with custom MA Carbon interior and a top-notch MA Carbon/ Alcantara steering wheel. In all, more than \$135,000 was added in aftermarket parts and customization.

Dubbed "Dark Knight" for obvious reasons, Shawn first unveiled his SCE built project at this past SEMA Show and received tremendous praise. "People go crazy over the Premier 4509 kit and always ask me if it's a prototype or which celebrity owns the car, the response is just phenomenal!" The same reactions were also shown at the 2009 L.A. Autoshow where it was also showcased. He goes on to say, "It's one of the more practical and every-day-driver wide body applications on the market and not the show-car body kits that you can't really drive on. I had several legitimate offers to purchase the car during the L.A. Autoshow and am seriously considering the options. I just want to enjoy it for a while longer before moving on to my next project." 📷



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