In the Box

Winner for March 2005:   The Harlequin Case Mod

Name:
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I've always been a big fan of harlequin style flames. You know, the ones on the old 50's street rods? Well, I've now figured out that I am a gearhead of the 21st century! Except, I customize PC's!

AMD Athlon FX-53
Asus A8N-SLI Deluxe
1GB OCZ PC3200 EL 2-3-2 (2x512)
Gigabyte 3D Rocket Cooler Pro heatsink
Leadtek 6600GT 128MB PCI-E
Pioneer Slot load DVD player
HP CD Burner
Maxtor 80 GB Hard Drive (PATA)
Western Digital 80 GB Hard Drive (PATA)
ULTRA 500w X-Connect power supply
The work log, if you are so inclined, can be reviewed @
http://forums.bit-tech.net/showthread.php?t=56651

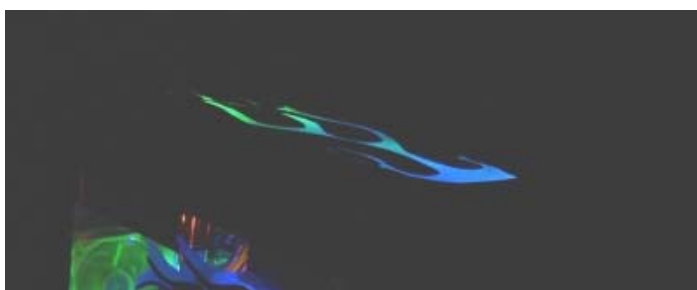Now, the tricky parts. what all did I do to this thing?
1) hand cut (using dremel, jig saw and files) the slender flames on the window and the roof., and then used that as a guide to create the background flame acrylic cutout from UV reactive blue acrylic (side window) and used clear Lexan for the background of the top. I then sanded one side to disperse the light and make for a softer glow through each piece. Top window has 3 blue LED's at the bottom of the flame, and 3 green LED's at the top.. both facing each other, so the flame ends up with a wonderful transition effect.
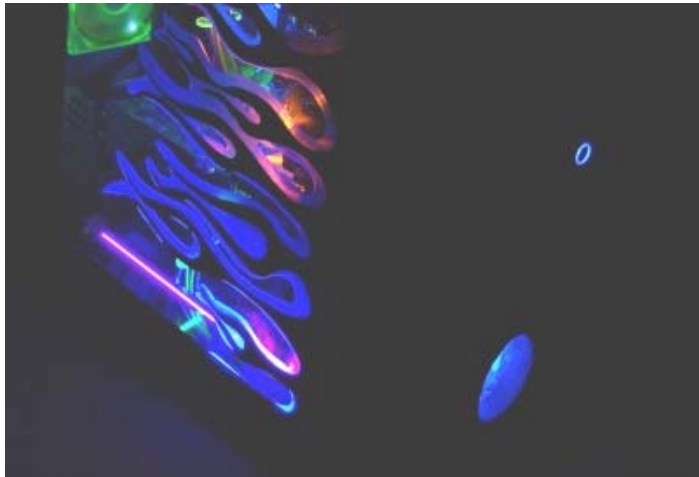
2) Using bondo and a ton of elbow grease, I filled in and smoothed out my original front bezel. Prior to all of the bondo work, I also cut a hole in the bezel for my fan tube. I cut it off center, to be different. Plus the fact that the surface of the bezel had a unique quality right there to where it was flat on one half, and curvey on the other. I thought it would look neat there.

3) Front vandal resistant, blue ring Bulgin power switch,

4) Built a power harness for my power supply that allowed me to reduce the bulk of my power connectors into an elegant and organized solution.

5) 20+ LED's of varying color are attached to a circuit board and triggered from the HD activity pulses. One half of them are triggered on the activity, and the other half are triggered when the disk is idle. This gives the flames a flickering effect. The LED's are mounted under the Heat Sink shroud, hot glued in place on the motherboard, on the side of the drive cage, the placement allows for flame

accents to really pop out in low light situations. I also have some stealthed UV LED's that fire onto different sections of the power harness, setting off the cabling and/or the UV reactive acrylic spacers, as well as LED's attached to the back of the flame window to help set off the flames in a bit more concentrated UV light.

6) A liberal use of crushed velvet in the bottom and the sides are used to create a kind of pimpish bling flare to the case, as well as act as cabling covers and acoustic dampening.

7) The rear exhaust fan, I put 3 UV LED's into the fan, sanded them, angled them, and ran their power with the other fan power line.

8) The internal frame and plastic bezel plates were painted using a green anodizing effect.

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