

Parts
Dept.

Aftermarket action

The ultimate plug wire?

In the quest to get the most amount of power from your engine without unbuttoning it and refilling its innards with expensive speed parts (or even after you've filled the innards with expensive speed parts), you have to consider every possible part on the outside of the engine, too, even the spark-plug wires you're using. But wire is wire, right? Nology would disagree — strongly. The company's HotWires are among the most advanced spark-plug wires on the face of the earth, which enables them to deliver a more powerful jolt, which, in turn, creates more complete combustion and, presumably, more power. What makes HotWires so unique? Well, they're much more than just wires. The neat design allows energy from the ignition coil to accumulate in the built-in capacitor. When the spark plug 'fires,' the entire power of the stored electricity is discharged at once, creating a spark that the company says is 300 times more powerful than a spark delivered by standard plugs. The result, it is claimed, is faster, more complete combustion (even lower emissions), and more smog-legal horsepower. All HotWires are sheathed in high-temp silicon with a ground strap attached to each wire. Prices range from US \$175 for a four-cylinder engine to about US \$340 for a V8. For more information call 1-800-665-6491 or go to www.nology.com and read all about it.

Put some Energy into it!

Since your vehicle's suspension is sewn together with rubber bushings that flex, the harder you push it, the more out of hand things can get — literally. Steering alignment skitters away from factory specs, especially where the upper and lower control arms are concerned. By installing Energy Suspensions Hyper-Flex performance polyurethane control arm bushings, alignment is maintained even under hard driving, and stability, safety and with decreased tire wear become the benefits. They can not only improve handling, but also reduce 'wheel hop' that's prevalent under hard acceleration. Energy has many applications for both new and old vehicles, which can really benefit (reduced clunking and vastly improved stability) from the upgrade. Since polyurethane is much more durable than rubber, you can expect it to last longer than stock rubber bushings, too.

The Focus on fuel mixture

The new electronic components found in today's cars offer all kinds of tuning possibilities for high-performance owners. One of the companies to take advantage of this is Sean Hyland Motorsport (SHM), which specializes in hot-rod Ford Focus and Mustang performance parts. The company's MAFterburner is a system that allows the owner to fine tune the air/fuel ratio of their car in 400 RPM increments, from idle all the way to the redline. Optimizing the fuel ratio with a laptop computer offers the best power throughout the entire operating range of the engine, provided, of course, that you know what you're doing. However, SHM says the software is very user friendly and allows the operator to make quick adjustments in real time, while driving or on a chassis dynamometer (which measures engine horsepower). MAFterburner also helps when it comes to fine-tuning cars with larger-than-stock fuel injectors, aftermarket mass air meters or other engine modifications that would affect the air flow into the engine. MAFterburner works by overriding inputs from the mass airflow sensor (MAF) and plugging in its own settings. The unit will fit all 2000-02 Focuses, 1987-02 Mustangs and, with a little work, any car with an analog output mass-air meter. The price for the MAFterburner for the both the Mustang and Focus is US \$300. To get the inside scoop, call 1-334-527-1200 or visit seanhylandomotorsport.com.

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