

# ***Porsche Windschield Replacement***

**D**uring our trip to Parade to quote Jim Earlbeck “the laser guided rock goes for the windshield. Not so stupid rocks”. This of course caused us to have a broken windshield on our 2003 Boxster. After listening to a tech seminar at Parade where the speaker was discussing how badly some aftermarket windshields fit, I was committed to getting an OEM windshield for the replacement.

After calling the service manager at Porsche of Annapolis and finding the name of the company they used to repair glass, I called Glas Fill Systems in Laurel and spoke to Dan the owner. He was not very optimistic that my insurance company would pay for OEM glass and gaskets. I called my insurance company (Nationwide) to file my claim and tell them I had selected Glas Fill to do the work. The good news was that Glas Fill was one of their preferred providers, the bad news was that Safelite administers the glass program for Nationwide and they are not known for approving OEM glass.

After Safelite spoke with Glas Fill, they approved the use of OEM glass, which made me very happy with Nationwide. Glas Fill ordered the windshield and gaskets from Porsche of Annapolis which are now supplied by Porsche Classic as the car is more than ten years old. We then set up an appointment at my garage for Glass Fill to install the replacement windshield.



**Now that's one nasty looking t**



As you might expect the first step is to remove the old windshield which was accomplished by using a large electrically powered tool with a large putty knife looking attachment.

Next was the preparation of the new windshield by adding the two gasket pieces and slightly trimming the surface to promote adhesion of the sealant.



**Old windshield gasket/sealant out and now it's time to prepare for the new gasket/sealant**



Finally after all of the prep work the mastic is placed on the windshield frame.

Now the windshield is placed in the frame and held in with tape for 4-5 hours until the mastic sets and the tape can be removed.

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**Care and attention to detail is critical!**



It took the two technicians two hours and forty-five minutes to do the installation.

Cost of the windshield and rubber molding was about \$680 from the dealer and the

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total bill came about \$900. While the new glass is OEM manufactured by Saint-Gobain Sekurit it is now made in the Czech Republic instead of being made in Germany.

What would be my words of advice on having a windshield replaced on a Porsche? Do your homework and find an installer that has installed a number of Porsche windshields; there were a number of little tricks, (like trimming a bump off of the entire length of the molding to enhance the adhesion of the mastic) that I saw them do that were clearly born of experience. Finally, demand that your insurance company uses OEM glass and molding to preserve the value of your Porsche.

**Randy Richter**

