

# THE MAGAZINE ABOUT PORSCHE excellence



## Radar Love

It always seems to me that the police in my home state of New Jersey look at driving a Porsche as “probable cause.” Even if you were doing your best to fly under their radar (pun intended), all too often you attract their unwanted attention.

When I finally had my car in the garage, I discovered that it came with a built-in K40 radar detector. Initially, I was excited. I thought it would give me a warning of the many local speed traps around my home. However, when I clicked it on, it immediately started to beep, squeak, and tick. Every automatic door opener, burglar alarm, and passing car with active cruise control and lane departure warning technology set it off.

Since my last corporate job was help desk manager, I decided to call the K40 help desk number that I found on the internet. Within three rings (that’s a Help Desk Institute best practice target, by the way), I had a K40 engineer on the phone.

I explained that I wanted to know if my unit was “upgradeable.” When I gave him all the information I had based on the booklet in the glove box, he said it was way too old to just reconfigure with software and that it would have to be removed and then replaced. As an owner of several suction-cup-on-the-window radar detectors, I really was intrigued by the idea of a modern, hidden detector.

I was given the name of a trusted local K40 installer and, with a hint that they might help with the upgrade costs since I had an outdated unit, I called to see what was possible. The local installer, Extreme

Mobile Sounds in Paramus, New Jersey, was highly recommended and after I spent an hour with the shop’s owner, Joe Chabuel, I was convinced that removing and replacing the old unit was my best approach. Especially since he described my K40 as “prehistoric!”

Plus, since the company has a “we pay for your ticket” policy and in the many years of installing these products, he said only one client had ever received a ticket, I was hooked and made an appointment to have the work done.

I had no idea that installing a hidden radar detector was so complex. First, it’s really hidden. To remove the old unit, Chabuel and his team had to take off the front and rear bumpers to completely disconnect the old detector’s electronics. Next, the new unit and sensors had to be installed—these live behind one headlight for the front detector and one taillight for the rear detector. Watching them disassemble my Porsche bumped up my pulse rate a bit, but the care and professionalism they demonstrated helped me relax.

In the end, everything was put back perfectly and, after shaking hands, I drove home protected by a new K40 detector. As I drove north on Route 287 traveling at, *ahem*, a brisk pace, I heard beeps, and the dash-mounted rear warning light started to flash. Even though I was wondering if this was just a false alarm, I backed my speed down and moved over to the far right lane. Seconds later, a Trooper’s SUV sped by. Score an early victory for K40!

