

McBurnie Coachcraft

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Replica Ferrari Daytona Used in Miami Vice

McBurnie Coachcraft was a US [bodywork](#) company mostly known for their replicas of [Ferrari Daytona Spyder](#). McBurnie also manufactured a [Ferrari 250 GTO](#) replica in the style of the Alpha One GTO, and the [Velo Rossa](#).

The Daytona replicas are based on the [Chevrolet Corvette C3](#) and became very popular because they were featured in the TV series [Miami Vice](#) where the main character [Sonny Crockett](#) drives a black Daytona Spyder. [Ferrari took legal action^{\[1\]} to stop McBurnie](#) and other replica manufacturers from producing those replicas,^[2] under the legal principle of [trade dress](#).

An arson fire at McBurnie's shop on April 28, 1989 (less than a year after the case was decided) caused significant damage to the building and vehicles inside.^[3]

Tom McBurnie went on to manufacture a [hot rod](#) kit called "34 Lightning," as well as replicas of the [Porsche 550](#) and [Porsche 356](#) Speedster under the company name Thunder Ranch. McBurnie also produced the RIOT car as seen on the television series [Baywatch](#). Tom partnered with [San Diego State University](#) to make an electric RIOT car with hybrid technology.^[4] The rights to the RIOT were sold to Nathan Wratishlaw.^[5]

In 2012 McBurnie sold his company to Carrera Coachwerks partners Theo Hanson and Alan Cassell.^[6] Anticipating a dispute with Porsche, the name was changed to Custom Coachwerks in 2013 or 2014. However, the El Cajon, CA shop was subsequently closed and assets divided by the partners.

References^{[[edit](#)]}

- ^[1] <http://cyber.law.harvard.edu/IPCoop/91ferr1.html>
- ^[2] http://articles.orlandosentinel.com/1989-05-18/topic/8905180292_1_ferrari-daytona-spyder-mcburnie
- ^[3] <http://miamiviceonline.com/index.php/topic/1010-the-ferrari-daytonas-of-miami-vice/page-63>
- ^[4] [SDSU Hybrid RIOT Project Archived](#) 2010-11-09 at the [Wayback Machine](#)
- ^[5] <http://www.nathanwratishlaw.com/>
- ^[6] <http://www.superstreetonline.com/features/1309-carrera-coachwerks-550-spyder-replica/>

External links^{[[edit](#)]}

- [Mc Burnie's RSK 550 & Speedsters](#)
- [Mc Burnie's RIOT](#)

- [SDSU RIOT Car](#)

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