



8500ci Plus  
**PASSPORT**

DRIVE SMARTER™

**ESCORT**

## PASSPORT 8500ci Plus Comes Complete

### Front Radar/Laser Receiver

- Miniature weather-proof Radar/Laser Receiver
- Universal mounting bracket with stainless steel hardware
- Built-in 16 ft. shielded cable with water proof connector
- 12 nylon wire ties ("zip ties") to secure cable

### GPS

- Weatherproof, magnetically mounted GPS Antenna
- 30 ft. cable with modular connector
- Interior windshield mounting bracket (optional accessory)

### USB Data Cable

- Provides access to software updates via the Internet

### Interface

- Central module connects to switched 12-volt power and ground
- All components plug directly into Interface
- 3M connector taps into existing vehicle wiring
- Accepts standard 3.5mm mono earphone

### Miniature Display Controller

- Mounts easily to instrument pod, dashboard or console
- Optional hidden display included
- 3M connector taps into existing vehicle wiring

### Documentation

- Comprehensive Owner's Manual
- Installation Manual

### Concealed LED Alert Display

- Indicator is solid green when unit is powered and flashes red during an alert
- 6 ft. cable with modular connector
- Bezel provided mounts easily to instrument pod, dashboard, or console

### Built-in Diagnostics

- Confirms all components are operational

### Built-in Diagnostics

- Fully compatible with ESCORT Laser Shifters and Bluetooth Kit (optional, both sold separately)

## Important Notes

### ► Read This First

Please read both sides of these instructions before starting your installation.

For the easiest trouble-free installation, install the Interface first, and wire it to a 12-volt switched circuit.

Then before installing the other components, plug all of them into the Interface and power up the unit to confirm proper operation.

### Important Installation Warnings

**1** It is recommended that you have a professional install your new 8500ci Plus. Installation of this system requires experience and expertise in automotive electronics. If you are unfamiliar with automotive electronics, car audio

specialists and many car dealers can install your 8500ci Plus for you.

**2** Attempting to install this product without expertise in automotive electronics installation can cause personal injury or damage to your vehicle.

**3** If your vehicle is damaged during installation, its safety systems may be compromised, which could cause personal injury or property damage.

**4** Improper installation may also void PASSPORT's warranty.

### Performance Warning

To get the best possible performance, the mounting location of the radar/laser receiver is critical. Although radar signals will pass through some types of

plastic, laser signals will not. For this reason, the receiver must have a clear view of the road to work properly.

### Installation Instructions

While following the steps throughout this manual, please refer to the following recommendations for a professional, trouble free installation.

- The best location for the radar receiver is typically under the bumper or inside the front grill of the vehicle. For the best radar performance, install the receiver horizontally, with a clear view of the road.

- Entry points to the interior of the vehicle may be located behind the plastic liner in the wheel well, fuse box, or unused grommets.

- There are often many existing entry points at the rear of the vehicle as well, including gaskets behind license plates, around illumination lamps, and near trunk lid hinges. Taillight wiring gaskets are often easily accessible and large enough to accommodate cables.

- If there are no suitable openings, it will be necessary to drill a hole through the firewall:

**1** Thoroughly investigate all locations before drilling any holes. Ensure no wires, hoses, or other vehicle components will be damaged.

**2** On vehicles with automatic transmissions, there is often a location for mounting a clutch pedal. This is typically an ideal location to drill.

**3** Before drilling, cover the surface being drilled with masking tape to prevent damage to the anticorrosion coating in the event the drill bit slips.

**4** Drill a 13/32" or 7/16" hole. • When pulling the in-line grommet to the entry point, apply rubbing alcohol to a section of the cable to reduce friction and quickly pull the grommet along the length.

- The cables of units mounted at the rear of the vehicle can generally be routed through the trunk compartment and concealed under trim panels quite easily. If necessary, the cables can also be routed under the vehicle and through an opening in the firewall. Be sure to secure cables away from moving parts and hot surfaces.

- A quality crimper for modular connectors can be used to cut cables to length and replace the connector. Removing the connectors may also make it easier to enter the vehicle's interior through existing openings.

### Important Notes:

- Only an exact replacement for the standard connector can be used. Do not attempt to cut the wires unless the proper connector and crimping tools are available.

- Connectors cannot be reused.

- Do not cut the cable too short. Provide enough cable to route to the interface and add a couple extra feet to ease installation.

- Install the new connector such that its locking tab is on the same side as the color coded stripe on the cable.

- Do not attempt to cut the cable and splice the wires together on the vehicle's exterior.

- When drilling or cutting interior trim panels (for instance, when installing the concealed alert indicator), first cover the surface of the panel with masking tape to prevent accidental scratches.

### Warning:

Be sure to avoid all air bags.

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# PASSPORT 8500ci Plus Installation Manual

## A Front Radar/Laser Receiver

- 1 Determine the best location for the Radar/Laser Receiver (typically under the bumper or inside the front grill of the vehicle). For the best performance, install the Receiver with the label facing up and the arrow pointing forward, with a clear view of the road.
- 2 Using the supplied U-shaped bracket and the right angle mounting bracket, mark the mounting location.
- 3 Mount the Receiver using the supplied hardware. It is recommended that the Receiver be secured to the brackets before mounting to the vehicle.
- 4 Plug the Receiver into the harness and route the cable toward the interior of the vehicle. Secure the cable with zip ties. Although the in-line connector is waterproof, it is best to locate it in a dry area protected from moving parts, road debris, and hot surfaces, such as the radiator and radiator hoses.

- 5 Find a suitable entry point into the vehicle's interior. (See Installation Tips.)
- 6 Feed the harness into the vehicle's interior and to the Interface. Plug into the jack labeled "ANTENNA."
- 7 If entering through a drilled hole, pull the grommet on the harness until the end sticks through the hole. From inside the vehicle, pull the grommet through until it seals against the outer surface.

## B Interface

- 1 Install Interface under the dash using supplied zip ties. **DO NOT MOUNT IN ENGINE COMPARTMENT.**
- 2 Connect the black wire (○) to the ground and the red striped wire (+) to a switched 12 volt supply. (If the 8500ci Plus is left in the "on" position, it will automatically power on and off with the ignition.) Use the provided blue 3M connector to tap into the existing circuit if needed.

- 3 The Radar/Laser Receiver, Display Controller, GPS Antenna, Concealed Alert LED Display, and USB data cable plug into the Interface. The jacks are labeled and color coded to match a stripe on each cord. Be sure that all components are plugged into the proper jack before applying power to the unit.
- 4 Once the Interface is installed and connected to power, it is recommended that all other components are plugged in and tested for proper operation before completing installation.

## C Display Controller

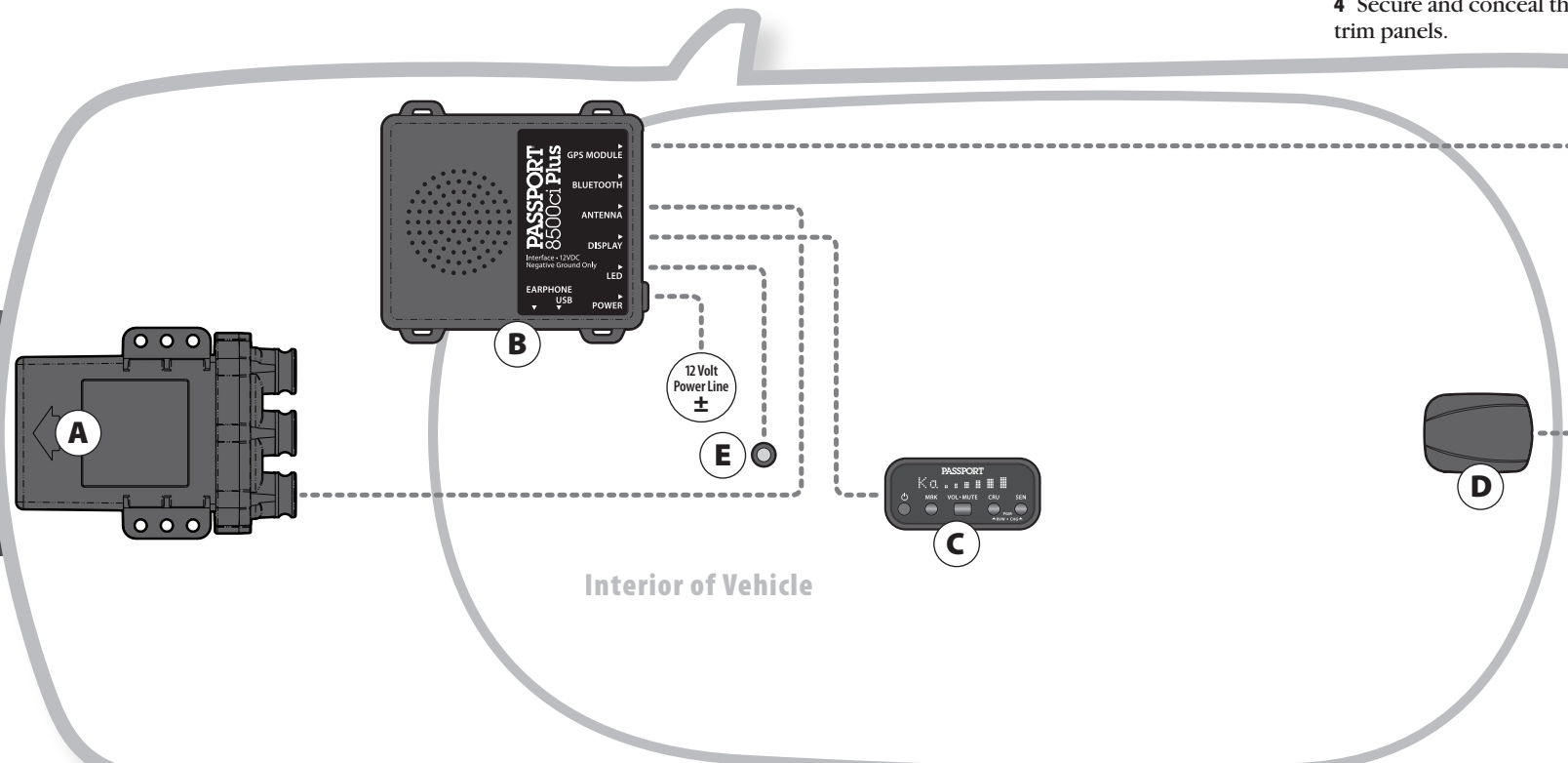
- 1 Determine the best location for the Display Controller in the vehicle's interior. Make certain that it is clearly visible from the driver's position and the controls can be easily accessed without interfering with normal driving. (Consult customer if necessary.)
- 2 Remove paper backing from the back of the Display Controller and apply the controller to a clean, dry surface.
- 3 Route the cable to the Interface and plug into the jack labeled "DISPLAY."
- 4 Secure and conceal the cable under the trim panels.

## D GPS Antenna

- 1 Determine the best location for the GPS antenna. The GPS Antenna requires a clear view of the sky. The magnetic base can be used on most vehicles to mount to the roof of the car or the trunk lid. For vehicles with nonmagnetic surfaces, such as aluminum or plastic, an optional window mounted bracket is available for interior mounting. (See instructions below.) It can also be mounted to the dashboard or rear deck using double-sided tape.
- 2 Mount the GPS Antenna, ensuring that roof racks or other obstructions do not block its view of the sky.
- 3 Locate a suitable entry point into the vehicle. (See Installation Tips.)
- 4 Route the cable through the entry point and secure along its path. If mounting near the front or rear window, it is usually possible to tuck the cable under the gasket surrounding the glass.
- 5 Once inside the vehicle's interior, route the cable to the Interface and plug into the jack labeled "GPS MODULE."
- 6 Secure and conceal the cable under the trim panels.

### GPS Antenna Interior Mounting Bracket (Optional Accessory)

- 1 Choose a location on the inside of the windshield or rear window that will provide a wide, clear view of the sky. (This is usually near the base of the window or just left of the rearview mirror for metallized windshields.)
- 2 Insert the three suction cups into the holes on the mounting bracket.



**Questions?**  
If you have any questions, please call or visit our Web site. One of ESCORT's trained radar specialists will be happy to assist you.  
800.543.1608 • www.EscortRadar.com

## E Concealed LED Alert Display

- 1 Determine the best location for the LED Alert Display. (Consult the customer.) An optimal location is one that is clearly visible from the driver's position and would not take the driver's eyes off the road for more than a moment.
  - 2 Ensure there are no hidden cables, brackets, or other components behind the mounting location and there is adequate clearance behind the panel.
- Warning:** Be sure to avoid air bags.
- 3 Cover the mounting surface with masking tape to prevent accidental scratches.

- 4 Carefully mark the location and drill a 1/4" hole through the mounting panel.
- 5 Remove the masking tape protecting the trim panel.
- 6 From the front side, snap one of the panel bezels provided into the hole.
- 7 Snap the LED Display into the panel bezel from the back side.
- 8 Route the cable to the Interface and plug into the jack labeled "LED."
- 9 Secure and conceal the cable under the trim panels.

## USB Data Cable

The USB Data Cable allows easy access for updating the 8500ci Plus's DEFENDER™ Database and operating software. Once connected to your computer, the 8500ci Plus can download data directly from ESCORT's Web site. You can also back up your data to your computer.

We recommend you install this cable at the time of installation to allow easy future access. To do so, simply follow these steps:

- 1 Determine the mounting location for the standard USB connector inside the vehicle. The optimum location is one that is hidden but easily accessible.

- 2 Thoroughly clean the surface to which the standard USB connector will be adhered, as well as the surface of the connector itself.
- 3 Using double-sided foam tape (supplied), mount the standard USB connector as desired.
- 4 Route the cable to the Interface and plug the mini-USB connector into the port labeled "USB."
- 5 Secure and conceal the cable under the trim panels.

## TEST

- After all components are installed correctly:
- 1 Turn the 8500ci Plus on by turning on the vehicle's ignition. If necessary, press the power button (○) on the front of the Display Controller.
  - 2 The 8500ci Plus will cycle through a brief startup sequence.
  - 3 If any error messages come up, see the Troubleshooting section of the Owner's Manual for suggested solutions.

- 4 Place the bracket on the window and press the bases of the suction cups firmly. Tip: To increase the adhesion of each cup to the window, squirt a small amount of hairspray or other light adhesive onto the surface of the suction cup that mates with the window and then apply firmly.
- 5 Place the GPS Antenna onto the mount using the magnetic base and align the edges. The cable should point toward the window.
- 6 Route the cable to the Interface and plug into the jack labeled "GPS Module."
- 6 Secure and conceal the cable under the trim panels.