

V I N T A G E E X O T I C S

Where Passion Meets Insanity !

C2 FIA CORVETTE HEADLIGHT INSTALLATION

VE 2014.1 Rev 1



Installation Instructions

Application

This technical memorandum applies to the FIA headlight systems for C2 Corvettes sold through Vintage Exotics. The headlight system consists of the following components:

2 Headlight covers

2 Headlight brackets

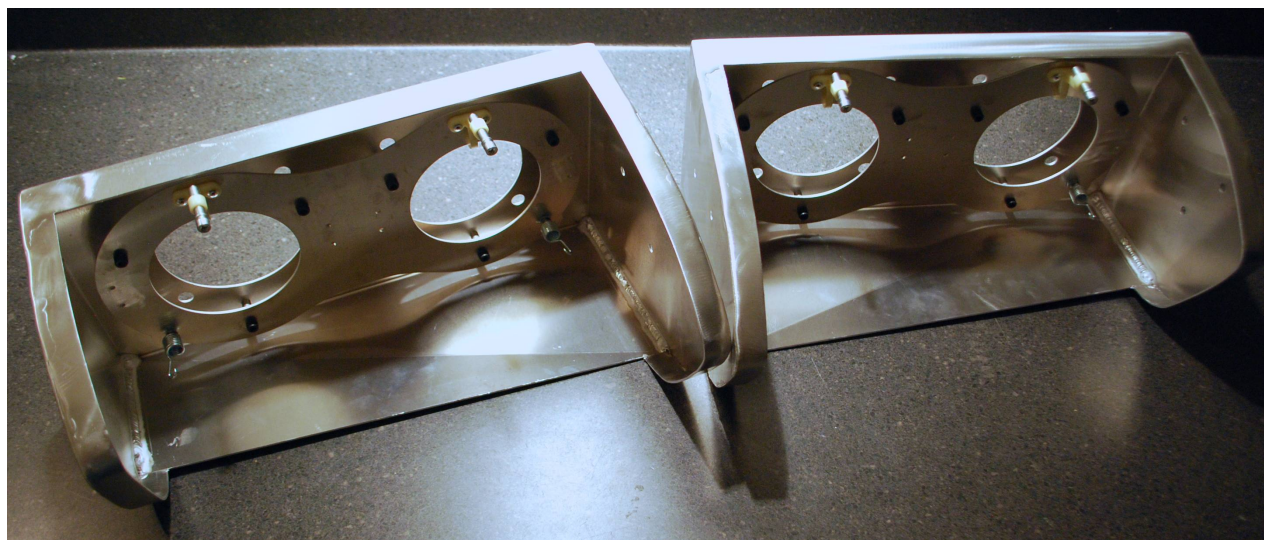
2 Headlight backing plates assembled with adjuster nuts

4 headlight bulb holders and trim rings (Pro kit only)

12 sets of spacers and #10 screws to attach backing plates to frame (assembled when shipped)

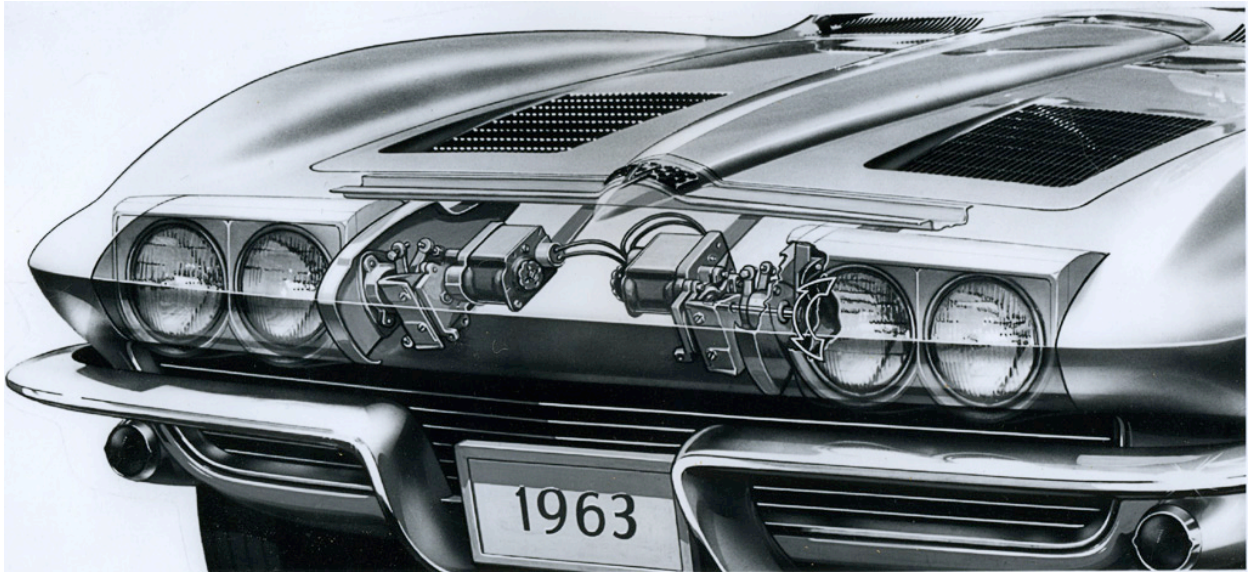
Aircraft grade rivets

We recommend reading through the instructions before starting on the installation. It is our experience that the set be installed for a trial fit, removed, painted or finished and then re-assembled. Please email us at barry@vintageexotics.com with any questions on the installation that you might have.



Installation

First begin by removing the factory headlight doors, mechanisms, hinges and actuators. You can retain the Corvette bulb holders and use them in this installation if you have bought the Basic Kit. Our FIA Headlight Pro Kit includes these bulb holders in case the existing units are not serviceable. The bulb holders and trim rings are also available from a number of aftermarket resellers. Any bulb holder and trim ring from a 1962-1972 Chevy Impala, Corvair or Corvette will work for this installation. You may be required to remount the headlight adjusting nuts for some head-

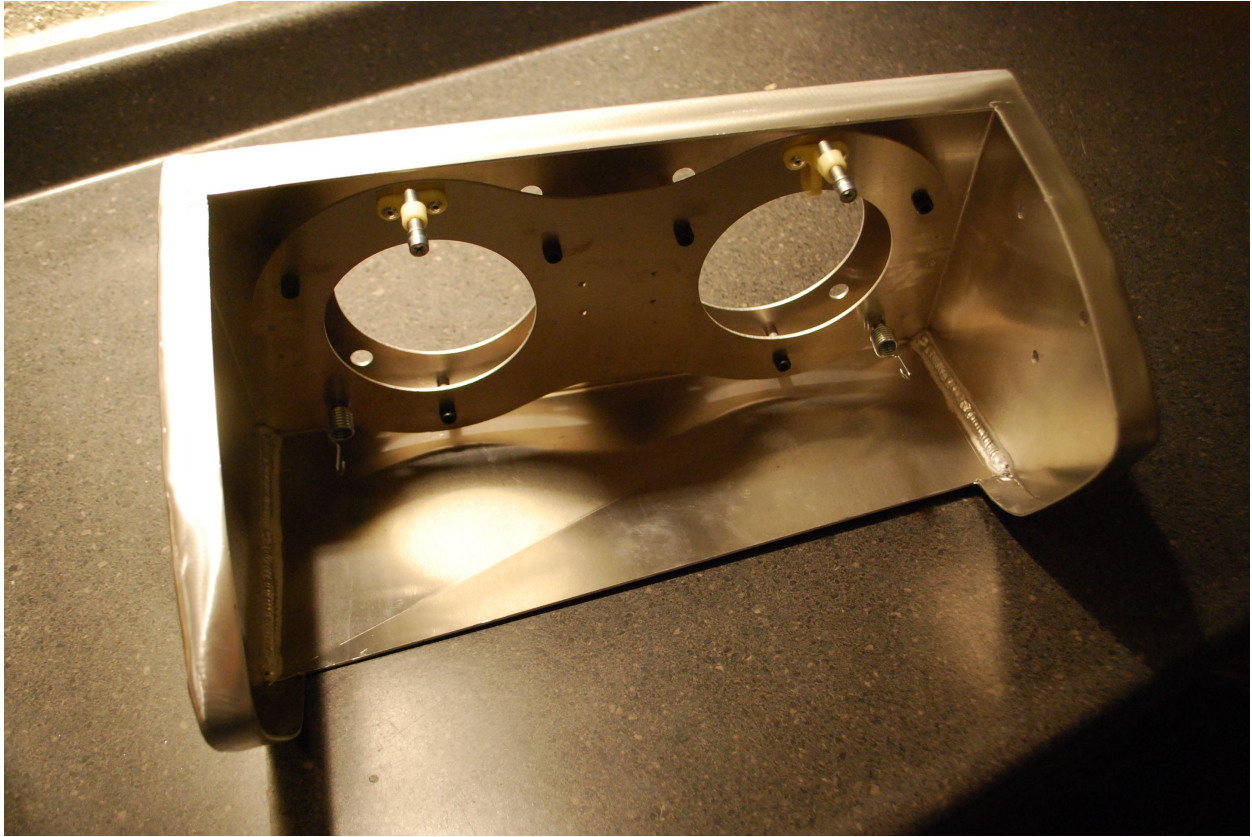


light bulb holders as GM used a number of different “clocking” combinations. Also beware that the headlight bulbs holders are unique to the left/right/high/low beam combinations !

The aluminum headlight brackets are finished in bare aluminum. Many people prefer to leave it in this finish but others have used anodizing, powder coating and painting. If you decide to paint them, we recommend a satin black “wrinkle” finish paint. This is what is shown in the images from one of our own installations. Make sure that you sand and clean them before painting if you choose that route.

The headlight brackets should fit inside of your factory headlight openings with no modifications. We have left the option of attaching to the body up to the installer but most people prefer to mount the headlight brackets to the stock





holes left by the factory provided headlight motors and pivot points on the inside and outside of the opening. Others have chosen to rivet the frames into place which makes for a very clean installation and is our recommendation for racing applications .

You can purchase or re-use your headlight bulbs. These mount in the bulb holders and the rings attach to the holders. Note that only two screws per headlight bulb holder are required. A spring attaches at a third point to hold the bulb holder secure. The bulb holders mount in the backing plates by first attaching the spring and then maneuvering the bulb holder into the adjusting screws. You can then use the adjusting screws to point the headlights for service.

The covers are trimmed at the point of manufacture to fit on the inside of the body without any modification to the body or the paint. They are designed to mount directly to the replacement headlight brackets. The Lexan covers are best mounted using fasteners directly to the aluminum bracket at the leading edge, sides and lower part of the bracket. The choice of fastener is left to the installer. The covers are made from Lexan and tolerate drilling well without cracking or other ill effect of mechanical working of the plastic. The most popular choice for attaching is rivets for racing applications and hex head fasteners for street cars. The aluminum flanges are thick enough to tolerate threading operations or the best solution is to use rivet nuts directly into the flange.



Example of C2 racing headlight installation



Example of C2 racing headlight installation



T Example of C2 racing headlight installation

Once the brackets have been located and mounted, place the headlight covers in place and locate two holes on the lens covers each 1 inch apart. Use 1/8 pilot drill holes in each location and install one rivet as a locating pin in one hole while the other hole is drilled. Do not install the rivet with the riveter but rather leave it in the hole as a guide. The same procedure is used for threaded fasteners.

Cosmetics

Many people choose to paint the lens cover to match the body and others leave them clear. Its simply a matter of preference. The same is true for the mounting brackets. In the installation examples, we have chosen to leave them natural.