

Mercedes-Benz Classic Center

The Spot to Buy, Restore or Admire Old Star Cars

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The campus of MBCC in Irvine is modern, crisp.

Few automobiles offer the élan of Mercedes, particularly one from a bygone generation. The legendary 300SL Gull Wings and roadsters continue to capture the imaginations of enthusiasts around the globe, and there's nothing quite like the sophistication of the 280SE four-seat convertible from the early-1970's. The problem until recently has been that to purchase one of these cars new you'd need a time machine. But, thanks to a special arrangement with Mercedes-Benz USA and the Mercedes-Benz Classic Center in Germany, you may now have the opportunity to purchase new, a classic Benz.

"The Classic Center opened in 2006, and it's been well received not only in Mercedes circles, but the automotive community as a whole," said Mike Kunz, manager of the Classic Center in Irvine, California. "Our facility has the ability to completely restore any Mercedes-Benz and create,

essentially, a new car."

The impressive facility is divided into five distinct areas; showroom, storage, parts department, garage and office space, and the company makes use of every square inch. Upon taking over the building, Mercedes invested in extensive remodeling and redecorating efforts to create a cleaner, more elegant showroom, reflective of the overall Mercedes-Benz brand.

"When we acquired the building, it looked as though it was last decorated in the 1980's, and kind of frozen in time," Mike said. "It wasn't a style we wanted to go with."

Needless to say, walls were removed, glass was installed, highly-polished granite floors were laid in the showroom and an abundance of new paint was applied. Various lighting elements were designed, a section of cubicles was arranged and Mercedes art was hung upon the