MAZDA RANKED SECOND AMONG ALL AUTOMOTIVE BRANDS IN INDEPENDENT EVALUATIONS, ACCORDING TO LEADING CONSUMER PUBLICATION

IRVINE, Calif. (February 25, 2015) – A leading consumer publication named Mazda North American Operations (MNAO) as the second-highest-ranked automotive brand in North America in its annual new-car issue, behind only luxury brand Lexus.

Through independent evaluation, Mazda vehicles were recognized for their road test scores—a composite of fuel-efficiency, driving and handling dynamics and refinement, among other factors—and predicted reliability. Standouts included the compact Mazda3, midsize Mazda6 and Mazda CX-5 compact crossover, which were all recommended by the publication. All Mazda models were noted for above-average predicted reliability.

"SKYACTIV Technology sets Mazda apart, with strong, lightweight and efficient engineering that instills excellent fuel economy and standout handling in every one of our new-generation vehicles," said Jim O'Sullivan, president and CEO, MNAO. "Our innovation prowess allows us to keep pushing boundaries with our dramatic KODO—Soul of Motion designs and first-class technology and features, and we're proud to be recognized for our efforts."

For more information, see http://www.consumerreports.org/cro/magazine/2015/04/car-brand-report-card/index.htm

Mazda North American Operations is headquartered in Irvine, Calif., and oversees the sales, marketing, parts and customer service support of <u>Mazda vehicles</u> in the United States and Mexico through nearly 700 dealers. Operations in Mexico are managed by Mazda Motor de Mexico in Mexico City. For more information on Mazda vehicles, including photography and Broll, please visit the online Mazda media center at <u>www.mazdausamedia.com</u>.

###

Additional assets available online:

PHOTOS (1)

https://news.mazdausa.com/2015-02-25-mazda-ranked-second-among-automotive-brands-in-independent-evaluations