MAZDA6 AND MAZDA MX-5 MIATA RF EARN 2017 POPULAR MECHANICS AUTOMOTIVE EXCELLENCE AWARDS

MAZDA'S MIDSIZE SEDAN AND FLAGSHIP ROADSTER RECOGNIZED AS SEGMENT STANDOUTS

IRVINE, Calif. (April 11, 2017) – Any automaker can build a midsize sedan or a two-seat sports car, but only Mazda can deliver both vehicles with the verve that can enthrall the everyday driver as much as the ardent enthusiast. That's why both the 2017 Mazda6 midsize sedan and Mazda MX-5 Miata RF retractable fastback roadster have been awarded with *Popular Mechanics* 2017 Automotive Excellence awards.

Standouts in their segments, Mazda's two representatives were chosen among every vehicle in their respective categories. The midsize Mazda6 was further fortified for the 2017 model year with greater refinement, including additional sound suppression measures like acoustic glass and tighter door seals—details one may never notice visually but certainly will aurally. However, the driver and passengers will be able to see the addition of available Nappa leather seating surfaces, heated steering wheel and rear heated seating elements as well as attention to detail that sets Mazda6 apart.

The driver and passengers will also feel the addition of standard G-Vectoring Control, a Mazda-exclusive technology that uses the engine to control chassis dynamics by shifting an imperceptibly small amount of weight to the front tires. The results speak for themselves—smoother and more accurate steering inputs and more controlled ride, leading to greater passenger comfort.

The 2017 MX-5 RF joins its sedan sibling with concept-car looks that wowed show-goers when it debuted at last year's New York International Auto Show. A svelte 2,445 lbs., MX-5 RF is among the lightest cars on sale in the U.S., embodying Mazda's *Jinba Ittai*—horse and rider as one—steering and handling philosophy. With a power hardtop that takes just 13 seconds to go up or down, MX-5 RF presents a new, elegant take on the time-tested, best-selling roadster.

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