



**MEDIA RELEASE**  
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## **MAZDA6 OFFICIALLY ONE OF THE SAFEST CARS IN THE WORLD**

**-EURO NCAP SAFETY TEST AWARDS FIVE STARS TO MAZDA6 -**

The new Mazda6 has been awarded the five-star maximum rating by the European New Car Assessment Programme\* (Euro NCAP) in its 2009 combined safety performance test.

This accolade officially makes Mazda6 one of the safest cars in the world.

For 2009, Euro NCAP has implemented a more stringent evaluation system that awards a single overall vehicle safety rating combining the scores achieved in four areas of assessment: Adult Occupant Protection, Child Protection, Pedestrian Protection and Safety Assist. The Mazda6 was in the first group of vehicles tested under the new framework.

Andrew Clearwater, managing director Mazda New Zealand, believes this prestigious safety test award is a credit to the R&D programme at Mazda which has successfully combined driving pleasure with safety and environmental performance under the company's Sustainable Zoom-Zoom plan.

"This five star safety rating will further enhance the appeal of the Mazda6 in New Zealand where it has been the number one selling medium four cylinder vehicle since its launch in 2002," said Clearwater.

The new Mazda6 has added to the numerous awards won by earlier models including Driver Magazine Car of the Year for 2009 and Autocar Medium Car of the Year. It demonstrated its economy credentials by achieving best-in-class fuel economy at the 2008 AA Energywise Rally outperforming its diesel counterparts.

"While the first generation Mazda6 combined unique and attractive styling with exceptional driving performance, the new Mazda6 has further developed these characteristics and added substantially enhanced safety performance that complies with the world's strictest safety standards," concluded Clearwater.

\* Euro NCAP is an independent agency comprised of the transport authorities of European countries. It has awarded automotive safety ratings since 1997

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