

Consumer Reports names six new models to Top Picks

Consumer Reports has named six new models to its annual Top Picks car list for 2010.

Comprised of nine different car brands, this year's list is the most diverse group of Top Picks in over a decade.

The Mazda5, Nissan Altima, Subaru Forester, Volkswagen GTI, and Chevrolet Traverse and Silverado join the Hyundai Elantra SE, Infiniti G37, Toyota Prius and Lexus LS460L as Consumer Reports' selections for best models of the year based on performance, reliability, and safety.

Consumer Reports' Top Picks are the best all-around models in their categories and must meet stringent road test, reliability, and safety requirements.

Each Top Pick scores at or near the top of its category among the more than 280 vehicles Consumer Reports recently evaluated at its Auto Test Centre; has average or better predicted reliability (based on the problems subscribers reported on more than 1.4 million vehicles in Consumer Reports' Annual Auto Survey), and performed

The Mazda5 made Consumer Reports' Top Picks list.



adequately in overall safety if tested by the government or insurance industry. In addition, each model must offer electronic stability control (ESC), a proven lifesaving safety feature as standard equipment or as a readily available option.

All of this year's Top Picks provide standard ESC and curtain air bags.

In recent years, Toyota and Honda models have had their

share of spots among Consumer Reports Top Picks list. But the automotive landscape continues to grow more competitive.

This year, the Nissan Altima managed to dethrone the Honda Accord as the Top Pick for Family Sedan, making it the first time since 1998 that a Honda model was not selected.

R.I.P.: Hummer

General Motors has announced that Sichuan Tengzhong Heavy Industrial Machines Co., Ltd. (Tengzhong) was unable to complete the acquisition of HUMMER.

As a result, GM will begin the orderly wind-down of the HUMMER operations.

"One year ago, General Motors announced that we were going to divest HUMMER, as part of focusing our efforts on Chevrolet, Buick, GMC and Cadillac going forward. We have since considered a number of possibilities for HUMMER along the way, and we are disappointed that the deal with Tengzhong could not be completed," said John Smith GM vice president of corporate planning and alliances.

"GM will now work closely with HUMMER employees, dealers and suppliers to wind down the business in an orderly and responsible manner." GM will continue to honor HUMMER warranties, while providing service support and spare parts to current HUMMER owners around the world.



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