PRESS RELEASE

09 September 2016

**MINI Challenge John Cooper Works wows MINI enthusiasts at the 2016 SA Festival of Motoring.**

**Midrand, South Africa.** MINI enthusiasts who attended the 2016 SA Festival of Motoring last week, were treated to a once in a life time experience around the newly refurbished Kyalami Grand Prix Circuit. As part of their line-up at the festival, MINI South Africa hosted MINI UK Ambassador and 2015 MINI Challenge champion, Charlie Butler- Henderson. Butler-Henderson entertained local motoring media, influencers and MINI customers with taxi rides (hot laps) around the track in a MINI Challenge John Cooper Works race car built especially for the Challenge championship.

Butler-Henderson’s visit highlighted and showcased MINI’s steep racing heritage as well as the dynamic go-kart ability of the new generation of MINI John Cooper Works Hatch. Butler-Henderson, a well-known figure on the British racing circuit delighted audiences in the 2.0-litre, 4-cylinder spark ignition engine MINI Challenge, which generated up to 190 kW (20 kW more than a regular MINI John Cooper Works Hatch).

In the UK, MINI continues its racing heritage in the MINI Challenge, a race championship specifically created for MINI’s that has been running since 2002. The multi-class structure enables drivers with varying degrees of experience and budget to participate. MINI Challenge recently announced that it will join the British GT Championship for the first time in 2017, cementing its place as one of Europe’s fastest-growing single-make racing championship. Butler Henderson, first won the MINI Challenge in 2015 and currently holds first place in the 2016 points log.

Since 2008, 59 885 MINI John Cooper Works vehicles across the MINI model range have been sold globally. The MINI John Cooper Works Hatch, which to date has sold 30, 976, continues to be the most popular model.

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For more information visit www.mini.co.za

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