

IMMEDIATE

David J. Buchko  
BMW Product Communications Manager  
201-307-3789 / [dave.buchko@bmwna.com](mailto:dave.buchko@bmwna.com)

Michael McHale  
MINI Communications Manager  
201-307-3722 / [michael.mchale@miniusa.com](mailto:michael.mchale@miniusa.com)

### **BMW Group Wins Three International Engine of the Year Awards**

**Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey, June 5, 2003 ...** The BMW Group has won three out of a total of 12 awards at the renowned International Engine of the Year event in Stuttgart, Germany. By winning engine Oscars number 16, 17 and 18, the BMW Group has once again collected the industry's most significant award for automobile engines. The 3.2-liter six-cylinder engine of the BMW M3, the 2.5-liter six-cylinder engine of the BMW Z4 roadster, and the 1.6-liter four-cylinder engine of the MINI Cooper S have all been awarded the "Engine Of The Year 2003" title in their respective displacement classes.

Having started in 1999, the International Engine of the Year Award program is comprised of established motor journalists from 18 different countries. Together, they choose the most outstanding engines of the year during the Testing & Engine Expo in Stuttgart. As history shows, they have voted for BMW's four-, six-, eight- and twelve-cylinder engines the most frequently. It is largely thanks to the 3.2-liter six-cylinder engine of the BMW M3, which has been awarded yet another prize this year, establishing BMW as the most successful competitor by a wide margin. Having won the coveted "International Engine of the Year" award in 2001, this year's award in its displacement class of 3.0 to 4.0 liters makes the M3's engine the winner for the third time running. In addition, the M3's engine won the class with nearly twice as many scores (202 points) as the Porsche 911 GT3, which scored 109 points.

The jury states that the BMW M3's six-cylinder engine owes its landslide victory to the wealth of technology behind it. And rightly so, as the 24-valve engine with dual variable camshaft control uses a separate high-pressure oil supply for its valve timing actuation. Additionally, its high-speed Formula-1 concept makes it a true high-performance gem. At 333 hp, this engine is one of the world's most powerful naturally aspirated engines in terms of specific output as it easily exceeds the

magical 100-hp-per-liter mark. This power unit is second to none, catapulting the BMW M3 Coupe from a standstill to 60 miles per hour in a mere 4.8 seconds. Irish motor journalist and judge Padraic Deane of the Irish Auto Trade Journal states, "Probably the best street-legal performance engine around."

Tried and trued in the 3- and 5-series automobiles and new in the Z4 this year is the 2.5-liter inline six-cylinder engine. Even though the second award winner from Munich is older than the contest itself, it comes along as more modern and sportier than ever in the new BMW Z4 2.5i roadster, and offers convincing performance. Knowing the engine from the BMW 325i and 525i models, the judges nevertheless find it most enjoyable in the Z4 roadster where "the engine's sporty nature" can be seen at its best. With 184 hp, the 2.5-liter engine is yet another one of the sporty engines produced by BMW. Acceleration from 0 to 60 mph in the Z4 2.5i takes only 7.1 seconds and it boasts a top speed of 146 mph. This two-seater is easily the sportiest open-air festival of the year.

In the 2.0- to 2.5-liter displacement class, the Z4's engine could be found on almost every other judge's score sheet—not least because of its exemplary environmental results as it complies with the strictest exhaust emission regulations currently in force in Europe (EU4) and in the US (ULEV), proving that sheer driving pleasure under blue skies does not necessarily have to leave dark clouds in its wake.

The MINI team can also rejoice, since the engine of the MINI Cooper S received the third award for The BMW Group. The supercharged and intercooled 1.6-liter engine in the MINI Cooper S has won the 1.4- to 1.8-liter category with flying colors. This 163-horsepower, SOHC 16-valve engine propels the appealing subcompact from 0 to 60 in a mere 6.9 seconds, and continues to propel the Cooper S to a top speed of 135 mph. In spite of this fantastic forward pull, the MINI's fuel consumption averages no less than 24 mpg city and 33 mpg highway according to the EPA's testing. Even more impressive is the broad torque curve of this compact engine, which offers 80 percent of its 155 lb.-ft. of torque between 2,000 and 6,500 rpm. According to the judges, the MINI Cooper S owes its go-kart-like handling to a combination of torque, engine output and its curb weight of only about 2,678 pounds, that is optimally distributed over the front and rear axles.

### **BMW Group In America**

BMW of North America has been present in the United States since 1975. Since then, the BMW Group in the United States has grown to include marketing, sales and financial service organizations for the BMW and MINI brands and Rolls-Royce Motor

Cars; DesignworksUSA, an industrial design firm in California; a technology office in Silicon Valley and various other operations throughout the country. BMW Manufacturing Corp. in South Carolina is part of BMW Group's global manufacturing network and is the exclusive manufacturing plant for all Z4 Roadster and X5 Sports Activity Vehicles. The BMW Group sales organization is represented in the U.S. through networks of 340 BMW car, 327 BMW Sports Activity Vehicle, 148 BMW Motorcycle retailers, and 70 MINI dealers. BMW (US) Holding Corp., the BMW Group's sales headquarters for North, Central and South America, is located in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey.

Information about BMW Group products is available to consumers via the Internet at <http://www.bmwusa.com> <http://www.bmwmotorcycles.com> and <http://www.miniusa.com>

# # #

**Journalist note:** Information about the BMW Group and its products is available to journalists on-line at the BMW Group PressClub at the following address - [www.press.bmwgroup.com](http://www.press.bmwgroup.com).

# # #