MINI Media information

15 years ago today...

3/2017

page 1

15 YEARS AGO TODAY...



Contact: Mariella Kapsaskis MINI Communications Manager 201.930.3166 <u>Mariella.Kapsaskis@miniusa.com</u>

Rob Duda Director, Peppercomm 908.347.1243 rduda@peppercomm.com

IT WAS 15 YEARS AGO TODAY...

Woodcliff Lake, NJ – March 22. 2017... It was 15 years ago today that a feisty, littleknown car company came ashore in the United States and captured the hearts of Americans from coast-to-coast. Since 2002, <u>MINI USA</u> has sold and delivered more than 725,000 MINIs to delighted customers across the country.

Over the past 15 years, MINI has grown its vehicle portfolio from the iconic single Hardtop model that launched the brand here in the U.S. to include four unique models each with their own personality. The MINI Convertible, MINI Clubman and MINI Countryman have become staples of the MINI product line, providing the premium performance, daring design, and fun-to-drive dynamics MINI customers have come to know and expect from the brand. And as demand for the product increased, so did the company's dealer network, growing from 66 dealers in 2002 to 127 dealers in 2017 across 39 states.

It doesn't stop there. MINI has cultivated a fiercely loyal owner base, the likes of which few brands have the honor to call upon as their own. Through community events like the epic <u>MINI TAKES THE STATES</u>, more than 25,000 enthusiasts have come together through the years to share in varied roadtrip memories and activities like 3 MINI weddings, 1 flash mob, 1 pet parade, and providing more than <u>1.3 million meals to families in need</u> during this year's adventure.

MINI was ranked #1 in Sales Satisfaction by J.D. Power & Associates 6 times. The brand was also recognized as one of the Top 100 Global Brands by Interbrand, and Strategic Vision named MINI as the Most Loved Mass-Market Brand in their 2016 survey. And earlier this year, in the true MINI underdog spirit, the MINI JCW Race Team won the first race of the season at Daytona, leaving behind six Porsches, three BMWs, four Mazdas, one Ford Mustang and one Nissan.

MINI Media information 15 years ago today... 3/2017 page 2

To mark this special anniversary, MINI USA created a brief <u>video compilation</u> celebrating 15 years and counting!

About MINI in the U.S.

MINI is an independent brand of the BMW Group. In the United States, MINI USA operates as a business unit of BMW of North America, LLC, located in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey and includes the marketing and sales organizations for the MINI brand. The MINI USA sales organization is represented in the U.S. through a network of 127 MINI passenger car dealers in 39 states. MINI USA began selling vehicles in the U.S. in 2002 with the introduction of the MINI Cooper and MINI Cooper S Hardtops. Since then, the MINI Brand in the U.S. has grown to encompass a model range of four unique vehicles.

Journalist notes: Media information about MINI and its products is available to journalists on-line at <u>www.miniusanews.com</u>.