

All-new 2009 Dodge Ram 1500, Chrysler Town & Country and Dodge Grand Caravan Receive *MotorWeek's* Drivers' Choice Awards

- *MotorWeek* names the all-new 2009 Dodge Ram 1500 "Best Pickup Truck" and the 2009 Chrysler Town & Country and Dodge Grand Caravan "Best Minivan"
- All-new 2009 Dodge Ram continues to haul in major awards, winning 12 since introduction
- *MotorWeek* awards Chrysler and Dodge minivans its annual "Best Minivan" award for 12th time
- Chrysler invented the minivan segment more than 25 years ago and leads the segment with more than 65 minivan-first features
- In minivan's first 25 years, Chrysler has sold more than 12 million minivans — more than any other manufacturer in the world

February 10, 2009, Chicago - Chrysler LLC received two top awards from *MotorWeek* today. The all-new 2009 Dodge Ram 1500 was named "Best Pickup Truck," and the 2009 Chrysler Town & Country and Dodge Grand Caravan were named "Best Minivan" in *MotorWeek's* annual Drivers' Choice Awards.

"The Dodge Ram has never been better and it now clearly stands apart from its rivals. That's why it's earned *MotorWeek's* 2009 Drivers' Choice Award as Best Pickup," said John Davis, Host and Executive Producer – *MotorWeek*. "The new Ram is aimed directly at personal use buyers with clever features like the RamBox side-rail storage bins. The light-duty Ram also delivers a great ride with its coil-spring rear suspension, and the interior has superior fit and finish. It's perfect for people moving and weekend chores. Yet, when Ram does have to work hard, HEMI power can manage payloads of over 1,800 pounds or 9,100 pounds of trailer. Full of innovations and technology, the Ram is no longer just another pickup."

This marks the third time an all-new Dodge Ram has earned a *MotorWeek* Drivers' Choice Award. Dodge Ram 1500 picked up the honor when the first- and second-generation trucks were launched in 1994 and 2002.

"Raising the bar to a whole new level, the Dodge Grand Caravan and Chrysler Town & Country are once again *MotorWeek's* pick for its 2009 Drivers' Choice Award as Best Minivan," said Davis. "The folks that invented the front-wheel-drive minivan have further perfected its science of flexibility. In addition to innovations such as Stow 'n Go, Swivel 'n Go and integrated child booster seats, the pair now offer a sport-tuned suspension, class-leading fuel-economy and a minivan-first Blind Spot Monitoring System, among a plethora of other upgrades. These two family phenoms have never been better."

This is the 12th time Chrysler and Dodge minivans have earned *MotorWeek* Drivers' Choice Awards, which have been presented annually since 1983 and are among the auto industry's most prestigious honors.

"We thank *MotorWeek* for recognizing our vehicles and their innovations," said Mike Accavitti, Director – Chrysler, Jeep and Dodge Brands, Chrysler LLC. "With an industry-first RamBox cargo management system and industry-first coil-spring, five-link rear suspension with best-in-class ride and handling, our all-new 2009 Dodge Ram 1500 is the best pickup truck on the market. And our 2009 Chrysler and Dodge minivans, with more than 25 years of minivan innovation and 40 new or improved features over the previous generation, including industry-first Stow 'n Go and Swivel 'n Go seating and storage systems, are the best minivans on the market."

Both *MotorWeek* and the Drivers' Choice Awards are sponsored nationally by cars.com. *MotorWeek* will feature the entire list of winners on PBS, beginning Friday, Feb. 13, and on cable's *SPEED Channel*, beginning Feb. 16.

About the all-new 2009 Dodge Ram

The all-new 2009 Dodge Ram includes the industry first-and-only RamBox™ cargo management system that includes

versatile, weatherproof, lockable, illuminated, drainable storage bins, pickup bed dividers, a two-foot bed extender, and a cargo rail system with sliding adjustable cleats. The 2009 Ram also includes the first-in-segment coil-spring, five-link rear suspension fitted to a solid rear axle providing ride and handling not found on any other pickup truck. A new 5.7-liter HEMI® V-8 engine with fuel-saving MDS technology provides more horsepower (390 hp) and torque (407 lb.-ft.) while its best-in-class aerodynamics (.387 Cd) helps improve fuel economy and performance.

In addition, the all-new 2009 Dodge Ram includes first-in-segment, factory-installed four-inch dual exhaust styled dramatically into the rear bumper, first-in-segment store-in-the-floor storage bins and twice as many storage spots than the previous model and 35 safety and security technologies. Standard features include side-curtain air bags and Electronic Stability Program (ESP) which includes all-speed traction control, trailer sway control, hill-start assist and anti-lock brake system (ABS). Significantly upgraded interiors with segment-first surround-sound audio system and live SIRIUS Backseat TV™ round out the interior.

The all-new 2009 Dodge Ram 1500 Crew Cab recently earned Five Star ratings for driver- and front-passenger protection in a frontal crash, the highest ratings in the U.S. government's safety crash test program. The U.S. Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price (MSRP) for the 2009 Dodge Dodge Ram 1500 is \$22,170 (including \$900 destination).

In addition to winning *MotorWeek's* Best Pickup Award, the all-new Dodge Ram has picked up 11 other key awards since its introduction and was recently chosen by *Car and Driver* as the best full-size pickup in a head-to-head comparison test in Texas, beating the new 2009 Ford F-150. Other key awards include:

- *Consumer Guide* - Large Pickup – Best Buy for 2009
- Cars.com – Work Truck of the Year
- ICOTY – 2009 International Truck of the Year
- *Truckin'* magazine – Truck of the Year
- Texas Auto Writer's Association (TAWA) – 2009 Full-Size Pickup Truck of Texas
- Edmunds.com – Inside Line Editors Most Wanted 2009
- Autobytel.com – 2009 MyRide/Autobytel Editors' Choice Awards - Truck of the Year
- *Maxim* – Achievement in Party-Enabling Technology (RamBox)
- *Ward's AutoWorld* – Ward's 10 Best Engines of 2009 (2009 Dodge Ram 5.7-liter HEMI® engine)
- Automobile Journalists Association of Canada – Best New Pickup
- *Sobre Ruedas* – Sobre Ruedas Best Pickup Truck for '08

About 2009 Chrysler Town & Country

Chrysler celebrates the 25th anniversary of the minivan during the 2009 model year. With more than 65 minivan-firsts introduced since 1983 and more than 12 million Dodge and Chrysler minivans sold, Chrysler LLC has solidified its leadership in the segment. The 2009 Chrysler Town & Country continues to set the mark in minivan value with more than 40 new or improved features from the previous generation, including unsurpassed 17 city / 25 highway mpg fuel economy — a label unbeaten among minivans. The 2009 Chrysler Town & Country is also the first minivan in the segment to feature the all-new Blind Spot Monitoring and Rear Cross Path accident-avoidance safety systems.

The 2009 Chrysler Town & Country offers customers a contemporary appearance, three different models, two distinct seating and storage systems—Stow `n Go® and Swivel `n Go™—unmatched entertainment systems and more than 40 available safety features. The 2009 Chrysler Town & Country received the U.S. Government's Five Star crash test rating in both front and side impact tests. The U.S. Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price (MSRP) for the 2009 Chrysler Town & Country LX is \$26,680 (including \$820 destination).

About 2009 Dodge Grand Caravan

As the first to introduce the modern minivan in 1984, Dodge continues to revolutionize the family road trip. The new 2009 Dodge Grand Caravan has 40 new or improved features over the previous generation including the minivan-first Stow `n Go and segment-exclusive Swivel `n Go seating systems, turning the minivan into a “family room on wheels.” The vehicle also offers an entertainment system with minivan-first dual DVD players and uconnect studios SIRIUS Backseat TV with family programming channels that include Nickelodeon, Disney Channel and Cartoon Network Mobile. The 2009 Dodge Grand Caravan received the U.S. Government's Five Star crash test rating in both front and side impacts. The U.S. Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price (MSRP) for the 2009 Dodge Grand Caravan SE is \$24,480 (including \$820 destination).

Dodge Brand

With a work-hard, play-hard attitude, the Dodge brand continues to offer a full line of cars, trucks, SUVs, commercial vehicles and sales-leading, fifth-generation minivans in 2009.

Dodge introduced several new vehicles in the 2008 calendar year, including the all-new 2009 Dodge Journey, the 2009 Dodge Challenger and the 2009 Dodge Ram. Dodge also celebrates the 25th anniversary of the minivan during the 2009 model year.

Also in 2008, Dodge Journey entered key volume markets outside North America, joining the Dodge Avenger, Nitro and Caliber. Dodge Caliber was the highest sales volume vehicle for the company outside North America in 2008.

Chrysler Brand

The Chrysler brand has delighted customers with distinctive designs, craftsmanship, intuitive innovation and technology — all at an extraordinary value — since the company was founded in 1926.

Whether it is the groundbreaking, bold design of the Chrysler 300, the sleek elegant styling of a Sebring Convertible, or the “family room on wheels” functionality of the Chrysler Town & Country, Chrysler brand vehicles reward the passion, creativity and sense of accomplishment of its owners. Beyond just exceptionally designed vehicles, the Chrysler brand has incorporated thoughtful features into all of its products, such as the Stow 'n Go seating and storage system on the Chrysler Town & Country, the fuel-saving Multi-Displacement System (MDS) in the Chrysler 300 and uconnect phone utilizing Bluetooth technology on the Chrysler Sebring and Chrysler Sebring Convertible. Both Sebring models also achieve at least 28 highway mpg fuel economy.

The Chrysler brand's succession of innovative product introductions continues to solidify the brand's standing as the leader in design, engineering and value. The premium for the Chrysler brand is in the product, not the price.

About *MotorWeek*

MotorWeek is one of the nation's leading sources for automotive industry news, new car information and driving entertainment. The award-winning series, seen nationwide on PBS, SPEED and V-me, is produced by Maryland Public Television. For more information on *MotorWeek* and the Drivers' Choice Awards, visit www.pbs.org/motorweek.

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