



# Media Release

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## RAC commends 5-star rating for Mazda3

The RAC has commended Mazda for the 5-star ANCAP safety rating received today by its new small car, the Mazda3.

RAC Manager Vehicles and Fuels, Alex Forrest, said the huge popularity of the Mazda3 means many thousands of Australians will be better off for having a small car with optimal safety for a reasonable price.

“In 2013, the previous model Mazda3 was the second best-selling car in Australia after the Toyota Corolla and in Western Australia last month, it was the best-selling passenger car,” Mr Forrest said.

“Given the continued appeal of the new model released two weeks ago, this car is likely to contribute substantially to the average safety credentials of the Australian fleet, which is good news for those buying these cars as second hand vehicles in the future.”

Mazda has also put considerable resources into designing the car’s interior to help reduce distraction and help the driver maintain focus on the task at hand.

However, while the Mazda3’s safety credentials satisfied the stringent new 2014 requirements for a 5-star rating such as rear side airbags, life-saving technology such as Autonomous Emergency Braking (AEB) is still only offered as an option on Australian-sold Mazda3 models.

“Pedestrian safety is also an important component in new vehicle design and the RAC would like to see a better pedestrian impact score on the Mazda3,” Mr Forrest said.

“The Mazda3’s pedestrian injury rating of ‘Acceptable’ is encouraging, but a score of ‘Good’ would of course be preferable.”

ANCAP is supported by all Australian and New Zealand motoring clubs, the Australian Government, the New Zealand Government, Australian state and territory governments, the Victorian Transport Accident Commission, NRMA Insurance and the FIA Foundation.

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