

Subaru R2 was awarded 2005 RJC* Car of the Year “Special Award for Best Mini Passenger Car”

Tokyo, November 17, 2004 — Fuji Heavy Industries Ltd. (FHI), a global manufacturer of transportation and aerospace-related products, and the maker of Subaru automobiles, today announced that the Subaru R2, a mini passenger car launched on December 2003 to Japanese market, was awarded 2005 RJC* Car of the Year “Special Award for Best Mini Passenger Car”.

The recipient of this award is selected from among all mini passenger cars that are available for retail sales through authorized dealers. The R2 received the most points in the Best Mini Passenger Car category at the 2005 RJC Car of the Year Test Day, which was held on November 15 and 16, 2004, at Twin Ring Motegi (Haga-gun, Tochigi Prefecture in Japan).

The R2 is featuring a beautiful design that is unique to a small car, rational packaging, excellent fuel efficiency and collision safety, and crisp and easy steering. The R2 is a mini passenger car that meets potential market needs by pursuing new values of the minicar.

This model has received an excellent response for its unique exterior with flowing and smooth styling, luxurious interior, superior acceleration, and steady driving performance, as well as for its excellent fuel efficiency.

Previously, the Subaru Pleo won the 1999 RJC Car of the Year Award for the Mini Passenger Car Category.

* The RJC (the Automotive Researchers' & Journalists' Conference of Japan) was established in 1991 to research various automotive related issues including products, technologies and society, and to provide unbiased opinion to interested parties. Prof. Emeritus Katsumi Kageyama of Nihon University and the late Prof. Emeritus Osamu Hirao of Tokyo University (both having contributed greatly to Japanese automotive engineering) and a group of leading Japanese automotive journalists were key establishing members of this organization. The RJC was converted into an NPO (Non-Profit Organization) in 2001, and has 89 members. The current chairman is Mr. Sadayuki Kuriyama.



Subaru R2