



Mercedes-Benz

Mercedes-Benz G550 4x4² wins 2018 *MotorWeek* Drivers' Choice Award

Press Information

Best Dream Machine

February 8, 2017

Chicago. Since it was originally conceived in 1979 as a vehicle to be used primarily in tough off-road terrain, the G-Class has remained an icon in and of itself. The Mercedes-Benz G550 4x4² is the most capable G-Class ever, boasting innovative portal axles, three locking differentials, a ground clearance of more than 17" and a 4.0L V8 biturbo engine. *MotorWeek* has named the Mercedes-Benz G550 4x4² the 'Best Dream Machine' among their 2018 Drivers' Choice Awards.

One of the auto industry's most coveted honors, the *MotorWeek* Drivers' Choice Awards were announced at the largest consumer-driven auto show in North America, the 2018 Chicago Auto Show. In selecting the annual Drivers' Choice Awards, *MotorWeek*'s editorial staff evaluates more than 150 cars, trucks and sports utility vehicles every year. Winners are chosen based on driving performance, technology, practicality, fuel efficiency and value for the dollar.

"What makes the Mercedes-Benz G550 4x4² a *MotorWeek* Best Dream Machine is that it is not only outrageous to see, but far more importantly it's a way for Mercedes-Benz engineers to showcase what the brand is truly capable of. Driving it, owners can enjoy their labor of love, on or off road, in one of the most amazing vehicles we've ever driven," says *MotorWeek* creator and host, John Davis.

First offered for the U.S. market in 2017, the G550 4x4² offers unprecedented amounts of off-road capability, even in comparison with the G550, and boasts a 4.0-liter V8 biturbo engine that produces 416 hp and 450 lb-ft. Unlike a conventional axle, the portal axles found on the 4x4² allow for axle input and the wheel center to be two drastically different heights. By utilizing a series of gears similar to those found in a transmission, power is transferred from the G-Class'

rigid axles downward to the wheel hub. These portal axles have afforded the 4x4² the ability to off-road where even heavily-modified off-road vehicles wouldn't dare thanks to massive ground clearance, fording depth, approach, departure and breakover angles.

An episode of *MotorWeek* featuring the Mercedes-Benz G550 4x4² is currently scheduled to air on public television stations beginning February 10th – check your local listings to tune in.

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About *MotorWeek*

MotorWeek is television's longest-running and most-respected automotive series. Debuted in 1981, *MotorWeek* launched a new television genre by becoming the first weekly series to offer consumer-oriented car and truck reviews, do-it-yourself car care tips, and the latest auto industry news. Produced by Maryland Public Television, the award-winning series is now in its 37th season. The winner of numerous automotive journalism awards, *MotorWeek* is a reliable source of automotive news on television and on the web.

Distributed nationwide and overseas by Maryland Public Television, *MotorWeek* airs on 92% of PBS broadcast stations and can also be seen on the Velocity cable channel, as well the V-me Spanish-language network. Program excerpts are available to viewers on the program's website, motorweek.org, and on its YouTube Channel, youtube.com/Motorweek. Fans can like *MotorWeek* on Facebook and also follow *MotorWeek* on Instagram and Twitter.

About Mercedes-Benz USA

Mercedes-Benz USA (MBUSA), headquartered in Atlanta, is responsible for the distribution, marketing and customer service for all Mercedes-Benz products in the United States. MBUSA offers drivers the most diverse lineup in the luxury segment with 15 model lines ranging from the sporty CLA-Class four-door coupe to the flagship S-Class and the Mercedes-AMG GT S.

MBUSA is also responsible for Mercedes-Benz Vans and smart products in the U.S.

Page 3

More information on MBUSA and its products can be found at www.mbusa.com,
www.mbsprinterusa.com and www.smartusa.com.

Media Contacts:

Christian Bokich	770-705-2245	christian.bokich@mbusa.com
Catherine Gebhardt	770-705-2706	catherine.gebhardt@mbusa.com

Accredited journalists can visit our media site at www.media.mbusa.com and follow us on Twitter [@MBUSAnews](https://twitter.com/MBUSAnews).