

Fuji Heavy Industries Adds the New STI Version to the Subaru Forester Series

Tokyo, April 25, 2005 – Fuji Heavy Industries, Ltd. (FHI), a global manufacturer of transportation and aerospace-related products and the maker of Subaru automobiles, today announced the introduction of the new Subaru Forester STI Version in Japan. The new model will be for sale through its Subaru dealerships nationwide beginning on May 6.

Developed as a “pure” sport utility vehicle (SUV) with superb on-road driving performance, the Forester STI Version first debuted in February 2004 and has since enjoyed popularity and high acclaim in Japan. Further embodying the pure SUV concept, the new STI features a 2.5 L, 4-cylinder, DOHC turbo engine – a horizontally opposed boxer engine that provides ample torque and high power output. The model is packaged with a 6-speed manual transmission, 18-inch tires, and a high-performance braking system that incorporates Brembo components. It is accentuated by sporty interior and exterior designs, highlighted by a newly designed front bumper and grille, front bucket seats, as well as a minimum ground clearance of only 170 mm, 30 mm lower than other Forester models.

The Forester STI Version is the newest addition to the Forester series, which has been developed around the basic concept of a *crossover SUV* with the best of both worlds.¹ With dynamic and stylish exterior designs, the Forester has been highly reputed for its outstanding driving performance, striking an uncompromising balance between excellent driving stability and stellar riding comfort.

NOTE 1. Blending the best features of an SUV and a passenger car, the crossover SUV presents a vehicle suited to every driving occasion.