

Tesla car gets best-ever rating from Consumer Reports

August 27 2015



A new Tesla electric car has earned the best-ever vehicle rating from Consumer Reports, sending shares of the automaker racing higher Thursday.

The new Tesla P85D "performed better in our tests than any other car ever has, breaking the Consumer Reports Ratings system," said Mark Rechtin, automotive editor for the [consumer group](#).

"With a six-figure price tag, the P85D is expensive, meaning its virtues will be experienced by a rare few. But its significance as a breakthrough model that is pushing the boundaries of both performance and fuel-efficiency is dramatic."

The four-wheel drive P85D, which is a modified version of the Tesla S sedan, will cost upwards of \$125,000 with typical equipment, Consumer Reports noted.

But the group said the breakthroughs suggest positive things for the sector, with Tesla due to introduce its Model X crossover in 2016, followed in 2018 by a "more attainable compact sedan," the Model 3, estimated to start at about \$35,000.

Consumer Reports gave the P85D a 100/100 rating, topping the 99/100 rating of the Tesla S two years ago.

Rechtin said the vehicle "initially scored 103 in the Consumer Reports' Ratings system, which by definition doesn't go past 100... so we had to make changes to our scoring to account for it."

The new vehicle was impressive in energy efficiency, safety and performance, the group found.

"The P85D is brutally quick, with instant acceleration," Rechtin wrote, noting that it could reach 60 miles (100 kilometers) per hour in 3.5 seconds.

"The car's thrust is forceful and immediate. Its near-instant g-forces can

otherwise be achieved only by leaping off a building-literally.

The acceleration "makes it frighteningly eerie in its silent velocity. It's so explosively quick that Tesla has created an 'insane' driving mode."

Tesla shares jumped eight percent in midday trade to \$243.01, extending the spectacular market performance of the carmaker, which produces only a small number of coveted vehicles.

Earlier this month, Tesla reported a quarter loss of \$184 million as the electric carmaker geared up for expansion.

Tesla plans to invest about \$1.5 billion this year to expand production capacity, construct its huge "Gigafactory" for batteries and expand its network of charging stations.

Tesla is also gearing up for a new project to adapt car batteries to store power in homes and businesses.

© 2015 AFP

Citation: Tesla car gets best-ever rating from Consumer Reports (2015, August 27) retrieved 29 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2015-08-tesla-car-best-ever-consumer.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.