

# A TEAM 40 YEARS IN THE MAKING: THE BRE MAZDA MX-5

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[BRE MX-5](#)

[Low Resolution\(28 kb\) \[2\]](#)

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## **Pete Brock, John Morton, and Mazda Team Up For Road Atlanta**

April 17, 2010 (Irvine, Calif.). When the admiration is mutual, and the partnerships are among good friends, it's easy to make fun things happen quickly. Racing legends Peter Brock and John Morton will fly their famous #46 red, white, and blue pattern on a classic Japanese roadster at Road Atlanta later this month. The difference is that this will be a current brand of car, and it will be the most popular roadster ever sold or raced, the Mazda MX-5 Miata.

For many years, the annual Walter Mitty Challenge has been a favorite vintage race weekend on the East Coast.?

Each year, a racing legend is honored at the Mitty -- for 2010, that honored legend is Peter Brock of Brock Racing Enterprises, aka BRE, fame. At this point, it's not clear if the idea came from Mazda, from Classic Motorsports, HSR, a BRE fan, or elsewhere, but someone simply said, "Wouldn't it be cool to have a BRE MX-5 in the Playboy race to honor Pete?"

With Mazda, good ideas can turn into reality with a few quick phone calls. The Mazda design team sketched up a proper BRE graphics job for the MX-5. The *MAZDASPEED* team called John Morton to verify his interest. Since John had also scored more than a few race wins with Mazda during his career, that connection was strong, and his desire to race remains strong. Finally, Pete and Gayle Brock were shown the sketch and pitched the idea. Everyone said yes.

### **QUOTES:**

**Peter Brock** -- "It's been some 37 years since a factory supported car in BRE livery sat on a racing grid. Seeing

the new MX-5 in our traditional colors almost brings tears to my eyes. It's wonderful that Mazda, a company that really loves, understands and supports racing of all kinds, has seen fit to honor our team's great racing history with this new spirit of competition"

**John Morton** -- "This Walter Mitty weekend is very special for me because it is bringing together so many facets that were significant in my racing career. First is the reunion and recognition of our championship winning BRE team that Peter Brock developed in the late sixties and that led me to two SCCA National Championships and two 2.5 Trans-Am Championships in the early seventies. Second is the opportunity Mazda has given me to race in a professional race in my sixth decade of competition. Twenty-six years ago I shared the BFG-sponsored, class winning Mazda Lola at Le Mans which was the beginning of a long relationship with both companies. The Mazda Miata MX-5 I will be racing at the Mitty, the only real modern sports car in mass production, is a reincarnation of the cars that started this sport in America in the late forties."

**Robert Davis**, Senior Vice President, Mazda North American Operations -- "Mazda is a team of enthusiasts. Long before we began working behind the scenes for Mazda, we were race fans. We love the sport and the heritage. This opportunity to pay tribute to Pete, John, and the BRE team is something we did out of respect, with knowledge that there are others like us who appreciate the blending of heritage and modern sport."

Mazda unveiled the car at the Toyota Grand Prix of Long Beach in the Mothers Polish display within the fan expo.?

**What:** [Speedfest at the Classic Motorsports Mitty 2010](#)[4]

Featuring Round #2 of the 2010 SCCA Pro Racing Playboy MX-5 Cup

**When:** April 29 - May 2, 2010

**Where:** Road Atlanta, Braselton, GA

**Details:** <http://classicmotorsports.net/events/mitty-2010/> [5]

<http://www.mx-5cup.com/> [6]

#### **HISTORICAL NOTES:**

- 2010 will mark the 40th Anniversary of John Morton winning the SCCA C Production (CP) Championship at Road Atlanta in a BRE prepared Datsun 240Z.
- 2010 will mark the 40th Anniversary of Mazda selling cars in the United States.
- To learn more about BRE and the Peter Brock story, visit **www.bre2.net**
- Over the course of his career, John Morton has raced for just about every OEM and race car manufacturer including BMW, Cobra, Datsun, Eagle, Ferrari, Ford, Frisbee, Jaguar, Lola, Lotus, Mazda, Nissan, Porsche, and Toyota.

## ABOUT MAZDA

On any given weekend, there are more Mazdas on the road-race tracks of America than any other brand of vehicle.?

Celebrating its 40th Anniversary in the United States in 2010, Mazda North American Operations is headquartered in Irvine, Calif. and oversees the sales, marketing, parts and customer service support of Mazda vehicles in the United States, Canada and Mexico through nearly 900 dealers. Operations in Canada are managed by Mazda Canada, Inc., located in Ontario; and in Mexico by Mazda Motor de Mexico in Mexico City.

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