



## *News Release*

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***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

### **BENDIX CELEBRATES 20 YEARS AS PROUD MEMBER OF KNORR-BREMSE**

*Company Advances Its Legacy of Technological Innovation, Business Growth, and Corporate Citizenship Through Global Alliance*

**AVON, Ohio – Feb. 17, 2022** – Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems LLC (Bendix) commemorates its 20-year anniversary as a proud member of Munich, Germany-based Knorr-Bremse. The global market leader in braking systems and other rail and commercial vehicle systems acquired full ownership of Bendix in January 2002.

Since then, Bendix has further enriched its more than 90-year legacy. The company has strengthened its position as an industry trailblazer in commercial vehicle technologies through a series of groundbreaking advancements. At the same time, Bendix has accelerated the expansion and growth of its operations in North America. And it has deepened its corporate commitment to community support and environmental stewardship.

Bendix operated as a joint venture between Honeywell International Inc. and Knorr-Bremse AG from 1993 until the 2002 acquisition.

“Becoming a Knorr-Bremse company has been a catalyst in the continued growth and development of Bendix in North America, enabling the expansion of our expertise and capabilities,” said Mike Hawthorne, Bendix president and CEO. “Contributing to the global pioneering technological expertise of Knorr-Bremse has only deepened Bendix’s already rich heritage of customer focus, innovation, and industry leadership. We relish the environment we operate in with Knorr-Bremse – one built on collaboration, inventive thinking, and continuous improvement.”

“We’re proud that Group company Bendix is celebrating 20 years in our global ranks,” said Dr. Jan Mrosik, chairman of the Executive Board of Knorr-Bremse AG and responsible for the Commercial Vehicle Systems division on an interim basis. “It demonstrates what Knorr-Bremse and Bendix, two industry-leading companies, can accomplish together by focusing on driving tomorrow’s transportation today. And it points up the unparalleled potential of our global organization as we strive to deliver the best solutions to the industry that are reliable, innovative, and leading – all while contributing to the communities where we live and work.”

Below is a sampling of highlights from 20 years of dynamic collaboration.

### **At the Technological Forefront**

In 2015, Bendix launched another in a long line of industry firsts: **Bendix® Wingman® Fusion™**, integrating radar, camera, and the Bendix ESP® brake system to create its flagship driver assistance system. Since then, Bendix has regularly expanded and improved the capabilities of Fusion through advancements such as providing full braking power on the tractor, earlier object detection, multi-lane AEB, highway departure warning and braking, and ACB auto-resume, with much more on the way.

Wingman Fusion is built on the **Bendix® ESP® Electronic Stability Program**, which, upon its North American launch in 2004, was the first widely available full-stability solution for the commercial vehicle market, providing both rollover and loss-of-control mitigation assistance for the driver. Bendix emphasizes that safety technologies complement safe driving practices. No commercial vehicle safety technology replaces a skilled, alert driver exercising safe driving techniques and proactive, comprehensive driver training. Responsibility for the safe operation of the vehicle remains with the driver at all times.

Bendix introduced the **Bendix® ADB22X® air disc brake** for tractors and trailers in 2005 and has manufactured more than 4.5 million units since then. More than a third of new North American Class 6-8 air-braked vehicles are now equipped with air disc brakes, and the ADB22X accounts for about 70% of them. Knorr-Bremse is the global leader in air disc brake production at more than 45 million and counting.

Introduced in 2019, the **Bendix® Intellipark® Electronic Parking Brake** helps prevent rollaway and runaway crashes by automatically setting the parking brake if the driver does not. It features an improved control interface that’s easier to use than traditional air brake valves.

In 2020, steering gear manufacturer R.H. Sheppard Co., Inc., became a Bendix wholly owned subsidiary, strengthening the technology links between steering and braking that signal the next evolutions in advanced driver assistance systems (ADAS). **Bendix’s Active Steering System** includes compensation to counter crosswinds or road crowning, steering wheel return-

to-center assist, and active damping to both reduce road vibrations felt through the steering wheel and improve feel. The next generation of steering products – known as torque overlay steering – will allow for ADAS functions such as lane keeping and other driver comfort features.

The **Bendix® AD-HFi™ air dryer**, launched in 2021, incorporates a solenoid-operated valve that replaces the traditional mechanical governor. An electronically controlled governor precisely regulates the dryer's charge and regeneration cycles using Bendix's Electronic Air Control (EAC) software.

### **Milestones in Business Expansion**

The 2020 **acquisition of R.H. Sheppard**, based in Hanover, Pennsylvania, included steering gear manufacturing and remanufacturing operations in Hanover and Wytheville, Virginia, plus an R&D center in Rochester Hills, Michigan. With the addition of over 725 Sheppard employees, the total Bendix roster now sits at roughly 4,100 team members across North America.

Bendix recently completed a **130,000-square-foot expansion of its wheel-end production plant in Bowling Green, Kentucky**, which opened in 2007. The development ensures the wheel-end group can expand engineering capabilities and increase air disc brake production capacity to keep pace with accelerating customer demand in North America.

In 2019, Bendix acquired a new location for **expansion and realignment of its Huntington, Indiana, campus** that brought the company's presence to 855,000 square feet across four buildings. The Huntington operation includes manufacturing and assembly facilities, as well as Bendix's primary North American distribution center.

Bendix **added a logistics center to its Acuña, Mexico, campus in 2016** and significantly expanded it in 2017. The bustling Acuña center of operations now includes four facilities. The facility is part of Bendix's Mexico footprint, which includes an R&D center in Monterrey that opened in 2019.

Last fall, Bendix began a phased move into its **new 218,000-square-foot North American headquarters in Avon, Ohio**. The site is home to Bendix's administrative functions, as well as its R&D and engineering home base.

### **Contributing to a Healthier Planet and Stronger Communities**

Bendix has adopted the environmental strategies of Knorr-Bremse, pursuing corporate sustainability efforts that include waste reduction and reducing energy consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. In 2020, Bendix **diverted an all-time high of 99.8% of total waste** – and has reached its company-wide goal of achieving zero-waste-to-landfill at multiple of the company's

North American facilities, validated through a detailed self-certification program. Many of Bendix's comprehensive zero-waste efforts were recognized by Knorr-Bremse in 2019. Honors included being asked to help drive Knorr-Bremse's worldwide initiative on Zero Waste.

Since 2015, Bendix has **lowered its energy usage by more than 14 million kilowatt-hours**. Bendix's goal is to achieve a 50% reduction in carbon emissions by 2030. A major solar energy project at Plant 1 in Huntington, Indiana, is helping to move Bendix closer to those numbers. Activated in 2021, the 1.168-megawatt solar array satisfies about 30% of the plant's energy requirements – while contributing a 3% decrease to Bendix's carbon footprint across North America.

Bendix and Bendix employees take great pride in **supporting numerous nonprofit organizations and community initiatives across North America**, in the form of grants, donations, and sponsorships. Yearly, employees donate thousands of volunteer hours to dozens of community projects. Bendix also teams on projects with Knorr-Bremse Global Care North America (KBGCNA), formed in 2018 as the North American arm of Knorr-Bremse Global Care, the philanthropic foundation of Knorr-Bremse. KBGCNA investments are centered in the surrounding communities of Knorr-Bremse's three largest North American companies: Bendix; Westminister, Maryland-based Knorr Brake Company; and Watertown, New York-based New York Air Brake LLC. Funding activities are championed and supported by the employees of each of the three local companies.

"It's the great people making up Bendix and Knorr-Bremse who are responsible for our remarkable technological advancements, company growth, and support for our communities and planet," Hawthorne said. "As we consider what we've achieved together over the two decades of our partnership, we remain in constant motion, driving to the future, intent on meeting the needs of our customers and our industry."

#### **About Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems LLC**

Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems, a member of Knorr-Bremse, develops and supplies leading-edge active safety technologies, energy management solutions, and air brake charging and control systems and components under the Bendix® brand name for medium- and heavy-duty trucks, tractors, trailers, buses, and other commercial vehicles throughout North America. An industry pioneer, employing more than 4,100 people, Bendix – and its wholly owned subsidiary, R.H. Sheppard Co., Inc. – is driven to deliver the best solutions for improved vehicle safety, performance, and overall operating cost. Contact us at 1-800-AIR-BRAKE (1-800-247-2725) or visit [bendix.com](http://bendix.com). Stay connected and informed through Bendix expert podcasts, blog posts, videos, and other resources at [knowledge-dock.com](http://knowledge-dock.com). Follow Bendix on Twitter at [twitter.com/Bendix\\_CVS](https://twitter.com/Bendix_CVS). Log on and learn from the Bendix experts at [brake-school.com](http://brake-school.com). And to learn more about career opportunities at Bendix, visit [bendix.com/careers](http://bendix.com/careers).

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