



## *News Release*

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***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

### **BENDIX COMES TOGETHER TO HELP BUILD HOME FOR INDIANA FAMILY**

*Volunteers from Company's Huntington, Indiana, Operation Frame House in  
Collaboration with Habitat for Humanity of Greater Fort Wayne*

**AVON, Ohio – Aug. 9, 2024** – Working as one, they served as homebuilders for a day in support of a family in their community. Nearly 100 employees of Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems LLC's (Bendix) Huntington, Indiana, operation framed a house for a local family in need. The sounds of hammering and happy voices highlighted the construction project, which took place on August 8 in the parking lot of the campus' main plant, in collaboration with Habitat for Humanity of Greater Fort Wayne.

After building the frame of the house, the Bendix volunteers used permanent marker to inscribe messages and well-wishes on beams and walls. A member of the family receiving the house joined in the build. The house was then loaded for transport and donated as a Habitat for Humanity home in Huntington. Working alongside the Habitat team, employees will have the opportunity to individually participate in the final build on the actual homestead site later this year.

Bendix also contributed \$15,000 for materials required to complete the build.

The effort marks the seventh year Bendix has helped to build homes near its sites in North America. With the project in Huntington, this labor of love has resulted in 20 homes supported to date. The build was the second undertaken by the Huntington location, after a successful inaugural house framing last summer. For the Huntington team, the activity was a highly anticipated part of the workforce's community engagement calendar.

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“Huntington is our home, and Bendix is enormously proud and grateful to be part of it,” said Eric Meehan, managing director of operations at Bendix Huntington. “Giving back to the community drives this company and our people, as evidenced by how the team united and set to work with hammers and nails on the house framing. Never once have I seen my Bendix co-workers hesitate to raise their hand, roll up their sleeves, and pitch in on behalf of our friends and neighbors.”

A major employer in the area, Bendix has operated a campus – one of its largest – in Huntington for more than 40 years. The Huntington operation includes manufacturing and assembly facilities, as well as Bendix’s primary North American distribution center.

Habitat for Humanity is a global nonprofit housing organization working in local communities across all 50 states in the U.S. and in approximately 70 countries. Habitat’s vision is of a world where everyone has a decent place to live. It works toward that vision by building strength, stability, and self-reliance in partnership with families in need of decent and affordable housing. Habitat homeowners help build their own homes alongside volunteers and pay an affordable mortgage.

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Fort Wayne, based in Fort Wayne, Indiana, became an official Habitat affiliate in 1986.

### **Where They Live and Work**

The house build is part of the company’s ongoing dedication to supporting nearby communities across its North American footprint. Bendix also aims to grow active social involvement among employees through leadership and project management experience.

“The support and efforts of our employees are the heart of Bendix’s unwavering commitment to building communities and positively impacting our neighbors,” said Maria Gutierrez, Bendix senior director, environmental, social, and governance (ESG). “Part of our company culture is striving every day to put our social responsibility to work and make a difference, and it simply doesn’t happen without the inspiring generosity of our team members.”

The long and diverse list of local organizations that have received support from Bendix Huntington over the years includes American Cancer Society Relay For Life, Boys & Girls Clubs of Huntington County, Junior Achievement, Huntington Chamber of Commerce, Huntington Heritage Days, Huntington Veterans Day 5K, and United Way of Huntington County.

According to Gutierrez, Bendix Huntington has provided almost \$300,000 in community support grants and donations since 2021. In that same span, Huntington employees have spent more than 4,000 hours volunteering in support of local causes.

Bendix Huntington's support of United Way of Huntington County offers examples of how the team contributes to the community. Among the activities, employees contribute money to participate in an annual bingo tournament. Numbers are called throughout the day for the chance to win prizes paid for by Bendix. In another activity, team members contribute to compete in a football toss, with winners getting tickets to an Indianapolis Colts football game. The maintenance team contributes as well, collecting items no longer needed at the plant and conducting a white elephant sale in which employees place bids.

Proceeds from those and other charitable events for United Way go to a fund that Bendix contributes to the organization at the end of the year. In 2023, employee donations totaled \$34,365.

Helping to lead employee engagement at Huntington, as at all Bendix locations, is a Local Care team. The teams, driven by employee volunteers, are charged with ensuring each location in North America hosts one or more corporate-sponsored volunteer events, sponsors additional events in the community, and connects employees with volunteer opportunities to support.

"The effort is intentional and robust, with many contributors," Meehan said. "We're serious about giving back and enriching the community. It's the Bendix way."

#### **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 4,400 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](https://www.bendix.com). Stay connected and informed through Bendix expert podcasts, blog posts, videos, and other resources at [knowledge-dock.com](https://www.knowledge-dock.com). Follow Bendix on X, formerly known as Twitter, at [twitter.com/Bendix\\_CVS](https://twitter.com/Bendix_CVS). Log on and learn from the Bendix experts at [brake-school.com](https://www.brake-school.com). And to learn more about career opportunities at Bendix, visit [bendix.com/careers](https://www.bendix.com/careers).

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