



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**BENDIX HOLDS GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY FOR NEW INDUSTRIAL LAB
BENEFITING TECHNICAL SCHOOL STUDENTS IN ACUÑA, MEXICO**

*Leaders and Students Celebrate Construction Launch of Hands-On
Production Lab and Start of New Bendix Apprenticeships*

ELYRIA, Ohio – Sept. 6, 2017 – August 15 marked a key step in an effort bringing together Bendix, Colegio de Estudios Científicos y Tecnológicos del Estado de Coahuila (CECyTEC) – a local technical vocational school – and the Mexican government. The three organizations broke ground on a new industrial lab for CECyTEC students in Acuña, Mexico. As part of the ceremony, leaders from the three organizations – joined by students – took part in a symbolic signing of the agreement uniting them.

The laboratory is designed to increase the educational opportunities available to youth in Ciudad Acuña, Mexico, and was made possible by a shared commitment among the three organizations to enhance CECyTEC’s facilities, infrastructure, and curriculum.

The new 2,500-square-foot state-of-the-art industrial production lab is part of a two-initiative plan. Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems will also provide a dual education apprenticeship opportunity for select CECyTEC students, while delivering practical training for the students at the company’s Acuña campus. Bendix has maintained its growing manufacturing operations in Acuña, a city of 181,000, since 1988.

The company is working with CECyTEC on program curriculum and lab design.

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Funding for lab construction and equipment is provided by Knorr-Bremse Global Care, Bendix/Bendix Foundation, and CECyTEC. They are contributing \$150,000, \$75,000, and \$25,000 USD, respectively. The dual-education program is funded solely by Bendix.

“Acuña’s growth as a city, and its expanding student population, are simply outpacing its ability to maintain infrastructure improvements,” said Carlos Hungria, Bendix chief operating officer, who serves as project coordinator with Maria Gutierrez, director of corporate responsibility and sustainability. “This growth, along with Acuña’s continued expansion as a key manufacturing city, also increased the need for a qualified workforce to meet the continuous new production demands. It is one of the reasons this program was created.”

Hungria added, “Bendix created the initiatives to serve as additional educational opportunities for the Acuña community. These initiatives grow directly out of Bendix’s company-wide commitment to give back to the communities where we live and work – a commitment shared by Knorr-Bremse Global Care and the Knorr-Bremse Group. We’re grateful for the chance to partner with CECyTEC to help students succeed and realize their potential.”

With completion expected by the end of the year, the production lab will provide an on-site opportunity for CECyTEC students to simulate and experiment on practical industrial workplace scenarios. The apprenticeship program launched on August 28 and features ongoing two-year scholarships that combine classroom instruction at CECyTEC with hands-on training at Bendix. Four CECyTEC students were selected for the inaugural class in this visionary program; four additional students will be added in each subsequent year. A total of eight students will be participating concurrently at any time throughout the program.

“CECyTEC’s focus on industrial production is a natural fit with Bendix. This industrial lab is an opportunity to enhance learning in areas such as Quality, Safety, Logistics, and Industrial Engineering,” Gutierrez said. “The learning opportunities in an improved industrial lab environment will allow the students to enter the workforce better prepared for what to expect in a production setting – and to potentially excel into a leadership role in that setting.”

In combination, Bendix intends the industrial lab and apprenticeship program to help better prepare students with the skills required to enter the workforce, while also exposing them to simulated and actual manufacturing work environments.

About Global Care

Global Care is a nonprofit organization founded in 2005 by the Knorr-Bremse Group, Bendix’s parent company. The organization was founded to give people in need – through no

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fault of their own – a chance to lead more independent lives. Based in Munich, Germany, Knorr-Bremse is the world's preeminent manufacturer of braking systems for rail and commercial vehicles. Since its inception in 2005, Knorr-Bremse Global Care has implemented more than 190 projects in 52 countries with a total funding of EUR 14.3 million. The nonprofit also aims to help increase the awareness of employees within the Knorr-Bremse Group to the need for greater social involvement, to encourage individuals to become active themselves, and – via Global Care projects – to offer unparalleled leadership and project management experience to its employees.

About Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems LLC

Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems, a member of the Knorr-Bremse Group, 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 3,200 people, Bendix is driven to deliver 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. Stay connected and informed through Bendix expert podcasts, blog posts, videos, and other resources at knowledge-dock.com. Follow Bendix on Twitter at twitter.com/Bendix_CVS. Log on and learn from the Bendix experts at brake-school.com. And to learn more about career opportunities at Bendix, visit bendix.com/careers.

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