



## *News Release*

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### **INDUSTRY TURNS TO BENDIX® WINGMAN® FAMILY OF COLLISION MITIGATION SYSTEMS** **IN GROWING NUMBERS FOR IMPROVED VEHICLE SAFETY**

*With Expanding OEM Availability and Fleet Acceptance, Bendix's Continually Evolving Technologies Have Been Delivered on More Than 250,000 Vehicles and Counting*

**ELYRIA, Ohio – Oct. 30, 2019** – Like the miles on a big rig's odometer, the numbers click steadily upward. And now they stand at more than 250,000. That is how many forward collision mitigation systems from Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems – the robust Bendix® Wingman® family of solutions – that fleets have put on the road, with each generation of the technology more powerful and effective than the last. Adoption of the systems continues at an accelerated pace Year over Year.

Bendix Wingman technologies – which this year marked a decade of innovation, progress, and helping to enhance the safety of vehicles and roadways across North America – are available through almost all major North American Class truck and bus manufacturers. The technologies have achieved standard position on models at International® Trucks, Kenworth Truck Company, Mack® Trucks, Peterbilt Motors Company, and Volvo Trucks North America.

“From the earliest version of our Wingman product, in 2009, to the latest generation and beyond, our sights are squarely set on offering a system that maximizes vehicle safety, reliability, and performance – and delivers lower total cost of ownership,” said TJ Thomas, Bendix director of marketing and customer solutions – Controls Group. “As the numbers

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demonstrate, more and more fleets and owner-operators across North America are utilizing the technology and benefiting from its return on investment.”

Thomas continued, “The growing acceptance also reflects the strength of our partnerships suppliers and the vehicle manufacturers who make the Wingman® advanced driver assistance systems available – together, we are shaping tomorrow’s transportation.”

### **Advancing Technology, Increasing Adoption**

In March 2009, Bendix launched Bendix® Wingman® ACB – Active Cruise with Braking. Two years later came Bendix® Wingman® Advanced™ – A Collision Mitigation Technology, which fulfilled the next step in the company’s safety technology roadmap. In 2015, Bendix introduced Bendix® Wingman® Fusion™, the company’s flagship collision mitigation technology.

The foundational technology of the Wingman systems goes back even further, to 2005, when the company introduced the Bendix® ESP® Electronic Stability Program – North America’s first widely available commercial vehicle full-stability system. Full stability serves as the foundation for Wingman and other advanced driver assistance systems (ADAS). Bendix ESP has been delivered on more than 700,000 trucks, buses, and motorcoaches.

“In a case of taking something good and making it better, we brought a similar advancement in the feature set of Wingman Fusion when it debuted four years later, in 2015,” Thomas said. “Fusion added a forward-facing camera, deeper system integration, and new features including Lane Departure Warning, overspeed alerts and intervention, and alert prioritization – that last one being especially important as the system becomes increasingly complex. Fusion is at the leading edge of safety and driver assistance because its integration of information is from multiple sources ‘fused’ together, and not just in parallel.”

Because it is built on Bendix ESP, Fusion also helps drivers avoid additional situations, including rollovers and loss-of-control. And event-based data – including video – can be wirelessly transmitted for driver coaching and analysis by fleet safety personnel.

With Bendix® Wingman® Fusion™, fleets report significant reductions in rear-end collisions – as much as 90 percent – and decreased severity of those that did occur. The men and women driving these trucks also share positive feedback, including higher satisfaction with Bendix’s radar-and-camera systems than with radar-only technologies. Bendix attributes that preference to Fusion’s ability to deliver information into the system through two sensors, which provides more information and enables more accurate reactions to a specific situation by the technology.

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“We’re proud of the data, but emphasize – as always – that this technology is driver assistance, not driver replacement. No commercially available technology can replace a safe, alert, professional driver practicing safe driving habits, supported by proactive, ongoing driver training,” Thomas said. “Active safety systems are not intended to enable or encourage aggressive driving, and responsibility for safe vehicle operation remains with the driver at all times.”

### **Next Generations**

Launched in 2019, the advanced feature set of Wingman Fusion helps drivers manage even more uncertainties on the road. The technology adds highway departure braking, ACB (Active Cruise with Braking) Stop & Driver Go™, ACB Auto-Resume™, and multi-lane emergency braking to its features, along with even more enhanced collision mitigation and braking capabilities. OEMs may differ in their overall feature offering and availability; end-users should check with their dealer representative for exact feature offerings.

In addition, Fusion can now provide full braking power on the tractor, compared with the two-thirds power previously possible. The system also now pulses air back to the trailer to provide trailer braking, whether or not the trailer has an ABS/TRSP unit. Combined with improved sensor and data analysis, this means that in many emergency situations, the system can reduce a vehicle’s speed by as much as 50 miles per hour.

Near-term upgrades in hardware and software will power new collision mitigation and driver assistance features in Wingman Fusion – including steering capabilities – and fully support SAE Level 2 automated driving functions. The new capabilities, expected to be available in the next two years, will also form the basis for future integration with Electronic Braking Systems (EBS).

“We never rest in our development cycle at Bendix,” Thomas said. “With Wingman, this combination of once-new technologies is proven and re-proven daily over millions of safe miles – while we are continually making it even better in the name of safer vehicles and highways for everyone.”

### **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

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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](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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