



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DURING NATIONAL TRUCK DRIVER APPRECIATION WEEK,
BENDIX HONORS THE PROFESSIONALS BEHIND THE WHEEL

Company Proudly Salutes and Supports America's Drivers

AVON, Ohio – Sept. 12, 2023 – Trucks, large as they are, often blend into the background as they traverse the American landscape. And just as often, the public takes for granted the skillful professionals piloting them. Every year, National Truck Driver Appreciation Week shines a deserving light on the legion of drivers who – day after day and mile after mile – deliver the materials and goods that keep America moving. Sponsored by the American Trucking Associations (ATA), National Truck Driver Appreciation Week 2023 takes place Sept. 10-16.

“The entire Bendix team offers its heartfelt thanks to America’s truck drivers this week and every week,” said Lance Hansen, vice president – aftermarket sales, fleet, service, and field operations at Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems LLC (Bendix). “Our country owes a debt of gratitude to its dedicated drivers, who perform an invaluable service that often goes unseen and unrecognized by the millions of people who depend on them.”

This year’s National Truck Driver Appreciation Week marks the 35th installment of the event. According to ATA, truck drivers safely and securely transport almost 11.5 billion tons of freight each year – about 70% of all freight moved in the United States. More than 80% of communities depend solely on trucks to receive their goods. “Miles of Gratitude” is the 2023 event’s theme, a nod to the approximately 300 billion miles that America’s more than 3.5 million drivers travel each year.

“National Truck Driver Appreciation Week is a great opportunity to honor America’s professional truckers,” said Fred Andersky, director – demos, sales and service training at Bendix. “At Bendix, we’re proudly committed to supporting their hard work behind the wheel by developing systems and solutions that help provide safer trucks – so that everyone can return home safely to their loved ones at day’s end.”

An Assist on the Road

Bendix is the North American leader in the development and manufacture of active safety, air management, and braking system technologies for commercial vehicles, including advanced driver assistance systems (ADAS) that deliver stability control and collision mitigation. These solutions are engineered to help drivers do their jobs more safely – but there’s nothing that can replace a skilled and alert driver.

“There is simply no bigger factor in commercial vehicle and highway safety than the person driving,” said Andersky, who holds a Class A CDL. “ADAS technologies are designed to support and complement drivers – and to help prevent even the best driver from having a bad day due to constantly changing road and traffic situations.”

In addition to ADAS technologies, other integrated Bendix solutions supporting driver safety, comfort, and convenience include active steering, air disc brakes, blind spot monitoring, and lane departure warning. Among the robust benefits of Bendix’s active steering system, for instance, is help in reducing driver fatigue. Lane Keep Assist provides steering torque to help guide a drifting vehicle back toward its lane. New steering-assistance features include compensation to counter crosswinds or road crowning and more.

With air disc brakes, drivers appreciate shorter stopping distance, along with smoother, straighter, and more stable stops, for a car-like feel and virtually no brake fade. Bendix’s air treatment technologies help keep the braking system and other crucial functions operating at their peak.

Additionally, Bendix electronic parking brake technology helps prevent rollaways and improves the in-cab ergonomics with an electronic switch that eliminates the “sting” of push-pull air brake valves. The switch includes built-in LED indicator lights that show the status of the brake immediately, offering another advantage over traditional valves.

“Bendix safety technologies complement safe driving practices,” Andersky emphasized. “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.”

In the Know

Up-to-date, proper education on the use and maintenance of leading-edge safety systems has become more important than ever in helping keep drivers safe.

“Understanding is critical to getting the most out of today’s advanced technologies,” Andersky said. “We still need to focus our industry’s safety efforts on supporting drivers and their skills, along with their understanding of what technologies can do – and just as importantly, can’t do – to help them on the road.”

To that end, Bendix continues to expand its driver-focused efforts. These include on-site demonstrations and ride-and-drive training sessions; videos exploring Bendix systems and explaining the in-cab experience at the company’s YouTube channel (youtube.com/user/bendixvideos); and the “Truck Talk with Bendix” podcast’s “Driver Insight Series” collection of episodes. All these resources are designed to help ensure safety systems are used correctly and to their maximum benefit.

In addition, Bendix offers a training portal at <http://www.brake-school.com> that provides free access to a wide array of technical courses; and the Knowledge Dock™ at <http://www.knowledge-dock.com>, which has archived resources like the Bendix Tech Tips series, podcasts, blogs, and white papers.

Bendix’s support of drivers extends to industry outreach participation and sponsorships as well. For 12 years running, Bendix has served as the sole sponsor of the annual ATA National Truck Driving Championships (NTDC) Grand Champion Award, one of the company’s highest-profile sponsorships of an industry program focused on celebrating truck drivers’ skills and commitment to safety. Bendix is also a longtime sponsor of the ATA Share the Road program. Since 1986, the Share the Road program has been teaching the public how to safely share the road with large commercial vehicles.

With a legacy of dedication to the commercial vehicle industry that goes back nearly a century, Bendix remains a proud and enthusiastic supporter of America’s professional truck drivers and their skills and safety. Through technology and training, the company is committed to helping these drivers safely travel the road ahead.

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

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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. Stay connected and informed through Bendix expert podcasts, blog posts, videos, and other resources at knowledge-dock.com. Follow Bendix on X, formerly known as 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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