



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BENDIX CELEBRATES A YEAR OF ACCIDENT-FREE OPERATIONS IN HUNTINGTON

*Five Hundred Employees' Collective Safety Efforts Make a
Day-to-Day Difference Across the Bustling Four-Facility Indiana Campus*

AVON, Ohio – June 5, 2024 – More than 500 people work at the Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems LLC (Bendix) campus in Huntington, Indiana, with dozens of wide-ranging jobs handling all aspects of manufacturing and distributing thousands of Bendix components every day. And in every position, at every level, safety is the top priority – as evidenced by their collective achievement of 365 days without a recordable injury.

“This is an incredible milestone for everyone across our four facilities, and it’s only possible because of their continued efforts, commitment, and constant engagement at all levels of the organization,” said Eric Meehan, managing director of operations at Bendix Huntington. “And that’s really what has set Bendix apart in its safety journey – this establishment of a world-class culture built on safety as a core value of every person who works here.”

Bendix is the North American leader in the development and manufacture of active safety, air management, and braking system technologies for commercial vehicles. Its Huntington plant opened in 1980 with 30 employees and is currently an evolving and expanding 855,000-square-foot complex that includes Bendix’s primary North American distribution center. The Huntington team also manufactures engine vibration dampers and integrated modules, remanufactures air compressors, and assembles electronics.

Safety Takes Effort

Bendix manufacturing campuses and other operations across North America incorporate the company's comprehensive safety agenda, built around strong commitment by leadership, mature safety processes, and a goal of zero recordable injuries. A recordable injury in the workplace is defined by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) as a workplace injury that requires medical attention beyond first aid.

Bendix assesses its workplace safety performance annually by Total Case Incident Rate (TCIR), which measures the total number of recordable injuries per 100 workers per year. In 2023, Bendix's TCIR was 0.62, which is far below the industry average. The company's performance improved on the TCIR of 0.64 it achieved in 2022.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the TCIR for similar manufacturing facilities in 2022 was 2.6.

"A safe workplace doesn't just happen," said John Adams, Bendix Huntington's health, safety, environment (HSE) manager. "Everyone here regularly contributes to our preventive and corrective measures, whether they're involved in one of our Walk & Talks where we go around and conduct safety audits, using emergency work orders (EWOs) to identify unsafe conditions, or submitting ideas called Quick Kaizens for safety improvements. And every single employee is empowered to use their 'stop-work authority' any time an at-risk situation occurs."

Walk & Talks occur with varying frequency at all levels, driving leadership to engage employees in focused interviews based on specific hazards associated with the areas where those employees work. By encouraging employees to provide insights on hazards they notice and to offer input on addressing those risks, Bendix reinforces individual investment in the larger safety culture.

Communication Is Key

"Twice a day, operators will have 'See, Say, Do' meetings with leads and supervisors – one after the first break, and one after lunch – where we aim to refocus our mindset on safety and share information relevant to the job," Adams said. "We'll talk about any potential hazards spotted, and what we can do to fix them, and a lot of the time it turns into a casual conversation about safety. And these are small groups, so when we talk about the types of progress we're making, we'll also consider whether there's anything we can share with other areas that may be having similar issues."

And this cycle of observation, communication – in both directions – and correction can ultimately fuel a culture shift.

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“At the leadership level, we’ve worked hard to do a better job of sharing with the employees how we address their concerns,” Meehan said. “But really, I can’t express nearly enough gratitude to the teams on the floor and their commitment. Without their deep, ongoing engagement and their efforts prioritizing safety, none of this would be possible.”

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. 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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