



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BENDIX MAINTAINS WORLD-CLASS SAFETY PERFORMANCE

*Next-Gen Safety Programs, Processes, and Culture Help Deliver
Outstanding Safety Results*

AVON, Ohio – March 14, 2024 – Safety is a tradition at Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems LLC (Bendix). And in 2023, the company more than lived up to that tradition, logging another year of world-class safety performance.

One number in particular tells the story: Bendix’s Total Case Incident Rate (TCIR) of recordable injuries 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.

Bendix assesses its workplace safety performance annually by TCIR, which measures the total number of recordable injuries per 100 workers per year. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the TCIR for similar manufacturing facilities in 2022 was 2.6. A recordable injury or accident 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 hasn’t missed a step since 2019, when it was recognized as one of America’s Safest Companies, taking its place among 15 companies selected for the honor by the magazine *EHS Today*. The organization dedicated to setting the industry safety standard for commercial vehicles throughout North America remains equally committed to organizational safety.

“The absence of injuries does not ensure the presence of safety – thus it cannot be mistaken as the end of the journey,” said Maria Gutierrez, Bendix senior director of environmental, social, and governance (ESG). “As injury rates continue to fall across Bendix

BENDIX MAINTAINS WORLD-CLASS SAFETY PERFORMANCE

March 14, 2024/Page 2

locations, the need for every employee to stay engaged in the safety process remains and will always be critical to the safety of all Bendix team members.”

Milestones and Statistics

Of Bendix’s 26 North American locations, 20 finished the year with no recordable injuries, a new record. Particularly noteworthy: All four facilities on the manufacturing campus in Acuña, Mexico, completed 2023 with zero recordable injuries.

“This first-ever achievement by the team in Acuña is the combined effort of more than 1,800 employees,” Gutierrez said. “And it’s evidence that you will achieve the level of safety you demonstrate you want to achieve.”

In addition, three of the Acuña locations were also certified as a Safe and Healthy Work Environment by the Mexican Social Security Institute (IMSS) in 2023. Plant 3 was initially certified in September as a pilot, and then Plants 1 and 2 received their certification in December. The certification recognizes the sites’ support for the health, safety, and well-being of its employees.

Bendix posted many other achievements as well in 2023. Twenty locations exceeded one year without a recordable injury. The company’s distribution center in Montreal, Canada, completed 20 years with no recordable injuries. Additional milestones for length of time free of recordable injuries included 15 years at the Mexico City, Mexico, and Vancouver, Canada, locations, while the Bendix site in Sparks, Nevada, surpassed 10 years.

Across all locations, employees recognized over 4,500 unsafe conditions and 4,000 unsafe behaviors. Additionally, over 400 first-aid incidents were reported and corrected.

Safety Foundations

At the core of Bendix’s sustained safety performance is a combination of strong commitment by leadership and mature safety processes. Guided by Bendix’s Health, Safety, and Environmental (HSE) team, the broad and consistently applied range of activities in place to help ensure employees and visitors return home safely each evening includes annual leadership back-to-work sessions at the beginning of the year. The sessions feature a message from the Bendix Executive Board and reaffirm the company’s commitment to safety every day.

Among the other activities is consistent integration of a required Safety Share reminder at the start of all meetings, including each quarterly Bendix Town Hall. The Safety Share includes instructions in the event of an emergency, as well as a personal safety tip – applicable for home or work – from a meeting participant.

BENDIX MAINTAINS WORLD-CLASS SAFETY PERFORMANCE

March 14, 2024/Page 3

A multilevel HSE Walk & Talk program at all Bendix locations incorporates proactive HSE audits conducted monthly by leadership and weekly by shop-floor supervisors. The audits are complemented by a robust emergency work order (EWO) program, used by employees to identify, report, and correct any unsafe condition.

“To build out the foundation of a culture of safety excellence, employees are encouraged to correct at-risk behaviors and recognize safe behaviors,” said Ed Casper, Bendix director, Safety & Security. “Employees can also help improve the safety of the work environment by submitting their ideas for safety improvements in the Quick Kaizen program – moving the culture from reactive to proactive.”

All of these employee engagement activities are recognized through the company’s Safety STARS (Safety Top Achievement Recognition System) program, which acknowledges the best teams in the annual Knorr Production System (KPS) Reward and Recognition event.

Bendix continues to remind every employee to use their “stop-work authority” any time an at-risk situation occurs. Stop-work authority is a foundational component of safety, and it begins with safety awareness and the ability to “see safety” and take actions before a hazard results in an injury.

Ongoing Focus

For 2024, Bendix is striving to achieve even stronger performance, with a focus on risk reduction. Bendix continues to invest in safety through improvement projects identified by job task risk assessment. The risk reduction program ensures the likelihood of injuries is reduced year over year. Improvements in ergonomics and material handling and more advanced machine guarding systems are just a few examples of how Bendix continues to move toward its future goal of zero injuries.

“At Bendix, we are building a culture where safe is the only way we work,” Gutierrez said. “A culture where employees recognize at-risk conditions and behaviors and take action to avoid incidents. This combination of safety awareness and incident response continues to positively influence our safety culture.”

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

BENDIX MAINTAINS WORLD-CLASS SAFETY PERFORMANCE

March 14, 2024/Page 4

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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