



## *News Release*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**BENDIX EXPANDS SOLAR POWER GENERATION AT ACUÑA, MEXICO,**  
**MANUFACTURING OPERATION**

*Plant 4 Solar Field Grows Renewable Capacity by Nearly 40%,  
Building on 2024 Installation*

**AVON, Ohio – April 23, 2026** – Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems LLC (Bendix) has expanded the solar energy system at its advanced manufacturing facility in Acuña, Mexico. The latest project – an extension of the ground-mounted solar array at Plant 4 – adds more than 230 kilowatts-peak (kWp) of new solar capacity, increasing the array’s total capacity by approximately 40%. The system is expected to generate approximately 1.3 million kilowatt-hours (kWh) of renewable electricity each year – enough to meet nearly 20% of the plant’s forecasted electricity demand.

The latest expansion completed construction in December and is now operating. It marks the fourth major solar project at the company’s largest manufacturing operation and deepens Bendix’s long-term investment in renewable energy and emissions reduction at the site. Bendix’s sustainability efforts align with those of Knorr-Bremse, its Munich, Germany-based parent company: The project contributes directly to Knorr-Bremse’s Climate Strategy 2030 – a comprehensive plan to cut scope 1 and market-based scope 2 greenhouse gas emissions by 75% by the end of the decade (based on a 2018 baseline), which is currently well on track.

“It’s the next practical step that strengthens the site and supports our broader climate goals,” said Maria Gutierrez, Global Head of HSE for Knorr-Bremse’s CVS division. “It also reflects how we’re approaching this work – measurable progress, tied to clear targets, and integrated with operations on the ground.”

Opened in 1988, the bustling, multisite Acuña campus engages in manufacturing, remanufacturing, and assembly across a wide range of products – antilock braking systems (ABS), air dryers, compressors, valves, actuators, and integrated vehicle modules. Plant 4, which began operations in 2024, uses highly automated manufacturing processes to produce two emerging, next-generation technologies: Global Scalable Brake Control (GSBC®) and Global Scalable Air Treatment (GSAT®).

### **Construction and Capacity**

Installation of the new ground-mounted panels began in July 2025, following a regulatory shift in Mexico that raised the maximum allowable capacity of on-site distributed-generation systems. That change allowed Bendix to expand its original Plant 4 system – commissioned in 2024 – from a 500-kilowatt alternating current (AC) cap to a total of 700 kilowatts AC. The expansion added 328 new high-output panels, each rated at 710 watts, bringing an additional 230 kWp of direct current (DC) capacity to the existing system.

The expansion adds approximately 370,000 kWh per year in new solar generation to Plant 4 and helps avoid an additional 130 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions annually. The array feeds power directly into the site’s main electrical substation, with the added generation representing a viable business case.

“The new panels are larger and more efficient than those used in the first phase, which allowed us to get more output from the same physical footprint,” said Irving Pérez, energy project manager at Bendix Acuña. “We worked within the site’s constraints to maximize energy generation and minimize disruption.”

### **System Integration and Energy Management**

The expanded array is fully integrated with the plant’s building-management and submetering systems. It also operates under Mexico’s net-metering framework, enabling Bendix to credit excess daytime generation against nighttime or low-output periods – effectively extending the system’s value beyond the sunniest hours of the day.

Alongside its solar projects, Bendix has taken a systems-level approach to reducing energy use at the Acuña campus. Key upgrades since 2020 include modernized HVAC and lighting, improved building envelopes, and expanded metering and controls. These investments are lowering the site’s energy demand and helping reduce greenhouse gas emissions over time.

The work in Acuña has been recognized with an Industria Verde (Green Industry) certification for Plant 4 through 2026. Industria Verde is a voluntary Mexico State of Coahuila environmental certification program for industries. The program recognizes companies for

achieving compliance that exceeds legal requirements through the implementation of best practices and the commitment to continuously implement improvements that reduce negative environmental impacts.

“The new regulations gave us the opportunity to expand, and we moved quickly to take advantage,” said Hector Garcia, energy specialist at Bendix. “By adjusting the panel layout and inverter setup, we were able to boost output significantly without overcomplicating the system. It’s a practical solution that makes the most of the space we have.”

### **A Growing Solar Footprint at Acuña**

With the second phase complete, the Plant 4 solar system now includes more than 1,300 panels across ground mounts and shaded carport canopies. Together, the plant’s arrays will help avoid an estimated 550-600 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions each year.

Elsewhere on the Acuña campus, a separate rooftop system atop Plants 1 and 2 generates more than 2.1 million kWh of renewable electricity per year – with the 2,600-panel installation helping avoid roughly 850 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Completed in 2022, the project was one of the first of its kind among manufacturers in the region.

Taken together, the four systems illustrate how Acuña is serving as a model for sustainable operations within the Bendix and Knorr-Bremse global networks. Investment at the plant reflects both technological progress and a deeper shift in how the company integrates environmental responsibility into its day-to-day operations.

“Acuña is a clear example of how sustainability and plant performance can go hand in hand,” said Gutierrez. “These investments are helping us cut emissions and stabilize energy costs at one of our most advanced sites.”

### **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 3,600 people, Bendix 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 [x.com/Bendix\\_CVS](https://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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