News Release

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ELYRIA, Ohio – Sept. 5, 2018 – Improved technology, increased connectivity: The next generation of the Bendix™ BlindSpotter® Side Object Detection System delivers both, advancing commercial vehicle safety and addressing a common request of fleets aiming for “one-stop shopping” for comprehensive driver assistance systems. Available now from Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems, the new BlindSpotter features an upgraded radar unit and the ability to integrate with Bendix’s flagship advanced driver assistance system, Bendix® Wingman® Fusion™.

“Based on the input we’ve gotten from fleets using BlindSpotter over the past decade, these are the two most impactful updates Bendix could have made to a system that’s already generated a lot of positive responses about its performance,” said Fred Andersky, Bendix director of customer solutions – Controls. “Particularly in recent years, there has been high interest in tying the side-radar unit into active safety systems as adoption rates of both have increased. Today, pairing these systems is even easier, and makes more sense as a key step toward putting safe drivers in even safer trucks.”

BlindSpotter uses a new side-mounted radar unit – typically installed on the passenger side of the vehicle but also available for driver-side mounting – to alert drivers to vehicles or objects in adjacent lanes. When connected to the vehicle’s J1939 CAN (controller area network), its new radar operates over a significantly wider field of view than the previous version, allowing it to “see” farther toward both the front and back of a combination or single-unit

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vehicle – up to 2.5 times farther in each direction compared to the previous generation of BlindSpotter®. Despite the new internals – radar and CAN connectivity – the new BlindSpotter maintains the look, size, position, and mounting hardware of its radar and in-cab display units, making it easy to upgrade from the current version or retrofit the entire kit.

When connected to the vehicle’s CAN, the new BlindSpotter provides a wider, 150-degree range of coverage capable of detecting objects up to 20 feet in front of and 20 feet behind the BlindSpotter radar. The coverage zone extends up to 10 feet to the right of the vehicle. BlindSpotter minimizes false alerts by operating in two modes: highway speeds and lower speeds. When connected to the CAN and at highway speeds, the sensor filters out stationary objects like guardrails; the slow-speed warning mode – active at less than 20 mph, such as during city driving or in parking lots – narrows the range for alerts and does not filter out stationary targets or infrastructure.

“As with any advanced safety system, BlindSpotter isn’t a substitute for a trained, professional driver practicing safe habits – and it doesn’t replace the need for side and fender-mounted mirrors, or for drivers to check them before changing lanes,” Andersky said. “All trucks have blind spots: This is a proven, reliable technology to help keep an extra set of ‘eyes’ on them.”

Andersky noted that technologies like BlindSpotter do not replace the need for skilled drivers who engage in ongoing training and who practice safe driving habits. Responsibility for safe operation of any commercial vehicle remains with the driver at all times.

An ever-growing portfolio of vehicle technologies enables Bendix to deliver on safety, reliability, lower total cost of operation, and vehicle performance and efficiency – all areas crucial to the success of fleets and owner-operators. Bendix also provides unparalleled post-sales support, further strengthening return on investment in equipment that improves North American roadway and commercial vehicle safety.

For more information about Bendix safety systems and technologies, call 1-800-AIR-BRAKE (1-800-247-2725) or visit www.bendix.com or safertrucks.com/solutions. Visit the Bendix multimedia center at knowledge-dock.com for further insight on advanced safety technology development, driver assistance systems, and commercial vehicle safety regulations.

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