



## *News Release*

*For more information, contact:*

Barbara Gould  
**Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems LLC**  
(440) 329-9609  
barbara.gould@bendix.com

or

Ken Kesegich  
**Marcus Thomas LLC**  
(888) 482-4455  
kkesegich@mtllc.com

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **BENDIX SUSTAINABILITY EFFORTS DROVE SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2023**

*Expanded Zero-Waste-to-Landfill Certifications, Reduced Energy Consumption, and Further Recognition from U.S. Department of Energy Highlight Milestones*

**AVON, Ohio – March 12, 2024** – Bendix believes that it's essential to act now for a more sustainable future, where economic growth is not tied to increased environmental impact. And at its facilities across North America in 2023, the company continued its reach toward a cleaner, brighter tomorrow.

"Everywhere you look in any of our locations, you'll see evidence of not just our corporate commitment to reducing our effects on the Earth, but of how our Bendix team members put it into action every day," said Maria Gutierrez, Bendix senior director, environmental, social, and governance (ESG). "It can be something as simple as refilling a water bottle or as stunning as a massive array of solar panels helping power a huge manufacturing facility. Right now, someone at Bendix is taking a step for a better planet, and we're proud that it's such an important part of our culture."

Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems LLC (Bendix) is the North American leader in the design, development, and manufacture of active safety, air management, and braking solutions for commercial vehicles. Bendix's sustainability journey has been at the forefront of the robust global efforts underway at its parent company, Munich, Germany-based Knorr-Bremse. Knorr-Bremse is the global market leader for braking systems and a leading supplier of other safety-critical rail and commercial vehicle systems.

Both organizations have focused on aligning environmental, social, and governance (ESG) actions with the United Nations' (U.N.'s) ambitious Sustainable Development Goals

(SDGs). The 17 overarching sustainability objectives provide a blueprint for prosperity for people, planet, and both local and global economies. Two of the objectives – Responsible Consumption and Production (encompassed within SDG 12) and Climate Action (the focus of SDG 13) – have been central to Bendix’s sustainability efforts. Over the past decade, Bendix sustainability programs have concentrated on minimizing environmental impact through waste reduction and diversion, as well as energy efficiency and emission reduction projects.

### **Climate Strategy 2030 Interim Targets Achieved**

In 2023, Knorr-Bremse announced the company achieved the climate protection targets of 50% reduction by 2030 for scope 1 and market-based scope 2 greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions – achieving a reduction of 69% in 2022 compared to the base year 2018. Knorr-Bremse has now updated its target commitment for scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions to a 75% reduction by 2030 from the 2018 baseline.

Target achievements were possible through executing the company’s Climate Strategy 2030, which focuses on three levers: increasing energy efficiency, self-generation of renewable energy, and procurement of green energy and energy certificates. Specifically for Bendix, this has resulted in funding and execution of projects that have brought about savings of more than 12.7 million kilowatt-hours over the 2020-2023 period.

Bendix facilities in Huntington, Indiana, and Acuña, Mexico, now have solar installations that generated a total of 3.2 million kilowatt-hours of electricity in 2023, saving more than \$281,000 in energy costs and reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 1,383 tons.

The 1.168-megawatt solar array in Indiana produced 1.4 million kilowatt-hours last year, satisfying 36% of the electrical demand at Huntington Plant 1, and reducing energy costs by more than \$157,000. In Acuña, two solar installations combined to generate approximately 1.82 million kilowatt-hours of electricity, supplying roughly 7.7% of the campus’ electrical demand and reducing energy costs by \$124,000.

The State of Coahuila, where the Bendix Acuña campus is located, honored the site’s energy sustainability efforts in spring 2023 when each of the site’s three current manufacturing plants earned Industria Verde (Green Industry) certification from the state environmental protection office. This certification recognizes efforts to increase energy efficiency, utilize green energy sources, reduce the site’s carbon footprint, and be a sustainable consumer. Certification, valid for two years, is based on a compliance audit of processes and equipment, as well as the evaluation of environmental risk and impact.

## **Closing in on Zero Waste**

Bendix continued to make progress toward its Zero Waste to Landfill goals, diverting over 23,000 tons of waste from landfills and averaging > 99% diversion over the second half of 2023. In addition to the headquarters in Avon, Ohio, nine Bendix manufacturing locations are certified to the company's official Zero Waste to Landfill designation, marking an increase from eight manufacturing facilities in 2022.

The program uses a detailed self-certification process where each location must meet several requirements related to waste management, waste diversion, and continuous improvement to verify that the site is diverting 100% of its waste from being landfilled. In 2023, Acuña Plant 1 was added to the list after successfully diverting a hard-to-manage metal treatment sludge. In addition, the company's manufacturing site in Lebanon, Tennessee, transitioned all waste streams away from landfill and will gain certification in 2024. Bendix's wholly owned subsidiary, R.H. Sheppard Co., Inc., based in Hanover, Pennsylvania, is also on track to achieve the certification in 2024.

"Some of the strategies we use to meet our zero-waste goals include reclamation, recycling, composting, and waste-to-energy technologies or incineration – but we still prioritize eliminating the generation of waste in the first place," said Bill Schubert, Bendix director, environmental and sustainability. "Sites conduct spent material audits to identify waste stream reduction and diversion opportunities."

Bendix has also implemented sustainable food service policies eliminating plastic water bottles and Styrofoam products; centralized waste collection; and in Acuña, food waste digesters, which prevent about 47 tons of food waste per year from being landfilled.

Bendix's zero-waste program is built in part on adherence to ISO 14001, created by the International Organization for Standardization to provide best practices for organizations to follow and share when creating and documenting environmental management systems.

"We actively pursue ISO 14001 certification for our continuously evolving environmental management systems, since it not only fulfills some of our customer obligations, but also stands as a sign of our commitment to compliance and continuous improvement," Schubert said.

"Currently, 16 of our manufacturing locations plus our Avon headquarters are certified to the ISO 14001:2015 standard."

## **Teams of Green**

Led by employees, Bendix's internal Green Teams aim to raise awareness of environmentally friendly practices inside and outside the company.

Their efforts range from holding an Earth Day Fair in Bowling Green, Kentucky, to beach cleanups along Lake Erie in Cleveland, Ohio, to “Adopt a Plant” programs in Mexico. Green Teams also organize household waste collection and recycling programs, such as Christmas light collection and recycling, pumpkin composting, and electronic waste collection. All these programs promote green habits and behaviors for employees to implement in their daily lives.

The Avon Green Team also coordinates an employee-managed community garden on the headquarters campus. About 15 Green Team members plant and tend the garden all summer, harvesting a bounty of herbs and vegetables for sharing with everyone, as well as raising sunflowers and marigolds.

### **Electric Vehicle Charging in Avon**

To promote alternatives to conventionally fueled vehicles, the Bendix parking lot in Avon has 28 parking spaces equipped with eight Level 2 charging stations for electric vehicles (EVs).

“When we moved into the Avon building in late 2021, there were six stations and about five active users,” Schubert said. “Since then, we’ve seen a dramatic increase in employee adoption of EVs – we’re at about 39 regular users now – and last year alone, Bendix employees used more than 43,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity to travel about 126,000 miles without using gasoline. That helped avoid putting more than 25,000 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> into the atmosphere – about the equivalent of planting 291 trees.”

### **In the Department of Energy Spotlight**

For a third straight year, a Bendix facility earned praise from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Better Plants program: Bendix Huntington garnered a 2023 Better Project award for implementing an advanced wastewater recovery system.

“By implementing a high-vacuum distillation system that allows for the reuse of treated water in the plant’s washing operations, we were able to achieve a Zero Water Discharge status and reduced our impact on the environment,” Gutierrez said. “In addition, we reduced the amount of water consumed in the process by 400,000 gallons in 2023.”

Part of the DOE’s Better Buildings initiative, awards in the Better Plants program honor partners’ innovative, industry-leading work in energy efficiency, water efficiency, emissions reduction, and waste reduction. The Better Project award acknowledges partners for outstanding accomplishments in implementing industrial energy, water, and waste projects at individual facilities. Bendix Huntington previously earned a Better Project award in 2022 for its solar installation, and the company overall earned a 2021 Better Practice award for its Zero

## **BENDIX SUSTAINABILITY EFFORTS DROVE SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2023**

March 12, 2024/Page 5

Waste to Landfill self-certification process. In addition, Bendix is part of the DOE's Better Climate program, where partners seek to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions by reducing energy consumption and pivoting to low-carbon solutions.

The DOE also partnered with Bendix in conjunction with its Better Buildings, Better Plants Challenge, conducting a three-day Energy Treasure Hunt at Bendix's Bowling Green operation with the goal of locating sources of wasted energy. Seventeen Bendix employees joined, along with two fellow Better Plants partner companies.

A pair of DOE energy experts trained employees on how to conduct assessments, use DOE tools, develop energy management systems, and calculate cost savings from identified projects with the goal of empowering plant personnel to discover energy-saving opportunities while simultaneously building a culture of continuous improvement.

Using the techniques learned from the DOE, along with internal resources, Bendix conducted Energy Treasure Hunts at its manufacturing sites in Huntington and Hanover in 2023. Bendix also supported the company's sister rail division in North America by conducting energy maturity assessments at four of their U.S. and Mexico-based locations.

"We take our environmental responsibility very seriously," Gutierrez said. "We began our sustainability journey more than a decade ago, and while we're incredibly proud of the progress we've made, we're not resting on our successes. We continue to find ways to improve our performance and refine our strategy in line with Knorr-Bremse's overarching ESG strategy. We are aware of our responsibility as a corporate citizen, and we want to contribute to a world that is worth living in in the future. We want our children and grandchildren to be proud of what we did to make their lives and world better."

### **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](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).

###