



## ***News Release***

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***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

### **BENDIX ACHIEVED BEST-EVER SAFETY PERFORMANCE IN 2024**

*Enhanced Programs, Empowered Employees, and a Culture of  
Prevention Drove Record Achievements*

**AVON, Ohio – May 15, 2025** – At Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems LLC (Bendix), safety isn't just a core value – it's how work is done every day. In 2024, that commitment reached a new high mark, as the company totaled just nine recordable injuries across its North American operations – a historic low and its best safety performance to date.

A key yardstick for this success is the Total Case Incident Rate (TCIR), which compares safety performance across different companies and industries. TCIR quantifies recordable injuries per 100 full-time employees. In 2024, Bendix's TCIR dropped to 0.21, far below the 2.20 industry average for similar companies.

Bendix has consistently achieved results significantly better than the industry average with a long-term, continuous-improvement focus on three areas: risk reduction, safety culture, and safety knowledge and tools. The company's safety legacy includes being named one of America's Safest Companies by *EHS Today* in 2019.

"You will achieve the level of safety you demonstrate you want to achieve – as a product of your long-term strategy," said Ed Casper, Bendix global safety director. "Bendix has continued to deliver strong safety performance year over year because safety is a critical business metric and because Bendix cares about the safety of every employee."

## **Milestones That Matter**

In 2024, Bendix recorded a series of workplace safety milestones across its North American operations. The company's distribution centers in Montreal, Canada; Mexico City, Mexico; and Acuña, Mexico, each surpassed major milestones, with injury-free records extending more than 20 years, 16 years, and seven years, respectively.

At the company's research and development centers, Vancouver, Canada, marked 16 years without a recordable injury, while Kalamazoo, Michigan, reached three years. In addition, Avon, Ohio, and Monterrey, Mexico, each completed one year with no recordable injuries.

Manufacturing locations also continued to demonstrate sustained safety performance. Acuña Plant 2 has now gone more than three years injury-free, with Acuña Plant 1 surpassing two years and Huntington Plant 1 in Indiana achieving one year without a recordable injury.

Bendix's performance is also reflected in its strong culture of reporting and proactive risk response – reflecting its core belief that reporting and addressing all incidents helps prevent more serious injuries in the future. Over the course of the year, employees across North America reported more than 5,800 unsafe conditions and 3,800 unsafe behaviors. The company also logged over 600 first-aid incidents and incidents without injury. The culture of incident reporting combined with applying lessons learned across all locations has been pivotal in achieving the record low level of injuries – possible only through the combined effort of all employees.

## **Foundations That Sustain a Safety Culture**

Bendix's continued safety success is grounded in a comprehensive, well-established system that blends leadership commitment with consistent, employee-driven processes. The company's Health, Safety, and Environmental (HSE) team plays a central role in guiding this structure to result in a uniform approach to risk reduction across all locations.

Each year begins with leadership-led back-to-work sessions that reinforce Bendix's companywide commitment to safety. The sessions feature direct communication from the CEO and senior leaders, setting the tone for the year ahead and reaffirming that safety remains a daily priority.

Safety awareness is further embedded in workplace culture through the company's required "Safety Share," which opens every meeting – from shop-floor huddles to quarterly town halls. The share includes site-specific emergency information and a personal safety tip, often applicable both at work and at home, contributed by a meeting participant.

A multilevel Walk & Talk program at all Bendix locations also plays a key role in prevention. Supervisors conduct weekly HSE audits on the floor, while plant leadership teams complete monthly reviews, identifying potential risks in real time. These audits are closely tied to Bendix's emergency work order system, which enables any employee to report and help correct unsafe conditions quickly.

"A strong safety culture doesn't happen by chance – it's built through everyday actions," Casper said. "When employees speak up, suggest improvements, and take the initiative to fix issues as they arise, that's when safety becomes part of who we are, not just what we do."

These efforts are supported through ongoing recognition programs. Top-performing teams are honored annually through Safety STARS, Bendix's Safety Top Achievement Recognition System, and through the Knorr Production System (KPS) Reward and Recognition event, which spotlights employee contributions to safety innovation and performance.

Throughout its operations, Bendix reinforces the importance of "stop-work authority" – empowering employees to immediately halt any task or process they believe poses a safety risk. That authority, rooted in awareness and accountability, helps ensure potential hazards are addressed before they result in injury.

## **Ongoing Focus**

Bendix, a member of Munich, Germany-based Knorr-Bremse, is extending its proven safety practices beyond North America in 2025. It's doing so as part of a broader effort across all Knorr-Bremse Commercial Vehicle Systems locations worldwide. The company's HSE team will apply the same approach – emphasizing risk reduction, employee engagement, and process consistency – to help drive down recordable injuries across the global organization.

"As we look ahead, our goal is to create a consistent culture of safety that connects every Knorr-Bremse site around the world," said Casper. "We will continue to refine our processes, invest in engineering solutions, and cultivate a culture where every employee feels responsible for safety – not just for themselves, but for their colleagues. Safe isn't just the best way to work – it's the only way."

## **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 nearly 4,000 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-

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