

## **BENDIX® AIR DISC BRAKE** **Backgrounder**

Today's new generation air disc brakes are dramatically improved over earlier versions when brake balance, brake fade and service replacement cost issues prohibited their broad acceptance. When traveling at 60 mph, air disc brakes by Bendix Spicer Foundation Brake LLC, a joint venture of Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems LLC and Dana Corporation, will stop up to 39 percent shorter than the current requirement, FMVSS 121 requirement for heavy trucks. This improvement exceeds even the greatest proposed reduction in stopping distance that will most likely be announced in 2007.

Bendix air disc brakes improve brake responsiveness with passenger car-like feel, provide exceptional stopping capability, and improve brake balance and wear.

### **PROVEN MARKET LEADER**

- With 12 million air disc brakes on vehicles in Europe and another 100,000 in North America, Bendix Spicer Foundation Brake and Knorr-Bremse are the undisputed market leaders. Every second, 10,000 vehicle miles are driven with our air disc brakes. No other brake manufacturer can make that claim.
- Bendix Spicer Foundation Brake LLC is among the first to manufacture new generation air disc brakes in North America with the operation of a state-of-the-art production facility which opened in 2006.

### **PERFORMANCE BACKED BY EXTENSIVE TESTING**

- **Stopping distance advantage even more apparent at high speeds** – Only eight states have posted speed limits at or below 60 mph for commercial trucks, while 10 states allow trucks to travel 75 mph. Bendix has tested tractors in compliance with FMVSS 121 procedures at 75 mph and tractors with air disc brakes on all axles exhibited stopping distances of 335 ft.
- **“Disc and Drum Wear Balance” test data** – New field test data from Bendix Spicer Foundation Brake suggests that an air disc brake-equipped tractor and drum brake-equipped trailer experiences no degradation in tractor disc pad wear or in trailer brake lining wear.
- **Exceptional Brake Fade Performance** – Mountain fade testing in Colorado on I-70, west of the Eisenhower tunnel, put Bendix brakes to the test over an 8 mile stretch on a 7 percent grade, virtually eliminating brake fade and with no degradation in stopping power.
- **Greater Stability During Stops** – The Bendix air disc brake system's inherent high efficiency (95%) and low hysteresis (<9%) mean there is a negligible difference between the left side and right side brake performance, and that pressure is being applied constantly and efficiently to all wheels. The result? The vehicle more easily comes to a straight, stable stop.
- **Labor and Maintenance** – Easy access to the air disc brake pads allows for minimized maintenance labor and expense. This means drivers and fleets spend dramatically less time waiting around for service and more time on the road.

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