



## ***News Release***

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***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

### **BENDIX'S MARKET-LEADING AIR DISC BRAKE REACHES 1.5 MILLION-UNIT PRODUCTION MILESTONE**

*Bendix® ADB22X™ Accounts for Nearly 85 Percent of North American Class 6-8  
Commercial Vehicles Using Air Disc Brakes; New Lightweight Trailer ADB Now Available*

**ELYRIA, Ohio – Nov. 17, 2016** – In the latest distinction for the North American trucking industry's leading air disc brake, the Bendix® ADB22X™ has surpassed the 1.5 million-unit production mark. The ADB22X, with its lightweight design that significantly reduces stopping distance and extends brake system life, has been meeting industry needs since its launch over 10 years ago.

Across North America, the industry is turning to air disc brake (ADB) technology in increasing numbers. More than 16 percent of North American Class 6-8 air-braked wheel-ends are now equipped with ADBs – a 50 percent increase in overall market share from 2013. The Bendix ADB22X accounts for approximately 85 percent of that share. Bendix's production milestone reflects the value the proven Bendix ADB22X offers to fleets of all sizes and vocations.

"This milestone reflects not only the growth of air disc brakes overall, but the popularity and increasing demand for the Bendix ADB22X among fleets and OEs alike. The brakes have proven their worth – in terms of performance and return on investment – over many millions of miles on the road," said Nicole Oreskovic, product line director for air disc brakes at Bendix Spicer Foundation Brake LLC. "For more than a decade, the ADB22X has been providing the market with reliable, high-performing, and high-value air disc brakes – and helping to make commercial vehicles safer for everyone sharing the highway."

Bendix Spicer Foundation Brake LLC (BSFB), a joint venture between Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems LLC and Dana Commercial Vehicle Products, LLC, introduced the Bendix® ADB22X™ air disc brake in 2005 – a first for the North American marketplace. Since 2009, annual production levels have risen significantly, with the company producing the last half-million brakes in just over a year. Bendix has also expanded its ADB product portfolio with the addition of a new, industry-lightest air disc brake designed for trailers.

Bendix continues to invest in resources to advance, manufacture, and support air disc braking systems, Oreskovic noted. In addition to its ongoing investment in production capacity and capabilities to meet the ever-growing demand, over the last two years, the company has doubled the size of its North American-based engineering team, adding employees in research and development, as well as technical support. In addition, the company has substantially increased its testing capabilities.

### **Why ADB?**

The Bendix ADB22X family of disc brakes features a lightweight air disc brake design, helps reduce stopping distance considerably, and extends the life of commercial vehicle brake systems. Along with other Bendix wheel-end solutions, it helps fleets exceed the federal Reduced Stopping Distance (RSD) requirements mandated by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

Air disc brakes also offer the advantages of quicker pad replacement and longer pad life, leading to greater uptime and lower maintenance costs; car-like feel and straight, stable stops; and greater reliability due to virtually no brake fade or degradation of stopping power.

Additionally, air disc brakes include an internal self-adjustment mechanism that can help lower the risk of brakes being found out of adjustment during inspection, which can affect Compliance, Safety, Accountability (CSA) scoring.

Another benefit of air disc brakes is their ability to complement active safety technologies – such as Bendix® Wingman® Fusion™ and the Bendix® ESP® Electronic Stability Program full-stability system – and bring maximum value to them. The stopping power of ADBs allows these systems to work their best.

### **Market Acceptance**

The Bendix ADB22X holds a strong position in the North American market and is released at the six major truck manufacturers, including Peterbilt, Kenworth, Daimler Trucks

North America (DTNA), Mack,<sup>®</sup> Volvo, and International<sup>®</sup>. The brake has been standard equipment on the steer axle of all Peterbilt Motors Company Class 8 tractors since 2012.

Fleets that have recently turned to the Bendix<sup>®</sup> ADB22X<sup>™</sup> include Boyle Transportation, a leading North American carrier dedicated to the safe transport of security-sensitive cargo and highly hazardous materials. The company spec'd ADB22X air disc brakes on all steer and drive axles of its fleet tractors, as well as on all its new refrigerated trailers. Last year, U.S. Xpress Inc. – the nation's second largest privately owned truckload carrier – equipped the brake on its steer axles. Additional fleets choosing the ADB22X air disc brake are Central Transport, Kroger, Maverick Transportation, and Prime Inc.

As over-the-road adoption of air disc brakes has increased, so has interest from specialized fleets and markets. According to Oreskovic, Motor Coach Industries (MCI), the leading intercity coach manufacturer in the United States and Canada, offers the ADB22X on its vehicles, as do three of the leading full-line North American school bus manufacturers: Blue Bird Corporation, Thomas Built Buses, and IC Bus from Navistar.

"We applaud our OE and fleet partners, who are as committed to safe vehicles and highways as Bendix is," Oreskovic said. "Bendix is dedicated to providing technology leadership to the North American ADB market for many more decades and putting millions more of its proven air disc brakes on the road."

### **A New Trailer Air Disc Brake**

In September, Bendix introduced the Bendix<sup>®</sup> ADB22X<sup>™</sup> -LT trailer air disc brake, the industry's lightest weight trailer ADB system. Even more weight savings will be possible with Bendix's lightweight Splined Disc flat rotor option. The ADB22X-LT has up to a 23,000-pound brake rating.

The ADB22X-LT is specifically designed for trailer use, but it's based on the same proven, successful platform as the ADB22X tractor brake. Although the ADB22X-LT features a new caliper and carrier design, the two brakes share replacement wear items, which help streamline maintenance, training, and inventory requirements. The ADB22X-LT offers extended service life via a new adjustment mechanism that improves pad life and reduces brake drag, along with a new pad that offers 8 percent more wearable volume and up to 40 percent improvement in wear rate. These factors combine to make a significant contribution to increased uptime and lower operating costs.

"So when fleets select the Bendix ADB22X-LT on their trailer, combined with ADB22X on their tractors, this not only provides superior brake performance at every wheel-end," notes

Keith McComsey, BSFB director of marketing and customer solutions, “but it also provides additional benefits to fleets through commonality in technician training, maintenance procedures, and wearable components that are available at more than 5,000 dealerships and distributors – all on one common brake system.”

The full lineup of Bendix® brand foundation drum brake and disc brake products is commercially available and produced at BSFB’s state-of-the-art manufacturing facility in Bowling Green, Kentucky. They are part of the complete lineup of wheel-end solutions – also including automatic slack adjusters, spring brakes, friction, and remanufactured brake shoes – that delivers on safety, reliability, and stopping power, plus other areas critical to fleets’ success. By improving vehicle performance and efficiency, and providing thorough post-sales support, BSFB helps fleets and drivers strengthen return on investment in technologies that make the highways safer for everyone.

For more information about Bendix® ADB22X™ air disc brakes, call 1-800-AIR-BRAKE, or visit [www.foundationbrakes.com](http://www.foundationbrakes.com) or [www.safertrucks.com/solutions](http://www.safertrucks.com/solutions).

### **About Bendix Spicer Foundation Brake LLC**

Bendix Spicer Foundation Brake LLC combines and expands the complementary wheel-end foundation brake technologies of two global leaders – Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems LLC and Dana Commercial Vehicle Products, LLC. The joint venture, formed in July 2004, is a single, complete source for OEM brake system design, manufacturing, hardware, and support for all foundation brake components and actuation systems, as well as all-makes coverage of nearly 50,000 medium- and heavy-duty aftermarket parts. Bendix Spicer Foundation Brake LLC is headquartered in Elyria, Ohio, with engineering operations in both Elyria and Kalamazoo, Michigan, and a manufacturing facility in Bowling Green, Kentucky. For more information, call 1-866-610-9709 or visit [www.foundationbrakes.com](http://www.foundationbrakes.com). To learn about career opportunities at Bendix Spicer Foundation Brake, visit [www.bendix.com/careers](http://www.bendix.com/careers). Follow BSFB on Twitter at [http://twitter.com/Bendix\\_CVS](http://twitter.com/Bendix_CVS). Log on and learn from the Bendix experts at [www.brake-school.com](http://www.brake-school.com).

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