



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**BENDIX® AIR DISC BRAKES DELIVER SAFETY, PERFORMANCE,
AND UPTIME TO CENTRAL TRANSPORT**

Michigan-Based LTL Carrier Will Soon Equip 90 Percent of Tractors with Bendix® ADB22X™

ELYRIA, Ohio – Sept. 13, 2016 – Citing safety, performance, and an enthusiastic thumbs-up from drivers and maintenance teams, Central Transport is making a major move toward fleet-wide air disc brakes on its 2,500 tractors. The Warren, Michigan-based, less-than-truckload carrier already equips the Bendix® ADB22X™ air disc brake on more than 50 percent of its trucks, and expects to have the industry-leading brake on 90 percent of its tractors by the first quarter of 2017.

Tracing its roots back to the 1930s, Central Transport covers the U.S., Canada, and Mexico from a network of nearly 200 customer service centers, providing direct service to 98 percent of North America's major manufacturing areas.

"We're seeing the advantages of Bendix air disc brakes across several key areas of our operation, from safety and reliability on the road to quicker and easier upkeep in the garage," said Brady Moore, vice president of finance at Central Transport. "We're very happy with the results of our investment in the ADB22X, and we'll continue down this path because we're not seeing anything but a positive impact from the move to air disc technology."

Central Transport's fleet consists of Peterbilt® Model 579 tractors, Freightliner Cascadia® and M2 box trucks, plus a mix of International® ProStar® and TranStar® tractors. The company specs the ADB22X on all steer and drive axles.

Better Braking

“Our drivers have provided positive feedback regularly on the air disc brakes’ performance – which they say feels more like a car than a truck – and stopping power, which is a safety issue,” Moore said. “A focus on safety is imperative for any transportation company, and any efforts that improve Central Transport’s fleet safety benefit the motoring public, as well as our bottom line.”

The Bendix® ADB22X™ air disc brake from Bendix Spicer Foundation Brake LLC (BSFB) features a patented lightweight design that significantly reduces stopping distance and extends brake system life. BSFB, a joint venture between Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems LLC and Dana Commercial Vehicle Products, LLC, introduced the ADB22X air disc brake in 2005, making it the first commercial vehicle air disc brake in the North American marketplace.

Complementing the straight, stable stops that air disc brakes provide is greater reliability, thanks to a design that virtually eliminates brake fade and degradation of stopping power. Additionally, their internal self-adjustment mechanism can help lower the risk of brakes being found out of adjustment during inspections, which can affect Compliance, Safety, Accountability (CSA) scoring, as well as driver productivity.

Uptime Advantages

On the maintenance side, the Central Transport team has seen extended service life and more productive shop time associated with the ADB22X.

“There’s a lot less maintenance involved in the air disc brake systems than in the drums, so things are much more efficient for our mechanics,” said Matt Casarez, director of tractor maintenance. “They’re telling us they hope this is the future and that we don’t go back to drum brakes. We’ve had excellent longevity with the air disc brake pads, and we’ve had no service issues.”

Air disc brakes allow for significantly shorter pad change times than traditional drums. Once the wheel is removed, installing new friction on an air disc brake takes roughly one-quarter the time it takes to install new drum friction. And while routine maintenance remains important in any brake system, air disc brakes do not come with the additional maintenance associated with out-of-adjustment brakes.

Optimum Performance

Central Transport equips its trucks with other Bendix safety technologies, including anti-lock braking systems and the Bendix® ESP® Electronic Stability Program full-stability system.

The stopping power provided by air disc brakes allows systems like these to work their best – bringing maximum value and safety.

“Bendix® ESP® is hard-working technology that you never think about when it’s doing its job,” Casarez said. “It’s another example of how partnering with Bendix has been invaluable as we’ve sought to improve Central Transport’s safety and the ability to mitigate accidents.”

Full-stability systems use more sensors than either roll-only stability or ABS-only systems, creating a more comprehensive means of addressing both roll and directional stability. They also rely on automatic brake interventions involving the steer, drive, and trailer axles, whereas roll-only systems typically apply the brakes on only the drive and trailer axles. Slowing the vehicle quickly helps mitigate rollovers faster, while slowing and redirecting can help the driver maneuver in loss-of-control situations.

Central Transport also equips Bendix® BA-921® air compressors and AD-IS® air dryers to support the air systems that power these advanced braking and safety technologies.

Partners in Safety

Bendix and Central Transport have worked together for more than a decade.

“We’re proud to partner with the talented team at Central to help them achieve their goal of an even safer and more efficient fleet of trucks,” said Scott Burkhart, Bendix vice president – sales, marketing, and business development. “Through ongoing dialogue, along with the best mix of solutions and services, we work together to deliver trucks that enable Central’s drivers, technicians, and others in the fleet to enjoy maximum uptime and unbeatable driver safety.”

While safety technologies such as air disc brakes and full stability complement safe driving practices, Bendix stresses that they are not intended to enable or encourage aggressive driving. Responsibility for safe vehicle operation remains in the hands of the driver at all times, and skilled, alert drivers practicing safe driving techniques – supported by proactive, comprehensive training – remain the most valuable component of any safety program.

Through its ever-growing portfolio of safety technologies, Bendix delivers on areas critical to fleets’ success: safety, performance, efficiency, and post-sales support. By helping fleets and drivers lower their total cost of vehicle ownership, the company strengthens return on investment in the technologies that make the roads safer for all motorists.

For more information about Bendix safety systems and technologies, visit www.safertrucks.com, www.bendix.com, or call 1-800-AIR-BRAKE (1-800-247-2725).

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 3,000 people, Bendix is driven to deliver solutions for improved vehicle safety, performance, and overall operating cost. Bendix is headquartered in Elyria, Ohio, with manufacturing plants in Bowling Green, Kentucky; Huntington, Indiana; North Aurora, Illinois; and Acuña, Mexico. For more information, call 1-800-AIR-BRAKE (1-800-247-2725) or visit www.bendix.com. To learn more about career opportunities at Bendix, visit www.bendix.com/careers. Follow Bendix on Twitter at http://twitter.com/Bendix_CVS. Log on and learn from the Bendix experts at www.brake-school.com.

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. To learn about career opportunities at Bendix Spicer Foundation Brake, visit www.bendix.com/careers. Follow BSFB on Twitter at http://twitter.com/Bendix_CVS. Log on and learn from the Bendix experts at www.brake-school.com.

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