Technical Bulletin

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Subject: Component Substitution Potentially Affecting Bendix® ABS

This bulletin concerns component substitution within Bendix® Antilock Brake Systems (ABS).

For the purpose of this bulletin, the relevant components of antilock brake systems include ECU (electronic control unit), wheel speed sensors and clips, modulator valves, modulator relay valves, automatic traction control valves and stability sensors.

Prior to introducing its ABS products to the marketplace, Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems LLC performs extensive validation testing of each ABS component and of the overall ABS system. This validation testing consists of, but is not limited to, component-level and system-level environmental and electrical testing and vehicle-level performance testing. During this system validation process, compatibility among the various Bendix® ABS components is confirmed. This testing is intended to optimize system reliability and performance over a wide range of vehicle applications that will meet or exceed Bendix standards, as well as those of the vehicle manufacturers.

Bendix can only ensure design control and full system compatibility over ABS components supplied by Bendix.

Bendix is not able to validate the safe and reliable use of substitute or alternate components that may be available from other manufacturers. Further, suppliers of a non-Bendix® ABS component may implement design changes in their component (without the knowledge or approval of Bendix) which could negatively affect antilock system reliability and braking performance issues.

Therefore, due to the critical safety function provided by any ABS product, Bendix does not assume responsibility for antilock system reliability or performance issues in situations where substitute non-Bendix® ABS components, not supplied by Bendix (for example, substituting a non-Bendix® wheel speed sensor or modulator valve) are used on a vehicle equipped with Bendix® ABS. In addition, use of alternate components in place of genuine Bendix components could lead to rejection of ABS warranty claims.

Please contact your Bendix account manager or call 1-800-AIR-BRAKE (1-800-247-2725) for further information.

