

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Industry leaders gather to recognize the 2008 Technician of the Year

Orlando, FL. (February 19, 2009) – Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems LLC, Dayton Parts, LLC (DP, LLC), Haldex, MAHLE Clevite and SKF recently announced David Bryan Lewis as the 2008 Technician of the Year award recipient at the HDAW Awards luncheon. Lewis is a lead technician and supervisor for Wal-Mart Transportation’s fleet maintenance facility in Sutherland, VA, where he has served for more than 16 years.

Lewis has achieved many successes during his 25-years of service to the heavy duty industry that qualify him for this prestigious award. He is an Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) Master Truck Technician with T2-T8 certifications, and is L-2 certified in Advanced Medium/Heavy Duty Electronic Diesel Engine Diagnostics. He serves on the American Trucking Association’s (ATA) Technology Maintenance Council (TMC), and has participated in all four TMC SuperTech competitions, leading his team to three top-five finishes. Lewis is the only technician in competition history to be awarded the competition’s highest honor, “Overall Grand Champion,” back-to-back. In addition, he was also named “Top Performer of the Repair Order Skill Station” at the TMC SuperTech 2008 competition. Other accomplishments include five consecutive Wal-Mart National Technician Champion titles (six titles overall), and the February 2008 “Associate of the Month” award for exhibiting outstanding troubleshooting abilities.

Lewis’ nomination form cited his ability to identify the root causes of challenging maintenance issues, and willingness to provide solutions that prevent future problems. At the facility where he works, the conventional shop tooling was creating too much movement when performing tandem alignments. So, Lewis designed a one-piece frame jig that removes the slack at the ends of the tool, where the alignment measurements are referenced, resulting in more accurate alignments the first time, and increased user confidence.

“Bryan constantly studies and researches the industry’s ever changing equipment, utilizing all types of resources not only to benefit himself, but to make the fleet better as a whole,” said Eric Benge, Regional Maintenance Manager for Wal-Mart Transportation. “He has a strong passion for training and utilizes all resources available to gain and share knowledge.”

In May 2008, Lewis graduated with Summa Cum Laude honors from Southside Virginia Community College (SVCC), receiving degrees in both Automotive and Diesel Technology. Today, he gives back to the community as an instructional assistant for SVCC’s Diesel Technology Program.

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An independent panel of judges extensively reviewed the pool of nominations. The panel consisted of heavy duty trucking experts holding backgrounds in various areas of the industry – from nationally recognized heavy duty trucking magazine editors to former fleet managers to heavy duty aftermarket product manufacturers. This year’s judges panel included Derek Smith, Denise Rondini, Bill Wilhelm, Paul Abelson and Tom Gelinis.

For more information on the Technician of the Year Program, its winner and its sponsors, visit www.techoftheyear.com.

About the Technician of the Year Program

The Technician of the Year Award program is designed to acknowledge an outstanding technician or an HD machinist who exemplifies the best qualities of the commercial vehicle maintenance profession. Bendix, DPI, Haldex, and SKF created the program in 2005, and value the award as an industry standard to recognize vehicle maintenance professionals for taking part in the industry’s latest, best practices, technologies and safety initiatives. MAHLE Clevite joined the four original sponsors for the 2008 season. For more information on the Technician of the Year Program, visit www.techoftheyear.com.

About sponsor companies:

Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems LLC, a member of the Knorr-Bremse Group, develops and supplies leading-edge active safety technologies, 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.

With top-performing systems and components – alongside a comprehensive line of foundation brake components and actuation systems through our joint venture, Bendix Spicer Foundation Brake LLC – we provide integrated systems and reliable solutions for every application. For more information, visit www.bendix.com or call 1-800-AIR-BRAKE.

Dayton Parts, LLC is a manufacturer and distributor of undercarriage replacement products for the heavy-duty aftermarket in the United States and global markets. For more information on DP, LLC’s products and services, visit www.daytonparts.com.

Haldex Commercial Vehicle Systems is a leading manufacturer and distributor of heavy-duty air brake system and suspension control system components. It operates globally with headquarters in Kansas City, Missouri, and manufacturing and engineering facilities throughout the world. Haldex Commercial Vehicle Systems is a part of Haldex Group, an innovator in vehicle technology and supplier of proprietary products for trucks, cars and industrial vehicles on a global basis. For more information on Haldex and its products and services, visit www.haldex.com.

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MAHLE Clevite has a local presence in all important world markets. The Group has more than 40,000 dedicated employees in 110 production plants and seven research and development centers. Worldwide, nearly 2,300 development engineers and technicians work as partners for our customers on forward-thinking concepts, products and systems focused on the continuous development of the combustion engine. For additional information about MAHLE Clevite, visit www.mahleclevite.com.

SKF is a leading global supplier of bearing and elastomeric products, solutions and related services, as well as linear motion and lubrication technologies. Headquartered in Gothenburg, Sweden, with technology centers in the Netherlands, Italy and the United States, SKF is a valued partner to original equipment manufacturers and a major supplier to the automotive, aerospace, heavy-duty/off-highway, marine and other industries. For more information, visit www.vsm.skf.com.

Sponsor comments:

John Flad, Vice President – North American Aftermarket Sales, Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems

“A skilled technician is one of the cornerstones of a successful, safe, and effective maintenance program. The Technician of the Year Award is a new and exciting way to recognize the true value and dedication of these talented professionals to fleets across North America. We are very proud to participate in this exciting new program and to serve as one of the sponsors for this award.”

Gary Smalley, President, Dayton Parts, LLC

“Dayton Parts, LLC is a proud sponsor for the Technician of the Year award. It is widely understood that trucks are what keep America rolling. While the technological improvements in newer vehicles continue to advance, there is a growing demand for skilled fleet technicians. With this program, we hope to raise the awareness of the vital role these specialists perform within our industry. Dayton Parts is excited for the opportunity to honor the heavy-duty technician who exemplifies the best qualities and skills of the profession.”

Joe Panella, Senior Vice President, Global Sales, Haldex

“Haldex Commercial Vehicle Systems appreciates the critical role that the skilled technician plays in the commercial vehicle industry and we are pleased to support the effort to recognize these high achievers. Providing recognition for the technical specialist is one way to facilitate greater participation in this growing professional career and to elevate the level of expertise available to our industry.”

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Jesse Jones, Marketing Manager, MAHLE Clevite

“At MAHLE Clevite, we recognize the value of honoring those who contribute to the positive reputation and success of the commercial vehicle repair industry. Not only does the Technician of the Year Program reward hard-working industry professionals for practicing proper maintenance and safety procedures, it sets the bar high for aspiring technicians. We’re pleased to be a part of such a reputable program.”

Mike McGrath, President, SKF Automotive Division, VSM

“SKF is honored to be working with industry leaders in recognizing a fleet technician’s contributions to the marketplace through the Technician of the Year Program. As a supplier to the heavy duty aftermarket, we value technicians and fleets that practice proper vehicle maintenance, demonstrate awareness of the latest techniques, and contribute to the industry’s commitment to safety.”

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