

**Press Release**

Munich, August 31, 2012

**Historic trucks on tour:  
Knorr-Bremse supports the “Friendship Tour”**

**From August 30 to September 7, more than 50 historic, lovingly restored commercial vehicles are on a grand tour again. The classic trucks taking part in what is now the twelfth “Tour of Germany” remind us of the history of goods traffic and show what the old vehicles are still capable of today. For Knorr-Bremse, it is an honor to support them, because often they contain a piece of the company’s own history.**

As the main sponsor, Knorr-Bremse is delighted to support the last day of the “Tour of Germany” 2012. When the classic vehicles arrive for their big tour, they always remind the Munich-based braking specialist of its own history, which is rich in tradition. Quite a few of the historic vehicles taking part are equipped with brakes made by Knorr-Bremse, such as a well-preserved 1968 Mercedes-Benz LP1313, which was once a moving van, or a carefully restored MAN 10.212 from 1965, which, until 1996, was still in use as a cattle transport truck in Switzerland. In 2012, this vehicle and its proud owner are taking part in the tour for the first time.

As early as 1923, Knorr-Bremse introduced air brakes for commercial vehicles for the first time. Just 15 years later, 90% of all German trucks between 7 and 16 tons were fitted with Knorr-Bremse products. After the introduction of the automatic load-dependent brake in 1955, at the start of the 1970s, the company presented for the first time an antilock braking system for commercial vehicles, following a joint development with Bosch. Finally, in 1992, came the start of the success story of the pneumatically actuated disk brake which, to this day, has proved itself a million times over in the most varied commercial vehicles worldwide.

Traditionally, the “Tour of Germany”, in which, every two years, a convoy of historic commercial vehicles sets off for several days on a grand tour, is organized by the publishing house ETM and the haulage company Fehrenkötter. Matthias Wissmann, President of the German Association of the Automotive Industry [*Verband der Automobilindustrie e. V.*] (VDA), is patron of the event, which, for 2012, has the motto “Friendship Tour”. This year’s tour is in support of partnership and mutual consideration in road traffic, and also in support of sympathy and understanding for the commercial-vehicle sector and the transport industry. In the more than 20-year history of the “Tour of Germany”, the lovingly restored old trucks, busses and fire engines have visited Scandinavia, England, France and Italy, among other

countries. This year, the classic commercial vehicles are traveling along old transit routes through Germany, Austria and Switzerland, retracing the good and close transport links of these three countries. After almost 1,500 km, the old trucks will arrive on September 7 at Andechs Monastery [*Kloster Andechs*], outside the city gates of Munich, where Knorr-Bremse, the main sponsor of the final day of the event, will, together with numerous enthusiastic fans and guests, give them a fitting and warm welcome.

Finally, from September 20, visitors of the world's largest commercial-vehicle show, IAA Commercial Vehicles 2012, will also have the opportunity to look at a selection of the historic participating vehicles.

The **Knorr-Bremse Group** is the world's leading manufacturer of braking systems for rail and commercial vehicles. For more than 100 years now the company has pioneered the development, production, marketing and servicing of state-of-the-art braking systems. In the rail vehicle systems sector, the product portfolio also includes intelligent door systems, control components, air conditioning systems and windscreen wiper systems, as well as platform screen doors. Knorr-Bremse also offers driving simulators and e-learning systems for optimum train crew training. In the commercial vehicle systems sector, the product range includes complete braking systems with driver assistance systems, as well as torsional vibration dampers, powertrain-related solutions and transmission control systems for enhanced energy efficiency and fuel economy.

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