Made-in-UP split brake disc to cut train maintenance time by 30-40 minutes

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Lucknow: Replacing worn-out brake discs in railway coaches could become faster with a split brake disc developed by Greater Noida-based AND Hitech Industries Limited (AHIL), which claims the innovation can save 30-40 minutes of maintenance time.

The company showcased the technology at the three-day InnoRail 2026 exhibition, which opened at Research Designs and Standards Organisation (RDSO) premises on Thursday.

AHIL director Neha Singh said the company was the first Indian manufacturer to develop split brake discs for Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) coaches and secure approvals from RDSO and Integral Coach Factory, Chennai.



BRAKE THROUGH: The innovative split brake disc at InnoRail 2026

Each LHB coach has two bogies, with two wheelsets each, giving it eight wheels. Singh said worn brake discs must be replaced in pairs to ensure braking stability and efficiency.

Under the conventional method, maintenance staff must lift the coach to replace the discs, making the job labour-intensive and time-consuming.

"Our brake disc is divided into two detachable parts. A technician can replace it by removing a few fasteners while the coach remains on the tracks," Singh said.

A 15-member research and development team spent nearly a year developing the technology.

RDSO tested the prototype in Oct-Nov 2023 and invited the company to offer it for field trials that Nov.

In Feb 2024, RDSO cleared 600 discs for field trials. Following successful trials, manufacturing and supply approval was granted on Feb 13, 2026, Singh said.

AHIL's Greater Noida facility also received International Union of Railways certification for manufacturing organic brake pads and cast iron brake discs.

InnoRail 2026: Over 200 exhibitors in city

The three-day InnoRail India 2026 exhibition kicked off at RDSO Stadium Ground in Lucknow on Thursday, showcasing cutting-edge railway technologies, prototypes and live demonstrations. Inaugurated by Railway Board member Manoj Singh, the event will feature discussions on hydrogen trains, AI-driven solutions, smart coaches and railway safety. Over 10,000 business visitors are expected.