

Form 5500 Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan This form is required to be filed for employee benefit plans under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and sections 6047(e), 6057(b), and 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ▶ Complete all entries in accordance with the instructions to the Form 5500.	OMB Nos. 1210-0110 1210-0089
		2014
		This Form is Open to Public Inspection

Part I	Annual Report Identification Information
For calendar plan year 2014 or fiscal plan year beginning <u>01/01/2014</u> and ending <u>12/31/2014</u>	
A This return/report is for:	☐ a multiemployer plan; ☐ a multiple-employer plan (Filers checking this box must attach a list of participating employer information in accordance with the form instructions); or ☒ a single-employer plan; ☐ a DFE (specify) _____
B This return/report is:	☐ the first return/report; ☐ the final return/report; ☐ an amended return/report; ☐ a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months).
C If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here.	☐
D Check box if filing under:	☒ Form 5558; ☐ automatic extension; ☐ the DFVC program; ☐ special extension (enter description)

Part II	Basic Plan Information —enter all requested information
1a Name of plan <u>THE LINCOLN ELECTRIC COMPANY EMPLOYEE SAVINGS PLAN</u>	1b Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <u>005</u> 1c Effective date of plan <u>01/01/1994</u>
2a Plan sponsor's name and address; include room or suite number (employer, if for a single-employer plan) <u>THE LINCOLN ELECTRIC COMPANY</u> <u>22801 ST. CLAIR AVENUE</u> <u>CLEVELAND, OH 44117</u>	2b Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>34-0359955</u> 2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number <u>216-481-8100</u> 2d Business code (see instructions) <u>335900</u>

Caution: A penalty for the late or incomplete filing of this return/report will be assessed unless reasonable cause is established.

Under penalties of perjury and other penalties set forth in the instructions, I declare that I have examined this return/report, including accompanying schedules, statements and attachments, as well as the electronic version of this return/report, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete.

SIGN HERE	<u>Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature.</u>	<u>10/09/2015</u>	<u>GABRIEL BRUNO</u>
	Signature of plan administrator	Date	Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator
SIGN HERE			
	Signature of employer/plan sponsor	Date	Enter name of individual signing as employer or plan sponsor
SIGN HERE			
	Signature of DFE	Date	Enter name of individual signing as DFE
Preparer's name (including firm name, if applicable) and address (include room or suite number) (optional)			Preparer's telephone number (optional)

3a Plan administrator's name and address ☒ Same as Plan Sponsor		3b Administrator's EIN	
		3c Administrator's telephone number	
4 If the name and/or EIN of the plan sponsor has changed since the last return/report filed for this plan, enter the name, EIN and the plan number from the last return/report: a Sponsor's name		4b EIN	
		4c PN	
5 Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year		5	3690
6 Number of participants as of the end of the plan year unless otherwise stated (welfare plans complete only lines 6a(1) , 6a(2) , 6b , 6c , and 6d).			
a(1) Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year		6a(1)	3106
a(2) Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year		6a(2)	3087
b Retired or separated participants receiving benefits		6b	64
c Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits.....		6c	599
d Subtotal. Add lines 6a(2) , 6b , and 6c		6d	3750
e Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits.		6e	18
f Total. Add lines 6d and 6e		6f	3768
g Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item)		6g	3710
h Number of participants that terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested.....		6h	65
7 Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item).....		7	
8a If the plan provides pension benefits, enter the applicable pension feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions: 2E 2F 2G 2J 2K 2O 2R 2T 3F 3H			
b If the plan provides welfare benefits, enter the applicable welfare feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:			
9a Plan funding arrangement (check all that apply) (1) ☐ Insurance (2) ☐ Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts (3) ☒ Trust (4) ☐ General assets of the sponsor		9b Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply) (1) ☐ Insurance (2) ☐ Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts (3) ☒ Trust (4) ☐ General assets of the sponsor	
10 Check all applicable boxes in 10a and 10b to indicate which schedules are attached, and, where indicated, enter the number attached. (See instructions)			
a Pension Schedules (1) ☒ R (Retirement Plan Information) (2) ☐ MB (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary (3) ☐ SB (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary		b General Schedules (1) ☒ H (Financial Information) (2) ☐ I (Financial Information – Small Plan) (3) ☐ A (Insurance Information) (4) ☒ C (Service Provider Information) (5) ☒ D (DFE/Participating Plan Information) (6) ☐ G (Financial Transaction Schedules)	

Part III**Form M-1 Compliance Information (to be completed by welfare benefit plans)**

11a If the plan provides welfare benefits, was the plan subject to the Form M-1 filing requirements during the plan year? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-2.) ☐ Yes ☐ No

If "Yes" is checked, complete lines 11b and 11c.

11b Is the plan currently in compliance with the Form M-1 filing requirements? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-2.) ☐ Yes ☐ No

11c Enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the 2014 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2014 Form M-1 annual report, enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the most recent Form M-1 that was required to be filed under the Form M-1 filing requirements. (Failure to enter a valid Receipt Confirmation Code will subject the Form 5500 filing to rejection as incomplete.)

Receipt Confirmation Code _____

SCHEDULE C (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Service Provider Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ► File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110
		2014
		This Form is Open to Public Inspection.

For calendar plan year 2014 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2014 and ending 12/31/2014

A Name of plan <u>THE LINCOLN ELECTRIC COMPANY EMPLOYEE SAVINGS PLAN</u>	B Three-digit plan number (PN) <u>005</u>
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>THE LINCOLN ELECTRIC COMPANY</u>	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>34-0359955</u>

Part I Service Provider Information (see instructions)

You must complete this Part, in accordance with the instructions, to report the information required for **each person** who received, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of monetary value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or the person's position with the plan during the plan year. If a person received **only** eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures, you are required to answer line 1 but are not required to include that person when completing the remainder of this Part.

1 Information on Persons Receiving Only Eligible Indirect Compensation

a Check "Yes" or "No" to indicate whether you are excluding a person from the remainder of this Part because they received only eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures (see instructions for definitions and conditions)..... ☒ Yes ☐ No

b If you answered line 1a "Yes," enter the name and EIN or address of each person providing the required disclosures for the service providers who received only eligible indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed (see instructions).

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL

04-2647786

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosure on eligible indirect compensation

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2. Information on Other Service Providers Receiving Direct or Indirect Compensation. Except for those persons for whom you answered "Yes" to line 1a above, complete as many entries as needed to list each person receiving, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or their position with the plan during the plan year. (See instructions).

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL

04-2647786

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
37 60 64 65 71	RECORDKEEPER	77348	Yes ☒ No ☐	Yes ☒ No ☐	0	Yes ☒ No ☐

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
			Yes ☐ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
			Yes ☐ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

2. Information on Other Service Providers Receiving Direct or Indirect Compensation. Except for those persons for whom you answered "Yes" to line 1a above, complete as many entries as needed to list each person receiving, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or their position with the plan during the plan year. (See instructions).

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
			Yes ☐ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
			Yes ☐ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
			Yes ☐ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

Part I Service Provider Information (continued)

3 If you reported on line 2 receipt of indirect compensation, other than eligible indirect compensation, by a service provider, and the service provider is a fiduciary or provides contract administrator, consulting, custodial, investment advisory, investment management, broker, or recordkeeping services, answer the following questions for (a) each source from whom the service provider received \$1,000 or more in indirect compensation and (b) each source for whom the service provider gave you a formula used to determine the indirect compensation instead of an amount or estimated amount of the indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed to report the required information for each source.

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation		(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.
HOMESTEAD SMALL COMPANY STOCK FD 4301 WILSON BLVD ARLINGTON, VA 22203		\$16.00
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation		(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.
BIOTECHNOLOGY ULTRA SECTOR PRO FD I 7501 WISCONSIN AVE SUITE 1000 EAST BETHESDA, MD 20814		0.40%
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation		(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.
AKRE FOCUS FUND RETAIL 777 E. WISCONSIN AVE. 4TH FL MILWAUKEE, WI 53202		0.40%

Part I Service Provider Information (continued)

3 If you reported on line 2 receipt of indirect compensation, other than eligible indirect compensation, by a service provider, and the service provider is a fiduciary or provides contract administrator, consulting, custodial, investment advisory, investment management, broker, or recordkeeping services, answer the following questions for (a) each source from whom the service provider received \$1,000 or more in indirect compensation and (b) each source for whom the service provider gave you a formula used to determine the indirect compensation instead of an amount or estimated amount of the indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed to report the required information for each source.

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0

(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.
PIMCO CONVERTIBLE FUND CL D 1633 BROADWAY NEW YORK, NY 10019	0.40%

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0

(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.
GLENMEDE LARGE CAP CORE 1650 MARKET ST. SUITE 1200 PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103	0.40%

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0

(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.
DOMINI SOCIAL EQUITYINVESTOR 536 BROADWAY 7TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10012	0.40%

Part I Service Provider Information (continued)

3 If you reported on line 2 receipt of indirect compensation, other than eligible indirect compensation, by a service provider, and the service provider is a fiduciary or provides contract administrator, consulting, custodial, investment advisory, investment management, broker, or recordkeeping services, answer the following questions for (a) each source from whom the service provider received \$1,000 or more in indirect compensation and (b) each source for whom the service provider gave you a formula used to determine the indirect compensation instead of an amount or estimated amount of the indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed to report the required information for each source.

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation		(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.
COHEN & STEERS REALTY SHARES 280 PARK AVENUE 10TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10017	0.40%	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2		(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation		(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.
TCW TOTAL RETURN BOND CLASS N 865 SOUTH FIGUERA STREET LOS ANGELES, CA 90017	0.40%	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2		(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation		(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.
TCW RELATIVE VALUE DIVIDEND APPREC 865 SOUTH FIGUERA STREET LOS ANGELES, CA 90017	0.40%	

Part I Service Provider Information (continued)

3 If you reported on line 2 receipt of indirect compensation, other than eligible indirect compensation, by a service provider, and the service provider is a fiduciary or provides contract administrator, consulting, custodial, investment advisory, investment management, broker, or recordkeeping services, answer the following questions for (a) each source from whom the service provider received \$1,000 or more in indirect compensation and (b) each source for whom the service provider gave you a formula used to determine the indirect compensation instead of an amount or estimated amount of the indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed to report the required information for each source.

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
PIMCO FUNDAMENTAL INDEXPLUS AR FUND 1633 BROADWAY NEW YORK, NY 10019	0.40%	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
PEAR TREE POLARIS FRGN VALUE ORDINA 55 OLD BEDFORD ROAD LINCOLN, MA 01773	0.40%	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
PFG CORE EQUITY FUND INVESTOR 777 108TH AVE NE STE 2100 BELLEVUE, WA 98004	0.40%	

Part I Service Provider Information (continued)

3 If you reported on line 2 receipt of indirect compensation, other than eligible indirect compensation, by a service provider, and the service provider is a fiduciary or provides contract administrator, consulting, custodial, investment advisory, investment management, broker, or recordkeeping services, answer the following questions for (a) each source from whom the service provider received \$1,000 or more in indirect compensation and (b) each source for whom the service provider gave you a formula used to determine the indirect compensation instead of an amount or estimated amount of the indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed to report the required information for each source.

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation		(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.
PFG EXPLORER FUND INVESTOR CLASS 777 108TH AVE NE STE 2100 BELLEVUE, WA 98004	0.40%	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2		(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation		(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.
PFG STRATEGIC CONSERVATIVE INVST 777 108TH AVE NE STE 2100 BELLEVUE, WA 98004	0.40%	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2		(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation		(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.
PFG TACTICAL FUND INVESTOR CLASS 777 108TH AVE NE STE 2100 BELLEVUE, WA 98004	0.40%	

Part I Service Provider Information (continued)

3 If you reported on line 2 receipt of indirect compensation, other than eligible indirect compensation, by a service provider, and the service provider is a fiduciary or provides contract administrator, consulting, custodial, investment advisory, investment management, broker, or recordkeeping services, answer the following questions for (a) each source from whom the service provider received \$1,000 or more in indirect compensation and (b) each source for whom the service provider gave you a formula used to determine the indirect compensation instead of an amount or estimated amount of the indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed to report the required information for each source.

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation		
LAZARD GLOBAL LISTEDINFRASTRUCTURE 30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA 57TH FL. NEW YORK, NY 10112	0.40%	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2		
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation		
HENNESSY GAS UTILITYINVESTOR CL 7250 REDWOOD BLVD. STE 200 NOVATO, CA 94945	0.40%	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2		
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation		
BARON PARTNERS FUND 767 5TH AVENUE 49TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10153	0.40%	

Part I Service Provider Information (continued)

3 If you reported on line 2 receipt of indirect compensation, other than eligible indirect compensation, by a service provider, and the service provider is a fiduciary or provides contract administrator, consulting, custodial, investment advisory, investment management, broker, or recordkeeping services, answer the following questions for (a) each source from whom the service provider received \$1,000 or more in indirect compensation and (b) each source for whom the service provider gave you a formula used to determine the indirect compensation instead of an amount or estimated amount of the indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed to report the required information for each source.

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
ARTISAN INTERNATL INVESTOR CLASS 875 EAST WISCONSIN AVENUE SUITE 800 MILWAUKEE, WI 53202	0.40%	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
PIMCO INCOME FUND CL D 1633 BROADWAY NEW YORK, NY 10019	0.38%	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
LOOMIS SAYLES BOND INSTL 399 BOYLSTON STREET 8TH FL BOSTON, MA 02116	0.35%	

Part I Service Provider Information (continued)

3 If you reported on line 2 receipt of indirect compensation, other than eligible indirect compensation, by a service provider, and the service provider is a fiduciary or provides contract administrator, consulting, custodial, investment advisory, investment management, broker, or recordkeeping services, answer the following questions for (a) each source from whom the service provider received \$1,000 or more in indirect compensation and (b) each source for whom the service provider gave you a formula used to determine the indirect compensation instead of an amount or estimated amount of the indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed to report the required information for each source.

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation		(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.
BAIRD INTERMEDIATE BOND FD CL INV	777 E. WISCONSIN AVE 18TH FL MILWAUKEE, WI 53202	0.28%
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2		(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation		(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.
THOMPSON BOND FUND	918 DEMING WAY 3RD FLOOR MADISON, WI 53717	0.25%
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2		(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation		(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.
T ROWE PRICE VALUE	4515 PAINTERS MILL RD OWINGS MILLS, MD 21117	0.04%

Part I Service Provider Information (continued)

3 If you reported on line 2 receipt of indirect compensation, other than eligible indirect compensation, by a service provider, and the service provider is a fiduciary or provides contract administrator, consulting, custodial, investment advisory, investment management, broker, or recordkeeping services, answer the following questions for (a) each source from whom the service provider received \$1,000 or more in indirect compensation and (b) each source for whom the service provider gave you a formula used to determine the indirect compensation instead of an amount or estimated amount of the indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed to report the required information for each source.

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
AF WASHINGTON MUTL A - AMERICAN FU 95-2566717	0.25%	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
ARTISAN MID CAP INV - BOSTON FINAN P.O. BOX 8480 BOSTON, MA 02266	0.40%	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
DODGE & COX BALANCED - BOSTON FINA P.O. BOX 8480 BOSTON, MA 02266	0.10%	

Part I Service Provider Information (continued)

3 If you reported on line 2 receipt of indirect compensation, other than eligible indirect compensation, by a service provider, and the service provider is a fiduciary or provides contract administrator, consulting, custodial, investment advisory, investment management, broker, or recordkeeping services, answer the following questions for (a) each source from whom the service provider received \$1,000 or more in indirect compensation and (b) each source for whom the service provider gave you a formula used to determine the indirect compensation instead of an amount or estimated amount of the indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed to report the required information for each source.

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
NB GENESIS - TR CL - STATE STREET 04-0025081	0.40%	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
PERKINS MID CP VAL T - JANUS SERVI 43-1804048	0.35%	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
PIM TOTAL RT INST - BOSTON FINANCI P.O. BOX 8480 BOSTON, MA 02266	0.03%	

Part I Service Provider Information (continued)

3 If you reported on line 2 receipt of indirect compensation, other than eligible indirect compensation, by a service provider, and the service provider is a fiduciary or provides contract administrator, consulting, custodial, investment advisory, investment management, broker, or recordkeeping services, answer the following questions for (a) each source from whom the service provider received \$1,000 or more in indirect compensation and (b) each source for whom the service provider gave you a formula used to determine the indirect compensation instead of an amount or estimated amount of the indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed to report the required information for each source.

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
TRP BLUE CHIP GRTH - T. ROWE PRICE 52-2269240	0.15%	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	

Part II Service Providers Who Fail or Refuse to Provide Information

4 Provide, to the extent possible, the following information for each service provider who failed or refused to provide the information necessary to complete this Schedule.

(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

Part III **Termination Information on Accountants and Enrolled Actuaries (see instructions)**
(complete as many entries as needed)

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

SCHEDULE D (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration	DFE/Participating Plan Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110 2014 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
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For calendar plan year 2014 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2014 and ending 12/31/2014

A Name of plan <u>THE LINCOLN ELECTRIC COMPANY EMPLOYEE SAVINGS PLAN</u>	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <u>005</u>	
C Plan or DFE sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>THE LINCOLN ELECTRIC COMPANY</u>	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>34-0359955</u>	

Part I	Information on interests in MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs (to be completed by plans and DFEs)
(Complete as many entries as needed to report all interests in DFEs)	

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: MANAGED INCOME PORT CL 1

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): FIDELITY MANAGEMENT TRUST COMPANY

c EIN-PN <u>04-3022712-024</u>	d Entity code <u>C</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>270</u>
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: MANAGED INCOME PORT CL 2

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): FIDELITY MANAGEMENT TRUST COMPANY

c EIN-PN <u>04-3022712-024</u>	d Entity code <u>C</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>33981751</u>
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

c EIN-PN	d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

c EIN-PN	d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

c EIN-PN	d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

c EIN-PN	d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

c EIN-PN	d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)

Part II Information on Participating Plans (to be completed by DFEs)

(Complete as many entries as needed to report all participating plans)

a Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN

SCHEDULE H (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Financial Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110 2014 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
For calendar plan year 2014 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2014 and ending 12/31/2014		
A Name of plan THE LINCOLN ELECTRIC COMPANY EMPLOYEE SAVINGS PLAN		B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 005
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 THE LINCOLN ELECTRIC COMPANY		D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 34-0359955

Part I Asset and Liability Statement			
1 Current value of plan assets and liabilities at the beginning and end of the plan year. Combine the value of plan assets held in more than one trust. Report the value of the plan's interest in a commingled fund containing the assets of more than one plan on a line-by-line basis unless the value is reportable on lines 1c(9) through 1c(14). Do not enter the value of that portion of an insurance contract which guarantees, during this plan year, to pay a specific dollar benefit at a future date. Round off amounts to the nearest dollar. MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 1b(1), 1b(2), 1c(8), 1g, 1h, and 1i. CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 1d and 1e. See instructions.			
Assets		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
a Total noninterest-bearing cash	1a	0	0
b Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
(1) Employer contributions.....	1b(1)	521069	528434
(2) Participant contributions.....	1b(2)	0	0
(3) Other.....	1b(3)	60220	0
c General investments:			
(1) Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit).....	1c(1)	6369119	5771533
(2) U.S. Government securities	1c(2)	0	0
(3) Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(3)(A)	0	0
(B) All other.....	1c(3)(B)	0	0
(4) Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(4)(A)	0	0
(B) Common.....	1c(4)(B)	0	0
(5) Partnership/joint venture interests	1c(5)	0	0
(6) Real estate (other than employer real property).....	1c(6)	0	0
(7) Loans (other than to participants)	1c(7)	0	0
(8) Participant loans.....	1c(8)	11243928	11744969
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)	39143902	33982021
(10) Value of interest in pooled separate accounts	1c(10)	0	0
(11) Value of interest in master trust investment accounts	1c(11)	0	0
(12) Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities.....	1c(12)	0	0
(13) Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds).....	1c(13)	246388955	265541943
(14) Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts).....	1c(14)		
(15) Other.....	1c(15)	5075208	6005400

1d Employer-related investments:

		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
(1) Employer securities	1d(1)	138973530	137633014
(2) Employer real property	1d(2)	0	0
e Buildings and other property used in plan operation	1e	0	0
f Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e)	1f	447775931	461207314

Liabilities

g Benefit claims payable	1g	66831	36633
h Operating payables	1h	0	0
i Acquisition indebtedness	1i	0	0
j Other liabilities	1j	0	120667
k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j)	1k	66831	157300

Net Assets

l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f)	1l	447709100	461050014
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Part II Income and Expense Statement

2 Plan income, expenses, and changes in net assets for the year. Include all income and expenses of the plan, including any trust(s) or separately maintained fund(s) and any payments/receipts to/from insurance carriers. Round off amounts to the nearest dollar. MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 2a, 2b(1)(E), 2e, 2f, and 2g.

Income

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
a Contributions:			
(1) Received or receivable in cash from: (A) Employers	2a(1)(A)	10120065	
(B) Participants	2a(1)(B)	15876843	
(C) Others (including rollovers)	2a(1)(C)	0	
(2) Noncash contributions	2a(2)	0	
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A) , (B) , (C) , and line 2a(2)	2a(3)		25996908
b Earnings on investments:			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit)	2b(1)(A)	2741	
(B) U.S. Government securities	2b(1)(B)	0	
(C) Corporate debt instruments	2b(1)(C)	0	
(D) Loans (other than to participants)	2b(1)(D)	0	
(E) Participant loans	2b(1)(E)	509707	
(F) Other	2b(1)(F)	97506	
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F)	2b(1)(G)		609954
(2) Dividends: (A) Preferred stock	2b(2)(A)	0	
(B) Common stock	2b(2)(B)	1710765	
(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds)	2b(2)(C)	11786769	
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A) , (B) , and (C)	2b(2)(D)		13497534
(3) Rents	2b(3)		0
(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets: (A) Aggregate proceeds	2b(4)(A)	31661204	
(B) Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions)	2b(4)(B)	31150958	
(C) Subtract line 2b(4)(B) from line 2b(4)(A) and enter result	2b(4)(C)		510246
(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets: (A) Real estate	2b(5)(A)	0	
(B) Other	2b(5)(B)	-3505092	
(C) Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines 2b(5)(A) and (B)	2b(5)(C)		-3505092

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts.....	2b(6)		319733
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts.....	2b(7)		0
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts.....	2b(8)		0
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities.....	2b(9)		0
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds).....	2b(10)		3477936
c Other income.....	2c		0
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	2d		40907219

Expenses

e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers.....	2e(1)	27491960	
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits.....	2e(2)	0	
(3) Other.....	2e(3)	0	
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines 2e(1) through (3).....	2e(4)		27491960
f Corrective distributions (see instructions).....	2f		36633
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions).....	2g		-27830
h Interest expense.....	2h		0
i Administrative expenses: (1) Professional fees.....	2i(1)	0	
(2) Contract administrator fees.....	2i(2)	0	
(3) Investment advisory and management fees.....	2i(3)	0	
(4) Other.....	2i(4)	65542	
(5) Total administrative expenses. Add lines 2i(1) through (4).....	2i(5)		65542
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	2j		27566305

Net Income and Reconciliation

k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d.....	2k		13340914
l Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan.....	2l(1)		0
(2) From this plan.....	2l(2)		

Part III Accountant's Opinion

3 Complete lines 3a through 3c if the opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is attached to this Form 5500. Complete line 3d if an opinion is not attached.

a The attached opinion of an independent qualified public accountant for this plan is (see instructions):

(1) ☒ Unqualified (2) ☐ Qualified (3) ☐ Disclaimer (4) ☐ Adverse

b Did the accountant perform a limited scope audit pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.103-8 and/or 103-12(d)? ☐ Yes ☒ No

c Enter the name and EIN of the accountant (or accounting firm) below:

(1) Name: ERNST & YOUNG

(2) EIN: 34-6565596

d The opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is **not attached** because:

(1) ☐ This form is filed for a CCT, PSA, or MTIA. (2) ☐ It will be attached to the next Form 5500 pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.104-50.

Part IV Compliance Questions

4 CCTs and PSAs do not complete Part IV. MTIAs, 103-12 IEs, and GIAs do not complete lines 4a, 4e, 4f, 4g, 4h, 4k, 4m, 4n, or 5. 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 4j and 4l. MTIAs also do not complete line 4l.

During the plan year:

- a** Was there a failure to transmit to the plan any participant contributions within the time period described in 29 CFR 2510.3-102? Continue to answer "Yes" for any prior year failures until fully corrected. (See instructions and DOL's Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program.).....
- b** Were any loans by the plan or fixed income obligations due the plan in default as of the close of the plan year or classified during the year as uncollectible? Disregard participant loans secured by participant's account balance. (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part I if "Yes" is checked.).....

	Yes	No	Amount
4a		X	
4b		X	

	Yes	No	Amount
c Were any leases to which the plan was a party in default or classified during the year as uncollectible? (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part II if "Yes" is checked.)		X	
4c			
d Were there any nonexempt transactions with any party-in-interest? (Do not include transactions reported on line 4a. Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part III if "Yes" is checked.)		X	
4d			
e Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	X		1000000
4e			
f Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?		X	
4f			
g Did the plan hold any assets whose current value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?		X	
4g			
h Did the plan receive any noncash contributions whose value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?		X	
4h			
i Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.)	X		
4i			
j Were any plan transactions or series of transactions in excess of 5% of the current value of plan assets? (Attach schedule of transactions if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.)		X	
4j			
k Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?		X	
4k			
l Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?		X	
4l			
m If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)		X	
4m			
n If 4m was answered "Yes," check the "Yes" box if you either provided the required notice or one of the exceptions to providing the notice applied under 29 CFR 2520.101-3.		X	
4n			

5a Has a resolution to terminate the plan been adopted during the plan year or any prior plan year?
 If "Yes," enter the amount of any plan assets that reverted to the employer this year. ☐ Yes ☒ No Amount:

5b If, during this plan year, any assets or liabilities were transferred from this plan to another plan(s), identify the plan(s) to which assets or liabilities were transferred. (See instructions.)

5b(1) Name of plan(s)	5b(2) EIN(s)	5b(3) PN(s)

5c If the plan is a defined benefit plan, is it covered under the PBGC insurance program (see ERISA section 4021)? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not determined

Part V Trust Information (optional)

6a Name of trust	6b Trust's EIN

SCHEDULE R (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Retirement Plan Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110 2014 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
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For calendar plan year 2014 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2014 and ending 12/31/2014

A Name of plan <u>THE LINCOLN ELECTRIC COMPANY EMPLOYEE SAVINGS PLAN</u>	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <u>005</u>
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>THE LINCOLN ELECTRIC COMPANY</u>	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>34-0359955</u>

Part I	Distributions
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All references to distributions relate only to payments of benefits during the plan year.

1 Total value of distributions paid in property other than in cash or the forms of property specified in the instructions.....	1
2 Enter the EIN(s) of payor(s) who paid benefits on behalf of the plan to participants or beneficiaries during the year (if more than two, enter EINs of the two payors who paid the greatest dollar amounts of benefits): EIN(s): <u>04-6568107</u>	
Profit-sharing plans, ESOPs, and stock bonus plans, skip line 3.	
3 Number of participants (living or deceased) whose benefits were distributed in a single sum, during the plan year.....	3

Part II	Funding Information (If the plan is not subject to the minimum funding requirements of section 412 of the Internal Revenue Code or ERISA section 302, skip this Part)
----------------	--

4 Is the plan administrator making an election under Code section 412(d)(2) or ERISA section 302(d)(2)?.....	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ N/A
If the plan is a defined benefit plan, go to line 8.			
5 If a waiver of the minimum funding standard for a prior year is being amortized in this plan year, see instructions and enter the date of the ruling letter granting the waiver. Date: Month _____ Day _____ Year _____ If you completed line 5, complete lines 3, 9, and 10 of Schedule MB and do not complete the remainder of this schedule.			
6 a Enter the minimum required contribution for this plan year (include any prior year accumulated funding deficiency not waived).....	6a		
b Enter the amount contributed by the employer to the plan for this plan year.....	6b		
c Subtract the amount in line 6b from the amount in line 6a. Enter the result (enter a minus sign to the left of a negative amount)	6c		
If you completed line 6c, skip lines 8 and 9.			
7 Will the minimum funding amount reported on line 6c be met by the funding deadline?.....	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ N/A
8 If a change in actuarial cost method was made for this plan year pursuant to a revenue procedure or other authority providing automatic approval for the change or a class ruling letter, does the plan sponsor or plan administrator agree with the change?.....	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ N/A

Part III	Amendments
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9 If this is a defined benefit pension plan, were any amendments adopted during this plan year that increased or decreased the value of benefits? If yes, check the appropriate box. If no, check the "No" box.....	☐ Increase	☐ Decrease	☐ Both	☐ No
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Part IV	ESOPs (see instructions). If this is not a plan described under Section 409(a) or 4975(e)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code, skip this Part.
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10 Were unallocated employer securities or proceeds from the sale of unallocated securities used to repay any exempt loan?	☐ Yes	☐ No
11 a Does the ESOP hold any preferred stock?	☐ Yes	☐ No
b If the ESOP has an outstanding exempt loan with the employer as lender, is such loan part of a "back-to-back" loan? (See instructions for definition of "back-to-back" loan.).....	☐ Yes	☐ No
12 Does the ESOP hold any stock that is not readily tradable on an established securities market?	☐ Yes	☐ No

Part V Additional Information for Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans

13 Enter the following information for each employer that contributed more than 5% of total contributions to the plan during the plan year (measured in dollars). See instructions. *Complete as many entries as needed to report all applicable employers.*

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

- 14** Enter the number of participants on whose behalf no contributions were made by an employer as an employer of the participant for:

a The current year	14a	
b The plan year immediately preceding the current plan year	14b	
c The second preceding plan year	14c	

- 15** Enter the ratio of the number of participants under the plan on whose behalf no employer had an obligation to make an employer contribution during the current plan year to:

a The corresponding number for the plan year immediately preceding the current plan year	15a	
b The corresponding number for the second preceding plan year	15b	

- 16** Information with respect to any employers who withdrew from the plan during the preceding plan year:

a Enter the number of employers who withdrew during the preceding plan year	16a	
b If line 16a is greater than 0, enter the aggregate amount of withdrawal liability assessed or estimated to be assessed against such withdrawn employers	16b	

- 17** If assets and liabilities from another plan have been transferred to or merged with this plan during the plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment. ☐

Part VI Additional Information for Single-Employer and Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans

- 18** If any liabilities to participants or their beneficiaries under the plan as of the end of the plan year consist (in whole or in part) of liabilities to such participants and beneficiaries under two or more pension plans as of immediately before such plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment ☐

- 19** If the total number of participants is 1,000 or more, complete lines (a) through (c)

- a** Enter the percentage of plan assets held as:
 Stock: _____% Investment-Grade Debt: _____% High-Yield Debt: _____% Real Estate: _____% Other: _____%
- b** Provide the average duration of the combined investment-grade and high-yield debt:
☐ 0-3 years ☐ 3-6 years ☐ 6-9 years ☐ 9-12 years ☐ 12-15 years ☐ 15-18 years ☐ 18-21 years ☐ 21 years or more
- c** What duration measure was used to calculate line 19(b)?
☐ Effective duration ☐ Macaulay duration ☐ Modified duration ☐ Other (specify): _____

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SCHEDULE

The Lincoln Electric Company Employee Savings Plan
December 31, 2014 and 2013, and
Year Ended December 31, 2014
With Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

Plan Sponsor and Administrator

The Lincoln Electric Company
Cleveland, Ohio 44117
(216) 481-8100

Plan Number: 005

Employer Identification Number: 34-0359955

The Lincoln Electric Company
Employee Savings Plan
Financial Statements and Schedule
December 31, 2014 and 2013, and
Year Ended December 31, 2014

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Report of Independent Auditors

Plan Administrator
The Lincoln Electric Company
Employee Savings Plan

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of The Lincoln Electric Company Employee Savings Plan, which comprise the statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2014, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles; this includes the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free of material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits of The Lincoln Electric Company Employee Savings Plan at December 31, 2014 and 2013, and the changes in its net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2014, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

Supplemental Schedule

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The accompanying supplemental schedule of assets (held at end of year) as of December 31, 2014, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

Ernst & Young LLP

June 26, 2015

The Lincoln Electric Company
Employee Savings Plan
Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits

	December 31,	
	2014	2013
Assets		
Investments, at fair value	\$ 448,933,911	\$ 435,950,714
Receivables:		
Notes receivable from participants	12,001,964	11,528,753
Employer contributions receivable	528,434	521,069
Other receivable	—	60,220
Total receivables	<u>12,530,398</u>	<u>12,110,042</u>
Total assets	<u>461,464,309</u>	<u>448,060,756</u>
Liabilities		
Corrective distributions payable	36,633	66,831
Other liabilities	<u>120,667</u>	<u>—</u>
Total liabilities	<u>157,300</u>	<u>66,831</u>
Net assets available for benefits, at fair value	461,307,009	447,993,925
Adjustment from fair value to contract value for fully benefit-responsive investment contract	<u>(496,699)</u>	<u>(590,018)</u>
Net assets available for benefits	<u>\$ 460,810,310</u>	<u>\$ 447,403,907</u>

See notes to these financial statements.

The Lincoln Electric Company
Employee Savings Plan
Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits
Year ended December 31, 2014

Additions

Interest and dividends	\$ 13,867,673
Interest on notes receivable from participants	509,707
Contributions:	
Participants	15,876,843
Employer	10,120,065
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	560,708
Total additions	<u>40,934,996</u>

Deductions

Participant withdrawals	27,491,960
Corrective distributions	36,633
Total deductions	<u>27,528,593</u>

Net increase	<u>13,406,403</u>
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Net assets available for benefits at beginning of year	<u>447,403,907</u>
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Net assets available for benefits at end of year	<u><u>\$ 460,810,310</u></u>
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See notes to these financial statements.

The Lincoln Electric Company
Employee Savings Plan
Notes to Financial Statements

Note 1 — Description of Plan

The following description of The Lincoln Electric Company Employee Savings Plan (as amended, “the Plan”) provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Summary Plan Description for a more complete description of the Plan’s provisions.

General

The Plan is a defined contribution plan covering certain employees of The Lincoln Electric Company and certain related entities (“the Company”), as defined by the Plan. The Plan provides that employees will be eligible for participation in the Plan following six months of full time employment or 1,000 hours in any year of service with the Company. The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (“ERISA”).

Contributions and Vesting

Participant Contributions

Each year, participants may make pre-tax contributions to the Plan of 1% or more (in whole percentages) of their regular and/or bonus pay up to the maximum amount as set by the Internal Revenue Service (\$17,500 for 2014 and 2013). Participants who are at least 50 years old by the end of the calendar year are allowed to make a catch-up contribution for that year (up to an additional \$5,500 for 2014 and 2013). Amounts payable to participants for contributions in excess of amounts allowed by the IRS are recorded as Corrective distributions payable. Participants are immediately vested in their contributions plus actual earnings thereon. Participants have the right to either direct Fidelity Management Trust Company (“the Trustee”) to invest contributions in any one fund or in a combination of funds in 1% increments or to invest contributions in a self-directed brokerage account.

Effective January 1, 2012, eligible employees who do not have an affirmative election under the Plan and employees who become eligible participants in the Plan, will be automatically enrolled in the Plan unless action is taken by the employee to elect not to contribute to the Plan. Participants enrolled under this approach will have 4% of their base salary contributed to the Plan.

The Plan is subject to certain non-discrimination standards under Section 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code. In order to comply with these standards, tests are performed to provide a limit on the amount of benefits provided to highly compensated employees. As a result, certain participants who are defined as highly compensated employees may have a portion of their contributions refunded to them after the end of the plan year.

Company Match

The Company contributes 35% of the first 6% of compensation contributed by certain participants to the Plan. Matching contributions are 100% vested after an employee has attained three years of service. The Company match is discretionary and can be suspended or terminated at any time. Company match contributions are invested in the same manner as participant contributions.

The Lincoln Electric Company
Employee Savings Plan
Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

FSP Program

The Plan provides a Financial Security Program (“FSP”) feature to certain eligible participants who made an irrevocable election to participate in the program and to all eligible participants who were hired on or after November 1, 1997. Participants in the FSP program receive a Company contribution to the Plan of 2% of their base pay, in which they become 100% vested after attaining three years of service. In July 2006, the Company amended the Plan to offer employees enhanced FSP benefits (“FSP Plus”). Eligible employees hired on or after January 1, 2006 receive FSP Plus benefits under the Plan, but are not eligible to participate in the Company’s defined benefit plan. Those eligible employees hired prior to January 1, 2006 either remained under the Company’s existing retirement programs, which includes both benefits under the Plan and the Company’s defined benefit plan, or made an irrevocable election to switch to the new program that provides the FSP Plus feature while earning a reduced benefit from the Company’s defined benefit plan. The Company began making contributions to the FSP Plus program to eligible employees on July 16, 2006 as follows:

Years of Service	FSP Plus Company Contribution (% of base pay)
1	4%
5	5%
10	6%
15	7%
20	8%
25	10%

The amount of FSP and FSP Plus contributions were \$6,420,212 in 2014. FSP and FSP Plus contributions are invested in the same manner as participant contributions.

Participant Accounts

Each participant’s account is credited with the participant’s contributions and allocations of (a) the Company’s contributions and (b) Plan earnings. Allocations are based on participant earnings or account balances, as defined. Forfeited balances of terminated participants’ nonvested accounts are used to reduce future Company contributions to the Plan. Forfeited amounts were \$508,181 in 2014. During 2014, \$490,000 in forfeitures were used to reduce Company contributions. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant’s account.

Participant Loans

Active participants may borrow from their fund accounts a minimum of \$1,000 up to a maximum equal to the lesser of \$50,000 or 50% of their vested account balance, excluding FSP and FSP Plus contributions. Loan terms range from one to five years, or up to 15 years for the purchase of a primary residence. The loans are secured by the balance in the participant’s account and bear interest at a rate computed as the prime rate in effect at the loan origination date plus 1%, as determined by the Company. Principal and interest are paid ratably through payroll deductions.

Payment of Benefits

Participants may receive the value of their account in a single lump sum payment or in ten or fewer annual installment payments following separation from the Company, whether by retirement, disability or otherwise, except that if the full value of a participant’s account is \$1,000 or less or if the participant dies and his/her account is payable to his/her beneficiary, such account balance will be paid in a single lump sum payment. Participants who leave the Company may withdraw their money at any time. Withdrawals must begin no later than April 1 of the calendar year following the calendar year in which age 70½ is attained or the calendar year in which the participant is terminated if later. Participants or beneficiaries may elect to receive the portion of their distributions which are attributable to their interests in the Lincoln Electric Stock Fund in the form of whole shares with any fractional shares paid in cash or all in cash.

The Lincoln Electric Company
Employee Savings Plan
Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Plan Termination

The Company has the right to amend, modify, suspend or terminate the Plan subject to the provisions of ERISA at any time. Upon termination of the Plan, the rights to benefits accrued by participants or their beneficiaries, to the extent that such benefits are funded or credited to participants' accounts, shall be nonforfeitable. No amendment, modification, suspension or termination of the Plan shall have the effect of providing that any amounts then held under the Plan may be used or diverted to any purpose other than for the exclusive benefit of the participants or their beneficiaries.

Note 2 — Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements of the Plan are prepared under the accrual method of accounting in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP").

Investment Valuation and Income Recognition

The Plan's investments are stated at fair value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The valuation methodologies used for the investment assets measured at fair value are as follows:

Money market funds: Valued at net asset value ("NAV"), which approximates fair value.

Units of registered investment companies ("Mutual funds"): Valued at quoted market prices, which represent the net asset values of the units held by the Plan on the last business day of the plan year.

Self-directed investment account: Consist primarily of the following: (1) common stocks and bonds, which are valued at the closing price reported on the active market on which the individual securities are traded; and (2) mutual funds, which are valued at the publicly quoted net asset value of each fund. The total net asset value is calculated by multiplying the net asset value per share by the number of shares held as of the measurement day.

Lincoln Electric Stock Fund: Valued at net asset value based on information provided by the trustee. The net asset value represents the fair value of Lincoln Electric Holdings, Inc. Common Stock, which is determined based on the quoted market price as of year-end, adjusted for any assets or liabilities held by the fund on the last day of the plan year, and a portion of uninvested cash, which is recorded at carrying value as maturities are less than three months.

Common collective trust fund: Valued at net asset value based on information provided by the trustee and using the financial statements of the common collective trust on the last business day of the plan year.

The common collective trust fund invests in fully benefit-responsive investment contracts. This fund is recorded at fair value; however, since these contracts are fully benefit-responsive, an adjustment is reflected in the Statement of Net Assets Available for Benefits to present these investments at contract value. Contract value is the relevant measurement attribute to fully benefit-responsive investment contracts because contract value is the amount participants would receive if they were to initiate permitted transactions under the terms of the Plan. The contract value represents contributions plus earnings, less participant withdrawals and administrative expenses. Refer to Note 9 for discussion of the investment in the common collective trust fund.

Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Open trades within the Lincoln Electric Stock Fund that have not settled are reflected in the statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits as either an Other receivable or Other liability. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Net appreciation includes the Plan's gains and losses on investments bought and sold as well as held throughout the year.

The Lincoln Electric Company
Employee Savings Plan
Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates that affect amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Notes Receivable from Participants

Notes receivable from participants represent participant loans that are recorded at their unpaid principal balance plus any accrued but unpaid interest. Interest income is recorded when it is earned. If a participant ceases to make loan repayments and the loan is deemed to be a distribution, the participant loan balance is reduced and a benefit payment is recorded.

Administrative Expenses

All direct costs and expenses incurred in connection with the administration of the Plan and trust were paid by the Company in 2014.

New Accounting Pronouncements

In May 2015, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") No. 2015-07, *"Disclosures for Investments in Certain Entities that Calculate Net Asset Value Per Share (or its Equivalent)."* ASU 2015-07 removes the requirement to categorize within the fair value hierarchy investments for which fair values are estimated using the NAV practical expedient provided by Accounting Standards Codification 820, *"Fair Value Measurement."* Disclosures about investments in certain entities that calculate NAV per share are limited under ASU 2015-07 to those investments for which the entity has elected to estimate the fair value using the NAV practical expedient. ASU 2015-07 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2015, with retrospective application to all periods presented. Early application is permitted. Management is currently evaluating the impact of the adoption of ASU 2015-07 on the Plan's financial statements.

Note 3 — Investments

During 2014, the Plan's investments (including investments purchased, sold, as well as held during the year) appreciated (depreciated) in fair value as follows:

	Net Realized and Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) in Fair Value of Investments
Mutual Funds	\$ 3,477,936
Self-Directed Brokerage Accounts	(72,498)
Lincoln Electric Stock Fund	(2,844,730)
	<u>\$ 560,708</u>

Investments that represent 5% or more of the Plan's net assets available for benefits at December 31, 2014 and 2013 are as follows:

	2014	2013
Common stock held by the Lincoln Electric Stock Fund	\$ 137,633,014	\$ 138,973,530
T. Rowe Price Blue Chip Growth SHS	41,035,755	37,331,603
Fidelity Managed Income Portfolio	33,485,322	38,553,884
Dodge & Cox Balanced Fund	29,707,131	27,936,768
Fidelity Spartan 500 Index	28,129,176	23,844,822
Artisan Mid Cap Institutional	24,908,620	*
Artisan Mid Cap Fund	*	26,114,993

* Investment did not represent 5% or more of the Plan's net assets in the year presented

The Lincoln Electric Company
Employee Savings Plan
Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Note 4 — Income Tax Status

The Plan received a determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service dated January 29, 2014, stating that the Plan is qualified under Section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (“IRC”), and, therefore, the related trust is exempt from taxation. Subsequent to this determination by the Internal Revenue Service, the Plan was amended. Once qualified, the Plan is required to operate in conformity with the IRC to maintain its qualification. The plan administrator has indicated that it is taking the necessary steps to bring the Plan's operations into compliance with the IRC under the Self-Correction Program. The plan administrator believes the Plan, as amended, is qualified and the related trust is tax exempt.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States require plan management to evaluate uncertain tax positions taken by the Plan. The financial statement effects of a tax position are recognized when the position is more likely than not, based on the technical merits, to be sustained upon examination by the IRS. The plan administrator has analyzed the tax positions taken by the Plan, and has concluded that as of December 31, 2014, there are no uncertain positions taken or expected to be taken. The Plan has recognized no interest or penalties related to uncertain tax positions. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress. The plan administrator believes the Plan is no longer subject to income tax examinations for years prior to 2011.

Note 5 — Transactions with Parties-in-Interest

At December 31, 2014, the Plan held 1,992,083 Common Shares of Lincoln Electric Holdings, Inc. with a fair value of \$137,633,014. For the year ended December 31, 2014, the Plan received dividends on Lincoln Electric Holdings, Inc. Common Shares of \$1,710,765. At December 31, 2013, the Plan held 1,948,045 Common Shares of Lincoln Electric Holdings, Inc. with a fair value of \$138,973,530. The Plan's shares of Lincoln Electric Holdings, Inc. are held in the Lincoln Electric Stock Fund.

Party-in-interest transactions also include the investment in the proprietary funds of the Trustee and the payment of administrative expenses by the Company. Such transactions are exempt from being prohibited transactions under ERISA.

Note 6 — Difference Between Financial Statements and Form 5500

The following is a reconciliation of net assets available for benefits per the financial statements to the Form 5500:

	December 31,	
	2014	2013
Net assets available for benefits per financial statements	\$ 460,810,310	\$ 447,403,907
Less: Deemed distribution of loans with no post-default payments	(256,995)	(284,825)
Plus: Adjustment from contract value to fair value for fully benefit-responsive investment contract	496,699	590,018
Net assets available for benefits per Form 5500	<u>\$ 461,050,014</u>	<u>\$ 447,709,100</u>

The following is a reconciliation of the net increase in net assets available for benefits per the financial statements to the Form 5500:

	Year Ended December 31, 2014
Net increase per the financial statements	\$ 13,406,403
Plus: Change in deemed distribution of loans with no post-default payments	27,830
Less: Change in adjustment from contract value to fair value for fully benefit-responsive investment contract	(93,319)
Net increase per Form 5500	<u>\$ 13,340,914</u>

The Lincoln Electric Company
Employee Savings Plan
Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

The deemed distributions of participant loans with no post-default payments are loans that are in default by participants of the Plan. While the U.S. Department of Labor does not recognize these loans as assets for regulatory reporting, they are included as assets (i.e., loans) in the financial statements of the Plan as these loans are collateralized by participant funds.

The fully benefit-responsive contract was adjusted from fair value to contract value for purposes of the financial statements. For purposes of the Form 5500, the investment contract will be stated at fair value.

Note 7 — Risks and Uncertainties

The Plan invests in various investment securities. Investment securities are exposed to various risks such as interest rate, market and credit risks. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect participants' account balances and the amounts reported in the Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits.

The Plan's investments in the Company's stock are exposed to market risk in the event of a decline in the value of Lincoln Electric Holdings, Inc. Common Shares. Participants assume all risk in connection with any decrease in the market price of any investment.

Note 8 — Fair Value Measurements

Fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. GAAP establishes a framework for measuring fair value. That framework provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurements).

The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are described below:

- | | |
|---------|--|
| Level 1 | Inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets. |
| Level 2 | <p>Inputs to the valuation methodology include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets;• Quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets;• Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability;• Inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means. <p>If the asset or liability has a specific (contractual) term, the Level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.</p> |
| Level 3 | Inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement. |

The asset's or liability's fair value measurement level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Valuation techniques used maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

The valuation methods used may produce a fair value that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. Furthermore, while the Plan believes its valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different fair value measurement at the reporting date.

The Lincoln Electric Company

Employee Savings Plan

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

The following tables set forth by level within the fair value hierarchy the Plan's investments at fair value as of December 31, 2014 and 2013:

Assets at Fair Value as of December 31, 2014				
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Mutual funds				
Large Cap	\$ 82,023,536	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 82,023,536
Income	20,784,407	—	—	20,784,407
International	28,132,731	—	—	28,132,731
Mid Cap	52,609,178	—	—	52,609,178
Small Cap	1,817,845	—	—	1,817,845
Blended	80,174,246	—	—	80,174,246
Self-directed brokerage accounts	6,005,400	—	—	6,005,400
Lincoln Electric Stock Fund				
Cash	5,771,533	—	—	5,771,533
Common Stock	137,633,014	—	—	137,633,014
Common collective trust	—	33,982,021	—	33,982,021
Total investments at fair value	\$ 414,951,890	\$ 33,982,021	\$ —	\$ 448,933,911

Assets at Fair Value as of December 31, 2013				
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Money market funds	\$ 21,167	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 21,167
Mutual funds				
Large Cap	72,662,529	—	—	72,662,529
Income	21,758,074	—	—	21,758,074
International	31,138,444	—	—	31,138,444
Mid Cap	56,785,131	—	—	56,785,131
Small Cap	874,184	—	—	874,184
Blended	63,170,593	—	—	63,170,593
Self-directed brokerage accounts	5,075,208	—	—	5,075,208
Lincoln Electric Stock Fund				
Cash	6,347,952	—	—	6,347,952
Common Stock	138,973,530	—	—	138,973,530
Common collective trust	—	39,143,902	—	39,143,902
Total investments at fair value	\$ 396,806,812	\$ 39,143,902	\$ —	\$ 435,950,714

Note 9 — Investment in Common Collective Trust Fund

The Plan invests in the Fidelity Managed Income Portfolio (“the Portfolio”), a fully benefit-responsive common collective trust fund. The Portfolio’s objective is to seek the preservation of capital and to provide a competitive level of income over time that is consistent with the preservation of capital. The Portfolio may invest in fixed-income securities, money market funds and derivative instruments (i.e., swap agreements), and also enter into wrapper contracts, which are issued by third-parties and are designed to allow the Portfolio to meet its objective of capital preservation. The Portfolio is credited with earnings on the underlying investments and charged for participant withdrawals and administrative expenses.

The Lincoln Electric Company

Employee Savings Plan

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

The common collective trust is a fully benefit-responsive investment for which contract value is the relevant measurement attribute. Contract value, as reported to the Plan, represents contributions made under the contract, plus earnings, less participant withdrawals and administrative expenses. Participants may ordinarily direct the withdrawal or transfer of all or a portion of their investments at contract value. However, participants may not transfer their investments in the fund directly to another fixed income fund within the Plan.

The Lincoln Electric Company
Employee Savings Plan
EIN: 34-0359955 Plan Number: 005
Form 5500, Schedule H, Line 4i—Schedule of Assets
(Held at End of Year)
December 31, 2014

Identity of Issuer, Borrower, Lessor or Similar Party	Description of Investment Including Maturity Date, Rate of Interest, Collateral, Par or Maturity Value	Current Value
Cash, interest bearing		\$ 5,771,533
Common Collective Trust:		
Fidelity Managed Income Portfolio*	33,485,322 units	33,982,021
Units of registered investment companies:		
T.Rowe Price Blue Chip Growth SHS	610,016 units	41,035,755
Dodge & Cox Balanced Fund	289,882 units	29,707,131
Fidelity Spartan 500 Index*	386,072 units	28,129,176
Artisan Mid Cap Institutional	519,904 units	24,908,620
PIMCO Total Return Fund Institutional Class	1,949,757 units	20,784,406
Fidelity Diversified International K Fund*	515,942 units	17,743,241
Neuberger Berman Genesis R6	288,318 units	16,315,907
American Funds Washington Mutual R6	313,931 units	12,858,606
Vanguard Selected Value Inv	394,810 units	11,204,704
American Funds EuroPacific Growth	219,378 units	10,330,515
Vanguard Target Ret 2020 Inv CL	278,778 units	7,934,034
Vanguard Target Ret 2015 Inc CL	441,475 units	6,750,154
Vanguard Target Ret 2025 Inv CL	407,984 units	6,743,970
Vanguard Target Ret 2030 Inv CL	210,855 units	6,123,217
Vanguard Target Ret 2045 Inc CL	261,609 units	4,879,009
Vanguard Target Ret Inc	233,019 units	3,008,279
Vanguard Target Ret 2035 Inc CL	262,606 units	4,684,886
Vanguard Target Ret 2050 Inv CL	126,393 units	3,743,751
Vanguard Target Ret 2040 Inv CL	125,649 units	3,739,301
Vanguard Target Ret 2010 Inv CL	51,283 units	1,349,768
DFA U.S. Small Cap Portfolio Fund	58,358 units	1,817,845
Vanguard Target Ret 2055 Inv CL	47,240 units	1,510,746
Fidelity Spartan Extended Market Index Adv CL*	3,261 units	179,947
Vanguard Total International Stock Index Admiral Shares	2,268 units	58,975
		<u>265,541,943</u>
Self-directed brokerage accounts	Self-directed accounts	6,005,400
Common stock held by the Lincoln Electric Stock Fund		
Lincoln Electric Holdings, Inc.*	1,992,083 Common Shares	137,633,014
Participant loans*	Loans maturing at various dates through December, 6 2029 and bearing interest at rates ranging from 4.25% to 10.5%	11,744,969
Total assets		<u>\$ 460,678,880</u>

*Indicates party-in-interest to the Plan.



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Report of Independent Auditors

Plan Administrator
The Lincoln Electric Company
Employee Savings Plan

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of The Lincoln Electric Company Employee Savings Plan, which comprise the statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2014, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles; this includes the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free of material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits of The Lincoln Electric Company Employee Savings Plan at December 31, 2014 and 2013, and the changes in its net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2014, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

Supplemental Schedule

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The accompanying supplemental schedule of assets (held at end of year) as of December 31, 2014, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

Ernst + Young LLP

June 26, 2015