

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
		2015
		This Form is Open to Public Inspection

Part I	Annual Report Identification Information
For calendar plan year 2015 or fiscal plan year beginning <u>01/01/2015</u> and ending <u>11/23/2015</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>MICHAEL STAPLETON ASSOCIATES, LTD. EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN</u>	1b Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <u>002</u> 1c Effective date of plan <u>01/01/2005</u>
2a Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan) Mailing address (include room, apt., suite no. and street, or P.O. Box) City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code (if foreign, see instructions) <u>MICHAEL STAPLETON ASSOCIATES</u> <u>9 MURRAY ST</u> <u>2ND FLOOR</u> <u>NEW YORK, NY 10007-2223</u>	2b Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>13-3440889</u> 2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number <u>212-509-1336</u> 2d Business code (see instructions) <u>541600</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>09/12/2016</u>	<u>JUSTIN OGRADY</u>
	Signature of plan administrator	Date	Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator
SIGN HERE	<u>Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature.</u>	<u>09/12/2016</u>	<u>JUSTIN OGRADY</u>
	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)			Preparer's telephone number

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice and OMB Control Numbers, see the instructions for Form 5500.

Form 5500 (2015)
v. 150123

3a Plan administrator's name and address ☒ Same as Plan Sponsor	3b Administrator's EIN 3c Administrator's telephone number <div style="background-color: #cccccc; height: 40px; width: 100%;"></div>
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	5 988
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) 988
a(2) Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year	6a(2) 0
b Retired or separated participants receiving benefits.....	6b 0
c Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits.....	6c 0
d Subtotal. Add lines 6a(2) , 6b , and 6c	6d 0
e Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits.....	6e 0
f Total. Add lines 6d and 6e	6f 0
g Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item).....	6g 0
h Number of participants that terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested	6h 0
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:
 2I 2O 3H 3I

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
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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)
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Part III	Form M-1 Compliance Information (to be completed by welfare benefit plans)
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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 2015 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2015 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 _____

<div>SCHEDULE C</div> <div>(Form 5500)</div> <div>Department of the Treasury</div> <div>Internal Revenue Service</div> <div>Department of Labor</div> <div>Employee Benefits Security Administration</div> <div>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</div>	<div>Service Provider Information</div> <div>This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).</div> <div>▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.</div>	OMB No. 1210-0110
		2015
		This Form is Open to Public Inspection.

For calendar plan year 2015 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2015 and ending 11/23/2015		
<div>A</div> Name of plan MICHAEL STAPLETON ASSOCIATES, LTD. EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN	<div>B</div> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	002
<div>C</div> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 MICHAEL STAPLETON ASSOCIATES	<div>D</div> Employer Identification Number (EIN) 13-3440889	

Part I	Service Provider Information (see instructions)
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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).

<div>(b)</div> Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation MICHAEL STAPLETON ASSOCIATES LTD. 13-3440889

<div>(b)</div> 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)

(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 ☐

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
(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.	
(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
(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
(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
(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
(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
(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 H (Form 5500) <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small> <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small> <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	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.	<small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small> 2015 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
For calendar plan year 2015 or fiscal plan year beginning <u>01/01/2015</u> and ending <u>11/23/2015</u>		
A Name of plan <u>MICHAEL STAPLETON ASSOCIATES, LTD. EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN</u>		B Three-digit plan number (PN) ► <u>002</u>
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>MICHAEL STAPLETON ASSOCIATES</u>		D Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>13-3440889</u>

Part I	Asset and Liability Statement		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
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	Total noninterest-bearing cash	1a		
b	Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
	(1) Employer contributions	1b(1)	0	0
	(2) Participant contributions	1b(2)	0	0
	(3) Other	1b(3)	0	0
c	General investments:			
	(1) Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit)	1c(1)	78	0
	(2) U.S. Government securities	1c(2)		
	(3) Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
	(A) Preferred	1c(3)(A)		
	(B) All other	1c(3)(B)		
	(4) Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
	(A) Preferred	1c(4)(A)		
	(B) Common	1c(4)(B)		
	(5) Partnership/joint venture interests	1c(5)		
	(6) Real estate (other than employer real property)	1c(6)		
	(7) Loans (other than to participants)	1c(7)		
	(8) Participant loans	1c(8)		
	(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)		
	(10) Value of interest in pooled separate accounts	1c(10)		
	(11) Value of interest in master trust investment accounts	1c(11)		
	(12) Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities	1c(12)		
	(13) Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	1c(13)		
	(14) Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts)	1c(14)		
	(15) Other	1c(15)		

1d Employer-related investments:		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
(1) Employer securities	1d(1)	13999444	0
(2) Employer real property	1d(2)		
e Buildings and other property used in plan operation	1e		
f Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e)	1f	13999522	0

Liabilities

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

Net Assets

l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f)	1l	13999522	0
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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)	0	
(B) Participants	2a(1)(B)	0	
(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)		0
b Earnings on investments:			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit)	2b(1)(A)	0	
(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)		
(F) Other	2b(1)(F)	0	
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F)	2b(1)(G)		0
(2) Dividends: (A) Preferred stock	2b(2)(A)	0	
(B) Common stock	2b(2)(B)	0	
(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds)	2b(2)(C)	0	
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A) , (B) , and (C)	2b(2)(D)		0
(3) Rents	2b(3)		0
(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets: (A) Aggregate proceeds	2b(4)(A)	0	
(B) Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions)	2b(4)(B)	0	
(C) Subtract line 2b(4)(B) from line 2b(4)(A) and enter result	2b(4)(C)		0
(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets: (A) Real estate	2b(5)(A)	0	
(B) Other	2b(5)(B)	191122	
(C) Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines 2b(5)(A) and (B)	2b(5)(C)		191122

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts	2b(6)		0
(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)		0
c Other income	2c		34730
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total	2d		225852

Expenses**e** Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:

(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)	7281933	
(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)		7281933
f Corrective distributions (see instructions)	2f		0
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions)	2g		
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)	0	
(5) Total administrative expenses. Add lines 2i(1) through (4)	2i(5)		0
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total	2j		7281933

Net Income and Reconciliation

k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d	2k		-7056081
l Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan	2l(1)		0
(2) From this plan	2l(2)		6943441

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: MARKS PANETH LLP

(2) EIN: 90-0436485

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:

	Yes	No	N/A	Amount
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.)		X		0
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.)		X		0

	Yes	No	N/A	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		0
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		0
e Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	X			5000000
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		
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		
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		
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		
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		
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			
l Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?		X		
m If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)		X		
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.				
o Did the plan trust incur unrelated business taxable income?				
p Were in-service distributions made during the plan year?		X		

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: 0

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)
MICHAEL STAPLETON ASSOCIATES, LTD 401(K) PLAN	13-3440889	001

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

6a Name of trust	6b Trust's EIN
6c Name of trustee or custodian	6d Trustee's or custodian's telephone number

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 2015 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
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For calendar plan year 2015 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2015 and ending 11/23/2015

A Name of plan <u>MICHAEL STAPLETON ASSOCIATES, LTD. EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN</u>	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <u>002</u>
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>MICHAEL STAPLETON ASSOCIATES</u>	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>13-3440889</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	<u>0</u>
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>42-0127290</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

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice and OMB Control Numbers, see the instructions for Form 5500.

Schedule R (Form 5500) 2015
v. 150123

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
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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): _____

Part VII	IRS Compliance Questions
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20a Is the plan a 401(k) plan?	☐ Yes	☐ No
20b If "Yes," how does the 401(k) plan satisfy the nondiscrimination requirements for employee deferrals and employer matching contributions (as applicable) under sections 401(k)(3) and 401(m)(2)?	☐ Design-based safe harbor method	☐ ADP/ACP test
20c If the ADP/ACP test is used, did the 401(k) plan perform ADP/ACP testing for the plan year using the "current year testing method" for nonhighly compensated employees (Treas. Reg sections 1.401(k)-2(a)(2)(ii) and 1.401(m)-2(a)(2)(ii))?	☐ Yes	☐ No
21a Check the box to indicate the method used by the plan to satisfy the coverage requirements under section 410(b):	☐ Ratio percentage test	☐ Average benefit test
21b Does the plan satisfy the coverage and nondiscrimination tests of sections 410(b) and 401(a)(4) by combining this plan with any other plans under the permissive aggregation rules?	☐ Yes	☐ No
22a Has the plan been timely amended for all required tax law changes?	☐ Yes	☐ No ☐ N/A
22b Date the last plan amendment/restatement for the required tax law changes was adopted ____/____/____. Enter the applicable code _____. (See instructions for tax law changes and codes).		
22c If the plan sponsor is an adopter of a pre-approved master and prototype (M&P) or volume submitter plan that is subject to a favorable IRS opinion or advisory letter, enter the date of that favorable letter ____/____/____ and the letter's serial number _____.		
22d If the plan is an individually-designed plan and received a favorable determination letter from the IRS, enter the date of the plan's last favorable determination letter ____/____/____.		
23 Is the Plan maintained in a U.S. territory (i.e., Puerto Rico (if no election under ERISA section 1022(i)(2) has been made), American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or the U.S. Virgin Islands)?	☐ Yes	☐ No

Michael Stapleton Associates, Ltd. Employee Stock Ownership Plan



Financial Statements
(Together with Independent Auditors' Report)

December 31, 2014

M A R K S P A N E T H

ACCOUNTANTS & ADVISORS

**MICHAEL STAPLETON ASSOCIATES, LTD.
EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN**

Table of Contents

	<u>Page</u>
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT	1 - 2
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:	
Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits December 31, 2014 and 2013	3
Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits Year Ended December 31, 2014	4
Notes to Financial Statements	5 – 12
SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE:	
Schedule H, Line 4i – Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)	13

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

First Bankers Trust Services, Trustee
Michael Stapleton Associates, Ltd.
Employee Stock Ownership Plan

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Michael Stapleton Associates, Ltd. Employee Stock Ownership Plan (the 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 accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' Responsibility

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



Emphasis of Matter

As further discussed in Note 10 of the financial statements, the Plan, along with the other shareholders of Michael Stapleton Associates, Ltd. (the Company), sold their shares to an unrelated third-party for cash in June 2015. In connection with the sale, the Plan was converted to a profit sharing plan and was merged with and into the Company's 401(k) plan.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits of the Plan as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, and the changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2014, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Report on Supplemental Information

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The supplemental schedule H, Line 4i, Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year), referred to as "supplemental information," is presented for the purpose of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but is supplemental 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 the Plan's 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 audit 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 of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.



New York, NY
October 15, 2015

MICHAEL STAPLETON ASSOCIATES, INC.
EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP

Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits

	December 31,	
	2014	2013
Assets:		
Investments (Notes 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5):		
Sponsor company common stock, at fair value	\$ 13,999,444	\$ 13,526,012
Cash and cash equivalents	77	77
Net assets available for benefits	\$ 13,999,521	\$ 13,526,089

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

**MICHAEL STAPLETON ASSOCIATES, INC.
EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP**

Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits

For Year Ended December 31, 2014

Additions:

Additions (reductions) to net assets attributed to:

Employer contribution	\$ 143,028
Unrealized gain in value of employer securities	<u>496,069</u>

Total additions	<u>639,097</u>
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Deductions:

Deductions from net assets attributed to:

Benefit payments	<u>165,665</u>
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Total deductions	<u>165,665</u>
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Net increase	473,432
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Net assets available for benefits:

Beginning of year	<u>13,526,089</u>
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End of year	<u><u>\$ 13,999,521</u></u>
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See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

**MICHAEL STAPLETON ASSOCIATES, LTD.
EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN**

Notes to Financial Statements

NOTE 1: PLAN DESCRIPTION

The following description of the Michael Stapleton Associates, Ltd. Employee Stock Ownership Plan (the Plan) is provided for general information purposes only.

Michael Stapleton Associates, Ltd. (the Company or Sponsor) established this Plan effective as of January 1, 2005. The Plan is intended to comply with Section 4975(e)7 and the regulations thereunder of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (IRC) and is subject to the applicable provisions of ERISA. It is intended to enable eligible employees to acquire ownership interests in the Company, by investing primarily in Company stock. The Plan is specifically permitted and designed to invest up to 100 percent of its assets in Company stock.

The Company stock held by the Plan have been the result of contributions made by the Sponsor since inception. All shares contributed have been allocated 100 percent to participant accounts.

Eligibility for Participation

Employees of the Company are generally eligible to participate in the Plan on the day the employee is first credited with an hour of service. Participants who do not have at least 250 hours of service during the Plan year or are not employed as of the last working day of the Plan year are not eligible for an allocation of Company contributions for the year. Additionally, members covered by a collective bargaining agreement or leased employees are not eligible to participate in the Plan.

Normal Retirement Date

Age 62 and five years of participation or any age in the event of death or permanent disability.

Early Retirement Date

Distribution will begin no later than the sixth year after the end of the Plan year in which the employee terminated service.

Vesting

An employee must have 400 hours of annual service to vest in the Plan. Percentage of vesting increases 20% for every year and full vesting occurs after the fifth year. See Note 10.

Complete vesting occurs upon death, permanent disability or normal retirement.

Contributions and Dividends

Employer contributions, if any, may be paid in cash, shares of Company stock, or any combinations of both, are at the discretion of the Company's Board of Directors. If the Sponsor elects to make a contribution for any year, such contribution is made out of the Company's net profits for the taxable year or out of its retained earnings as of the close of the taxable year. Stock will be purchased by the Company from the shareholders and then contributed to the Plan. Pursuant to Section 4.1 of the Plan, contributions are allocated to each participant in the ratio of that participant's annual service hours, as defined, to the aggregate annual service hours of all eligible participants.

**MICHAEL STAPLETON ASSOCIATES, LTD.
EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN**

Notes to Financial Statements

NOTE 1: PLAN DESCRIPTION (Continued)

Payment of Benefits

Benefits are recorded when paid. Benefits in the amount of \$165,665 were paid in 2014 and were exchanged for approximately 1,580 shares from participants qualifying for distributions. The benefits were funded by the Company's cash contribution to the Plan of \$143,028. The shares were subsequently allocated on September 2, 2015 to the remaining participants based on the ratio of each participant's 2014 service hours, as defined in Section 4.1 of the Plan, relative to the total service hours of all eligible participants. Benefits of \$22,637 were paid by 216 shares that were repurchased by the Company and not reallocated to the remaining participants.

Plan Expenses

Plan expenses are paid by the Company.

Voting Rights

Each participant is entitled to exercise voting rights attributable to the shares allocated to his or her account and is notified by the Trustee prior to the time that such rights are to be exercised. The Trustee is not permitted to vote any allocated share for which instructions have not been given by a participant.

Plan Termination

The Company reserves the right to terminate the Plan at any time, subject to Plan provisions. Upon such termination of the Plan, the interest of each participant in the trust fund will be distributed to such participant or his or her beneficiary at the time prescribed by the Plan terms and the IRC. Upon termination of the Plan, the Employee Benefits Administration Committee will direct the Trustee to pay all liabilities and expenses of the trust fund. See Note 10.

Participant Accounts and Forfeitures

The Plan is a defined contribution plan under which a separate individual account is established for each participant. Each participant's account is credited with an allocation of shares of the Company's stock released by the Trustee from forfeitures of terminated participants' non-vested accounts and from the cash to make distributions to retiring participants. Forfeitures of terminated non-vested account balances allocated to remaining participants at December 31, 2014 and 2013, totaled approximately 1,780 and 3,738 shares, respectively. Only those participants who are eligible employees of the Company as of the last day of the Plan year will receive an allocation. Allocations are based on a participant's eligible service hours, relative to total eligible service hours. Plan earnings are allocated to each participant's account based on the ratio of the participant's account balance.

**MICHAEL STAPLETON ASSOCIATES, LTD.
EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN**

Notes to Financial Statements

NOTE 1: PLAN DESCRIPTION AND BASIS OF PRESENTATION (Continued)

Put Option

Under federal income tax regulations, the employer stock that is held by the Plan and its participants and is not readily tradable on an established market, or is subject to trading limitations, includes a put option. The put option permits the participant to sell such Company common stock at its then fair market value as of the last day of each Plan year, as determined by an independent appraiser, to the Company at any time during the sixty-day period commencing on the date the Company common stock was distributed to the participant. The Company can pay for the purchase with interest over a period of five years. The purpose of the put option is to ensure that the participant has the ability to ultimately obtain cash.

Diversification

Diversification is offered to participants close to retirement so that they may have the opportunity to move part of their investment in Company common stock into investments which are more diversified. Participants who are at least 55 with at least 10 years of participation in the Plan may elect to diversify a portion of their account. Diversification is offered to each eligible participant over a 6-year period. In each of the first 5 years, a participant may diversify up to 25 percent of the of the number of shares of Company common stock allocated to the participant's account, less any shares previously diversified. In the sixth year, the percentage changes to 50 percent. Participants who elect to diversify receive a cash distribution.

Valuation of Employer Common Stock

The Company's common stock is valued by an independent third-party appraiser each year as of the last day of the Plan year. The valuation of the Company's common stock as of December 31, 2014 and 2013 was performed by an independent appraiser, selected by the Trustee, on June 30, 2015 and September 25, 2014, respectively.

NOTE 2: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Accounting

The Plan's financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain amounts and disclosures. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**MICHAEL STAPLETON ASSOCIATES, LTD.
EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN**

Notes to Financial Statements

NOTE 2: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Use of Estimates (Continued)

In estimating the fair value of the Company's common stock on the balance sheet date, the independent appraiser, in accordance with standard practice for the appraisal industry for ESOP valuations, 1) allocated the estimated value of the Sponsor as a whole among all legally outstanding shares; 2) did not consider the effect of the Sponsor's future value of any Plan contributions that it will make, regardless of whether necessitated by the commitment; and 3) did not consider the effect of the Sponsor's future value of any adjustment to personnel compensation that may result from future contributions to the Plan. The necessary lack of consideration of these matters adds an additional level of risk from the possibility of estimated values departing from that at which shares would actually be exchanged in a transaction between a willing buyer and willing seller, and that future estimated changes in value will be greater than the changes in the underlying value of stock.

Investment Valuation and Income recognition

The shares of Company common stock are valued at fair value. See Note 5 for discussion of fair value measurements.

NOTE 3: EMPLOYER COMMON STOCK

The value is based on the holdings of 128,849 shares and 129,065 shares of the Company's common stock or 27.89% and 27.66%, valued by an independent appraiser, as of December 31, 2014 and 2013 at \$108.65 and \$104.80 per share, respectively. The increase in value over the prior year of \$496,069 is reflected on the statements of changes in net assets available for benefits.

NOTE 4: INVESTMENTS

The Plan's investments, at December 31, are presented in the following table:

	2014	2013
Sponsor Company common stock:		
Number of shares - Beginning of year	129,065	129,065
Less: Shares repurchased by Sponsor Company	(216)	-
Number of shares - End of year	128,849	129,065
Cost	\$ 7,164,865	\$ 7,176,350
Fair value	\$ 13,999,444	\$ 13,526,012
Cash - interest-bearing account	\$ 77	\$ 77

**MICHAEL STAPLETON ASSOCIATES, LTD.
EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN**

Notes to Financial Statements

NOTE 5: FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

FASB ASC 820, *Fair Value Measurements* provides the 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 under FASB ASC 820 are described as follows:

Level 1 - Inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that the plan has the ability to access.

Level 2 - Inputs to the valuation methodology include: 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 assets or liability, inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means. If the asset or liability has a specified (contractual) term, the Level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full-term of the asset or liability.

Level 3 - Inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurements.

The asset 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 measurements. Valuation techniques used need to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

The following tables set forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan's investment of 128,849 and 129,065 shares, at fair value as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively:

	Fair Value Measurements at December 31,			
	2014		2013	
	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Total	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Total
Investment in common stock of Plan Sponsor	\$13,999,444	\$ 13,999,444	\$13,526,012	\$ 13,526,012
Total investment at fair value	<u>\$13,999,444</u>	<u>\$ 13,999,444</u>	<u>\$13,526,012</u>	<u>\$ 13,526,012</u>

NOTE 5: FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (Continued)

**MICHAEL STAPLETON ASSOCIATES, LTD.
EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN**

Notes to Financial Statements

Changes in Fair Value Levels

The following table sets forth a summary of changes in the fair value of the Plan's Level 3 assets for the year ended December 31, 2014:

	<u>Level 3 Inputs</u>
Beginning of year	\$ 13,526,012
Employer contribution	143,028
Benefit payments	(165,665)
Unrealized gains relating to assets still held at the reporting date	<u>496,069</u>
End of year	<u><u>\$ 13,999,444</u></u>
The amount of total gains for the period included in changes in net assets attributable to the change in unrealized gains to assets still held at the reporting date	
	<u><u>\$ 496,069</u></u>

Gains and losses (realized and unrealized) included in changes in net assets for the period above are reported in net appreciation in fair value of investments in the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits.

Following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value. There have been no changes in the methodologies used at December 31, 2014 and 2013.

The fair value of the Company common stock held by the Plan is valued at fair value based upon an independent appraisal. This appraisal was based upon a combination of the market and income valuation techniques consistent with prior years. The appraiser took into account historical and projected cash flow and net income, return on assets, return on equity, market comparables, and the fair value of Company assets and liabilities. Plan management has concluded that a market participant would also recognize a discount for the lack of marketability.

The valuation process involves Plan management's selection of an independent appraiser under contract for a term of 3 years with the right to cancel such contract at any time. Plan management accumulates the data for the appraiser from the audited financial statements of the Company. The appraiser prepares a preliminary report which Plan management, along with the ESOP trustee, reviews in detail, discusses and approves. The results of this process are documented in minutes of the Plan fiduciary.

The preceding methods described may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. Furthermore, although 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.

**MICHAEL STAPLETON ASSOCIATES, LTD.
EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN**

Notes to Financial Statements

NOTE 6: TAX STATUS

The Internal Revenue Service has determined and informed the Company by a letter dated July 31, 2013, that the Plan and related trust are designed in accordance with applicable sections of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC).

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the plan and recognize a tax liability (or asset) if the plan has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the Internal Revenue Service. 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 that would require recognition of a liability (or asset) or disclosure in the financial statements.

The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress. Open years, subject to tax audits, include 2011, 2012 and 2013.

NOTE 7: ADMINISTRATION OF PLAN ASSETS

The Plan's assets, which consist principally of Company common shares, are held by the Trustee of the Plan.

Company contributions are held and managed by the Trustee, which invests cash received, interest, and dividend income and makes distributions to participants. The Trust administers the payment of interest and principal on the loan, if any.

Certain administrative functions are performed by officers or employees of the Company. No such officer or employee receives compensation from the Plan. Administrative expenses for the Trustee's fees are paid directly by the Company.

NOTE 8: RELATED-PARTY AND PARTY-IN-INTEREST TRANSACTIONS

All of the Plan's assets, except cash and cash equivalents, as of December 31, 2014 and 2013 are shares of common stock of the Plan Sponsor. Accordingly, transactions and holdings in these securities qualify as party-in-interest transactions. In addition, on December 29, 2014, the Board of Directors approved the appointment of Bankers Trust Company of North Dakota to replace First Bankers Trust Services as the Trustee of the Plan and, as such, are parties-in-interest. Principal Financial Group is the record keeper of the Plan and, as such, is also a party-in-interest.

NOTE 9: RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

Holdings of the Plan are invested solely in Michael Stapleton Associates, Ltd. common stock, which are exposed to various risks such as credit and overall market volatility risk. Due to the level of risk associated with these 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 the participants' account balances and the amounts reported in the statements of net assets available for benefits.

**MICHAEL STAPLETON ASSOCIATES, LTD.
EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN**

Notes to Financial Statements

NOTE 10: SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

In preparing the accompanying financial statements, the Plan's management has reviewed events that have occurred after December 31, 2014 through the date the financial statements were available to be issued on October 15, 2015. During this period, the Plan did not have any material subsequent events that are required to be disclosed in the financial statements, except for the following:

- a. On June 30, 2015, the Company's shareholders sold their common shares to an unrelated third-party (the "Closing") of which the Plan's share of the gross proceeds was \$16,863,767. Approximately seventeen percent (the Plan's share was \$2,673,201) of the cash proceeds received on the sale of such shares will be held in escrow by the buyer of the Company's shares to cover unrecorded or "after discovered" liabilities as of June 30, 2015 ("Escrow"). The release of funds from Escrow will occur over a two year period with the first release occurring on June 30, 2016, and the second release occurring on April 30, 2017. The funds in Escrow will be subject to oversight by an independent fiduciary appointed for the Plan, which may be the current trustee of the Plan.
- b. In connection with the sale of all the Company stock held by the Plan, the Plan was converted to a profit sharing plan effective immediately following the Closing and was merged with and into the Michael Stapleton Associates Ltd. 401(k) Plan ("401(k) Plan"). All of the Plan participants were fully-vested in their Plan accounts upon conversion and merger with and into the 401(k) Plan.
- c. Pursuant to the Plan amendment, all permissible Plan expenses incurred after the sale, including but not limited to Plan Trustee fees, fees of any independent fiduciary, fees of legal counsel to the Plan Trustee and/or recordkeeping and third-party administration fees of the Plan will be paid out of the Plan assets.

**MICHAEL STAPLETON ASSOCIATES, LTD.
EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN**

E.I.N. # 13-3440889

Plan # 002

Supplemental Information

**Schedule H, Line 4i
Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)**

December 31, 2014

Identity of Issue, Borrower, Lessor or Similar Party		Description of Investment Including Maturity Date, Rate of Interest, Collateral, Par or Maturity Value	Cost	Current Value
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
*	Michael Stapleton Associates, Ltd.	Common Stock (128,849 shares)	\$ 7,164,865	\$ 13,999,444
	Cash and cash equivalents	Interest-bearing account	77	77
			<u>\$ 7,164,942</u>	<u>\$ 13,999,521</u>

* Indicates party-in-interest to the Plan.

Michael Stapleton Associates, Ltd. Employee Stock Ownership Plan



Financial Statements
(Together with Independent Auditors' Report)

December 31, 2014

M A R K S P A N E T H

ACCOUNTANTS & ADVISORS

**MICHAEL STAPLETON ASSOCIATES, LTD.
EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN**

Table of Contents

	<u>Page</u>
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT	1 - 2
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:	
Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits December 31, 2014 and 2013	3
Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits Year Ended December 31, 2014	4
Notes to Financial Statements	5 – 12
SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE:	
Schedule H, Line 4i – Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)	13

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

First Bankers Trust Services, Trustee
Michael Stapleton Associates, Ltd.
Employee Stock Ownership Plan

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Michael Stapleton Associates, Ltd. Employee Stock Ownership Plan (the 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 accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' Responsibility

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



Emphasis of Matter

As further discussed in Note 10 of the financial statements, the Plan, along with the other shareholders of Michael Stapleton Associates, Ltd. (the Company), sold their shares to an unrelated third-party for cash in June 2015. In connection with the sale, the Plan was converted to a profit sharing plan and was merged with and into the Company's 401(k) plan.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits of the Plan as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, and the changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2014, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Report on Supplemental Information

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The supplemental schedule H, Line 4i, Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year), referred to as "supplemental information," is presented for the purpose of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but is supplemental 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 the Plan's 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 audit 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 of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.



New York, NY
October 15, 2015

MICHAEL STAPLETON ASSOCIATES, INC.
EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP

Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits

	December 31,	
	2014	2013
Assets:		
Investments (Notes 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5):		
Sponsor company common stock, at fair value	\$ 13,999,444	\$ 13,526,012
Cash and cash equivalents	77	77
Net assets available for benefits	\$ 13,999,521	\$ 13,526,089

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

**MICHAEL STAPLETON ASSOCIATES, INC.
EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP**

Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits

For Year Ended December 31, 2014

Additions:

Additions (reductions) to net assets attributed to:

Employer contribution	\$ 143,028
Unrealized gain in value of employer securities	<u>496,069</u>

Total additions	<u>639,097</u>
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Deductions:

Deductions from net assets attributed to:

Benefit payments	<u>165,665</u>
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Total deductions	<u>165,665</u>
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Net increase	473,432
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Net assets available for benefits:

Beginning of year	<u>13,526,089</u>
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End of year	<u><u>\$ 13,999,521</u></u>
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See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

**MICHAEL STAPLETON ASSOCIATES, LTD.
EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN**

Notes to Financial Statements

NOTE 1: PLAN DESCRIPTION

The following description of the Michael Stapleton Associates, Ltd. Employee Stock Ownership Plan (the Plan) is provided for general information purposes only.

Michael Stapleton Associates, Ltd. (the Company or Sponsor) established this Plan effective as of January 1, 2005. The Plan is intended to comply with Section 4975(e)7 and the regulations thereunder of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (IRC) and is subject to the applicable provisions of ERISA. It is intended to enable eligible employees to acquire ownership interests in the Company, by investing primarily in Company stock. The Plan is specifically permitted and designed to invest up to 100 percent of its assets in Company stock.

The Company stock held by the Plan have been the result of contributions made by the Sponsor since inception. All shares contributed have been allocated 100 percent to participant accounts.

Eligibility for Participation

Employees of the Company are generally eligible to participate in the Plan on the day the employee is first credited with an hour of service. Participants who do not have at least 250 hours of service during the Plan year or are not employed as of the last working day of the Plan year are not eligible for an allocation of Company contributions for the year. Additionally, members covered by a collective bargaining agreement or leased employees are not eligible to participate in the Plan.

Normal Retirement Date

Age 62 and five years of participation or any age in the event of death or permanent disability.

Early Retirement Date

Distribution will begin no later than the sixth year after the end of the Plan year in which the employee terminated service.

Vesting

An employee must have 400 hours of annual service to vest in the Plan. Percentage of vesting increases 20% for every year and full vesting occurs after the fifth year. See Note 10.

Complete vesting occurs upon death, permanent disability or normal retirement.

Contributions and Dividends

Employer contributions, if any, may be paid in cash, shares of Company stock, or any combinations of both, are at the discretion of the Company's Board of Directors. If the Sponsor elects to make a contribution for any year, such contribution is made out of the Company's net profits for the taxable year or out of its retained earnings as of the close of the taxable year. Stock will be purchased by the Company from the shareholders and then contributed to the Plan. Pursuant to Section 4.1 of the Plan, contributions are allocated to each participant in the ratio of that participant's annual service hours, as defined, to the aggregate annual service hours of all eligible participants.

**MICHAEL STAPLETON ASSOCIATES, LTD.
EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN**

Notes to Financial Statements

NOTE 1: PLAN DESCRIPTION (Continued)

Payment of Benefits

Benefits are recorded when paid. Benefits in the amount of \$165,665 were paid in 2014 and were exchanged for approximately 1,580 shares from participants qualifying for distributions. The benefits were funded by the Company's cash contribution to the Plan of \$143,028. The shares were subsequently allocated on September 2, 2015 to the remaining participants based on the ratio of each participant's 2014 service hours, as defined in Section 4.1 of the Plan, relative to the total service hours of all eligible participants. Benefits of \$22,637 were paid by 216 shares that were repurchased by the Company and not reallocated to the remaining participants.

Plan Expenses

Plan expenses are paid by the Company.

Voting Rights

Each participant is entitled to exercise voting rights attributable to the shares allocated to his or her account and is notified by the Trustee prior to the time that such rights are to be exercised. The Trustee is not permitted to vote any allocated share for which instructions have not been given by a participant.

Plan Termination

The Company reserves the right to terminate the Plan at any time, subject to Plan provisions. Upon such termination of the Plan, the interest of each participant in the trust fund will be distributed to such participant or his or her beneficiary at the time prescribed by the Plan terms and the IRC. Upon termination of the Plan, the Employee Benefits Administration Committee will direct the Trustee to pay all liabilities and expenses of the trust fund. See Note 10.

Participant Accounts and Forfeitures

The Plan is a defined contribution plan under which a separate individual account is established for each participant. Each participant's account is credited with an allocation of shares of the Company's stock released by the Trustee from forfeitures of terminated participants' non-vested accounts and from the cash to make distributions to retiring participants. Forfeitures of terminated non-vested account balances allocated to remaining participants at December 31, 2014 and 2013, totaled approximately 1,780 and 3,738 shares, respectively. Only those participants who are eligible employees of the Company as of the last day of the Plan year will receive an allocation. Allocations are based on a participant's eligible service hours, relative to total eligible service hours. Plan earnings are allocated to each participant's account based on the ratio of the participant's account balance.

**MICHAEL STAPLETON ASSOCIATES, LTD.
EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN**

Notes to Financial Statements

NOTE 1: PLAN DESCRIPTION AND BASIS OF PRESENTATION (Continued)

Put Option

Under federal income tax regulations, the employer stock that is held by the Plan and its participants and is not readily tradable on an established market, or is subject to trading limitations, includes a put option. The put option permits the participant to sell such Company common stock at its then fair market value as of the last day of each Plan year, as determined by an independent appraiser, to the Company at any time during the sixty-day period commencing on the date the Company common stock was distributed to the participant. The Company can pay for the purchase with interest over a period of five years. The purpose of the put option is to ensure that the participant has the ability to ultimately obtain cash.

Diversification

Diversification is offered to participants close to retirement so that they may have the opportunity to move part of their investment in Company common stock into investments which are more diversified. Participants who are at least 55 with at least 10 years of participation in the Plan may elect to diversify a portion of their account. Diversification is offered to each eligible participant over a 6-year period. In each of the first 5 years, a participant may diversify up to 25 percent of the of the number of shares of Company common stock allocated to the participant's account, less any shares previously diversified. In the sixth year, the percentage changes to 50 percent. Participants who elect to diversify receive a cash distribution.

Valuation of Employer Common Stock

The Company's common stock is valued by an independent third-party appraiser each year as of the last day of the Plan year. The valuation of the Company's common stock as of December 31, 2014 and 2013 was performed by an independent appraiser, selected by the Trustee, on June 30, 2015 and September 25, 2014, respectively.

NOTE 2: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Accounting

The Plan's financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain amounts and disclosures. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**MICHAEL STAPLETON ASSOCIATES, LTD.
EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN**

Notes to Financial Statements

NOTE 2: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Use of Estimates (Continued)

In estimating the fair value of the Company's common stock on the balance sheet date, the independent appraiser, in accordance with standard practice for the appraisal industry for ESOP valuations, 1) allocated the estimated value of the Sponsor as a whole among all legally outstanding shares; 2) did not consider the effect of the Sponsor's future value of any Plan contributions that it will make, regardless of whether necessitated by the commitment; and 3) did not consider the effect of the Sponsor's future value of any adjustment to personnel compensation that may result from future contributions to the Plan. The necessary lack of consideration of these matters adds an additional level of risk from the possibility of estimated values departing from that at which shares would actually be exchanged in a transaction between a willing buyer and willing seller, and that future estimated changes in value will be greater than the changes in the underlying value of stock.

Investment Valuation and Income recognition

The shares of Company common stock are valued at fair value. See Note 5 for discussion of fair value measurements.

NOTE 3: EMPLOYER COMMON STOCK

The value is based on the holdings of 128,849 shares and 129,065 shares of the Company's common stock or 27.89% and 27.66%, valued by an independent appraiser, as of December 31, 2014 and 2013 at \$108.65 and \$104.80 per share, respectively. The increase in value over the prior year of \$496,069 is reflected on the statements of changes in net assets available for benefits.

NOTE 4: INVESTMENTS

The Plan's investments, at December 31, are presented in the following table:

	2014	2013
Sponsor Company common stock:		
Number of shares - Beginning of year	129,065	129,065
Less: Shares repurchased by Sponsor Company	(216)	-
Number of shares - End of year	128,849	129,065
Cost	\$ 7,164,865	\$ 7,176,350
Fair value	\$ 13,999,444	\$ 13,526,012
Cash - interest-bearing account	\$ 77	\$ 77

**MICHAEL STAPLETON ASSOCIATES, LTD.
EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN**

Notes to Financial Statements

NOTE 5: FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

FASB ASC 820, *Fair Value Measurements* provides the 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 under FASB ASC 820 are described as follows:

Level 1 - Inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that the plan has the ability to access.

Level 2 - Inputs to the valuation methodology include: 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 assets or liability, inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means. If the asset or liability has a specified (contractual) term, the Level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full-term of the asset or liability.

Level 3 - Inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurements.

The asset 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 measurements. Valuation techniques used need to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

The following tables set forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan's investment of 128,849 and 129,065 shares, at fair value as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively:

	Fair Value Measurements at December 31,			
	2014		2013	
	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Total	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Total
Investment in common stock of Plan Sponsor	\$13,999,444	\$ 13,999,444	\$13,526,012	\$ 13,526,012
Total investment at fair value	<u>\$13,999,444</u>	<u>\$ 13,999,444</u>	<u>\$13,526,012</u>	<u>\$ 13,526,012</u>

NOTE 5: FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (Continued)

MICHAEL STAPLETON ASSOCIATES, LTD.
EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN

Notes to Financial Statements

Changes in Fair Value Levels

The following table sets forth a summary of changes in the fair value of the Plan's Level 3 assets for the year ended December 31, 2014:

	<u>Level 3 Inputs</u>
Beginning of year	\$ 13,526,012
Employer contribution	143,028
Benefit payments	(165,665)
Unrealized gains relating to assets still held at the reporting date	<u>496,069</u>
End of year	<u><u>\$ 13,999,444</u></u>
The amount of total gains for the period included in changes in net assets attributable to the change in unrealized gains to assets still held at the reporting date	
	<u><u>\$ 496,069</u></u>

Gains and losses (realized and unrealized) included in changes in net assets for the period above are reported in net appreciation in fair value of investments in the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits.

Following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value. There have been no changes in the methodologies used at December 31, 2014 and 2013.

The fair value of the Company common stock held by the Plan is valued at fair value based upon an independent appraisal. This appraisal was based upon a combination of the market and income valuation techniques consistent with prior years. The appraiser took into account historical and projected cash flow and net income, return on assets, return on equity, market comparables, and the fair value of Company assets and liabilities. Plan management has concluded that a market participant would also recognize a discount for the lack of marketability.

The valuation process involves Plan management's selection of an independent appraiser under contract for a term of 3 years with the right to cancel such contract at any time. Plan management accumulates the data for the appraiser from the audited financial statements of the Company. The appraiser prepares a preliminary report which Plan management, along with the ESOP trustee, reviews in detail, discusses and approves. The results of this process are documented in minutes of the Plan fiduciary.

The preceding methods described may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. Furthermore, although 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.

**MICHAEL STAPLETON ASSOCIATES, LTD.
EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN**

Notes to Financial Statements

NOTE 6: TAX STATUS

The Internal Revenue Service has determined and informed the Company by a letter dated July 31, 2013, that the Plan and related trust are designed in accordance with applicable sections of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC).

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the plan and recognize a tax liability (or asset) if the plan has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the Internal Revenue Service. 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 that would require recognition of a liability (or asset) or disclosure in the financial statements.

The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress. Open years, subject to tax audits, include 2011, 2012 and 2013.

NOTE 7: ADMINISTRATION OF PLAN ASSETS

The Plan's assets, which consist principally of Company common shares, are held by the Trustee of the Plan.

Company contributions are held and managed by the Trustee, which invests cash received, interest, and dividend income and makes distributions to participants. The Trust administers the payment of interest and principal on the loan, if any.

Certain administrative functions are performed by officers or employees of the Company. No such officer or employee receives compensation from the Plan. Administrative expenses for the Trustee's fees are paid directly by the Company.

NOTE 8: RELATED-PARTY AND PARTY-IN-INTEREST TRANSACTIONS

All of the Plan's assets, except cash and cash equivalents, as of December 31, 2014 and 2013 are shares of common stock of the Plan Sponsor. Accordingly, transactions and holdings in these securities qualify as party-in-interest transactions. In addition, on December 29, 2014, the Board of Directors approved the appointment of Bankers Trust Company of North Dakota to replace First Bankers Trust Services as the Trustee of the Plan and, as such, are parties-in-interest. Principal Financial Group is the record keeper of the Plan and, as such, is also a party-in-interest.

NOTE 9: RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

Holdings of the Plan are invested solely in Michael Stapleton Associates, Ltd. common stock, which are exposed to various risks such as credit and overall market volatility risk. Due to the level of risk associated with these 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 the participants' account balances and the amounts reported in the statements of net assets available for benefits.

**MICHAEL STAPLETON ASSOCIATES, LTD.
EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN**

Notes to Financial Statements

NOTE 10: SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

In preparing the accompanying financial statements, the Plan's management has reviewed events that have occurred after December 31, 2014 through the date the financial statements were available to be issued on October 15, 2015. During this period, the Plan did not have any material subsequent events that are required to be disclosed in the financial statements, except for the following:

- a. On June 30, 2015, the Company's shareholders sold their common shares to an unrelated third-party (the "Closing") of which the Plan's share of the gross proceeds was \$16,863,767. Approximately seventeen percent (the Plan's share was \$2,673,201) of the cash proceeds received on the sale of such shares will be held in escrow by the buyer of the Company's shares to cover unrecorded or "after discovered" liabilities as of June 30, 2015 ("Escrow"). The release of funds from Escrow will occur over a two year period with the first release occurring on June 30, 2016, and the second release occurring on April 30, 2017. The funds in Escrow will be subject to oversight by an independent fiduciary appointed for the Plan, which may be the current trustee of the Plan.
- b. In connection with the sale of all the Company stock held by the Plan, the Plan was converted to a profit sharing plan effective immediately following the Closing and was merged with and into the Michael Stapleton Associates Ltd. 401(k) Plan ("401(k) Plan"). All of the Plan participants were fully-vested in their Plan accounts upon conversion and merger with and into the 401(k) Plan.
- c. Pursuant to the Plan amendment, all permissible Plan expenses incurred after the sale, including but not limited to Plan Trustee fees, fees of any independent fiduciary, fees of legal counsel to the Plan Trustee and/or recordkeeping and third-party administration fees of the Plan will be paid out of the Plan assets.

**MICHAEL STAPLETON ASSOCIATES, LTD.
EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN**

E.I.N. # 13-3440889

Plan # 002

Supplemental Information

**Schedule H, Line 4i
Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)**

December 31, 2014

Identity of Issue, Borrower, Lessor or Similar Party		Description of Investment Including Maturity Date, Rate of Interest, Collateral, Par or Maturity Value	Cost	Current Value
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
*	Michael Stapleton Associates, Ltd.	Common Stock (128,849 shares)	\$ 7,164,865	\$ 13,999,444
	Cash and cash equivalents	Interest-bearing account	77	77
			<u>\$ 7,164,942</u>	<u>\$ 13,999,521</u>

* Indicates party-in-interest to the Plan.