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 01/01/2015 and ending 12/31/2015

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
- [X] 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:
- [X] Form 5558;
- [ ] automatic extension;
- [ ] the DFVC program;
- [ ] special extension (enter description)

Part II Basic Plan Information—enter all requested information

1a Name of plan
ARIEL INVESTMENTS, LLC EMPLOYEES' PROFIT SHARING AND SAVINGS PLAN AND TRUST

1b Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001

1c Effective date of plan 01/01/1988

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)
ARIEL INVESTMENTS, LLC

200 E. RANDOLPH STREET
STE 2900
CHICAGO, IL 60601

2b Employer Identification Number (EIN)
02-0712418

2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number
312-726-0140

2d Business code (see instructions)
523900

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	Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature.	10/05/2016	MAUREEN LONGORIA
	Signature of plan administrator	Date	Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator
SIGN HERE			
	Signature of employer/plan sponsor	Date	Enter name of individual signing as employer or plan sponsor
SIGN HERE			
	Signature of DFE	Date	Enter name of individual signing as DFE

Preparer's name (including firm name, if applicable) and address (include room or suite number)

Preparer's telephone number

3a	Plan administrator's name and address [X] Same as Plan Sponsor	**3b**	Administrator's EIN
		3c	Administrator's telephone number
4	If the name and/or EIN of the plan sponsor has changed since the last return/report filed for this plan, enter the name, EIN and the plan number from the last return/report:	**4b**	EIN
a	Sponsor's name	**4c**	PN

5	Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year	**5**	116
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)**	84
a(2)	Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year	**6a(2)**	89
b	Retired or separated participants receiving benefits	**6b**	0
c	Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits	**6c**	32
d	Subtotal. Add lines **6a(2)**, **6b**, and **6c**.	**6d**	121
e	Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits.	**6e**	0
f	Total. Add lines **6d** and **6e**.	**6f**	121
g	Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item)	**6g**	118
h	Number of participants that terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested	**6h**	3
7	Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item)	**7**	

8a If the plan provides pension benefits, enter the applicable pension feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:
2E 2G 2J 2K 2T 3D

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)		**9b** Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply)	
(1)	[ ] Insurance	**(1)**	[ ] Insurance
(2)	[ ] Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts	**(2)**	[ ] Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts
(3)	[X] Trust	**(3)**	[X] Trust
(4)	[ ] General assets of the sponsor	**(4)**	[ ] General assets of the sponsor

10 Check all applicable boxes in 10a and 10b to indicate which schedules are attached, and, where indicated, enter the number attached. (See instructions)

a Pension Schedules

- **(1)** [X] **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)** [X] **H** (Financial Information)
- **(2)** [ ] **I** (Financial Information – Small Plan)
- **(3)** [ ] 0 **A** (Insurance Information)
- **(4)** [X] **C** (Service Provider Information)
- **(5)** [ ] **D** (DFE/Participating Plan Information)
- **(6)** [ ] **G** (Financial Transaction Schedules)

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

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

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

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

11c Enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the 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_____

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

For calendar plan year 2015 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2015 and ending 12/31/2015

A Name of plan
ARIEL INVESTMENTS, LLC EMPLOYEES' PROFIT SHARING AND SAVINGS PLAN AND TRUST

B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001

C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500
ARIEL INVESTMENTS, LLC

D Employer Identification Number (EIN)
02-0712418

Part I Service Provider Information (see instructions)

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

1 Information on Persons Receiving Only Eligible Indirect Compensation

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

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

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

FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL

04-2647786

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

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

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

FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL

04-2647786

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
37 60 64 65	RECORDKEEPER	688	Yes [X] No [ ]	Yes [X] No [ ]	0	Yes [X] No [ ]

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Part I Service Provider Information (continued)

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

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

(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation		**(e)** Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.
ARIEL APPREC INST - U.S. BANCORP F	P.O. BOX 701 MILWAUKEE, WI 53201	0.10%

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

(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation		**(e)** Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.
ARIEL DISCOVERY INST - U.S. BANCOR	P.O. BOX 701 MILWAUKEE, WI 53201	0.10%

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

(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation		**(e)** Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.
ARIEL FOCUS INST - U.S. BANCORP FU	P.O. BOX 701 MILWAUKEE, WI 53201	0.10%

Part I Service Provider Information (continued)

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

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

(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation		**(e)** Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.
ARIEL FUND INST - U.S. BANCORP FUN	P.O. BOX 701 MILWAUKEE, WI 53201	0.10%

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

(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation		**(e)** Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.
ARIEL GLOBAL INST - U.S. BANCORP F	P.O. BOX 701 MILWAUKEE, WI 53201	0.10%

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

(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation		**(e)** Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.
ARIEL INTL INST - U.S. BANCORP FUN	P.O. BOX 701 MILWAUKEE, WI 53201	0.10%

Part I Service Provider Information (continued)

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

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

(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation		**(e)** Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.
DODGE & COX INTL STK - BOSTON FINA	P.O. BOX 8480 BOSTON, MA 02266	0.10%

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

(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation		**(e)** Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.
LM OPP TR I - BNY MELLON INV SERVI	P.O. BOX 9793 PROVIDENCE, RI 02940	0.10%

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

(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation		**(e)** Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.
OAKMRK INTL SM CAP I - BOSTON FINA	P.O. BOX 8480 BOSTON, MA 02266	0.25%

Part I Service Provider Information (continued)

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

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

(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	**(e)** Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.
TRP SHORT TERM BOND - T. ROWE PRIC 52-2269240	0.15%

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

(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	**(e)** Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.
WASATCH SM CAP GRTH - UMB FUND SER 39-1657495	0.40%

(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

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(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)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Department of Labor
Employee Benefits Security Administration

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

Financial Information

This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code).

▶ **File as an attachment to Form 5500.**

OMB No. 1210-0110

2015

This Form is Open to Public Inspection

For calendar plan year 2015 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2015 and ending 12/31/2015

A Name of plan
ARIEL INVESTMENTS, LLC EMPLOYEES' PROFIT SHARING AND SAVINGS PLAN AND TRUST

B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001

C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500
ARIEL INVESTMENTS, LLC

D Employer Identification Number (EIN)
02-0712418

Part I Asset and Liability Statement

1 Current value of plan assets and liabilities at the beginning and end of the plan year. Combine the value of plan assets held in more than one trust. Report the value of the plan's interest in a commingled fund containing the assets of more than one plan on a line-by-line basis unless the value is reportable on lines 1c(9) through 1c(14). Do not enter the value of that portion of an insurance contract which guarantees, during this plan year, to pay a specific dollar benefit at a future date. **Round off amounts to the nearest dollar.** MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 1b(1), 1b(2), 1c(8), 1g, 1h, and 1i. CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 1d and 1e. See instructions.

Assets		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
a Total noninterest-bearing cash	1a	0	0
b Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
(1) Employer contributions	1b(1)	18794	55308
(2) Participant contributions	1b(2)	0	21287
(3) Other	1b(3)	0	0
c General investments:			
(1) Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit)	1c(1)	130846	128352
(2) U.S. Government securities	1c(2)	0	0
(3) Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(3)(A)	0	0
(B) All other	1c(3)(B)	0	0
(4) Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(4)(A)	0	0
(B) Common	1c(4)(B)	0	0
(5) Partnership/joint venture interests	1c(5)	0	0
(6) Real estate (other than employer real property)	1c(6)	0	0
(7) Loans (other than to participants)	1c(7)	0	0
(8) Participant loans	1c(8)	161397	109090
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)	0	0
(10) Value of interest in pooled separate accounts	1c(10)	0	0
(11) Value of interest in master trust investment accounts	1c(11)	0	0
(12) Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities	1c(12)	0	0
(13) Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	1c(13)	29720190	24038799
(14) Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts)	1c(14)		
(15) Other	1c(15)	0	0

		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
1d Employer-related investments:			
(1) Employer securities	1d(1)	0	0
(2) Employer real property	1d(2)	0	0
e Buildings and other property used in plan operation	1e	0	0
f Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e)	1f	30031227	24352836
Liabilities			
g Benefit claims payable	1g	0	0
h Operating payables	1h	0	0
i Acquisition indebtedness	1i	0	0
j Other liabilities	1j	0	0
k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through1j)	1k	0	0
Net Assets			
l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f)	1l	30031227	24352836

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)	363723	
(B) Participants	2a(1)(B)	1000933	
(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)		1364656
b Earnings on investments:			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit)	2b(1)(A)	20	
(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)	5180	
(F) Other	2b(1)(F)	0	
(G) Total interest. Add lines **2b(1)(A)** through **(F)**	2b(1)(G)		5200
(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)	2148092	
(D) Total dividends. Add lines **2b(2)(A)**, **(B)**, and **(C)**	2b(2)(D)		2148092
(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)	0	
(C) Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines **2b(5)(A)** and **(B)**	2b(5)(C)		0

		(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)		-4321335
c Other income	2c		0
d Total income. Add all **income** amounts in column (b) and enter total	2d		-803387
Expenses			
e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)	4874316	
(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)		4874316
f Corrective distributions (see instructions)	2f		0
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions)	2g		0
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)	688	
(5) Total administrative expenses. Add lines **2i(1)** through **(4)**	2i(5)		688
j Total expenses. Add all **expense** amounts in column (b) and enter total	2j		4875004
Net Income and Reconciliation			
k Net income (loss). Subtract line **2j** from line **2d**	2k		-5678391
l Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan	2l(1)		0
(2) From this plan	2l(2)		

Part III Accountant's Opinion

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

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

(1) [ ] Unqualified **(2)** [ ] Qualified **(3)** [X] Disclaimer **(4)** [ ] Adverse

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

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

(1) Name: MAYER HOFFMAN MCCANN P.C. **(2)** EIN: 43-1947695

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.)	4a		X		
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.)	4b		X		

			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.)	4c		X		
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.)	4d		X		
e	Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	4e	X			500000
f	Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?	4f		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?	4g		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?	4h		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.)	4i	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.)	4j		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?	4k		X		
l	Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?	4l		X		
m	If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)	4m		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.	4n		X		
o	Did the plan trust incur unrelated business taxable income?	4o				
p	Were in-service distributions made during the plan year?	4p				

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

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

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

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

Part V Trust Information

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.

For calendar plan year 2015 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2015 and ending 12/31/2015

A Name of plan
ARIEL INVESTMENTS, LLC EMPLOYEES' PROFIT SHARING AND SAVINGS PLAN AND TRUST

B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001

C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500
ARIEL INVESTMENTS, LLC

D Employer Identification Number (EIN)
02-0712418

Part I Distributions

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** 0

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): 04-6568107

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 of 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

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**

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.

10 Were unallocated employer securities or proceeds from the sale of unallocated securities used to repay any exempt loan? ..... ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

11 a Does the ESOP hold any preferred stock? ..... ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

b If the ESOP has an outstanding exempt loan with the employer as lender, is such loan part of a "back-to-back" loan? (See instructions for definition of "back-to-back" loan.) ..... ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

12 Does the ESOP hold any stock that is not readily tradable on an established securities market? ..... ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

Part V Additional Information for Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans

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

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer

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

e Contribution rate information *(If more than one rate applies, check this box* ☐ *and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)*
(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____
(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify):

---

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer

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

e Contribution rate information *(If more than one rate applies, check this box* ☐ *and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)*
(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____
(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

---

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer

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

e Contribution rate information *(If more than one rate applies, check this box* ☐ *and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)*
(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____
(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

---

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer

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

e Contribution rate information *(If more than one rate applies, check this box* ☐ *and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)*
(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____
(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

---

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer

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

e Contribution rate information *(If more than one rate applies, check this box* ☐ *and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)*
(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____
(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

---

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer

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

e Contribution rate information *(If more than one rate applies, check this box* ☐ *and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)*
(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____
(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

a Enter the percentage of plan assets held as:
Stock: _____% Investment-Grade Debt: _____% High-Yield Debt: _____% Real Estate: _____% Other: _____%

b Provide the average duration of the combined investment-grade and high-yield debt:
☐ 0-3 years ☐ 3-6 years ☐ 6-9 years ☐ 9-12 years ☐ 12-15 years ☐ 15-18 years ☐ 18-21 years ☐ 21 years or more

c What duration measure was used to calculate line 19(b)?
☐ Effective duration ☐ Macaulay duration ☐ Modified duration ☐ Other (specify):

Part VII IRS Compliance Questions

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

ARIEL INVESTMENTS, LLC EMPLOYEES' PROFIT SHARING AND SAVINGS PLAN AND TRUST

SCHEDULE H, LINE 4i – SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)

December 31, 2015

EIN: 02-0712418
Plan Number: 001

(a)	(b) Identity of issue, borrower, lessor, or similar party	(c) Description of investments including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par, or maturity value	(d) Cost	(e) Current value
*	Ariel Investments	Appreciation Fund	(1)	$ 3,313,652
*	Ariel Investments	Focus Fund	(1)	2,684,737
*	Ariel Investments	Ariel Fund	(1)	3,520,252
*	Ariel Investments	Discovery Fund	(1)	1,344,565
*	Ariel Investments	International Fund	(1)	1,546,055
*	Ariel Investments	Global Fund	(1)	232,387
	Dodge & Cox	International Stock Fund	(1)	1,489,064
	Legg Mason	Opportunity Trust	(1)	1,257,630
	Longleaf Partners	Longleaf Partners Fund	(1)	2,620,663
	Oakmark Funds	International Small Cap Fund	(1)	1,326,029
	PIMCO	Real Return Fund	(1)	1,013,944
	Sequoia	Sequoia Fund	(1)	1,413,014
	T. Rowe Price	Short Term Bond Fund	(1)	1,017,544
	Wasatch	Small Cap Growth Fund	(1)	1,259,263
*	Fidelity Investments	Retirement Government Money Market Fund	(1)	128,352
				24,167,151
*	Participant loans	Interest rates range from 4.25% to 5.25%	-	109,090
				$ 24,276,241

* Party-in-interest as defined by ERISA
(1) Cost information may be omitted for plan assets which are participant-directed.

ARIEL INVESTMENTS, LLC EMPLOYEES' PROFIT SHARING AND SAVINGS PLAN AND TRUST

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2015 and 2014 and the
Year Ended December 31, 2015

Mayer Hoffman McCann P.C.
An Independent CPA Firm

225 West Wacker Drive, Suite 2500 ▪ Chicago, Illinois 60606
Main: 312.602.6800 ▪ Fax: 312.602.6950 ▪ www.mhmcpa.com

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Plan Administrator

ARIEL INVESTMENTS, LLC EMPLOYEES' PROFIT SHARING AND SAVINGS PLAN AND TRUST

Report on the Financial Statements

We were engaged to audit the accompanying financial statements of Ariel Investments, LLC Employees' Profit Sharing and Savings Plan and Trust (the "Plan"), which comprise the statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2015, 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 conducting the audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Because of the matter described in the Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion paragraph, however, we were not able to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to provide a basis for an audit opinion.

Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion

As permitted by 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's ("DOL") Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, the plan administrator instructed us not to perform, and we did not perform, any auditing procedures with respect to the information summarized in Note 3, which was certified by Fidelity Management Trust Company, the trustee of the Plan, except for comparing the information with the related information included in the financial statements. We have been informed by the plan administrator that the trustee holds the Plan's investment assets and executes investment transactions. The plan administrator has obtained certifications from the trustee as of December 31, 2015 and 2014 and for the year ended December 31, 2015, that the information provided to the plan administrator by the trustee is complete and accurate.

KRESTON Member of Kreston International – a global network of independent accounting firms

Disclaimer of Opinion

Because of the significance of the matter described in the Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion paragraph, we have not been able to obtain sufficient, appropriate audit evidence to provide a basis for an audit opinion. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on these financial statements.

Other Matter

The supplemental schedule of assets (held at end of year) as of December 31, 2015, which is the responsibility of plan management, is presented for the purpose of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but is required by the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. Because of the significance of the matter described in the Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion paragraph, we do not express an opinion on the supplemental schedule referred to above.

Report on Form and Content in Compliance with DOL Rules and Regulations

The form and content of the information included in the financial statements and supplemental schedule, other than that derived from the information certified by the trustee, have been audited by us in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and, in our opinion, are presented in compliance with the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.



Chicago, Illinois
September 29, 2016

ARIEL INVESTMENTS, LLC EMPLOYEES' PROFIT SHARING AND SAVINGS PLAN AND TRUST

STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS

December 31, 2015 and 2014

	2015	2014
ASSETS		
Investments at fair value	$ 24,167,151	$ 29,851,036
Receivables:		
Employer contributions	55,308	18,794
Participants' contributions	21,287	-
Notes receivable from participants	109,090	161,397
	185,685	180,191
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS	$ 24,352,836	$ 30,031,227

See Notes to Financial Statements

ARIEL INVESTMENTS, LLC EMPLOYEES' PROFIT SHARING AND SAVINGS PLAN AND TRUST

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS

Year Ended December 31, 2015

ADDITIONS	
Investment income:	
Net appreciation (depreciation) in fair value of investments	$ (4,321,335)
Dividends	2,148,112
	(2,173,223)
Interest income on notes receivable from participants	5,180
Contributions:	
Employer	363,723
Participants	1,000,933
	1,364,656
TOTAL ADDITIONS	(803,387)
DEDUCTIONS	
Benefits paid to participants	4,874,316
Administrative expenses	688
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	4,875,004
NET DECREASE	(5,678,391)
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS	
Beginning of year	30,031,227
End of year	$ 24,352,836

See Notes to Financial Statements

(1) Description of plan

The following description of Ariel Investments, LLC Employees' Profit Sharing and Savings Plan and Trust (the "Plan") provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Plan document or Summary Plan Description for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions, which are available from the plan administrator.

General - The Plan is a defined contribution plan sponsored by Ariel Investments, LLC (the "Company") for the benefit of its employees who are scheduled to work at least 1,000 hours per year. The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA").

Contributions - Participants may contribute up to 95% of pretax annual compensation, as defined in the Plan. Participants may also contribute amounts representing distributions from other qualified defined benefit or contribution plans. Additionally, participants age 50 or older, who are making contributions to the Plan, are allowed to make catch-up contributions as defined in the Plan. Participants direct the investment of all contributions into various investment options offered by the Plan. The Company contributes the greater of $500 or 3% of eligible compensation for participants that make deferral contributions to the Plan. Company matching contributions are discretionary as determined by the Company. Additional amounts may be contributed at the option of the Company. Contributions are subject to certain Internal Revenue Code ("IRC") limitations.

Participant investment account options - The Plan currently offers 14 mutual funds and a money market account as investment options for participants.

Participant accounts - Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contribution and allocations of (a) the Company's contribution and (b) plan earnings and charged with an allocation of administrative expenses. Allocations are based on participant earnings or account balances, as defined. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant's vested account.

Vesting - Participants are immediately vested in their own contributions as well as the matching portion of the Company's contribution, plus actual earnings thereon. Vesting in the discretionary portion of the Company's contribution is based on years of continuous service. A participant is 100% vested after six years of credited service.

Notes receivable from participants - Participants may borrow from their fund accounts a minimum of $1,000 up to a maximum equal to the lesser of $50,000 or 50% of their vested account balance. The loans are secured by the balance in the participant's account and bear interest at rates which are commensurate with local prevailing rates as determined by the plan administrator. Principal and interest are paid ratably through payroll deductions.

Payment of benefits - On termination of service due to death, disability or retirement, a participant may elect to receive either a lump-sum amount equal to the value of the participant's vested interest in his or her account or annual installments. For termination of service due to other reasons, a participant may receive the value of the vested interest in his or her account as a lump-sum distribution. Participants who continue employment and who have attained the age of 59½ are entitled to take an in-service distribution for all or any portion of their vested balance.

(1) Description of plan (continued)

Forfeited accounts - At December 31, 2015 and 2014, forfeited nonvested accounts totaled $37,511 and $30,522, respectively. No amounts were reallocated to the accounts of eligible participants from forfeited nonvested accounts for the years ended December 31, 2015 or 2014.

(2) Summary of significant accounting policies

Basis of accounting - The financial statements of the Plan are prepared under the accrual method of accounting.

Use of estimates - The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect reported amounts of assets and liabilities and changes therein, and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities. Accordingly, actual results may differ from those estimates.

New accounting pronouncements - In May 2015, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") 2015-07, *Disclosures for Investments in Certain Entities That Calculate Net Asset Value per Share (or Its Equivalent)*. The ASU removes the requirement to categorize within the fair value hierarchy investments for which fair values are estimated using the net asset value per share as a practical expedient provided by FASB Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") 820, *Fair Value Measurement*. Disclosures about investments in certain entities that calculate net asset value per share are limited under this ASU to investments for which the entity has elected to estimate the fair value using the net asset value practical expedient. The guidance requires retrospective application and is effective for public business entities for fiscal years, and interim periods within those years, beginning after December 15, 2015. For all other entities, the guidance is effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those years, beginning after December 15, 2016. Early adoption is permitted. ASU 2015-07 is not applicable to the Plan.

In July 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-12, *Plan Accounting: Defined Benefit Pension Plans (Topic 960), Defined Contribution Pension Plans (Topic 962), Health and Welfare Benefit Plans (Topic 965): (Part I) Fully Benefit-Responsive Investment Contracts, (Part II) Plan Investment Disclosures, (Part Ill) Measurement Date Practical Expedient.* Part I of the ASU eliminates the requirements to measure the fair value of fully benefit-responsive investment contracts and provide certain disclosures. Contract value is the only required measure for fully benefit-responsive investment contracts. Part II of this ASU eliminates the requirements to disclose individual investments that represent 5% or more of net assets available for benefits and the net appreciation or depreciation in fair value of investments by general type. It also simplifies the level of disaggregation of investments that are measured using fair value. Plans will continue to disaggregate investments that are measured using fair value by general type; however, plans are no longer required to also disaggregate investments by nature, characteristics, and risk. Further, the disclosure of information about fair value measurements shall be provided by general type of plan.

(2) Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

Part III of this ASU allows a plan with a fiscal year end that does not coincide with the end of a calendar month to measure its investments and investment-related accounts using the month end closest to its fiscal year end. The guidance is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2015, and early adoption is permitted. The guidance on fully benefit-responsive investment contracts and plan investment disclosures must be applied retrospectively. The guidance on measurement date practical expedient must be applied prospectively. The Plan's management has elected to early adopt ASU 2015-12 Part II. The statement of changes in net assets available for benefits of the Plan was not affected by the adoption of the new guidance. Parts I and III are not applicable to the Plan.

Investment valuation and income recognition - Investments are reported at fair value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. See Note 4 for discussions of fair value measurements.

Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Net appreciation (depreciation) includes the Plan's gains and losses on investments bought and sold, as well as held during the year.

Notes receivable from participants - Notes receivable from participants are measured at their unpaid principal balance plus accrued but unpaid interest. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Related fees are recorded as administrative expenses and are expensed when they are incurred. No allowance for credit losses has been recorded as of December 31, 2015 or 2014. If a participant ceases to make loan repayments and the plan administrator deems the participant loan to be in default, the participant loan balance is reduced and a benefit payment is recorded.

Payments of benefits - Benefits are recorded when paid.

Administrative expenses - Certain expenses of the Plan are paid by the Company and are not included in the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits. Fees related to the administration of notes receivable from participants are charged directly to the participant's account and are included in administrative expenses. Investment-related expenses are included in net appreciation (depreciation) in fair value of investments.

Cash and cash equivalents - Investments with a maturity date of three months or less on their acquisition date are classified as cash and cash equivalents and are recorded at cost, which approximates fair value.

(3) Information prepared and certified by the trustee

The plan administrator has elected the method of annual reporting compliance permitted by 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Accordingly, Fidelity Management Trust Company, the trustee of the Plan, has certified that the following data included in the accompanying financial statements and supplemental schedule is complete and accurate with respect to investments:

- Investments at fair value
- Notes receivable from participants
- Net appreciation (depreciation) in fair value of investments
- Interest and dividends
- Interest income on notes receivable from participants
- Schedule of assets (held at end of year)

The Plan's independent public accountants did not perform auditing procedures with respect to this information, except for comparing such information to the related information included in the financial statements and supplemental schedule.

(4) Fair value measurements

FASB ASC 820 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 below:

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 and liabilities in active markets; quoted prices for identical or similar assets and liabilities in inactive markets; inputs other than quoted market prices that are observable for the asset or liability; and 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 measurement.

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 measurement. Valuation techniques used need to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

(4) Fair value measurements (continued)

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, 2015 and 2014.

Mutual funds: Valued at the daily closing price as reported by the fund. Mutual funds held by the Plan are open-end mutual funds that are registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission. These funds are required to publish their daily Net Asset Value ("NAV") and to transact at that price. The mutual funds held by the Plan are deemed to be actively traded.

The preceding method described may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of the 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.

The following table sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan's investments at fair value as of December 31, 2015:

	Investments at Fair Value as of December 31, 2015			
	Level 1	**Level 2**	**Level 3**	**Total**
Mutual funds	$ 24,167,151	$ -	$ -	$ 24,167,151

The following table sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan's investments at fair value as of December 31, 2014:

	Investments at Fair Value as of December 31, 2014			
	Level 1	**Level 2**	**Level 3**	**Total**
Mutual funds	$ 29,851,036	$ -	$ -	$ 29,851,036

(5) Related party transactions and party-in-interest transactions

Certain Plan investments are shares of mutual funds managed by Ariel Investments, LLC. Ariel Investments, LLC is the Plan Sponsor as defined by the Plan, and therefore, these transactions qualify as party-in-interest transactions. At December 31, 2015 and 2014, 52% and 53%, respectively, of the Plan investments were held in Ariel mutual funds.

Additionally, certain Plan investments are shares of mutual funds managed by Fidelity Management Trust Company. Fidelity Management Trust Company is the trustee as defined by the Plan, and therefore, these transactions qualify as party-in-interest transactions. Fees incurred by the Plan for the investment management services are included in net appreciation (depreciation) in fair value of investments, as they are paid through revenue sharing, rather than a direct payment. As described in Note 2, the Plan made direct payments to the third-party administrator of $688 for the year ended December 31, 2015, which were not covered by revenue sharing. The Plan Sponsor pays directly any other fees related to the Plan's operations.

Certain receivables are loans to participant employees of the Company, and therefore, these transactions are considered party-in-interest transactions.

(6) Plan termination

Although it has not expressed any intent to do so, the Company has the right under the Plan to discontinue its contributions at any time and to terminate the Plan subject to the provisions of ERISA. In the event of plan termination, participants would become 100% vested in their employer contributions.

(7) Tax status

The Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") has determined that the prototype 401(k) profit sharing plan is designed in accordance with applicable sections of the IRC and informed the trustee of such in a letter dated March 31, 2014. The plan administrator believes that the Plan and related trust are currently designed and being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the 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 tax position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the IRS. The plan administrator has analyzed the tax positions taken by the Plan and has concluded that as of December 31, 2015 and 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. The plan administrator believes it is no longer subject to income tax examinations for years prior to 2012.

(8) Risks and uncertainties

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

(9) Subsequent events

The Plan has evaluated subsequent events through September 29, 2016, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued. No significant matters were identified for disclosure during this evaluation.

SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE

ARIEL INVESTMENTS, LLC EMPLOYEES' PROFIT SHARING AND SAVINGS PLAN AND TRUST

SCHEDULE H, LINE 4i – SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)

December 31, 2015

EIN: 02-0712418
Plan Number: 001

(a)	(b) Identity of issue, borrower, lessor, or similar party	(c) Description of investments including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par, or maturity value	(d) Cost	(e) Current value
*	Ariel Investments	Appreciation Fund	(1)	$ 3,313,652
*	Ariel Investments	Focus Fund	(1)	2,684,737
*	Ariel Investments	Ariel Fund	(1)	3,520,252
*	Ariel Investments	Discovery Fund	(1)	1,344,565
*	Ariel Investments	International Fund	(1)	1,546,055
*	Ariel Investments	Global Fund	(1)	232,387
	Dodge & Cox	International Stock Fund	(1)	1,489,064
	Legg Mason	Opportunity Trust	(1)	1,257,630
	Longleaf Partners	Longleaf Partners Fund	(1)	2,620,663
	Oakmark Funds	International Small Cap Fund	(1)	1,326,029
	PIMCO	Real Return Fund	(1)	1,013,944
	Sequoia	Sequoia Fund	(1)	1,413,014
	T. Rowe Price	Short Term Bond Fund	(1)	1,017,544
	Wasatch	Small Cap Growth Fund	(1)	1,259,263
*	Fidelity Investments	Retirement Government Money Market Fund	(1)	128,352
				24,167,151
*	Participant loans	Interest rates range from 4.25% to 5.25%	-	109,090
				$ 24,276,241

* Party-in-interest as defined by ERISA
(1) Cost information may be omitted for plan assets which are participant-directed.