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 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

2017

This Form is Open to Public Inspection

Part I Annual Report Identification Information

For calendar plan year 2017 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2017 and ending 12/31/2017

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.)
- [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
ASCEND SAVINGS & INVESTMENT PLAN

1b Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 002

1c Effective date of plan 11/01/2009

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)

ASCEND PERFORMANCE MATERIALS HOLDINGS INC.

1010 TRAVIS STREET
SUITE 900
HOUSTON, TX 77002

2b Employer Identification Number (EIN)
27-0219853

2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number
713-315-5700

2d Business code (see instructions)
325200

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.	10/16/2018	DANICA FERGUSON
	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

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 or the plan name has changed since the last return/report filed for this plan, enter the plan sponsor's name, EIN, the plan name and the plan number from the last return/report:
a Sponsor's name
c Plan Name

4b EIN

4d PN

5 Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year	**5**	2685
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)**	2293
a(2) Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year	**6a(2)**	2329
b Retired or separated participants receiving benefits	**6b**	1
c Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits	**6c**	445
d Subtotal. Add lines **6a(2)**, **6b**, and **6c**	**6d**	2775
e Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits.	**6e**	6
f Total. Add lines **6d** and **6e**.	**6f**	2781
g Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item)	**6g**	2739
h Number of participants who 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:

2F 2G 2J 2K 2S 2T 3D 3H

b If the plan provides welfare benefits, enter the applicable welfare feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:

9a Plan funding arrangement (check all that apply)

- **(1)** [ ] Insurance
- **(2)** [ ] Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts
- **(3)** [X] 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)** [X] Trust
- **(4)** [ ] General assets of the sponsor

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

a Pension Schedules

- **(1)** [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)** [ ] ___ **A** (Insurance Information)
- **(4)** [X] **C** (Service Provider Information)
- **(5)** [X] **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 2017 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2017 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.**	**2017** **This Form is Open to Public Inspection.**

For calendar plan year 2017 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2017 and ending 12/31/2017

A Name of plan
ASCEND SAVINGS & INVESTMENT PLAN

B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 002

C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500
ASCEND PERFORMANCE MATERIALS HOLDINGS INC.

D Employer Identification Number (EIN)
27-0219853

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

TRANSAMERICA RETIREMENT SOLUTIONS

13-3689044

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures 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)

TRANSAMERICA RETIREMENT SOLUTIONS

13-3689044

(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?
12 15 28 37 38 50 54 59 61 62 63 64 65	RECORD KEEPER	9515	Yes [X] No [ ]	Yes [X] No [ ]	0	Yes [ ] No [X]

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

NATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES

04-3523567

(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?
33 71	SECURITIES BROKER	0	Yes [X] No [ ]	Yes [ ] No [X]	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 [ ]

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
NATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES	33 71	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.
BLACKROCK 40 EAST 52ND ST NEW YORK, NY 10022	REVENUE SHARING SEE ATTACHMENT TO LINE 2(H)

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	**(b)** Service Codes (see instructions)	**(c)** Enter amount of indirect compensation
NATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES	33 71	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.
HARTFORD P.O. BOX 5085 HARTFORD, CT 06102	REVENUE SHARING SEE ATTACHMENT TO LINE 2(H)

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	**(b)** Service Codes (see instructions)	**(c)** Enter amount of indirect compensation
NATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES	33 71	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.
INVESCO 11 GREENWAY PLAZA SUITE 100 HOUSTON, TX 77046	REVENUE SHARING SEE ATTACHMENT TO LINE 2(H)

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
NATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES	33 71	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.
JP MORGAN 30 DAN ROAD CANTON, MA 02021	REVENUE SHARING SEE ATTACHMENT TO LINE 2(H)

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	**(b)** Service Codes (see instructions)	**(c)** Enter amount of indirect compensation
NATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES	33 71	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.
PIONEER 30 DAN ROAD CANTON, MA 02021	REVENUE SHARING SEE ATTACHMENT TO LINE 2(H)

(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 D (Form 5500)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Department of Labor
Employee Benefits Security Administration

DFE/Participating Plan Information

This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

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

OMB No. 1210-0110

2017

This Form is Open to Public Inspection.

For calendar plan year 2017 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2017 and ending 12/31/2017

A Name of plan
ASCEND SAVINGS & INVESTMENT PLAN

B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 002

C Plan or DFE sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500
ASCEND PERFORMANCE MATERIALS HOLDINGS INC.

D Employer Identification Number (EIN)
27-0219853

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

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: BNY MELLON STABLE VALUE FUND M

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON

c EIN-PN	**d** Entity code	**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
11-3152987-001	C	20618518

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

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

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

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

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

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

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

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

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

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

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

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

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

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

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

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

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

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

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

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

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

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

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

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

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

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

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

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

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

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

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

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

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

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

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

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

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

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

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

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

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

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

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

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

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

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

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

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

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

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

a Plan name

b Name of plan sponsor	**c** EIN-PN

a Plan name

b Name of plan sponsor	**c** EIN-PN

a Plan name

b Name of plan sponsor	**c** EIN-PN

a Plan name

b Name of plan sponsor	**c** EIN-PN

a Plan name

b Name of plan sponsor	**c** EIN-PN

a Plan name

b Name of plan sponsor	**c** EIN-PN

a Plan name

b Name of plan sponsor	**c** EIN-PN

a Plan name

b Name of plan sponsor	**c** EIN-PN

a Plan name

b Name of plan sponsor	**c** EIN-PN

a Plan name

b Name of plan sponsor	**c** EIN-PN

a Plan name

b Name of plan sponsor	**c** EIN-PN

a Plan name

b Name of plan sponsor	**c** EIN-PN

a Plan name

b Name of plan sponsor	**c** EIN-PN

a Plan name

b Name of plan sponsor	**c** EIN-PN

SCHEDULE H (Form 5500)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Department of Labor
Employee Benefits Security Administration

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

Financial Information

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

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

OMB No. 1210-0110

2017

This Form is Open to Public Inspection

For calendar plan year 2017 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2017 and ending 12/31/2017

A Name of plan
ASCEND SAVINGS & INVESTMENT PLAN

B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 002

C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500
ASCEND PERFORMANCE MATERIALS HOLDINGS INC.

D Employer Identification Number (EIN)
27-0219853

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		
b Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
(1) Employer contributions	1b(1)	478720	378503
(2) Participant contributions	1b(2)	0	0
(3) Other	1b(3)		
c General investments:			
(1) Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit)	1c(1)	49852	20207
(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)	8728533	5615298
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)	25092431	20618518
(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)	217962247	281116958
(14) Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts)	1c(14)		
(15) Other	1c(15)		

			(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
1d	Employer-related investments:			
	(1) Employer securities	1d(1)		
	(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	252311783	307749484
	Liabilities			
g	Benefit claims payable	1g		
h	Operating payables	1h		
i	Acquisition indebtedness	1i		
j	Other liabilities	1j		
k	Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through1j)	1k		
	Net Assets			
l	Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f)	1l	252311783	307749484

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)	12090071	
	(B) Participants	2a(1)(B)	22270011	
	(C) Others (including rollovers)	2a(1)(C)	1892151	
	(2) Noncash contributions	2a(2)		
	(3) Total contributions. Add lines **2a(1)(A), (B), (C),** and line **2a(2)**	2a(3)		36252233
b	**Earnings on investments:**			
	(1) Interest:			
	(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit)	2b(1)(A)		
	(B) U.S. Government securities	2b(1)(B)		
	(C) Corporate debt instruments	2b(1)(C)		
	(D) Loans (other than to participants)	2b(1)(D)		
	(E) Participant loans	2b(1)(E)	225392	
	(F) Other	2b(1)(F)		
	(G) Total interest. Add lines **2b(1)(A)** through **(F)**	2b(1)(G)		225392
	(2) Dividends: **(A)** Preferred stock	2b(2)(A)		
	(B) Common stock	2b(2)(B)		
	(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds)	2b(2)(C)	5286175	
	(D) Total dividends. Add lines **2b(2)(A)**, **(B)**, and **(C)**	2b(2)(D)		5286175
	(3) Rents	2b(3)		
	(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets: **(A)** Aggregate proceeds	2b(4)(A)		
	(B) Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions)	2b(4)(B)		
	(C) Subtract line **2b(4)(B)** from line **2b(4)(A)** and enter result	2b(4)(C)		
	(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets: **(A)** Real estate	2b(5)(A)		
	(B) Other	2b(5)(B)		
	(C) Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines **2b(5)(A)** and **(B)**	2b(5)(C)		

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts	2b(6)		347615
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts	2b(7)		
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts	2b(8)		
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities	2b(9)		
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	2b(10)		34922540
c Other income	2c		96351
d Total income. Add all **income** amounts in column (b) and enter total	2d		77130306
Expenses			
e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)	21683090	
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits	2e(2)		
(3) Other	2e(3)		
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines **2e(1)** through **(3)**	2e(4)		21683090
f Corrective distributions (see instructions)	2f		
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions)	2g		
h Interest expense	2h		
i Administrative expenses: (1) Professional fees	2i(1)		
(2) Contract administrator fees	2i(2)		
(3) Investment advisory and management fees	2i(3)		
(4) Other	2i(4)	9515	
(5) Total administrative expenses. Add lines **2i(1)** through **(4)**	2i(5)		9515
j Total expenses. Add all **expense** amounts in column (b) and enter total	2j		21692605
Net Income and Reconciliation			
k Net income (loss). Subtract line **2j** from line **2d**	2k		55437701
l Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan	2l(1)		
(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: KPMG LLP **(2)** EIN: 13-5565207

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	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	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		2000000
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	

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

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
If "Yes" is checked, enter the My PAA confirmation number from the PBGC premium filing for this plan year_____. (See instructions.)

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 sections 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

2017

This Form is Open to Public Inspection.

For calendar plan year 2017 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2017 and ending 12/31/2017

A Name of plan
ASCEND SAVINGS & INVESTMENT PLAN

B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 002

C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500
ASCEND PERFORMANCE MATERIALS HOLDINGS INC.

D Employer Identification Number (EIN)
27-0219853

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): 13-3689044

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** 216

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

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): _____

---

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):

ASCEND SAVINGS & INVESTMENT PLAN

Financial Statements and Supplemental Schedule

December 31, 2017 and 2016

(With Independent Auditors' Report Thereon)

ASCEND SAVINGS & INVESTMENT PLAN

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* All other schedules required by 29 CFR 2520.103-10 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 have been omitted because they are not applicable.

KPMG LLP
811 Main Street
Houston, TX 77002

Independent Auditors' Report

The Benefits Committee
Ascend Performance Materials Holdings, Inc.:

Report on the Financial Statements

We were engaged to audit the accompanying financial statements of the Ascend Savings & Investment Plan (the Plan), which comprise the statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, and the related statements of changes in net assets available for benefits for the years then ended, 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 U.S. generally accepted accounting principles; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free 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 audits 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 Benefits Committee instructed us not to perform, and we did not perform, any auditing procedures with respect to the information summarized in note 6 which was certified by State Street Bank and Trust Company, the trustee of the Plan, except for comparing such information with the related information included in the financial statements. We have been informed by the Benefits Committee that the trustee holds the Plan's investment assets and executes investment transactions. The Benefits Committee has obtained certifications from the trustee, as of and for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, that the information provided to the Benefits Committee by the trustee is complete and accurate.

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.

KPMG LLP is a Delaware limited liability partnership and the U.S. member firm of the KPMG network of independent member firms affiliated with KPMG International Cooperative ("KPMG International"), a Swiss entity.

Other Matter

The supplemental schedule H, part IV, line 4i – schedule of assets (held at end of year) as of December 31, 2017 is required by the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and is presented for the purpose of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements. Because of the significance of the matter described in the Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion paragraph, we do not express an opinion on this supplemental schedule.

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.

KPMG LLP

Houston, Texas
October 15, 2018

ASCEND SAVINGS & INVESTMENT PLAN

Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits

December 31, 2017 and 2016

	2017	2016
Assets:		
Investments, at fair value	$ 301,755,683	243,104,530
Total investments	301,755,683	243,104,530
Receivables:		
Employer contributions receivable	378,503	478,720
Notes receivable from participants	5,615,298	8,728,533
Total receivables	5,993,801	9,207,253
Net assets available for benefits	$ 307,749,484	252,311,783

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

ASCEND SAVINGS & INVESTMENT PLAN

Statements of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits

Years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016

	2017	2016
Additions:		
Investment income:		
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	$ 34,922,540	14,388,308
Dividends	5,286,175	4,002,941
Interest	347,615	340,956
Income from investment fee credits	96,351	36,514
Total investment income	40,652,681	18,768,719
Interest – notes receivable from participants	225,392	340,685
Contributions:		
Rollover	1,892,151	5,368,918
Employee	22,270,011	20,863,167
Employer	12,090,071	11,741,039
Total contributions	36,252,233	37,973,124
Total additions	77,130,306	57,082,528
Deductions:		
Benefits paid to participants or beneficiaries	21,683,090	14,690,220
Administrative expenses	9,515	6,510
Total deductions	21,692,605	14,696,730
Net increase in net assets available for benefits	55,437,701	42,385,798
Net assets available for benefits:		
Beginning of year	252,311,783	209,925,985
End of year	$ 307,749,484	252,311,783

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

(1) Description of the Plan

The following brief description of the Ascend Savings & Investment Plan (the Plan) is provided for general information purposes only. Participants should refer to the plan document for more complete information.

(a) General

The Plan is a defined-contribution plan that was adopted on November 1, 2009. Since adoption, the Plan has been amended to conform to tax law changes. Effective October 1, 2015, the Plan was converted from operation under the Transamerica Retirement Solutions Corporation (Transamerica) Prototype Defined Contribution Plan – Nonstandardized Profit Sharing Plan with CODA (the Transamerica Prototype Plan) to the Transamerica Volume Submitter 401(k) Profit Sharing Plan Basic Plan Document No. 01 (the Transamerica Volume Submitter Plan). This change in operation did not have a significant impact on the Plan. In connection with this change, certain amendments were made to conform to current tax law changes and enhancements were made to the Plan, as described within.

The purpose of the Plan is to provide retirement benefits for employees of Ascend Performance Materials Holdings, Inc. and its adopting affiliates (collectively, the Company). The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Department of Labor's (DOL) Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (ERISA).

The Company serves as the Plan sponsor. The Plan is administered by the Company's Benefits Committee (the Committee). State Street Bank and Trust Company (State Street or the Trustee) serves as the trustee and Transamerica serves as the recordkeeper for the Plan.

(b) Eligibility

Employees of the Company are eligible for participation in the Plan upon date of hire, except those who are among the following ineligible populations: (1) any individual classified as an independent contractor; (2) sole proprietors or partners; (3) nonresident aliens with no earned income from the Company from sources within the United States of America or that is exempt from U.S. income tax; (4) citizens or residents of a foreign country, except those in certain visa or North American Free Trade Agreements (NAFTA) categories, which must be covered under U.S. Immigration Law.

(c) Contributions

Employees. Participants may elect to contribute to the tax-deferred savings and/or after-tax savings, and Roth savings features of the Plan through periodic payroll deductions. Participants may contribute up to 100% of their eligible earnings. Under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (IRC), the total amount of a participant's tax-deferred savings contributions was limited to $18,000 for 2017 and 2016, respectively, and the limit for eligible earnings was $275,000 for 2017 and $270,000 for 2016. Any contributions in excess of the tax-deferred savings contribution limit are automatically made to the participant's after-tax account. Participants who are age 50 or older before the close of the plan year may elect to make a catch-up contribution, subject to certain limitations under the IRC ($6,000 per participant in 2017 and 2016, respectively).

(Continued)

Participants are permitted to roll over balances held in other qualified plans or individual retirement accounts (IRA) into the Plan, as specified in the plan document. In addition, participants are permitted to roll over Roth balances held in other qualified plans or IRAs.

Participants are automatically enrolled in the Plan at a 3% tax-deferred salary contribution rate unless the participant expressly elects a different amount or elects not to contribute. If the contribution rate is not changed, the contribution rate will increase 1% annually on the anniversary of the participant's enrollment date, until it reaches 6%. New and rehired participants are also automatically enrolled at a 3% tax-deferred contribution rate for bonuses.

Effective January 1, 2016, the Plan was amended to allow that the contribution rate for newly hired participants who are automatically enrolled in the Plan, as well as participants previously automatically enrolled that have not made an election to change the contribution rate will increase 1% annually on the anniversary of the participant's enrollment date, until it reaches 8%.

Employer. The employer match is determined by the Company each year at it's election. For 2017 and 2016, the employer matched 75% of the first 8% of eligible earnings. Additionally, the discretionary contribution is determined by the Company each year. During 2017 and 2016, the Company did not elect to make a discretionary contribution to the Plan.

(d) Participant Accounts

Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contributions and Company matching contributions, as well as allocations of the Company's discretionary contribution, if elected, and Plan investment earnings. Investment fee credits representing revenue sharing for one or more of the investment funds offered by the Plan are allocated to participant accounts. Investment earnings on participants' accounts and investment fee credits are allocated proportionately based on their relative account balance in each investment option. Participant accounts are charged with an allocation of administrative expenses that are paid by the Plan. Allocations are based on the participant investment earnings, account balances, or specific participant transactions, as defined. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant's vested account.

(e) Investment Elections and Transfers

Participants direct the investment of their contributions and account balances within various investments offered by the Plan. The Plan allows participants to make transfers of their account balances among the investment options, subject to the Plan's investment transfer policy. The amount of the transfer may be all or any portion of the participant's account balance. If an investment election is not received from the participant, contributions are invested in the Vanguard Institutional Target Retirement Fund with the target date closest to the date the participant reaches age 60.

(f) Notes Receivable from Participants

Participants may borrow from their vested account balances a minimum of $1,000 up to a maximum equal to the lesser of $50,000 (reduced by the highest outstanding loan balance in the prior 12 months) or 50% of their vested account balance minus the balance of all other loans outstanding from the Plan on the date of the loan. Roth accounts are not considered in determining the amount available for loan. A participant may not have more than two loans outstanding at any time. Loans bear interest at the current prime rate as published in the Wall Street Journal as of the first day of each month. A loan must be repaid within five years through payroll deductions and is collateralized by up to 50% of the participant's vested account balance. If a participant fails to comply with the repayment terms of a loan, the Committee or its designee may deem such defaulted loan as a distribution when the loan is considered uncollectible from the participant. The interest rate range for outstanding loans is 3.25%–4.25% at December 31, 2017. Maturity dates on outstanding loans at December 31, 2017 extend through November 2022.

Effective January 1, 2016, the plan was amended to allow that loans are permitted for certain financial hardship reasons only, as defined under the Plan. This amendment is applicable for all loans taken on or after January 1, 2016.

(g) Vesting

Participants are immediately fully vested in their tax-deferred, after-tax, Roth, rollover, and Company contributions, and related earnings.

(h) Distributions

Participants or their designated beneficiaries may elect to receive a distribution upon retirement, termination, disability, or death. Direct rollovers to an IRA or other eligible retirement plans are permitted. All distributions are made in lump-sum payments.

In-service withdrawals from all accounts under the Plan are also permitted upon attainment of age 59½. Further, in-service withdrawals from a participant's tax-deferred account, rollover account, and after-tax account can be made in the event of a proven financial hardship, subject to limitations under the Plan.

Withdrawals from a participant's after-tax and rollover accounts are permitted at any time.

(i) Plan Termination

The Board of Directors of the Company may amend, modify, or terminate the Plan at any time. No plan termination is contemplated, but if it should occur, the accounts of all participants would be paid in accordance with the terms of the Plan.

(j) Administrative Expenses

Generally, administrative expenses are paid by the Plan. However, certain administrative expenses may be paid by the Company. Loan and other transaction specific fees are charged to the account of the participant electing such transaction. In addition, certain investment-related expenses reduced investment income presented in the accompanying statements of changes in net assets available for benefits.

(Continued)

(2) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of Accounting

The accompanying financial statements were prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (U.S. GAAP).

(b) Valuation of Investments

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. The Committee determines the Plan's valuation policies utilizing information provided by the Trustee. See note 3 for discussion of fair value measurements. Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Interest and income from investment fee credits are recorded as earned. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Net appreciation in fair value of investments includes the Plan's gains and losses on investments bought and sold as well as held during the year. Capital gain distributions are included in net appreciation in fair value of investments.

(c) Notes Receivable from Participants

Notes receivable from participants are valued at amortized cost, and interest is recorded when earned.

(d) Risk and Uncertainties

The Plan provides for investments in various investment securities. Investment securities, in general, are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, credit, and overall market volatility risk. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is reasonably possible that changes in the value of investment securities will occur in the near term.

(e) Payment of Benefits

Distributions are recorded when paid.

(f) Estimates in the Financial Statements

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and changes therein, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

(g) Accounting Pronouncements Not Yet Adopted

In August 2018, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued ASU No. 2018-13, "Fair Value Measurement (Topic 820): Disclosure Framework – Changes to the Disclosure Requirements for Fair Value Measurement," (ASU No. 2018-13) to improve the effectiveness of disclosures in the notes to financial statements by removing, modifying, and adding certain disclosure requirements. The provisions of this ASU are effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2019, and interim periods within those annual periods, with early adoption permitted. Certain provisions of this ASU, primarily related to new disclosures, require the prospective method of adoption, with the remaining provisions applied retrospectively. The Company anticipates adopting all of the provisions of ASU 2018-13 effective January 1, 2018; the adoption will not affect the Plan's net assets available for benefits or changes in net assets available for benefits, but will result in revised disclosures.

(Continued)

(3) Fair Value Measurements

The FASB's Accounting Standards Codification 820, *Fair Value Measurement* (ASC 820) 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 ASC 820 are described below:

Level 1 Inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets.

Level 2 Inputs to the valuation methodology include quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets, and inputs that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly, for substantially the full term of the financial instrument.

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

A financial instrument's categorization within the valuation hierarchy is based upon the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement.

The following is a description of the Plan's valuation methodologies for assets measured at fair value.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include an interest-bearing cash reserve account recorded at cost, which approximates fair value, and is included within Level 1 of the valuation hierarchy.

Common/Collective Trust Funds

The fair value of common/collective trust funds, which primarily hold investments in guaranteed investment contracts, are reported at net asset value (NAV) per unit of the common/collective trust fund as determined by the issuer as held by the Plan at year end. The NAV per unit of the common/collective fund held by the Plan is a quoted price in a market that is not active; therefore these investments are classified within Level 2 of the valuation hierarchy. If the Plan initiates a full redemption of the common/collective trust, the issuer reserves the right to require 12 months' notification in order to ensure that securities liquidations will be carried out in an orderly business manner.

Registered Investment Companies

The fair value of registered investment companies is reported at NAV of shares held by the Plan at year-end. Registered investment companies are valued at the daily closing price as reported by the fund. Registered investment companies held by the Plan are open-end funds that are registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission. They are required to publish their daily NAV and to transact at that price. The registered investment companies held by the Plan are deemed to be actively traded. The registered investment companies are classified within Level 1 of the valuation hierarchy.

The methods described above may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. Furthermore, while the Plan's 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 estimate of fair value at the reporting date. There were no changes in the investments from the prior year.

The following tables set forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan's assets at fair value:

	Investment assets at fair value as of December 31, 2017			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Common/collective trust funds	$ —	20,618,518	—	20,618,518
Registered investment companies	281,116,958	—	—	281,116,958
Cash and cash equivalents	20,207	—	—	20,207
Total investment assets at fair value	$ 281,137,165	20,618,518	—	301,755,683

	Investment assets at fair value as of December 31, 2016			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Common/collective trust funds	$ —	25,092,431	—	25,092,431
Registered investment companies	217,962,247	—	—	217,962,247
Cash and cash equivalents	49,852	—	—	49,852
Total investment assets at fair value	$ 218,012,099	25,092,431	—	243,104,530

(4) Federal Income Taxes

Effective January 1, 2016, the Plan operated under the Transamerica Volume Submitter Plan. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) issued an opinion letter on March 31, 2014 that the Transamerica Volume Submitter Plan document, on which the Plan is based, is a qualified plan designed in compliance with applicable sections of the IRC.

The Committee believes that the Plan and related trust are designed and are currently being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC, and therefore, the Plan was qualified, and the related trust was tax exempt as of the date of the accompanying financial statements.

U.S. GAAP requires Plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability (or asset) if the organization has taken an uncertain 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, 2017, there are no uncertain tax 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 2014.

During 2017, the Company discovered that it inadvertently changed the definition of compensation and exclusions subsequent to the change in recordkeeper administration in a previous year. The Company did not intend to make these changes and thus, in certain circumstances, did not administer the Plan in accordance with the Plan document. The Company is evaluating and will correct these operational defects in accordance with IRS guidelines. The Company does not anticipate that such correction will have a material impact to the financial statements.

(5) Related-Party Transactions

The Plan invests in an interest-bearing cash reserve account held by the Trustee and constitutes a party-in-interest with respect to the Plan. In addition, certain Plan investments are notes receivable from participants and are, therefore, a party in interest with respect to the Plan. These transactions are covered by an exemption from the “prohibited transaction” provisions of ERISA and the IRC.

(6) Trustee Certification

The Committee has elected the method of compliance permitted by 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the DOL’s Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Accordingly, as permitted under such election, the Plan has obtained a certification from the Trustee as of and for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, that all of the information provided by the Trustee is complete and accurate. Information included in the accompanying financial statements, notes to financial statements, and supplemental schedule H, part IV, line 4i – schedule of assets (held at end of year) as to investments, notes receivable from participants, investment income, and interest-notes receivable from participants is presented in reliance solely upon the certification.

(7) Subsequent Events

The Plan has evaluated subsequent events through October 15, 2018, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

Effective January 1, 2018, the Company amended the Plan as follows:

- To remove the restriction for the use of funds for loans permitted for certain financial hardship reasons only and to allow for two general purpose loans. This amendment will apply to all loans taken on or after January 1, 2018 and will not affect outstanding loans under the Plan as of December 31, 2017.

- To prospectively remove the option for in-service withdrawal of employer vested contributions after two years.

(Continued)

- To reflect a change in the exclusions from plan compensation for purposes of deferrals and employer matching.
- To reflect a change in exclusions for bonuses/incentives such that all bonuses/incentives other than the annual incentive plan payments and lump sum bonuses in lieu of merit raises are excluded from eligible compensation.

Schedule

ASCEND SAVINGS & INVESTMENT PLAN

Schedule H, Part IV, Line 4i – Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)

December 31, 2017

Identity of issue, borrower, lessor, or similar party	Description of investment	Cost	Current value
BNY Mellon	BNY Mellon Stable Value Class M	**	$ 20,618,518
Black Rock	BlackRock Strategic Income Opps Inst	**	1,304,170
Hartford	Hartford World Bond R5	**	802,554
Invesco	Invesco International Growth R5	**	9,729,215
John Hancock	John Hancock Alternative Asset Allocation R6	**	140,596
JP Morgan	JP Morgan Small Cap Equity Fund R5	**	17,876,254
Pioneer	Pioneer Bond Y	**	14,719,607
Vanguard	Vanguard Institutional Target Retirement Fund 2015	**	8,595,911
Vanguard	Vanguard Institutional Target Retirement Fund 2020	**	21,832,709
Vanguard	Vanguard Institutional Target Retirement Fund 2025	**	32,018,879
Vanguard	Vanguard Institutional Target Retirement Fund 2030	**	30,195,300
Vanguard	Vanguard Institutional Target Retirement Fund 2035	**	23,997,579
Vanguard	Vanguard Institutional Target Retirement Fund 2040	**	15,204,642
Vanguard	Vanguard Institutional Target Retirement Fund 2045	**	8,796,793
Vanguard	Vanguard Institutional Target Retirement Fund 2050	**	12,132,908
Vanguard	Vanguard Institutional Target Retirement Fund 2055	**	2,276,120
Vanguard	Vanguard Institutional Target Retirement Fund 2060	**	1,762,995
Vanguard	Vanguard Institutional Target Retirement Income Fund	**	5,391,018
Vanguard	Vanguard Emerging Markets Stock Index Admin Fund	**	3,711,781
Vanguard	Vanguard Russell 1000 Growth Index I	**	20,602,016
Vanguard	Vanguard S&P Mid Cap 400 Index Instl	**	23,667,771
Vanguard	Vanguard Value Index Admin	**	8,572,427
Vanguard	Vanguard Institutional Index Admin	**	17,785,713
State Street Bank and Trust Co.*	Cash Reserve Account	**	20,207
Notes receivable from participants	Interest ranging from 3.25%–4.25% with maturities through November 2022	**	5,615,298
	Total assets (held at end of year)		$ 307,370,981

* Party in interest

** Cost information is not required for participant-directed investments and, therefore is not included

Certified as complete and accurate by State Street Bank and Trust Company, the Trustee

See accompanying independent auditors' report.

Schedule C, Line 2(h) Formula Descriptions

Ascend Savings & Investment Plan
EIN No.: 27-0219853, Plan No. 002
Plan Year Ending: 10/31/2017

Indirect Compensation in the form of revenue sharing was paid to the following Service Providers:

NATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES 04-3523567

Revenue amounts are shown in annualized basis points of plan assets invested in applicable fund

Fund Family	Fund Name	Start Date	End Date	Revenue to National Financial Services
BLACKROCK	BLACKROCK STRAT INC OPP INSTL	1/1/2017	12/31/2017	0.398
HARTFORD	HARTFORD WORLD BOND R5	1/1/2017	12/31/2017	0.398
INVESCO	INVESCO INTERNATIONAL GROWTH	1/1/2017	12/31/2017	0.928
JP MORGAN	JPMORGAN SMALL CAP EQUITY R5	1/1/2017	12/31/2017	0.265
PIONEER	PIONEER BOND Y	1/1/2017	12/31/2017	0.928

Schedule

ASCEND SAVINGS & INVESTMENT PLAN

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	Total assets (held at end of year)		$ 307,370,981

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