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

2018

This Form is Open to Public Inspection

Part I Annual Report Identification Information

For calendar plan year 2018 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2018 and ending 12/31/2018

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
ROCKY BRANDS, INC. 401(K) PLAN AND TRUST

1b Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 004

1c Effective date of plan 09/01/1996

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)
ROCKY BRANDS, INC.

39 EAST CANAL STREET
NELSONVILLE, OH 45764

2b Employer Identification Number (EIN)
31-1364046

2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number
740-753-9100

2d Business code (see instructions)
316210

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.	10/10/2019	TOM ROBERTSON
	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:	**4b**	EIN
a	Sponsor's name	**4d**	PN
c	Plan Name		

5	Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year	**5**	486
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)**	364
a(2)	Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year	**6a(2)**	358
b	Retired or separated participants receiving benefits	**6b**	0
c	Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits	**6c**	106
d	Subtotal. Add lines **6a(2)**, **6b**, and **6c**	**6d**	464
e	Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits.	**6e**	1
f	Total. Add lines **6d** and **6e**.	**6f**	465
g	Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item)	**6g**	452
h	Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested	**6h**	
7	Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item)	**7**	

8a If the plan provides pension benefits, enter the applicable pension feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:

2E 2F 2G 2J 2K 2R 2S 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)** [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 2018 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2018 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.**	**2018** **This Form is Open to Public Inspection.**

For calendar plan year 2018 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2018 and ending 12/31/2018

A Name of plan
ROCKY BRANDS, INC. 401(K) PLAN AND TRUST

B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 004

C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500
ROCKY BRANDS, INC.

D Employer Identification Number (EIN)
31-1364046

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

CHARLES SCHWAB & CO. INC. AND AFFIL

94-1737782

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

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

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)

SCHWAB RETIREMENT PLAN SERVICES INC

34-1479833

(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?
15 26 50 64	NONE	23480	Yes [ ] No [X]	Yes [ ] No [ ]		Yes [ ] No [ ]

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

CHARLES SCHWAB & CO INC

94-1737782

(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 50 62 71	NONE	662	Yes [X] No [ ]	Yes [X] No [ ]	0	Yes [ ] No [X]

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

CHARLES SCHWAB BANK

42-1558009

(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?
25 52 59 62	NONE	0	Yes [X] No [ ]	Yes [X] No [ ]	0	Yes [X] 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
CHARLES SCHWAB & CO. INC. AND AFFIL	59	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.
CHARLES SCHWAB & CO. INC. AND AFFIL 42-1558009	SEE ATTACHMENT

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

(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	**(e)** Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.

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

(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	**(e)** Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.

Part II Service Providers Who Fail or Refuse to Provide Information

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Part III Termination Information on Accountants and Enrolled Actuaries (see instructions)

(complete as many entries as needed)

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

SCHEDULE 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

2018

This Form is Open to Public Inspection.

For calendar plan year 2018 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2018 and ending 12/31/2018

A Name of plan
ROCKY BRANDS, INC. 401(K) PLAN AND TRUST

B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 004

C Plan or DFE sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500
ROCKY BRANDS, INC.

D Employer Identification Number (EIN)
31-1364046

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:	THE MORLEY STABLE VALUE FUND		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):	NATIONWIDE INSURANCE		
c EIN-PN 93-6274329-001	**d** Entity code C	**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	1432209
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:	SCHWAB INDEXED RET 2010		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):	CHARLES SCHWAB BANK		
c EIN-PN 81-0625169-011	**d** Entity code C	**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	172812
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:	SCHWAB INDEXED RET 2015		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):	CHARLES SCHWAB BANK		
c EIN-PN 81-0625169-012	**d** Entity code C	**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	332047
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:	SCHWAB INDEXED RET 2020		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):	CHARLES SCHWAB BANK		
c EIN-PN 81-0625169-013	**d** Entity code C	**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	776780
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:	SCHWAB INDEXED RET 2025		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):	CHARLES SCHWAB BANK		
c EIN-PN 81-0625169-014	**d** Entity code C	**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	831242
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:	SCHWAB INDEXED RET 2030		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):	CHARLES SCHWAB BANK		
c EIN-PN 81-0625169-015	**d** Entity code C	**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	1366292
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:	SCHWAB INDEXED RET 2035		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):	CHARLES SCHWAB BANK		
c EIN-PN 81-0625169-016	**d** Entity code C	**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	801919

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: SCHWAB INDEXED RET 2040

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): CHARLES SCHWAB BANK

c EIN-PN 81-0625169-017	**d** Entity code C	**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 552348

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: SCHWAB INDEXED RET 2045

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): CHARLES SCHWAB BANK

c EIN-PN 81-0625169-018	**d** Entity code C	**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 1435315

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: SCHWAB INDEXED RET 2050

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): CHARLES SCHWAB BANK

c EIN-PN 81-0625169-019	**d** Entity code C	**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 543404

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: SCHWAB INDEXED RET 2055

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): CHARLES SCHWAB BANK

c EIN-PN 81-0625169-021	**d** Entity code C	**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 169634

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: SCHWAB INDEXED RET 2060

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): CHARLES SCHWAB BANK

c EIN-PN 81-0625169-023	**d** Entity code C	**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 36477

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SCHEDULE H (Form 5500)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Department of Labor
Employee Benefits Security Administration

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

Financial Information

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

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

OMB No. 1210-0110

2018

This Form is Open to Public Inspection

For calendar plan year 2018 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2018 and ending 12/31/2018

A Name of plan
ROCKY BRANDS, INC. 401(K) PLAN AND TRUST

B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 004

C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500
ROCKY BRANDS, INC.

D Employer Identification Number (EIN)
31-1364046

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)	8642	0
(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)	0	907021
(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)	0	23380
(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)	940632	831263
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)	2296328	8450479
(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)	25944728	14526743
(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)		
	(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	29190330	24738886
	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	0	0
	Net Assets			
l	Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f)	1l	29190330	24738886

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)	839927	
	(B) Participants	2a(1)(B)	1252893	
	(C) Others (including rollovers)	2a(1)(C)	2802	
	(2) Noncash contributions	2a(2)		
	(3) Total contributions. Add lines **2a(1)(A), (B), (C),** and line **2a(2)**	2a(3)		2095622
b	**Earnings on investments:**			
	(1) Interest:			
	(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit)	2b(1)(A)	4269	
	(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)	31254	
	(F) Other	2b(1)(F)		
	(G) Total interest. Add lines **2b(1)(A)** through **(F)**	2b(1)(G)		35523
	(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)	543918	
	(D) Total dividends. Add lines **2b(2)(A)**, **(B)**, and **(C)**	2b(2)(D)		543918
	(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)		0
	(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)		0

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts	2b(6)		634415
(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)		-2194785
c Other income	2c		0
d Total income. Add all **income** amounts in column (b) and enter total	2d		1114693
Expenses			
e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)	5517179	
(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)		5517179
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)	48958	
(5) Total administrative expenses. Add lines **2i(1)** through **(4)**	2i(5)		48958
j Total expenses. Add all **expense** amounts in column (b) and enter total	2j		5566137
Net Income and Reconciliation			
k Net income (loss). Subtract line **2j** from line **2d**	2k		-4451444
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: CLARUS PARTNERS **(2)** EIN: 26-1347383

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

2018

This Form is Open to Public Inspection.

For calendar plan year 2018 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2018 and ending 12/31/2018

A Name of plan
ROCKY BRANDS, INC. 401(K) PLAN AND TRUST

B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 004

C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500
ROCKY BRANDS, INC.

D Employer Identification Number (EIN)
31-1364046

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): 31-4156830 42-1558009

Profit-sharing plans, ESOPs, and stock bonus plans, skip line 3.

3 Number of participants (living or deceased) whose benefits were distributed in a single sum, during the plan year **3**

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

4 Is the plan administrator making an election under Code section 412(d)(2) or ERISA section 302(d)(2)? ..... ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ **N/A**

If the plan is a defined benefit plan, go to line 8.

5 If a waiver of the minimum funding standard for a prior year is being amortized in this plan year, see instructions and enter the date of the ruling letter granting the waiver. **Date:** Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

If you completed line 5, complete lines 3, 9, and 10 of Schedule MB and do not complete the remainder of this schedule.

6 **a** Enter the minimum required contribution for this plan year (include any prior year accumulated funding deficiency not waived) **6a**

b Enter the amount contributed by the employer to the plan for this plan year **6b**

c Subtract the amount in line 6b from the amount in line 6a. Enter the result (enter a minus sign to the left of a negative amount) **6c**

If you completed line 6c, skip lines 8 and 9.

7 Will the minimum funding amount reported on line 6c be met by the funding deadline? ..... ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ **N/A**

8 If a change in actuarial cost method was made for this plan year pursuant to a revenue procedure or other authority providing automatic approval for the change or a class ruling letter, does the plan sponsor or plan administrator agree with the change? ..... ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ **N/A**

Part III Amendments

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: 0.0% 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):

ROCKY BRANDS, INC.

401(K) PLAN

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
AND
SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

December 31, 2018 and 2017

CONTENTS

	Page
Independent Auditors' Report	2 - 3
Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits	4
Statements of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits	5
Notes to Financial Statements	6 - 11
Supplemental Information	
Schedule H, Line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)	13

PW Partners
Certified Public Accountants
& Business Consultants

Independent Auditors' Report

To the Plan Administrator and Participants of
Rocky Brands, Inc. 401(k) Plan
Nelsonville, Ohio

Report on the Financial Statements

We were engaged to audit the accompanying financial statements of the Rocky Brands, Inc. 401(k) Plan (the Plan), which comprise the statement of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2018, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2018, 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.

Auditor's 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 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 investment information summarized in the notes to the financial statements, which was certified by Nationwide Financial Services, Inc., including its subsidiary Nationwide Trust Company, FSB, a division of Nationwide Bank, and Charles Schwab Bank, the Trustees of the Plan, except for comparing such information with the related information included in the financial statements. We have been informed by the Plan Administrator that the Trustees hold the Plan's investment assets and execute investment transactions. The Plan Administrator has obtained a certification from the Nationwide Trust Company from January 1, 2018 to March 29, 2018 and Charles Schwab Bank from April 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018 that the information provided to the Plan Administrator by the Trustees 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.

Other Matter – 2017 Financial Statements

The financial statements of the Plan as of, and for the year ended December 31, 2017, were audited by predecessor auditors. As permitted by 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), the Plan Administrator instructed the predecessor auditors to not perform and they did not perform any auditing procedures with respect to the information certified by the Trustees. Their report, dated August 16, 2018, indicated that (a) because of the significance of the information that they did not audit, they were not able to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to provide a basis for an audit opinion and accordingly, they did not express an opinion on the financial statements (b) the form and content of the information included in the financial statements other than that derived from the information certified by the Trustees, were presented in compliance with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

Other Matters

The supplemental schedule of assets (held at end of year) is presented for the purpose of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements, but is supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. 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 Trustees, 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 Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

PW Partners, LLC

Columbus, Ohio
October 8, 2019

ROCKY BRANDS, INC. 401(K) PLAN

Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits

December 31, 2018 and 2017

	2018	2017
ASSETS		
Cash	**$ 907,021**	$ -
Investments at fair value:		
Mutual funds	**14,526,743**	25,944,728
Common stocks	**23,380**	-
Stable value fund	**1,432,208**	2,296,328
Common/collective trusts	**7,018,269**	-
Total investments	**23,000,600**	28,241,056
Receivables:		
Participants' notes receivable	**831,263**	940,632
Employer's contributions	**-**	8,642
Total receivables	**831,263**	949,274
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS	**$ 24,738,884**	$ 29,190,330

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

ROCKY BRANDS, INC. 401(K) PLAN

Statements of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits

For the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017

	2018	2017
Additions to Net Assets Attributed to:		
Interest and dividends	**$ 579,441**	$ 28,883
Net (depreciation) appreciation in fair value of investments	**(1,560,370)**	3,952,882
Total investment (loss) income	**(980,929)**	3,981,765
Participants' rollovers	**2,802**	54,119
Participants' contributions	**1,252,893**	1,204,658
Employer's contributions	**839,925**	832,163
Total contributions	**2,095,620**	2,090,940
Total additions	**1,114,691**	6,072,705
Deductions from Net Assets Attributed to:		
Administrative expenses	**48,958**	54,510
Benefits paid to participants	**5,517,179**	2,265,861
Total deductions	**5,566,137**	2,320,371
Net (decrease) increase	**(4,451,446)**	3,752,334
Net Assets Available for Benefits:		
Beginning of Year	**29,190,330**	25,437,996
End of Year	**$ 24,738,884**	$ 29,190,330

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

Plan Description

The following description of Rocky Brands, Inc. (the Company) 401(k) Plan (the Plan) provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Plan agreement for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions.

General

The Plan is a defined contribution plan, covering all employees of the Company. During 2017, the Plan covered full-time employees who are age 21 or older and part-time employees who have attained age 21 and have one year of service are eligible to participate in the Plan. In April 2018, the Plan was restated and eligibility was modified. The Plan covers all employees who are not union employees, independent contractors, employees based in Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic, non-residents of the United States or territories of the United States. The Plan added automatic enrollment for participants at 4% commencing with the first pay date of the following month of the date of hire. Additionally, eligible employees must complete 6 months of service to be eligible for the non-elective employer safe harbor contribution and the discretionary matching contribution. The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

Contributions

Each year, participants may authorize payroll deductions up to 75% of compensation as before-tax or after tax Roth contributions. Participants who have attained age 50 before the end of the Plan year are eligible to make catch-up contributions. Participants may also contribute amounts representing distributions from other qualified defined benefit or defined contribution plans.

The Company elected to make non-elective employer safe harbor contributions of 100% of the first 3% of compensation of all eligible participants. Additionally, the Company elected to make a discretionary matching contribution of 25% of participant contributions up to 4% of participant’s compensation.

Participant Accounts

Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contribution, employer contributions and allocations of (a) Plan earnings and (b) administrative expenses. Allocations are based on participant earnings or account balances, as defined in the Plan agreement. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant's vested account.

Vesting

Participants are 100% vested in their accounts and all employer contributions.

Investment Options

A participant may direct contributions in any of the investment funds offered by the Plan. Participants may change their investment options at any time.

Plan Description (continued)

Payment of Benefits
A participant may receive a lump-sum amount equal to the value of the participant's vested interest in his or her account upon termination of service due to separation of service, death, disability, retirement or other reasons.

Participant Notes Receivable
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 percent of their account balance. The loans are secured by the balance in the participant's account and bear interest ranging from 3.25% to 5.25%. Principal and interest is paid ratably through bi-weekly and semi-monthly payroll deductions.

Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Use of Estimates
The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires the plan administrator to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results may differ from those estimates.

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 Fair Value footnote for discussion of fair value measurements.

Net appreciation in fair value of investments is reflected in the statements of changes in net assets available for benefits and includes realized gains/losses on investments bought and sold and the change in appreciation from one period to the next. 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.

Payment of Benefits
Benefits are recorded when paid.

Administrative Expenses
The Plan's administrative expenses are paid by either the Plan or the participant, as provided by the Plan agreement.

Subsequent Events
The Plan evaluated subsequent events through the date the financial statements were issued, which was October 8, 2019.

Fair Value Measurements

ASC 820 establishes a framework for measuring fair value which 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 that the Plan has the ability to access.

Level 2 Inputs to the valuation methodology include:

- Quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets;
- Quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets;
- Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability;
- Inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means.

If the asset or liability has a specified (contractual) term, the Level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.

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

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

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, 2018 and 2017.

Common Collective Trust/Stable Value Fund: Valued at the NAV of units of a bank collective trust. The NAV, as provided by the trustee, is used as a practical expedient to estimate fair value. The NAV is based on the fair value of the underlying investments held by the fund less its liabilities. This practical expedient is not used when it is determined to be probable that the fund will sell the investment for an amount different than reported NAV. Participant transactions (purchases and sales) may occur daily. Were the plan to initiate a full redemption of the collective trust, the investment adviser reserves the right to temporarily delay withdrawal from the trust in order to ensure that securities liquidation will be carried out in an orderly business manner.

Fair Value Measurements (continued)

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 SEC. These funds are required to publish their daily NAV and to transact at that price. The mutual funds held by the Plan are deemed to be actively traded.

Common Stock: Valued at the closing price reported on the active market on which the individual securities are traded.

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 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 assets at fair value as of December 31, 2018 and 2017:

	Investments at fair value as of December 31, 2018			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Mutual funds	$ 14,526,743	$ -	$ -	$ 14,526,743
Common stocks	23,380	-	-	23,380
Stable value fund*	-	-	-	1,432,208
Common collective trust*	-	-	-	7,018,269
Total Investments	$ 14,550,123	$ -	$ -	$ 23,000,600

	Investments at fair value as of December 31, 2017			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Mutual Funds	$ 25,944,728	$ -	$ -	$ 25,944,728
Stable Value Fund*	-	-	-	2,296,328
Total Investments	$ 25,944,728	$ -	$ -	$ 28,241,056

***** *The Common Collective Trust/Stable Value Fund, which are measured at fair value using the net asset value per share (or its equivalent) practical expedient, has not been categorized in the fair value hierarchy. The fair value amounts presented in this table are intended to permit reconciliation of the fair value hierarchy to the amounts presented in the Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits. There were no unfunded commitments or liquidity or redemption restrictions related to the Common Collective Trust/Stable Value Fund.*

Fair Value Measurements (continued)

Investments in the common/collective trust can be redeemed immediately at the participant level. The Plan is required to provide a 12 month notice to the fund in order to terminate their entire investment interest at the current net asset value per share based on the fair value of the underlying assets. If the Plan offers a "competing fund," participants are required to invest in a "noncompeting fund" for at least 90 days before transferring into the "competing fund" option. The fair value of investments in this category has been estimated using net asset value per share of the investments.

Information Prepared and Certified by the Trustees

The following information included in the accompanying financial statements and supplemental schedule was obtained from data that has been prepared and certified to as compete and accurate by the Trustees of the Plan:

	2018	2017
Mutual Funds	**$ 14,526,743**	$ 25,944,728
Common Stock	**23,380**	-
Stable Value Fund	**1,432,208**	2,296,328
Common/Collective Trusts	**7,018,269**	-
Cash	**907,021**	-
Participant Notes Receivable	**831,263**	940,632
Total	**$ 24,738,884**	$ 29,181,688

The Trustees also certified the completeness and accuracy of the following related to the aforementioned assets for the years ended December 31:

	2018	2017
Net (depreciation) appreciation in fair value of investments	**$ (1,560,370)**	$ 3,952,882
Dividends and interest income	**$ 579,441**	$ 28,883

Related Party Transactions

Related party transactions include those with fiduciaries or employees of the Plan, any person who provides service to the Plan, an employer whose employees are covered by the Plan, an employee organization whose members are covered by the Plan, a person who owns 50 percent or more of such an employer or employee association or relatives of such persons.

The Notes Receivable from participants as of December 31, 2018 and 2017 in the amounts of $831,263 and $940,632, respectively, are party-in-interest transactions. Certain employees of the Company provide administrative services to the Plan. These employees are not paid by the Plan for their services.

Related Party Transactions (continued)

Certain plan investments are shares of common/collective trusts managed by Nationwide Trust Company (Nationwide) and Charles Schwab Corporation (Schwab). Nationwide and Schwab are parties-in-interest as defined by the plan. Fees paid to Nationwide and Schwab were approximately $48,958 and $54,510 for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017, respectively.

Tax Status

The Plan received a determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service dated March 2, 2017, stating that the Plan is qualified under Section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (Code). Although the Plan has been amended since receiving the opinion letter, the Plan Administrator believes that the Plan is designed and is currently being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC.

The Plan Administrator has analyzed the tax position taken by the Plan, and has concluded that as of December, 31, 2018, there are no uncertain positions taken or expected to be taken that would require recognition of a liability 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 2015.

Risks and Uncertainties

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

Recent market conditions have resulted in an unusually high degree of volatility and increased the risks and short-term liquidity associated with certain investments held by the Plan, which could impact the value of investments after the date of these financial statements.

Plan Termination

Although it has not expressed any intent to do so, the Company has the right under the Plan to discontinue contributions and terminate the Plan. In the event of termination or partial termination of the Plan, all amounts credited to a participants' account, including Company contributions, become fully vested.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

ROCKY BRANDS, INC. 401(K) PLAN
EIN: #31-1364046 PLAN: #004

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

December 31, 2018

(a)	Identity of Issue, Borrower, (b) Lessor or Similar Party	Description of (c) Investment	Current (e) Value
*	Schwab International Index Fund	Mutual Fund	$ 2,889,949
	Metropolitan West Total Return Bond I	Mutual Fund	2,145,110
	Vanguard Growth Index Fund Admiral	Mutual Fund	1,917,158
*	Schwab Indexed Ret 2045	Mutual Fund	1,435,315
	Morley Stable Value Fund II	Common / Collective Trust	1,432,209
*	Schwab Indexed Ret 2030	Mutual Fund	1,366,292
*	Schwab S&P 500 Index Fund	Mutual Fund	1,273,358
*	Schwab Fundamental US Large Company Index Fund	Mutual Fund	1,222,691
	Vanguard Short-Term Corporate Bond Index Fund Admiral	Mutual Fund	935,854
*	Schwab Bank Savings	Cash	904,805
*	Schwab Indexed Ret 2025	Mutual Fund	831,242
*	Schwab Indexed Ret 2035	Mutual Fund	801,919
*	Schwab Indexed Ret 2020	Mutual Fund	776,780
	Vanguard Value Index Fund Admiral	Mutual Fund	749,590
	Vanguard Selected value Investor	Mutual Fund	728,176
	MassMutual Select Mid-Cap Growth Fund I	Mutual Fund	661,076
*	Schwab Indexed Ret 2040	Mutual Fund	552,348
*	Schwab Indexed Ret 2050	Mutual Fund	543,404
	Vanguard Mid-Cap Index Fund Admiral	Mutual Fund	457,852
	Vanguard Small Cap Index Admiral	Mutual Fund	392,479
*	Schwab Indexed Ret 2015	Mutual Fund	332,047
*	Schwab Treasury Inflation Protected Securities Index Fund	Mutual Fund	322,909
	Vanguard Small-Cap Growth Index Fund Admiral	Mutual Fund	271,476
*	Schwab Small-Cap Index Fund	Mutual Fund	228,706
	Europacific Growth Fund Class R-6	Mutual Fund	177,064
*	Schwab Indexed Ret 2010	Mutual Fund	172,812
*	Schwab Indexed Ret 2055	Mutual Fund	169,634
	Vanguard Real Estate Index Fund Admiral	Mutual Fund	118,800
*	Schwab Indexed Ret 2060	Mutual Fund	36,477
*	Schwab Total Stock Market Index Fund	Mutual Fund	28,163
	Common Stocks	Common Stocks	23,380
	Vanguard FTSE All-World ex-US Index Fund	Mutual Fund	6,330
	Cash	Cash	2,216
*	Participants' notes receivable	Interest 3.25% - 5.25 %	831,263
			$ 24,738,884

* Denotes a party-in-interest

** Historical cost is not required as all investments are participant directed

Rocky Brands, Inc. 401(k) Plan and Trust
Schedule C, Part I, Line 3 - Service Provider Indirect Compensation Information
December 31, 2018

EIN: 31-1364046
Plan Number: 004

Received By Charles Schwab Bank (EIN: 42-1558009)

Fund Family/Provider	EIN	Formula
Morley Financial Services, Inc	Not Available	Rate of 0.55% of average daily balance of asset(s)

Schedule H, line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)

NAME OF PLAN SPONSOR: Rocky Brands, Inc.
NAME OF PLAN: Rocky Brands, Inc. 401(k) Plan and Trust
EIN: 31-1364046
PLAN NUMBER: 004

(a)	(b) Identity of issue, borrower, lessor, or similar party	(c) Description of investment including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par, or maturity value	(d) Cost	(e) Current Value
*	PARTICIPANT LOANS	Loans (3.25% - 5.25%)		831,263
*	SCHWAB BANK SAVINGS	Money Market / Cash Equivalent		904,805
	MORLEY STABLE VALUE CL 80-1	Common Collective Trust Fund		1,432,209
*	SCHWAB INDEXED RET 2010	Common Collective Trust Fund		172,812
*	SCHWAB INDEXED RET 2015	Common Collective Trust Fund		332,047
*	SCHWAB INDEXED RET 2020	Common Collective Trust Fund		776,780
*	SCHWAB INDEXED RET 2025	Common Collective Trust Fund		831,242
*	SCHWAB INDEXED RET 2030	Common Collective Trust Fund		1,366,292
*	SCHWAB INDEXED RET 2035	Common Collective Trust Fund		801,919
*	SCHWAB INDEXED RET 2040	Common Collective Trust Fund		552,348
*	SCHWAB INDEXED RET 2045	Common Collective Trust Fund		1,435,315
*	SCHWAB INDEXED RET 2050	Common Collective Trust Fund		543,404
*	SCHWAB INDEXED RET 2055	Common Collective Trust Fund		169,634
*	SCHWAB INDEXED RET 2060	Common Collective Trust Fund		36,477
	PCRA	Self-Directed Brokerage Account		25,596
	EUROPACIFIC GROWTH R6	Registered Investment Company		177,064
	MASSMUTUAL SLCT MID CAP GRTH I	Registered Investment Company		661,076
	METROPOLITAN WEST TTL RTN BD P	Registered Investment Company		2,145,110
	SCH TREAS INFL PRO SECS IDX	Registered Investment Company		322,909
*	SCHWAB FDMTL US LG CO IDX	Registered Investment Company		1,222,691
*	SCHWAB INTERNATIONAL INDEX FD	Registered Investment Company		2,889,949
*	SCHWAB S&P 500 INDEX FUND	Registered Investment Company		1,273,358
*	SCHWAB SMALL-CAP INDEX FUND	Registered Investment Company		228,706
*	SCHWAB TOTAL STK MARKET INDEX	Registered Investment Company		28,163
	VANGUARD FTSE ALL-WLD EX-US	Registered Investment Company		6,332
	VANGUARD GROWTH INDEX ADMIRAL	Registered Investment Company		1,917,158
	VANGUARD MID CAP INDEX ADMIRAL	Registered Investment Company		457,852
	VANGUARD REAL ESTATE INDEX ADM	Registered Investment Company		118,800
	VANGUARD SELECTED VALUE	Registered Investment Company		728,176
	VANGUARD SM CAP VAL INDEX ADM	Registered Investment Company		392,479
	VANGUARD SMALL CAP GRTH INDEX	Registered Investment Company		271,476
	VANGUARD ST CORP BD IDX ADM	Registered Investment Company		935,854
	VANGUARD VALUE INDEX ADM	Registered Investment Company		749,590

* Party-in-interest