

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 2021 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
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Part I	Annual Report Identification Information
For calendar plan year 2021 or fiscal plan year beginning <u>01/01/2021</u> and ending <u>12/31/2021</u>	
A This return/report is for:	☐ a multiemployer plan ☐ a multiple-employer plan (Filers checking this box must attach a list of participating employer information in accordance with the form instructions.) ☒ a single-employer plan ☐ a DFE (specify) _____
B This return/report is:	☐ the first return/report ☐ the final return/report ☐ an amended return/report ☐ a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months)
C If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here.	☐
D Check box if filing under:	☒ Form 5558 ☐ automatic extension ☐ the DFVC program ☐ special extension (enter description)
E If this is a retroactively adopted plan permitted by SECURE Act section 201, check here.	☐

Part II	Basic Plan Information—enter all requested information												
1a Name of plan <u>THE VERTEX COMPANIES INC. 401K PLAN</u>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">1b Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶</td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: center;"><u>001</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">1c Effective date of plan <u>01/01/2006</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">2b Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>20-3724403</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number <u>781-952-6000</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">2d Business code (see instructions) <u>541600</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="background-color: #cccccc; height: 30px;"></td> </tr> </table>	1b Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<u>001</u>	1c Effective date of plan <u>01/01/2006</u>		2b Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>20-3724403</u>		2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number <u>781-952-6000</u>		2d Business code (see instructions) <u>541600</u>			
1b Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<u>001</u>												
1c Effective date of plan <u>01/01/2006</u>													
2b Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>20-3724403</u>													
2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number <u>781-952-6000</u>													
2d Business code (see instructions) <u>541600</u>													
2a Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan) Mailing address (include room, apt., suite no. and street, or P.O. Box) City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code (if foreign, see instructions) <u>THE VERTEX COMPANIES INC.</u> <u>400 LIBBEY PARKWAY</u> <u>WEYMOUTH, MA 02189</u>													

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

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

SIGN HERE	Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature.	10/10/2022	MARC FIORE
	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

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 5500.

Form 5500 (2021)
v. 210624

3a Plan administrator's name and address ☒ Same as Plan Sponsor	3b Administrator's EIN 3c Administrator's telephone number
4 If the name and/or EIN of the plan sponsor 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	5 614
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..... a(2) Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year b Retired or separated participants receiving benefits..... c Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits d Subtotal. Add lines 6a(2) , 6b , and 6c e Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits. f Total. Add lines 6d and 6e g Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) h Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested	6a(1) 498 6a(2) 529 6b 0 6c 140 6d 669 6e 0 6f 669 6g 595 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: 2E 2F 2G 2J 2K 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) ☒ Trust (4) ☐ General assets of the sponsor	9b Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply) (1) ☐ Insurance (2) ☐ Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts (3) ☒ Trust (4) ☐ General assets of the sponsor
10 Check all applicable boxes in 10a and 10b to indicate which schedules are attached, and, where indicated, enter the number attached. (See instructions)	
a Pension Schedules (1) ☒ R (Retirement Plan Information) (2) ☐ MB (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary (3) ☐ SB (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary	b General Schedules (1) ☒ H (Financial Information) (2) ☐ I (Financial Information – Small Plan) (3) ☐ A (Insurance Information) (4) ☒ C (Service Provider Information) (5) ☐ D (DFE/Participating Plan Information) (6) ☐ G (Financial Transaction Schedules)

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

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

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

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

11c Enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the 2021 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2021 Form M-1 annual report, enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the most recent Form M-1 that was required to be filed under the Form M-1 filing requirements. (Failure to enter a valid Receipt Confirmation Code will subject the Form 5500 filing to rejection as incomplete.)

Receipt Confirmation Code _____

SCHEDULE C (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Service Provider Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110
		2021
		This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
For calendar plan year 2021 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2021 and ending 12/31/2021		
A Name of plan THE VERTEX COMPANIES INC. 401K PLAN		B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 THE VERTEX COMPANIES INC.		D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 20-3724403

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

1 Information on Persons Receiving Only Eligible Indirect Compensation

- a** Check "Yes" or "No" to indicate whether you are excluding a person from the remainder of this Part because they received only eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures (see instructions for definitions and conditions)..... ☒ Yes ☐ No
- b** If you answered line 1a "Yes," enter the name and EIN or address of each person providing the required disclosures for the service providers who received only eligible indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed (see instructions).

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation	
ALLIANZ GLOBAL INVESTORS DISTRIBUTO	1345 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS NEW YORK, NY 10105

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation	
AMERICAN FUNDS DISTRIBUTORS, INC.	
95-2769620	

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation	
COLUMBIA	ONE FINANCIAL CENTER MA5-515-14-01 BOSTON, MA 02111

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation	
DIMENSIONAL FUND ADVISORS	6300 BEE CAVE ROAD BUILDING ONE AUSTIN, TX 78746

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

FRANKLIN TEMPLETON DISTRIBUTORS, IN

100 FOUNTAIN PARKWAY
ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33716

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

HARTFORD INVESTMENT FINANCIAL SERVI

201 HOPMEADOW STREET
SIMSBURY, CT 06089

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

MFS FUND DISTRIBUTORS, INC.

04-2747644

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

NATIXIS DISTRIBUTORS, L.P.

399 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

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

PRUDENTIAL INVESTMENTS LLC

22-3468527

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

T. ROWE PRICE

100 EAST PRATT STREET
BALTIMORE, MD 21202

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

VANGUARD

455 DEVON PARK DRIVE
WAYNE, PA 19087

(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)

ALPHA PENSION GROUP, INC.

26-2219855

(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 21 49 50 64 99	INVESTMENT/FINANCIAL ADVI	14989	Yes ☐ No ☒	Yes ☐ No ☒	0	Yes ☐ No ☒

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

ADP, INC.

13-3036745

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
37 50 15 64	RECORD KEEPER	4835	Yes ☒ No ☐	Yes ☒ No ☐	0	Yes ☐ No ☒

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Part I Service Provider Information (continued)

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

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	

Part II Service Providers Who Fail or Refuse to Provide Information

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

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

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

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

SCHEDULE H (Form 5500) 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 2021 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
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For calendar plan year 2021 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2021 and ending 12/31/2021		
A Name of plan THE VERTEX COMPANIES INC. 401K PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ►	001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 THE VERTEX COMPANIES INC.	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 20-3724403	

Part I	Asset and Liability Statement
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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)		
(2) Participant contributions.....	1b(2)		
(3) Other	1b(3)		
c General investments:			
(1) Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit)	1c(1)		
(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)	478667	499235
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts.....	1c(9)		
(10) Value of interest in pooled separate accounts	1c(10)		
(11) Value of interest in master trust investment accounts.....	1c(11)		
(12) Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities	1c(12)		
(13) Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	1c(13)	38357116	72220285
(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	38835783 72719520
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 through 1j)	1k	0 0
Net Assets			
l	Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f)	1l	38835783 72719520

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.

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
Income			
a	Contributions:		
(1)	Received or receivable in cash from: (A) Employers	2a(1)(A)	1674549
	(B) Participants	2a(1)(B)	3875852
	(C) Others (including rollovers).....	2a(1)(C)	23960237
(2)	Noncash contributions.....	2a(2)	
(3)	Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A) , (B) , (C) , and line 2a(2)	2a(3)	29510638
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)	24578
	(F) Other	2b(1)(F)	
	(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F)	2b(1)(G)	24578
(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)	2015178
	(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A) , (B) , and (C)	2b(2)(D)	2015178
(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)		
(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)		5074486
c Other income.....	2c		
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	2d		36624880
Expenses			
e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers.....	2e(1)	2706101	
(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)		2706101
f Corrective distributions (see instructions).....	2f		
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions).....	2g		15217
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)	19825	
(5) Total administrative expenses. Add lines 2i(1) through (4).....	2i(5)		19825
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	2j		2741143
Net Income and Reconciliation			
k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d.....	2k		33883737
l Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan.....	2l(1)		0
(2) From this plan.....	2l(2)		0

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) ☒ Unmodified (2) ☐ Qualified (3) ☐ Disclaimer (4) ☐ Adverse

b Check the appropriate box(es) to indicate whether the IQPA performed an ERISA section 103(a)(3)(C) audit. Check both boxes (1) and (2) if the audit was performed pursuant to both 29 CFR 2520.103-8 and 29 CFR 2520.103-12(d). Check box (3) if pursuant to neither.

(1) ☒ DOL Regulation 2520.103-8 (2) ☐ DOL Regulation 2520.103-12(d) (3) ☐ neither DOL Regulation 2520.103-8 nor DOL Regulation 2520.103-12(d).

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

(1) Name: MINSK GOULD TATTRIE& LUSSIER LLP

(2) EIN: 36-4774142

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

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

Part IV Compliance Questions

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

During the plan year:

a Was there a failure to transmit to the plan any participant contributions within the time period described in 29 CFR 2510.3-102? Continue to answer "Yes" for any prior year failures until fully corrected. (See instructions and DOL's Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program.).....

	Yes	No	Amount
4a		X	

	Yes	No	Amount
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	
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?	X		500000
f Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?		X	
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?		X	
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?		X	
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.)	X		
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.)		X	
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?		X	
4k		X	
l Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?		X	
4l		X	
m If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)		X	
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			

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 Was the plan a defined benefit plan covered under the PBGC insurance program at any time during this plan year? (See ERISA section 4021 and instructions.) ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not determined
If "Yes" is checked, enter the My PAA confirmation number from the PBGC premium filing for this plan year _____.

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 2021 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
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For calendar plan year 2021 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2021 and ending 12/31/2021

A Name of plan <u>THE VERTEX COMPANIES INC. 401K PLAN</u>	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <u>001</u>
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>THE VERTEX COMPANIES INC.</u>	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>20-3724403</u>

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	<u>0</u>
2 Enter the EIN(s) of payor(s) who paid benefits on behalf of the plan to participants or beneficiaries during the year (if more than two, enter EINs of the two payors who paid the greatest dollar amounts of benefits): EIN(s): <u>57-1198022</u>		
Profit-sharing plans, ESOPs, and stock bonus plans, skip line 3.		
3 Number of participants (living or deceased) whose benefits were distributed in a single sum, during the plan year	3	

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

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

Part III	Amendments
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9 If this is a defined benefit pension plan, were any amendments adopted during this plan year that increased or decreased the value of benefits? If yes, check the appropriate box. If no, check the "No" box.....	☐ Increase	☐ Decrease	☐ Both	☐ No
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Part IV	ESOPs (see instructions). If this is not a plan described under section 409(a) or 4975(e)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code, skip this Part.
----------------	---

10 Were unallocated employer securities or proceeds from the sale of unallocated securities used to repay any exempt loan?	☐ Yes	☐ No
11 a Does the ESOP hold any preferred stock?	☐ Yes	☐ No
b If the ESOP has an outstanding exempt loan with the employer as lender, is such loan part of a "back-to-back" loan? (See instructions for definition of "back-to-back" loan.)	☐ Yes	☐ No
12 Does the ESOP hold any stock that is not readily tradable on an established securities market?	☐ Yes	☐ No

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 5500.

Schedule R (Form 5500) 2021
v. 201209

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 deferred vested and retired participants (inactive participants), as of the beginning of the plan year, whose contributing employer is no longer making contributions to the plan for:

a The current plan year. Check the box to indicate the counting method used to determine the number of inactive participants: ☐ last contributing employer ☐ alternative ☐ reasonable approximation (see instructions for required attachment).....

14a

b The plan year immediately preceding the current plan year. ☐ Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment).....

14b

c The second preceding plan year. ☐ Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment).....

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): _____

- 20 PBGC missed contribution reporting requirements.** If this is a multiemployer plan or a single-employer plan that is not covered by PBGC, skip line 20.

a Is the amount of unpaid minimum required contributions for all years from Schedule SB (Form 5500) line 40 greater than zero? ☐ Yes ☐ No

b If line 20a is "Yes," has PBGC been notified as required by ERISA sections 4043(c)(5) and/or 303(k)(4)? Check the applicable box:

☐ Yes.

☐ No. Reporting was waived under 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) because contributions equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution were made by the 30th day after the due date.

☐ No. The 30-day period referenced in 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) has not yet ended, and the sponsor intends to make a contribution equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution by the 30th day after the due date.

☐ No. Other. Provide explanation _____

THE VERTEX COMPANIES INC. 401K PLAN

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
AND
SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE**

DECEMBER 31, 2021 AND 2020



INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Administrative Committee of
The Vertex Companies Inc. 401K Plan
Weymouth, Massachusetts

Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit

We have performed an audit of the accompanying financial statements of The Vertex Companies, Inc. 401K Plan, an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit. The financial statements comprise the statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2021, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management, having determined it is permissible in the circumstances, has elected to have the audit of The Vertex Companies, Inc. 401K Plan's financial statements performed in accordance with ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. As permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C), our audit need not extend to any statements or information related to assets held for investment of the Plan (investment information) by a bank or similar institution or insurance carrier that is regulated, supervised, and subject to periodic examination by a state or federal agency, provided that the statements or information regarding assets so held are prepared and certified to by the bank or similar institution or insurance carrier in accordance with 29 CFR 2520.103-5 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA (qualified institution).

Management has obtained certifications from a qualified institution as of and for the year ended December 31, 2021, stating that the certified investment information, as described in Note 9 to the financial statements, is complete and accurate.

Opinion

In our opinion, based on our audit and on the procedures performed as described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section –

- the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements referred to above, other than those agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
- the information in the financial statements referred to above related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of The Vertex Companies, Inc. 401K Plan and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit opinion.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for 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. Management's election of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit does not affect management's responsibility for the financial statements.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about The Vertex Companies, Inc. 401K Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for one year after the date the financial statements are available to be issued.

Management is also responsible for maintaining a current Plan instrument, including all Plan amendments; administering the Plan; and determining that the Plan's transactions that are presented and disclosed in the financial statements are in conformity with the Plan's provisions, including maintaining sufficient records with respect to each of the participants, to determine the benefits due or which may become due to such participants.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Except as described in the Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit section of our report, our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of The Vertex Companies, Inc. 401K Plan's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about The Vertex Companies, Inc. 401K Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

Our audit did not extend to the certified investment information, except for obtaining and reading the certification, comparing the certified investment information with the related information presented and disclosed in the financial statements, and reading the disclosures relating to the certified investment information to assess whether they are in accordance with the presentation and disclosure requirements of accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Accordingly, the objective of an ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit is not to express an opinion about whether the financial statements as a whole are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

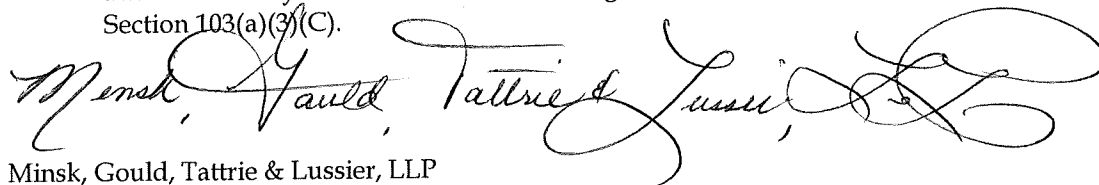
Supplemental Schedules Required by ERISA

The supplemental schedule, Schedule H, line 4i- Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year) as of the year ended December 31, 2021 is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information included in the supplemental schedule, other than that agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, has been subjected to auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. For information included in the supplemental schedule that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, we compared such information to the related certified investment information.

In forming our opinion on the supplemental schedule, we evaluated whether the supplemental schedule, other than the information agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, including their form and content, are presented in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

In our opinion –

- the form and content of the supplemental schedule, other than the information in the supplemental schedule that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, are presented, in all material respects, in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.
- the information in the supplemental schedule related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).



Minsk, Gould, Tattree & Lussier, LLP
Dedham, Massachusetts
October 5, 2022



INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Plan Administrator
The Vertex Companies Inc. 401K Plan
Weymouth, Massachusetts

Report on the Financial Statements

We were engaged to audit the accompanying statement of net assets available for plan benefits of The Vertex Companies Inc. 401K Plan, as of December 31, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statement.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the 2020 financial statement 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 a financial statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the 2020 financial statement 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 information summarized in Note 9, which was certified by Reliance Trust Company, the trustee of the Plan, except for comparing such information with the related information included in the financial statement. We have been informed by the Plan administrator that the trustee holds the Plan's investment assets and executes investment transactions. The Plan administrator has obtained a certification from the trustee as of and for the year ended December 31, 2020, that the information provided to the Plan administrator 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 on the 2020 financial statement. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the 2020 financial statement.

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

The form and content of the information included in the 2020 financial statement, 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 Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

Minsk, Gould, Tattrie & Lussier, LLP
Dedham, Massachusetts
October 5, 2022

December 31	2021	2020
Assets		
Investments:		
Registered Investment Companies at Fair Value	\$ 72,220,285	\$ 38,357,116
Total Investments	72,220,285	38,357,116
Receivables:		
Notes Receivable from Participants	499,235	478,667
Total Receivables	499,235	478,667
Net Assets Available for Benefits	\$ 72,719,520	\$ 38,835,783

For the Year Ended December 31	2021
Additions to Net Assets:	
Participant Contributions	\$ 3,875,852
Plan Sponsor Contributions	1,674,549
Rollover Contributions	23,960,237
Net Appreciation in the Fair Value of Investments	5,074,486
Dividend and Interest Income	2,015,178
Interest Income on Notes Receivable from Participants	24,578
Total Additions	36,624,880
Deductions from Net Assets:	
Distributions to Participants	2,721,318
Administrative Fees & Charges	19,825
Total Deductions	2,741,143
Net Increase in Net Assets	<u>\$ 33,883,737</u>
Net Assets Available for Benefits, Beginning of Year	<u>38,835,783</u>
Net Assets Available for Benefits, End of Year	<u><u>\$ 72,719,520</u></u>

1. Description of the Plan:

The following description of The Vertex Companies Inc. 401K Plan (the Plan) provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Plan agreement for more complete information regarding the terms of the Plan.

General: The Plan is a defined contribution, 401(k) plan covering substantially all full-time employees of The Vertex Companies, Inc. and Subsidiaries (the Plan Sponsor). The Plan was established on January 1, 2006, to provide a systematic savings plan and retirement benefits for eligible employees (the Participants). Employees become eligible for participation in the Plan upon attaining the age of 21. The plan was amended for the plan year 2017 to include employees of Optistar Technology Consultants, Inc. and in year 2020 to include employees of Compass Project Management, Inc. The plan was amended for the plan year 2014, to include the employees of Vertex TCS, LLC, and Vertex McGlamery, Inc. During the year ended December 31, 2013, certain wholly owned subsidiaries were rolled into the parent company and their plans were merged into the Plan. The plan has adopted various amendments to reflect changes included in certain pension acts through the date of these financial statements.

Recent Pronouncements: The Plan adopted the distribution provision of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security ("CARES") Act that was signed into law on March 27, 2020. A CARES Act distribution allows the Plan's participants to take a COVID-19 related distribution up to \$100,000 from the Plan beginning on or after January 1, 2020 and before December 31, 2020. In addition, the Plan adopted the temporary loan provisions which allow qualified participants the option to defer loan repayments for up to one year and relaxes the limits on loans. For plan loans made to a qualified individual from March 27, 2020, to September 22, 2020, the limit may be increased up to the lesser of: (1) \$100,000 (minus outstanding plan loans of the individual), or (2) the individual's vested benefit under the plan.

Contributions: Participants may contribute up to 80% of their pre-tax compensation, subject to limitations under Federal law. Rollover contributions from other qualified plans are allowed. During the year ended December 31, 2021, the Plan Sponsor terminated their Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP). As a result, \$22,923,314 was rolled over from the ESOP into the Plan.

The Plan Sponsor has elected to operate the Plan as a safe harbor 401K plan. The Plan Sponsor will make matching contributions to the individual account of each eligible participant equal to 100% of the participant's elective deferral not to exceed 4% of the participant's compensation for the plan year.

Participant Accounts: Each Participant's account is credited with the Participant's contribution, Plan Sponsor's contribution, and an allocation of Plan earnings. Allocations are based on total investment earnings and average Participant investment balances, as defined.

Expenses: The Plan Sponsor pays for all expenses incurred by the Plan, except for certain transaction fees, loan charges and budget accounts which are paid by the Plan.

Vesting: Participants are immediately vested 100% in their voluntary contributions (including rollover contributions) and the Plan Sponsor's safe harbor matching contribution, plus actual earnings thereon.

Benefits and Withdrawals: Upon reaching the normal retirement age, or upon death or disability of a Participant (or beneficiary) prior to retirement or upon termination of employment, benefits become available for disbursement. All benefits payable under the plan are paid in a lump-sum cash payment.

Hardship withdrawals are allowed under the provisions of the Plan and cannot exceed the amount required to meet the immediate financial need created by the hardship.

Notes Receivable from Participants: Participants may borrow from their plan accounts in amounts attributable to the Participant's contributions, for a maximum term of five years, unless used for purchase of principal residence. A Participant may borrow a maximum of 50% of their vested balance up to \$50,000, (See temporary cares act provisions). The minimum loan amount is \$500. The interest rate is fixed at the inception of the loan in an amount equal to the rate offered by a qualifying financial institution for a similar type of loan. The interest rates charged on loans outstanding as of December 31, 2021, amount to 4.25% to 7.25%, per annum. As of December 31, 2021, and 2020, an allowance was not established for loan losses as it was not deemed necessary.

1. Description of the Plan: (Continued)

Plan Investments: The Plan's investments are held in various securities accounts. Participants have the option to allocate their contributions and the Plan Sponsor's contributions, if any, in their individual accounts among various investment alternatives and to make transfers as specified in the plan document.

2. Significant Accounting Policies:

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

Accounting Guidance: The Plan has adopted the provisions of FASB Accounting Standards Update (ASU) 2015-12(Part II), "Plan Accounting (Topics 960, 962 and 965): Plan Investment Disclosures." This ASU eliminates the disclosure of individual investments that represent 5 percent or more of net assets available for benefits, eliminates the net appreciation or depreciation for investments by general type, and requires that investments be grouped only by general type, eliminating the need to disaggregate the investments by nature, characteristics, and risks. The Plan has adopted this standard as Plan management believes this presentation is more relevant to the users of the financial statements.

Investment Valuation and Income Recognition: Investments are valued at their fair market value. Fair market value is determined by using quoted market prices. Notes receivable from participants are measured at their unpaid principal balance plus any accrued but unpaid balance. Delinquent participant loans are reclassified as distributions based upon the terms of the plan document. Interest income is on the accrual basis and dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date. Purchases and sales of securities are reflected on a trade date basis. The net appreciation (depreciation) in the fair value of the Plan's investments consists of realized gains (losses) and unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on those investments.

Use of Estimates: Management has used estimates and assumptions relating to the reporting of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities in its preparation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Actual results experienced by the Plan may differ from those estimates.

Payment of Benefits: Benefits are recorded when paid.

Participant Salary Deferrals: Participant contributions are recorded in the period in which the Participants' payroll deductions are made.

Subsequent Events: On January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization ("WHO") announced a global health emergency stemming from a new strain of coronavirus ("COVID-19") and on March 11, 2020, the WHO classified the COVID-19 outbreak as a pandemic, triggering volatility in financial markets and a significant negative impact on the global economy. However, because the values of the Plan's individual investments have and will fluctuate in response to changing market conditions, the amount of losses that will be recognized in subsequent periods, if any, cannot be determined. The full impact of the COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve as of the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

For the year ended December 31, 2021, the Plan has evaluated subsequent events for recognition and disclosure through October 5, 2022, the date of financial statement issuance.

3. 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 statement of net assets available for benefits.

4. Other Income:

In July 2020, the Plan Sponsor's ESOP received a settlement check in the amount of \$6,577,105, representing its portion of a settlement with Wilmington Trust, the ESOP plan's former trustee. The ESOP Plan's Management determined that the proceeds would be allocated to the employee owners through deposits to their 401K accounts, and if an employee does not have a 401K account, an account will be created for them. The proceeds were not considered employer contributions. The Plan's Administrator determined that the plan could accept the transfer as it was a result of a regulatory action. The income is to be treated similar to rollovers to the plan as they would be fully vested and available for loans.

5. Related Party Transactions:

Certain Plan investments are in funds managed by Reliance Trust Company. Reliance is the trustee as defined by the Plan and therefore, these transactions qualify as party-in-interest transactions. Fees paid by the Plan for investment management services amounted to \$19,825 and \$21,965, for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020, respectively.

6. Plan Termination:

While it is the intention of the Plan Sponsor to continue the Plan indefinitely, the Plan Sponsor reserves the right to terminate or amend the Plan at any time subject to the provisions of ERISA. In the event of termination, the accounts of all Participants shall become vested and plan assets shall be distributed in accordance with the terms of the Plan.

7. Tax Status:

The Internal Revenue Service has issued an opinion letter dated July 8, 2014 stating that the prototype plan adopted by the Plan Sponsor was designed in accordance with applicable sections of the Internal Revenue Code. The Plan has been amended since receiving the IRS opinion letter, however, the Plan administrator believes that the Plan is currently being operated in compliance with the applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code. Therefore, no provision for income taxes has been included in the Plan's financial statements. Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the plan and recognize a tax liability if the plan has taken an uncertain tax position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the Internal Revenue Service. The Plan Administrator has analyzed the tax positions taken by the plan, and has concluded that as of December 31, 2021, that there are no uncertain positions taken or expected to be taken that would require recognition or disclosure in the financial statements. The plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any periods in progress. The plan administrator believes it is no longer subject to income tax examinations for years prior to December 31, 2018.

8. Fair Value Measurements:

FASB ASC 820, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures*, establishes a framework for measuring fair value. The framework provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets and liabilities (Level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurements). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy under FASB ASC 820 are described as follows:

Level 1- Inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets and 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 assets or liabilities in inactive markets; inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability and inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation of other means.

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

The asset and 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.

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

Registered Investment Companies - are valued using publicly available quoted market prices. The separate accounts investing in mutual funds or equity securities are measured using quoted prices in active markets (Level 1).

The following table sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the plans assets at fair value as of December 31, 2021 and 2020:

Assets at fair value as of December 31, 2021 and 2020:

	2021	2020
<i>Level 1</i>		
Registered Investment Company	<u>\$ 72,220,285</u>	<u>\$ 38,357,116</u>

9. Information Certified by the Trustees (Unaudited):

The Plan's investments and investment transactions were certified by Reliance Trust Company, the Trustees of the Plan for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020 as complete and accurate.

Therefore, in accordance with the request of the Plan Administrator and as allowed under 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, this information was not subjected to auditing procedures generally accepted in the United States of America by the Plan's independent certified public accountants, except for comparing such information to the related information included in the financial statements and accompanying schedule. The following is a summary of the unaudited information regarding the plan, which was prepared by or derived from information prepared by the trustees and furnished to the Plan Administrator:

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits:		
Registered Investment Companies	\$ 72,220,285	\$ 38,357,116
Loans to Participants	499,235	478,667
Statements of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits:		
Net Appreciation in Fair Value of Investments	\$ 5,074,486	N/A
Dividend Income	2,015,178	N/A
Interest Income	24,578	N/A

Note 10 of the Financial Statements

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

10. Investments in Registered Investment Companies:

The fair value of the investments in registered investment companies held by the Plan as of December 31, 2021 and 2020, are summarized as follows:

Investments	2021	2020
Vanguard 500 Index	\$ 7,972,083	\$ 5,085,525
Vanguard Federal Money Market	5,932,627	2,002,872
Columbia Dividend Income Fund	5,872,215	-
Vanguard Growth Index	4,957,074	3,278,590
American Funds Europacific	3,903,285	2,463,252
T-Rowe Price Health Sciences	3,432,122	2,031,177
American Funds Capital Index Builder	3,242,947	1,909,964
Vanguard Target Retirement 2030	3,056,479	1,581,311
Vanguard Target Retirement 2035	3,016,929	1,348,148
DFA US Vector Equity	2,970,121	1,480,563
Vanguard Target Retirement 2040	2,833,436	1,287,615
Vanguard Target Retirement 2045	2,660,725	1,414,656
Vanguard Target Retirement 2055	2,647,215	1,271,947
MFS Mid Cap Growth	2,342,417	1,426,470
Vanguard Target Retirement 2025	2,237,047	789,417
Vanguard Target Retirement 2050	2,049,457	1,101,066
Vanguard Target Retirement 2060	1,881,724	647,877
Prudential Total Return Bond	1,692,912	1,146,128
Prudential Global Total Return	1,565,365	989,868
Franklin Small Cap Growth	1,318,494	747,616
Vanguard Mid Cap Index	872,921	454,870
American Funds Amer Balanced	825,317	552,886
DFA US Targeted Value	808,254	317,233
Hartford Core Equity	769,461	405,867
Vanguard Small Cap Index	674,121	272,297
DFA Inflation Protection	557,222	268,181
Vanguard Target Retirement 2020	519,588	295,134
American Funds New World	433,980	143,354
PIMCO Income Fund	416,528	-
Vanguard Target Retirement Income	340,557	270,480
American Funds New Prospective	326,142	160,775
Vanguard Target Retirement 2015	59,239	39,352
Vanguard Target Retirement 2065	32,281	-
DFA US Large Cap Value	-	2,941,119
Loomis Sayles Strategic Income	-	231,506
Totals	<u>\$ 72,220,285</u>	<u>\$ 38,357,116</u>

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

**The Vertex Companies Inc. 401K Plan
EIN #20-3724403 / Plan #001**

Assets held by the Plan as of December 31, 2021, are summarized as follows:

(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
	Vanguard 500 Index	Registered Investment Company	**	\$ 7,972,083
	Vanguard Federal Money Market	Registered Investment Company	**	5,932,627
	Columbia Dividend Income Fund	Registered Investment Company	**	5,872,215
	Vanguard Growth Index	Registered Investment Company	**	4,957,074
	American Funds Europacific	Registered Investment Company	**	3,903,285
	T-Rowe Price Health Sciences	Registered Investment Company	**	3,432,122
	American Funds Capital Index Builder	Registered Investment Company	**	3,242,947
	Vanguard Target Retirement 2030	Registered Investment Company	**	3,056,479
	Vanguard Target Retirement 2035	Registered Investment Company	**	3,016,929
	DFA US Vector Equity	Registered Investment Company	**	2,970,121
	Vanguard Target Retirement 2040	Registered Investment Company	**	2,833,436
	Vanguard Target Retirement 2045	Registered Investment Company	**	2,660,725
	Vanguard Target Retirement 2055	Registered Investment Company	**	2,647,215
	MFS Mid Cap Growth	Registered Investment Company	**	2,342,417
	Vanguard Target Retirement 2025	Registered Investment Company	**	2,237,047
	Vanguard Target Retirement 2050	Registered Investment Company	**	2,049,457
	Vanguard Target Retirement 2060	Registered Investment Company	**	1,881,724
	Prudential Total Return Bond	Registered Investment Company	**	1,692,912
	Prudential Global Total Return	Registered Investment Company	**	1,565,365
	Franklin Small Cap Growth	Registered Investment Company	**	1,318,494
	Vanguard Mid Cap Index	Registered Investment Company	**	872,921
	American Funds Amer Balanced	Registered Investment Company	**	825,317
	DFA US Targeted Value	Registered Investment Company	**	808,254
	Hartford Core Equity	Registered Investment Company	**	769,461
	Vanguard Small Cap Index	Registered Investment Company	**	674,121
	DFA Inflation Protection	Registered Investment Company	**	557,222
	Vanguard Target Retirement 2020	Registered Investment Company	**	519,588
	American Funds New World	Registered Investment Company	**	433,980
	PIMCO Income Fund	Registered Investment Company	**	416,528
	Vanguard Target Retirement Income	Registered Investment Company	**	340,557
	American Funds New Prospective	Registered Investment Company	**	326,142
	Vanguard Target Retirement 2015	Registered Investment Company	**	59,239
	Vanguard Target Retirement 2065	Registered Investment Company	**	32,281
		Loans to Participants, with interest rates of		
*	Participant loans	4.25% to 7.25%, maturing through 2051	**	499,235

\$ 72,719,520

* Represents a party-in interest to the Plan.

** Cost information may be omitted for participant directed transactions under an individual account

Schedule C, Line 2(h) Formula Description

For those service providers listed on Line 2 for which Line 2(h) has been checked “yes”:

For a description of indirect compensation received by service providers listed on Line 2 that was disclosed as a formula, please see Line 3(e). Please note: If indirect compensation disclosed as a formula was received by a service provider from more than one source, there will be multiple Lines 3(e) for that service provider.

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
		2021
		This Form is Open to Public Inspection

For calendar plan year 2021 or fiscal plan year beginning		and ending	
A Name of plan	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ►		
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500		D Employer Identification Number (EIN)	

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

1d Employer-related investments:		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
(1) Employer securities.....	1d(1)		
(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		

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 through 1j).....	1k		

Net Assets

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

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

Income

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
a Contributions:			
(1) Received or receivable in cash from: (A) Employers	2a(1)(A)		
(B) Participants	2a(1)(B)		
(C) Others (including rollovers).....	2a(1)(C)		
(2) Noncash contributions.....	2a(2)		
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A) , (B) , (C) , and line 2a(2)	2a(3)		
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)		
(F) Other	2b(1)(F)		
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F)	2b(1)(G)		
(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)		
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A) , (B) , and (C)	2b(2)(D)		
(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)		
(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)		
c Other income	2c		
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	2d		

Expenses

e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers.....	2e(1)		
(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)		
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)		
(5) Total administrative expenses. Add lines 2i(1) through (4)	2i(5)		
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	2j		

Net Income and Reconciliation

k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d.....	2k		
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) ☐ Unmodified (2) ☐ Qualified (3) ☐ Disclaimer (4) ☐ Adverse

b Check the appropriate box(es) to indicate whether the IQPA performed an ERISA section 103(a)(3)(C) audit. Check both boxes (1) and (2) if the audit was performed pursuant to both 29 CFR 2520.103-8 and 29 CFR 2520.103-12(d). Check box (3) if pursuant to neither.

(1) ☐ DOL Regulation 2520.103-8 (2) ☐ DOL Regulation 2520.103-12(d) (3) ☐ neither DOL Regulation 2520.103-8 nor DOL Regulation 2520.103-12(d).

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

(1) Name:

(2) EIN:

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

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

Part IV Compliance Questions

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

During the plan year:

a Was there a failure to transmit to the plan any participant contributions within the time period described in 29 CFR 2510.3-102? Continue to answer "Yes" for any prior year failures until fully corrected. (See instructions and DOL's Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program.)

	Yes	No	Amount
4a			

	Yes	No	Amount
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			
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			
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			
e Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?			
4e			
f Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?			
4f			
g Did the plan hold any assets whose current value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?			
4g			
h Did the plan receive any noncash contributions whose value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?			
4h			
i Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.)			
4i			
j Were any plan transactions or series of transactions in excess of 5% of the current value of plan assets? (Attach schedule of transactions if "Yes" is checked and see instructions for format requirements.)			
4j			
k Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?			
4k			
l Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?			
4l			
m If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)			
4m			
n If 4m was answered "Yes," check the "Yes" box if you either provided the required notice or one of the exceptions to providing the notice applied under 29 CFR 2520.101-3.			
4n			
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 Was the plan a defined benefit plan covered under the PBGC insurance program at any time during this plan year? (See ERISA section 4021 and instructions.) ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not determined If "Yes" is checked, enter the My PAA confirmation number from the PBGC premium filing for this plan year _____.			

Attachment to 2021 Form 5500
Schedule H, line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)

Plan Name THE VERTEX COMPANIES INC. 401K PLAN

EIN: 20-3724403

Plan Sponsor's Name THE VERTEX COMPANIES INC.

PN: 001

(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	INTEREST RATES (4.25% TO 7.50%)		499,235
	VANG INSTL TR 2020 I	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		519,588
	PGIM GLOBAL TOTAL RTN R6	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		1,565,365
	VANG INSTL TR 2040 I	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		2,833,436
	VANGUARD SMALL CAP INDEX ADMRL	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		674,121
	DFA INFLATION PROT SEC INST	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		557,222
	VANGUARD MID CAP INDEX - ADM	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		872,921

Attachment to 2021 Form 5500
Schedule H, line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)

Plan Name THE VERTEX COMPANIES INC. 401K PLAN

EIN: 20-3724403

Plan Sponsor's Name THE VERTEX COMPANIES INC.

PN: 001

(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
	AMERFUNDS AMER BALANCED - R6	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		825,317
	VANG INSTL TR 2030 I	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		3,056,479
	DFA US VECTOR EQ FD INST	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		2,970,121
	VANG INSTL TR 2025 I	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		2,237,047
	VANG INSTL TR 2015 I	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		59,239
	VANGUARD FEDERAL MM INV	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		5,932,627
	VANG INSTL TR 2050 I	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		2,049,457

Attachment to 2021 Form 5500
Schedule H, line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)

Plan Name THE VERTEX COMPANIES INC. 401K PLAN

EIN: 20-3724403

Plan Sponsor's Name THE VERTEX COMPANIES INC.

PN: 001

(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
	VANGUARD GROWTH INDEX FUND ADM	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		4,957,074
	VANG INSTL TR INC I	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		340,557
	T. ROWE PRICE HEALTH SCI I	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		3,432,122
	COLUMBIA DIVIDEND INCOME I3	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		5,872,215
	MFS MID CAP GROWTH R6	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		2,342,417
	PIMCO INCOME FUND - INSTL	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		416,528
	AMER FUNDS NEW PERSP R6	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		326,142

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

Plan Name THE VERTEX COMPANIES INC. 401K PLAN

EIN: 20-3724403

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PN: 001

(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
	VANG INSTL TR 2060 I	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		1,881,724
	AMERICAN FUNDS CAP INC BLDR R6	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		3,242,947
	FRANKLIN SMALL CAP GROWTH R6	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		1,318,494
	AMERICAN FUNDS EUROPAC GRO- R6	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		3,903,285
	HARTFORD CORE EQUITY FUND R6	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		769,461
	VANGUARD 500 INDEX FUND - ADM	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		7,972,083
	VANG INSTL TR 2035 I	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		3,016,929

Attachment to 2021 Form 5500
Schedule H, line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)

Plan Name THE VERTEX COMPANIES INC. 401K PLAN

EIN: 20-3724403

Plan Sponsor's Name THE VERTEX COMPANIES INC.

PN: 001

(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
	DFA US TARGETED VAL PORT INST	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		808,254
	PGIM TOTAL RETURN BOND R6	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		1,692,912
	VANG INSTL TR 2045 I	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		2,660,725
	AMERICAN FUNDS NEW WORLD R6	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		433,980
	VANG INSTL TR 2055 I	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		2,647,215
	VANG INSTL TR 2065 I	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		32,281