

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>HOSTESS BRANDS, LLC 401(K) 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>08/01/2013</u></td> </tr> </table>	1b Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<u>001</u>	1c Effective date of plan <u>08/01/2013</u>	
1b Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<u>001</u>				
1c Effective date of plan <u>08/01/2013</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>HOSTESS BRANDS, LLC</u> <u>7905 QUIVIRA ROAD</u> <u>LENEXA, KS 66215</u>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td>2b Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>37-1719327</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number <u>816-701-4600</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2d Business code (see instructions) <u>311800</u></td> </tr> </table>	2b Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>37-1719327</u>	2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number <u>816-701-4600</u>	2d Business code (see instructions) <u>311800</u>	
2b Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>37-1719327</u>					
2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number <u>816-701-4600</u>					
2d Business code (see instructions) <u>311800</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.	10/17/2022	ROBERT WEBER
	Signature of plan administrator	Date	Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator
SIGN HERE	Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature.	10/17/2022	ROBERT WEBER
	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.

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	2810
6 Number of participants as of the end of the plan year unless otherwise stated (welfare plans complete only lines 6a(1) , 6a(2) , 6b , 6c , and 6d).			
a(1) Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year.....		6a(1)	2327
a(2) Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year		6a(2)	2145
b Retired or separated participants receiving benefits.....		6b	0
c Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits		6c	482
d Subtotal. Add lines 6a(2) , 6b , and 6c		6d	2627
e Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits.		6e	2
f Total. Add lines 6d and 6e		6f	2629
g Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item)		6g	2467
h Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested		6h	629
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 2S 2T 3D 3H			
b If the plan provides welfare benefits, enter the applicable welfare feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:			
9a Plan funding arrangement (check all that apply) (1) ☐ Insurance (2) ☐ Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts (3) ☒ 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 HOSTESS BRANDS, LLC 401(K) PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 HOSTESS BRANDS, LLC	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 37-1719327	

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
PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY
42-0127290

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

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

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

PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

42-0127290

(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?
13 37 50 64	CONTRACT ADMINISTRATOR	91475	Yes ☒ No ☐	Yes ☒ No ☐	0	Yes ☐ No ☒

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

MAYER HOFFMAN MCCANN PC

43-1947695

(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?
10 50	ACCOUNTANT	10150	Yes ☐ No ☒	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

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

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.

94-1347393

(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 37 62 64	RECORDKEEPER /BOOKKEEPER	70858	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 D (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration		DFE/Participating Plan Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.		OMB No. 1210-0110 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 HOSTESS BRANDS, LLC 401(K) PLAN				B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001	
C Plan or DFE sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 HOSTESS BRANDS, LLC				D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 37-1719327	
Part I Information on interests in MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs (to be completed by plans and DFEs) (Complete as many entries as needed to report all interests in DFEs)					
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: WELLS FARGO STABLE RETRN N FD					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): WELLS FARGO					
c EIN-PN 41-6202499-001		d Entity code C		e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 2241074	
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code		e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code		e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code		e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code		e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code		e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code		e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code		e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code		e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code		e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code		e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code		e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code		e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code		e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code		e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code		e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code		e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code		e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code		e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code		e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code		e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code		e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code		e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code		e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code		e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code		e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code		e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code		e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code		e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code		e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code		e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or	

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

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

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

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

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 <u>01/01/2021</u> and ending <u>12/31/2021</u>		
A Name of plan <u>HOSTESS BRANDS, LLC 401(K) 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>HOSTESS BRANDS, LLC</u>	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>37-1719327</u>	

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)	2085411	1847986
(2) Participant contributions.....	1b(2)	340	
(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)	1585023	1775765
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts.....	1c(9)	2189023	2241074
(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)	41439363	52853393
(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	47299160 58718218
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	47299160 58718218

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
a	Contributions:		
(1)	Received or receivable in cash from: (A) Employers	2a(1)(A)	3509312
	(B) Participants	2a(1)(B)	7405753
	(C) Others (including rollovers).....	2a(1)(C)	1379788
(2)	Noncash contributions.....	2a(2)	
(3)	Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A) , (B) , (C) , and line 2a(2)	2a(3)	12294853
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)	80747
	(F) Other	2b(1)(F)	
	(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F)	2b(1)(G)	80747
(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)	878972
	(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A) , (B) , and (C)	2b(2)(D)	878972
(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)		45034
(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)		5583833
c Other income.....	2c		5755
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	2d		18889194
Expenses			
e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers.....	2e(1)	7070271	
(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)		7070271
f Corrective distributions (see instructions).....	2f		208238
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions).....	2g		25969
h Interest expense.....	2h		
i Administrative expenses: (1) Professional fees.....	2i(1)		
(2) Contract administrator fees.....	2i(2)	91475	
(3) Investment advisory and management fees.....	2i(3)		
(4) Other.....	2i(4)	74183	
(5) Total administrative expenses. Add lines 2i(1) through (4).....	2i(5)		165658
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	2j		7470136
Net Income and Reconciliation			
k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d.....	2k		11419058
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: **MAYER HOFFMAN MCCANN PC**

(2) EIN: **43-1947695**

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

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

Part IV Compliance Questions

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

During the plan year:

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		5000000
f Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?		X	
4f		X	
g Did the plan hold any assets whose current value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?			
4g		X	
h Did the plan receive any noncash contributions whose value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?			
4h		X	
i Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.)	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.)			
4j		X	
k Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?			
4k		X	
l Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?			
4l		X	
m If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)			
4m		X	
n If 4m was answered "Yes," check the "Yes" box if you either provided the required notice or one of the exceptions to providing the notice applied under 29 CFR 2520.101-3.			
4n			
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 HOSTESS BRANDS, LLC 401(K) PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ► 001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 HOSTESS BRANDS, LLC	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 37-1719327

Part I	Distributions
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All references to distributions relate only to payments of benefits during the plan year.

1 Total value of distributions paid in property other than in cash or the forms of property specified in the instructions.....	1	0
2 Enter the EIN(s) of payor(s) who paid benefits on behalf of the plan to participants or beneficiaries during the year (if more than two, enter EINs of the two payors who paid the greatest dollar amounts of benefits): EIN(s): 42-0127290 41-6257133		
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.)
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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 _____



October 17, 2022

Mayer Hoffman McCann, P.C.
700 West 47th Street, Suite 1100
Kansas City, Missouri 64112

This representation letter is provided in connection with your audits of the financial statements of the Hostess Brands, LLC 401(k) Plan (the "Plan"), an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA"), which comprise the statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2021 and 2020, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020 and the related notes to the financial statements.

Hostess Brands, LLC (the "Plan Sponsor") has elected to have the audit of the Plan's 2021 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 (the "DOL") Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. We acknowledge that the 2021 audit did not extend to any statements or information related to assets held for investment of the Plan (investment information) that was provided by a qualified institution such as a bank or similar institution or insurance carrier that is regulated, supervised and subject to periodic examination by a state or federal agency, that prepared and certified the investment information in accordance with 29 CFR 2520.103-5 of the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting under ERISA. The Plan Sponsor has determined that an ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit is permissible, because the Plan Sponsor has reviewed the investment certifications provided by Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. and Delaware Charter Guarantee and Trust Company d/b/a Principal Trust Company and determined that the investment information is prepared and certified by a qualified institution as described by 29 CFR 2520.103-8, that the certification meets the requirements in 29 CFR 2520.103-5 and, that the certified investment information is appropriately measured, presented, and disclosed in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("U.S. GAAP").

The Plan Sponsor understands that, at its instruction, you did not perform any audit procedures with respect to the 2020 information prepared and certified to by a qualified institution, in accordance with the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA (DOL Regulation 2520.103-8), other than comparing such information to the financial statements as of December 31, 2020 and for the year then ended. Because of the significance of the 2020 information that you did not audit, we understand that you did not express an opinion on the Plan's 2020 financial statements as a whole. We understand the form and content of the information included in the 2020 financial statements, other than that derived from the 2020 information certified or provided by a qualified institution, has been audited by you in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, and was subjected to tests of our accounting records and other procedures as you considered necessary to enable you to express an opinion as to whether they are presented in compliance with the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.



Certain representations in this letter are described as being limited to matters that are material. Items are considered material, regardless of size, if they involve misstatements, including omissions, 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.

We confirm that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, having made such inquiries as we considered necessary for the purpose of appropriately informing ourselves as of October 17, 2022 the following representations made to you during your audit:

Financial Statements

1. The Plan Sponsor has fulfilled its responsibilities, as set out in the terms of the audit engagement letter dated August 8, 2022, for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements and disclosures in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
2. We acknowledge the Plan Sponsor's responsibility for administering the Plan and determining the Plan's transactions that are presented and disclosed in the ERISA plan financial statements are in conformity with the Plan 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.
3. We acknowledge Plan management's responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements, notes, and supplemental schedule that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.
4. We acknowledge Plan management's responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud.
5. Significant assumptions used by Plan management in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, are reasonable. The method and significant assumptions used to estimate fair values are properly disclosed in Note 2. The methods and significant assumptions used result in a measure of fair value appropriate for financial measurement and disclosure purposes.
6. We acknowledge Plan management is responsible for the estimation methods and assumptions used in measuring assets and liabilities reported or disclosed at fair value, including information obtained from brokers, pricing services, or other third parties. The valuation methodologies have been consistently applied from period to period. The fair value measurements reported or disclosed represent Plan management's best estimate of fair value as of the measurement date in accordance with the requirements of Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) 820, *Fair Value Measurement*. In addition, our disclosures related to fair value measurements are consistent with the objectives outlined in FASB ASC 820.
7. All related party relationships and transactions have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the requirements of U.S. GAAP.
8. Transactions with parties in interest, as defined in Section 3(14) of ERISA and regulations thereunder, including sales, purchases, loans, transfers, leasing arrangements, and guarantees, and amounts receivable from, or payable to, related parties have been appropriately disclosed.
9. All events subsequent to the date of the financial statements and for which U.S. GAAP requires adjustment or disclosure have been adjusted or disclosed.



10. We are not aware of any pending or threatened litigation, claims or assessments or unasserted claims or assessments that are required to be accrued or disclosed in the financial statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
11. The Plan Sponsor has no intentions to terminate the Plan.
12. Guarantees, whether written or oral, under which the Plan is contingently liable to a bank or another lending institution have been properly recorded or disclosed in the financial statements.
13. Plan management has properly reported and disclosed amendments to the plan instrument, if any.
14. With respect to the financial statement preparation services, Plan management has performed the following:
 - a. Made all management decisions and performed all management functions;
 - b. Assigned a competent individual to oversee the services;
 - c. Evaluated the adequacy of the services performed;
 - d. Evaluated and accepted responsibility for the result of the service performed; and
 - e. Established and maintained internal controls, including monitoring ongoing activities.
15. We acknowledge the Plan management's responsibility for the presentation of the ERISA-required supplemental schedules in accordance with the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. We believe the supplemental schedules, including their form and content, are presented in conformity with the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

Information Provided

16. The Plan Sponsor has provided you with:
 - a. Access to all information, of which we are aware that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, such as financial records and related data, plan instruments, trust agreements, insurance contracts, as applicable, or investments contracts, as applicable, and amendments to such documents entered into during the year;
 - b. The most current Plan document for the audit period including all amendments;
 - c. A draft of the Form 5500 that is substantially complete;
 - d. Additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit;
 - e. Unrestricted access to persons within the Plan from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence;
 - f. All minutes of the 401(k) committee meetings or summaries of actions of recent meetings for which minutes have not yet been prepared; and
17. All transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements.
18. Financial instruments with off-balance-sheet risk and financial instruments with concentrations of credit risk have been properly recorded or disclosed in the financial statements.
19. The Plan or trust has satisfactory title to all owned assets that are recorded at fair value, and all liens, encumbrances, or security interest requiring disclosure in the financial statements have been properly disclosed.
20. We have disclosed to you the results of our assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.



21. We have no knowledge of any fraud or suspected fraud that affects the Plan and involves:
 - a. Management;
 - b. Employees who have significant roles in internal control; or
 - c. Others when the fraud could have a material effect on the Plan financial statements.
22. We have no knowledge of any allegations of fraud, or suspected fraud, affecting the Plan's financial statements communicated by employees, former employees, participants, regulators, beneficiaries, service providers, third-party administrators, or others.
23. Except as otherwise disclosed in the financial statements, we have no knowledge of any instances of noncompliance or suspected noncompliance with laws and regulations whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements.
24. There are no other matters (e.g., breach of fiduciary responsibilities, nonexempt transactions, loans or loans in default, or events that may jeopardize the tax status) that must be disclosed.
25. The Plan Sponsor has disclosed to you the identity of all the Plan's related parties and parties in interest and the nature of all the related party and party in interest relationships and transactions of which we are aware.
26. There have been no communications, whether written or oral, with regulatory agencies concerning the operation of the Plan.
27. The Plan has complied with all aspects of debt and other contractual agreements that would have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of noncompliance.
28. All required filings with the appropriate agencies have been made.
29. The Plan and the trust established under the Plan is qualified under the appropriate section of the Internal Revenue Code and intends to continue as a qualified plan and trust. The Plan Sponsor has operated the Plan and trust or insurance contract in a manner that did not jeopardize this tax status, except as otherwise disclosed in the financial statements.
30. The Plan has complied with the DOL's regulations concerning the timely remittance of participants' contributions to trusts containing assets for the Plan, other than those disclosed in the financial statements.
31. The Plan has complied with the fidelity bonding requirements of ERISA.
32. There are no:
 - a. Nonexempt party in interest transactions (as defined in ERISA Section 3[I] and regulations under that section) that were not disclosed in the supplemental schedules or financial statements.
 - b. Investments in default or considered to be uncollectible that were not disclosed in the supplemental schedules.
 - c. Reportable transactions (as defined in ERISA Section 103[b][3][H] and regulations under that section) that were not disclosed in the supplemental schedules.
33. We have obtained the service auditor's reports from our service organizations: Wells Fargo Bank Institutional Retirement and Trust System, Principal Life Insurance Company Retirement Plan Processing Services, ADP AutoPay Payroll, and Workday Enterprise Products. We have reviewed such reports, including the complementary user controls. We have implemented the relevant user controls, and they were in operation for the year ended December 31, 2021.



34. We have no knowledge of any officer or director of the Plan Sponsor, or any other person acting under the direction thereof, having taken any action to fraudulently influence, coerce, manipulate, or mislead you during your audit.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. Gernigin", written over a horizontal line.

Michael Gernigin, Sr., VP, Corporate Controller

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Weber", written over a horizontal line.

Robert Weber, Chief People Officer

SCHEDULE H, line 4i - SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)

SCHEDULE H, line 4i - SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)

HOSTESS BRANDS, LLC 401(K) PLAN

EIN 37 1719327

PLAN NUMBER 001

PLAN YEAR 01/01/2021 TO 12/31/2021

(A)	(B) Identity of issuer, 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
	Fidelity Investments	Registered Investment Company Fidelity International Idx Fd	\$ 0.00	\$ 637,567.32
	Invesco Funds Group, Inc.	Registered Investment Company Invesco Divers Div R5 Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 541,677.55
	Loomis Sayles	Registered Investment Company Loomis Sayles Core Pls Bd N Fd	\$ 0.00	\$ 184,187.01
	T. Rowe Price Funds	Registered Investment Company T.Rowe Price Bl Chip Gr Fd	\$ 0.00	\$ 4,616,598.53
	Vanguard Group	Registered Investment Company Vanguard Mid Cap Index Adm Fd	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,716,884.39
	Vanguard Group	Registered Investment Company Vanguard Sm Cap Index Adm Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,299,674.91
	Vanguard Group	Registered Investment Company Vanguard Tgt Rmt Inc Inv Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 126,510.05
	Vanguard Group	Registered Investment Company Vanguard Tgt Rmt 2015 Inv Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 199,459.91
	Vanguard Group	Registered Investment Company Vanguard Tgt Rmt 2020 Inv Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,933,365.96
	Vanguard Group	Registered Investment Company Vanguard Tgt Rmt 2025 Inv Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 5,157,022.63
	Vanguard Group	Registered Investment Company Vanguard Tgt Rmt 2030 Inv Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 5,729,121.91
	Vanguard Group	Registered Investment Company Vanguard Tgt Rmt 2035 Inv Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 6,358,154.04
	Vanguard Group	Registered Investment Company Vanguard Tgt Rmt 2040 Inv Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 6,302,424.39
	Vanguard Group	Registered Investment Company Vanguard Tgt Rmt 2045 Inv Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 4,529,486.52
	Vanguard Group	Registered Investment Company Vanguard Tgt Rmt 2050 Inv Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 3,610,671.16

SCHEDULE H, line 4i - SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)

HOSTESS BRANDS, LLC 401(K) PLAN

EIN 37 1719327

PLAN NUMBER 001

PLAN YEAR 01/01/2021 TO 12/31/2021

(A)	(B) Identity of issuer, 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 Group	Registered Investment Company Vanguard Tgt Rmt 2055 Inv Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 2,827,526.91
	Vanguard Group	Registered Investment Company Vanguard Tgt Rmt 2060 Inv Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,799,519.74
	Vanguard Group	Registered Investment Company Vanguard Tgt Rmt 2065 Inv Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 360,824.40
	Vanguard Group	Registered Investment Company Vanguard Ttl Bd Mkt Idx Adm Fd	\$ 0.00	\$ 489,944.18
	Vanguard Group	Registered Investment Company Vanguard 500 Index Admiral Fd	\$ 0.00	\$ 4,432,771.28
	Wells Fargo	Common/Collective Trust Wells Fargo Stable Retrn N Fd	\$ 0.00	\$ 2,241,073.69
*	Participant Loans	Range of Interest Rates Rates Range From 4.25% To 6.50%	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,775,765.00



HOSTESS BRANDS, LLC 401(k) PLAN

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Years Ended December 31, 2021 and 2020





INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

The Administrative Committee
Hostess Brands, LLC 401(k) Plan

Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit for the 2021 Financial Statements

We have performed the audit of the financial statements of Hostess Brands, LLC 401(k) Plan ("the 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) ("ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit"). The financial statements comprise the statement of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2021, 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 2021 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 a certification from a qualified institution as of and for the year ended December 31, 2021, stating that the certified investment information, as described in Note 3 to the financial statements, is complete and accurate.

Opinion on the 2021 Financial Statements

In our opinion, based on our audit and on the procedures performed as described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the 2021 Financial Statements section:

- The amounts and disclosures in the accompanying 2021 financial statements, 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 accompanying 2021 financial statements 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 on the 2021 Financial Statements

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAS"). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the 2021 Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the 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.

Responsibilities of Management for the 2021 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 Plan's ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that the 2021 financial statements are issued or 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.

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the 2021 Financial Statements

Except as described in the Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit for the 2021 Financial Statements 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 auditors' 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 GAAS 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 these financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, 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 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 Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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 2021 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.

Other Matter - Supplemental Schedule Required by ERISA

The supplemental schedule of assets (held at end of year) as of 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 GAAS. 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.

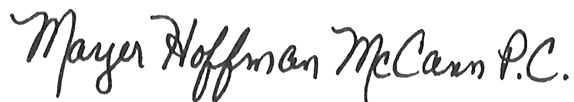
In forming our opinion on the supplemental schedule, we evaluated whether the supplemental schedule, other than the information agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, including its form and content, is presented in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations 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).

Other Matter - Auditors' Report on the 2020 Financial Statements

We were engaged to audit the 2020 financial statements of the Plan. As permitted by 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA, the plan administrator instructed us not to perform and we did not perform any auditing procedures with respect to the information certified by the qualified institution. In our report dated October 15, 2021, we indicated that (a) because of the significance of the information that we did not audit, we were not able to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to provide a basis for an audit opinion and accordingly, we did not express an opinion on the 2020 financial statements, and (b) the form and content of the information included in the 2020 financial statements other than that derived from the certified information were presented in compliance with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.



Kansas City, Missouri
October 17, 2022

HOSTESS BRANDS, LLC 401(k) PLAN

STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS

December 31, 2021 and 2020

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
<u>ASSETS</u>		
Investments at fair value	<u>\$ 55,094,467</u>	<u>\$ 43,628,386</u>
Receivables:		
Employer contributions	1,847,986	2,085,411
Participants' contributions	-	340
Notes receivable from participants	<u>1,775,765</u>	<u>1,585,023</u>
 TOTAL RECEIVABLES	 <u>3,623,751</u>	 <u>3,670,774</u>
 TOTAL ASSETS	 <u>58,718,218</u>	 <u>47,299,160</u>
 <u>LIABILITIES</u>		
Excess contributions payable	<u>379,998</u>	<u>208,237</u>
 NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS	 <u><u>\$ 58,338,220</u></u>	 <u><u>\$ 47,090,923</u></u>

See Notes to Financial Statements

HOSTESS BRANDS, LLC 401(k) PLAN

STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS

Years Ended December 31, 2021 and 2020

ADDITIONS	2021	2020
Investment income:		
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	\$ 5,613,503	\$ 5,177,148
Dividends	878,972	591,494
	<u>6,492,475</u>	<u>5,768,642</u>
Other income	<u>5,755</u>	<u>15,599</u>
Interest income on notes receivable from participants	<u>80,747</u>	<u>88,331</u>
Contributions:		
Employer	3,509,312	3,697,297
Participants	7,041,119	6,391,179
Rollover	1,379,788	1,591,408
	<u>11,930,219</u>	<u>11,679,884</u>
TOTAL ADDITIONS	<u>18,509,196</u>	<u>17,552,456</u>
DEDUCTIONS		
Benefits paid to participants	7,096,241	7,410,280
Administrative expenses	165,658	134,752
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	<u>7,261,899</u>	<u>7,545,032</u>
NET INCREASE BEFORE PLAN TRANSFERS	11,247,297	10,007,424
Transfer out	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,399)</u>
NET INCREASE	11,247,297	10,006,025
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS		
Beginning of year	<u>47,090,923</u>	<u>37,084,898</u>
End of year	<u>\$ 58,338,220</u>	<u>\$ 47,090,923</u>

See Notes to Financial Statements

HOSTESS BRANDS, LLC 401(k) PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(1) Description of plan

The following description of the Hostess Brands, LLC 401(k) Plan (the “Plan”) provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Plan document or Summary Plan Description for a more complete description of the Plan’s provisions, which are available from the plan administrator.

General - The Plan is a defined contribution plan established on August 1, 2013, sponsored by Hostess Brands, LLC (the “Company”) for the benefit of employees of the Company and its participating subsidiaries. The Plan has no service or age requirement for eligibility. The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (“ERISA”). The Plan is administered by the Administrative Committee (the “Committee”) which is made up of certain members of management of the Company. The Committee has overall responsibility for the operation and administration of the Plan, determines the appropriateness of the Plan’s investment offerings, and monitors investment performance.

As a result of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 and effective January 1, 2020, the requirement to exhaust loan distributions prior to receiving a hardship distribution was removed from the Plan. Additionally, participants are no longer suspended from making contributions to the Plan or from receiving Company matching contributions as a result of a hardship withdrawal.

Additionally, on March 27, 2020, President Trump signed into law the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (“CARES”) Act. The CARES Act, among other things, includes several relief provisions available to tax-qualified retirement plans and their participants. Plan management evaluated the relief provisions available to plan participants under the CARES Act and implemented the following provisions:

- Special coronavirus distributions up to \$100,000 through December 31, 2020,
- Increased the available loan amount to the lesser of \$100,000 or 100% of the participant’s vested account balance through September 22, 2020,
- Extended the period for loan repayments, if applicable, up to one year through December 31, 2020, and
- Required minimum distributions for the calendar year 2020 were waived.

The Plan will be amended for the provisions implemented under the CARES Act by the time prescribed.

Plan changes - As a result of Principal Financial Group (“Principal”) acquiring the Wells Fargo’s Institutional Retirement & Trust business, the Plan migrated to the Principal platform on June 21, 2021. As of that date, Delaware Charter Guarantee and Trust Company d/b/a Principal Trust Company became the directed trustee and custodian of the Plan.

HOSTESS BRANDS, LLC 401(k) PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(1) Description of plan (continued)

Contributions - Each year, participants may contribute up to 100% of annual compensation as pre-tax or Roth contributions, as defined in the Plan. Participants may also contribute amounts representing distributions from other qualified defined benefit or contribution plans. Additionally, participants age 50 or older, who are making contributions to the Plan, are allowed to make catch-up contributions as defined in the Plan. Participants direct the investment of all contributions into various investment options offered by the Plan. The Plan includes an auto-enrollment provision whereby all newly eligible employees are automatically enrolled in the Plan unless they affirmatively elect not to participate in the Plan. Automatically enrolled participants have their deferral rate set at 3% of eligible compensation.

Employees who are covered by a collective bargaining agreement at the Indianapolis, Indiana and Columbus, Georgia bakery production facilities receive a fixed employer matching contribution. For the year ended December 31, 2021 and 2020, the Company's fixed matching contribution was equal to (i) 50% of the elective deferrals each plan year if the amount of the elective deferrals is less than 6% of the compensation for the plan year, or (ii) 4% of the compensation for a plan year if the elective deferrals for the plan year equal or exceed 6% of compensation.

For the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020, the Company's discretionary matching contribution equal to (i) 50% of the elective deferrals each plan year if the amount of the elective deferrals is less than 6% of the compensation for the plan year, or (ii) 3% of the compensation for a plan year if the elective deferrals for the plan year equal or exceed 6% of compensation.

For the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020, a non-elective contribution was made to eligible participants at the Emporia, Kansas location of 2.5% of eligible compensation, respectively. For the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020, a non-elective contribution was made to eligible participants at the Indianapolis, Indiana and the Columbus, Georgia location of 2.0% of eligible compensation.

Additionally, for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020, a success sharing contribution in the amount of \$126,797 and \$137,108, respectively, was made for eligible participants of the Emporia, Kansas location.

Contributions are subject to certain Internal Revenue Code ("IRC") limitations.

Participant investment account options - The Plan currently offers various mutual funds and a stable value common collective trust as investment options for participants. Each investment option has its own investment strategy, which can be obtained through the prospectus of the respective fund. Participants may change their investment options at any time.

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

HOSTESS BRANDS, LLC 401(k) PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(1) Description of plan (continued)

Vesting - Participants are immediately vested in their contributions plus actual earnings, thereon. Employer contributions are subject to the following vesting schedule.

<u>Years of Service</u>	<u>Vested %</u>
Less than 1	0%
1	25%
2	50%
3	75%
4	100%

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

Under the CARES Act, the available loan limit was increased to the lesser of \$100,000 or 100% of the participant's vested account balance. This increased loan limit was allowed to be taken from March 27, 2020 through September 22, 2020. The CARES Act also delayed loan payments for a COVID-19 qualified individual for any loan outstanding on or after March 27, 2020 through December 31, 2020 for up to one year.

Excess contributions payable - Amounts payable to participants for contributions in excess of amounts allowed by the IRS are recorded as a liability with a corresponding reduction to contributions. The Plan distributed the 2021 excess contributions to the applicable participants in March 2022. The Plan distributed the 2020 excess contributions to the applicable participants in March 2021.

Payment of benefits - On termination of service for any reason, a participant may receive the value of the vested interest in his or her account as a lump sum distribution.

Under the CARES Act, eligible Plan participants could request special penalty-free distributions of up to \$100,000 for qualifying coronavirus-related reasons. These reasons include the participant, spouse or dependent diagnosed with COVID-19, adverse financial consequences due to being quarantined, furloughed, laid off, having work hours reduced or being unable to work due to a lack of childcare due to COVID-19. The special coronavirus-related distributions waive the 10% early withdrawal penalty and were allowed to be made between January 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020. Additionally, required minimum distributions for the calendar year 2020 were waived.

HOSTESS BRANDS, LLC 401(k) PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(1) Description of plan (continued)

Forfeited accounts - At December 31, 2021 and 2020, forfeited non-vested accounts totaled \$113,546 and \$34,959, respectively. Forfeitures may be used to pay reasonable plan expenses or allocated to reduce employer matching contributions. For the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020, employer contributions were reduced by \$170,150 and \$401,925, respectively, from forfeited non-vested accounts. For the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020, Plan expenses were reduced by \$10,150 and \$3,467, respectively, from forfeited non-vested accounts. Additionally, subsequent to December 31, 2021, \$5,715 was used to reduce the employer contribution receivable and is reflected as a reduction to the contribution receivable at December 31, 2021.

(2) Summary of significant accounting policies

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

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

Investment valuation and income recognition - Investments are reported at fair value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The Committee determines the Plan's valuation policies utilizing information provided by the investment trustee. See Note 4 for discussions of fair value measurements.

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

Notes receivable from participants - Notes receivable from participants are measured at their unpaid principal balance plus accrued but unpaid interest. Interest income is recorded on an accrual basis. Related fees are recorded as administrative expenses and are expensed when they are incurred. No allowance for credit losses has been recorded as of December 31, 2021 and 2020.

Payment of benefits - Benefits are recorded when paid.

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

HOSTESS BRANDS, LLC 401(k) PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(3) Information prepared and certified by the trustees and custodian

The Plan administrator has elected the method of annual reporting compliance permitted by 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Accordingly, Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. ("Wells Fargo"), the former trustee of the Plan, and Delaware Charter Guarantee and Trust Company d/b/a Principal Trust Company ("Principal"), the current directed trustee and custodian has certified that the following data included in the accompanying financial statements and supplemental schedule are complete and accurate with respect to investments:

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

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

(4) Fair value measurements

The framework for measuring fair value provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy under Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification 820 are described below:

- | | |
|---------|---|
| Level 1 | Inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that the Plan has the ability to access. |
| Level 2 | Inputs to the valuation methodology include quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets; quoted prices for identical or similar assets and liabilities in inactive markets; inputs other than quoted market prices that are observable for the asset or liability; and inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means. If the asset or liability has a specified (contractual) term, the Level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability. |
| Level 3 | Inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement. |

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

HOSTESS BRANDS, LLC 401(k) PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(4) Fair value measurements (continued)

Following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value. There were no changes in the methodologies used at December 31, 2021 or 2020.

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

Stable value common collective trust: A stable value fund that is composed primarily of fully benefit-responsive investment contracts is valued at the NAV of units of the bank collective trust. The NAV, as provided by the trustee, is used as a practical expedient to estimate fair value. Participant transactions (purchases and sales) may occur daily. If the Plan initiates a full redemption of the collective trust, the issuer reserves the right to require 12 months' notification in order to ensure that securities liquidations will be carried out in an orderly business manner.

The following tables set forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan's investment assets at fair value as of December 31, 2021 and 2020:

Investments at Fair Value as of December 31, 2021			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Mutual funds	\$ 52,853,393	\$ -	\$ -
Stable value common collective trust, measured at NAV practical expedient ^(a)			2,241,074
Total investments at fair value			\$ 55,094,467

Investments at Fair Value as of December 31, 2020			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Mutual funds	\$ 41,439,363	\$ -	\$ -
Stable value common collective trust, measured at NAV practical expedient ^(a)			2,189,023
Total investments at fair value			\$ 43,628,386

(a) In accordance with Subtopic 820-10, certain investments that were measured at net asset value per share (or its equivalent) practical expedient have not been classified in the fair value hierarchy. The fair value amounts presented in this table are intended to permit reconciliation of the fair value hierarchy to the amounts presented in the statements of net assets available for benefits.

HOSTESS BRANDS, LLC 401(k) PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(4) Fair value measurements (continued)

Investments Measured Using the Net Asset Value per Share Practical Expedient

The following table summarized investments for which fair value is based on NAV per share practical expedient as of December 31, 2021 and 2020, respectively.

	<u>Fair Value 12/31/2021</u>	<u>Fair Value 12/31/2020</u>	<u>Unfunded Commitments</u>	<u>Redemption Frequency</u>	<u>Redemption Notice Period</u>
Stable Value Common Collective Trust	<u>\$ 2,241,074</u>	<u>\$ 2,189,023</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>Daily</u>	<u>(b)</u>

(b) Participants may redeem units for the purpose of funding a bona fide benefit payment, making a participant loan, honoring an employee-directed transfer of the employee's interest in the Plan to another investment election that is a noncompeting investment, or paying trustee fees. Participants may make withdrawals for other purposes generally only upon 12 months' advance written notice to the trustee.

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

Certain Plan investments are shares of a stable value common collective trust managed by Wells Fargo. Wells Fargo was the trustee as defined by the Plan, and therefore, these transactions qualify as party-in-interest transactions. Fees incurred by the Plan for investment management services are included in net appreciation in the fair value of investments, as they are paid through revenue sharing, rather than a direct payment. As described in Note 2, the Plan made direct payments to the trustee of \$74,183 and \$134,752 for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020, respectively. The Company pays directly any other fees related to the Plan's operations.

Principal is the current custodian and recordkeeper as defined by the Plan. Fees incurred by the Plan for the investment management services are included in net appreciation in fair value of the investments, as they are paid through revenue sharing rather than a direct payment. As described in Note 2, the Plan made direct payments to the Principal of \$91,475 for the year ended December 31, 2021.

(6) Plan termination

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

HOSTESS BRANDS, LLC 401(k) PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(7) Reconciliation of financial statements to Schedule H of Form 5500

The following is a reconciliation of net assets available for benefits per the financial statements at December 31, 2021 and 2020 to Form 5500:

	December 31,	
	2021	2020
Net assets available for benefits per the financial statements	\$ 58,338,220	\$ 47,090,923
Plus current year excess contributions refundable	379,998	208,237
Net assets available for benefits per Schedule H of the Form 5500	<u>\$ 58,718,218</u>	<u>\$ 47,299,160</u>

The following is a reconciliation of net increase per the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2021 and 2020 to Form 5500:

	Years Ended December 31,	
	2021	2020
Net increase before plan transfers per the financial statements	\$ 11,247,297	\$ 10,007,424
Plus current year excess contributions refundable	379,998	208,237
Less prior year excess contributions refundable	<u>(208,237)</u>	<u>(287,165)</u>
Net increase per Schedule H of the Form 5500	<u>\$ 11,419,058</u>	<u>\$ 9,928,496</u>

(8) Tax status

The Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") has determined that the new volume submitter plan that is designed in accordance with applicable sections of the IRC and informed the trustee of such in a letter dated March 31, 2014. Although the Plan has been amended since receiving the opinion letter, the Plan administrator believes that the Plan is currently designed, and being operated, in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability (or asset) if the Plan has taken an uncertain tax position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the IRS. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress.

HOSTESS BRANDS, LLC 401(k) PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(9) **Risks and uncertainties**

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

(10) **Transfer out**

In August 2019, the Company sold Superior Cake Products, Inc. Participant account balances were transferred to the purchasing company's plan in December 2019 in the amount of \$1,373,273, with an additional residual amount of \$1,399 transferred out of the Plan in 2020 relating to the sale.

(11) **Subsequent events**

The Plan has evaluated subsequent events through October 17, 2022, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued and noted the following item for disclosure:

In July 2022, the Plan was restated in accordance with the IRS cycle 3 restatement window. The IRS has determined that the pre-approved plan is designed in accordance with applicable sections of the IRC and informed Principal of such in a letter dated June 30, 2020. The plan administrator has adopted the pre-approved plan and believes that the Plan and related trust are currently being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC.

SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE

HOSTESS BRANDS, LLC 401(k) PLAN

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

December 31, 2021

EIN: 37-1719327

Plan Number: 001

(a)	(b)	(c) Description of investments including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par, or maturity value	(d) Cost (1)	(e) Current value
Identity of issue, borrower, lessor, or similar party				
Vanguard Target Retirement 2030 Inv Fund		Mutual Fund	\$	5,729,122
Vanguard Target Retirement 2025 Inv Fund		Mutual Fund		5,157,023
Vanguard 500 Index Admiral Fund		Mutual Fund		4,432,771
Vanguard Target Retirement 2035 Inv Fund		Mutual Fund		6,358,154
Vanguard Target Retirement 2020 Inv Fund		Mutual Fund		1,933,366
Vanguard Target Retirement 2040 Inv Fund		Mutual Fund		6,302,424
T. Rowe Price Blue Chip Growth Fund		Mutual Fund		4,616,599
Vanguard Target Retirement 2045 Inv Fund		Mutual Fund		4,529,486
Vanguard Target Retirement 2050 Inv Fund		Mutual Fund		3,610,671
Vanguard Target Retirement 2055 Inv Fund		Mutual Fund		2,827,527
Vanguard Mid Cap Index Adm Fund		Mutual Fund		1,716,884
Vanguard Small Cap Index Adm Fund		Mutual Fund		1,299,675
Invesco Diversified Dividend R5 Fund		Mutual Fund		541,678
Vanguard Target Retirement 2060 Inv Fund		Mutual Fund		1,799,520
Vanguard Target Retirement 2015 Inv Fund		Mutual Fund		199,460
Vanguard Target Retirement Income Inv Fund		Mutual Fund		126,510
Vanguard Total Bond Market Index Inv Fund		Mutual Fund		489,944
Fidelity International Index Fund		Mutual Fund		637,568
Vanguard Target Retirement 2065 Inv Fund		Mutual Fund		360,824
Loomis Sayles Core Plus Bond N Fund		Mutual Fund		184,187
* Wells Fargo Stable Return Fund N		Common Collective Trust		2,241,074
				55,094,467
* Participant loans (interest rates ranging 4.25% - 6.50%)				1,775,765
			\$	56,870,232

* Party-in-interest as defined by ERISA

(1) Cost information may be omitted for plan assets which are participant-directed.