

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 2023 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
--	---	---

Part I	Annual Report Identification Information
For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023	
A	This return/report is for: ☐ a multiemployer plan ☐ a multiple-employer plan (Filers checking this box must provide participating employer information in accordance with the form instructions.) ☒ a single-employer plan ☐ a DFE (specify) _____ ☐ 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 MERICHEM COMPANY SAVINGS PLAN
1b	Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 002
1c	Effective date of plan 01/01/1969
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) MERICHEM COMPANY 601 SAWYER ST SUITE 205 HOUSTON, TX 77007
2b	Employer Identification Number (EIN) 74-1539883
2c	Plan Sponsor's telephone number 713-428-5200
2d	Business code (see instructions) 325200

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

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

SIGN HERE	Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature.	10/02/2024	KENDRA LEE
	Signature of plan administrator	Date	Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator
SIGN HERE			
	Signature of employer/plan sponsor	Date	Enter name of individual signing as employer or plan sponsor
SIGN HERE			
	Signature of DFE	Date	Enter name of individual signing as DFE

3a Plan administrator's name and address ☒ 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	5 197
6 Number of participants as of the end of the plan year unless otherwise stated (welfare plans complete only lines 6a(1) , 6a(2) , 6b , 6c , and 6d). a(1) Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year a(2) Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year b Retired or separated participants receiving benefits c Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits d Subtotal. Add lines 6a(2) , 6b , and 6c e Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits. f Total. Add lines 6d and 6e g(1) Number of participants with account balances as of the beginning of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) g(2) Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) h Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested.....	6a(1) 134 6a(2) 127 6b 9 6c 75 6d 211 6e 0 6f 211 6g(1) 197 6g(2) 206 6h 7
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

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
- (4)** ☐ **DCG** (Individual Plan Information) – Number Attached _____
- (5)** ☐ **MEP** (Multiple-Employer Retirement Plan Information)

b General Schedules

- (1)** ☒ **H** (Financial Information)
- (2)** ☐ **I** (Financial Information – Small Plan)
- (3)** ☒ **A** (Insurance Information) – Number Attached 1
- (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 2023 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2023 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 A (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Insurance 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. ▶ Insurance companies are required to provide the information pursuant to ERISA section 103(a)(2).	OMB No. 1210-0110 2023 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
--	--	--

For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023		
A Name of plan MERICHEM COMPANY SAVINGS PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	002
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 MERICHEM COMPANY	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 74-1539883	

Part I	Information Concerning Insurance Contract Coverage, Fees, and Commissions	Provide information for each contract on a separate Schedule A. Individual contracts grouped as a unit in Parts II and III can be reported on a single Schedule A.
--------	---	--

1 Coverage Information:

(a) Name of insurance carrier
EMPOWER ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY

(b) EIN	(c) NAIC code	(d) Contract or identification number	(e) Approximate number of persons covered at end of policy or contract year	Policy or contract year	
				(f) From	(g) To
06-1050034	93629	556431-01	78	01/01/2023	12/31/2023

2 Insurance fee and commission information. Enter the total fees and total commissions paid. List in line 3 the agents, brokers, and other persons in descending order of the amount paid.

(a) Total amount of commissions paid	(b) Total amount of fees paid

3 Persons receiving commissions and fees. (Complete as many entries as needed to report all persons).

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

Part II Investment and Annuity Contract Information

Where individual contracts are provided, the entire group of such individual contracts with each carrier may be treated as a unit for purposes of this report.

4 Current value of plan's interest under this contract in the general account at year end	4	13420867
5 Current value of plan's interest under this contract in separate accounts at year end.....	5	9815233

6 Contracts With Allocated Funds:**a** State the basis of premium rates ▶**b** Premiums paid to carrier**6b****c** Premiums due but unpaid at the end of the year.....**6c****d** If the carrier, service, or other organization incurred any specific costs in connection with the acquisition or retention of the contract or policy, enter amount.**6d**

Specify nature of costs ▶

e Type of contract: (1) ☐ individual policies (2) ☐ group deferred annuity(3) ☐ other (specify) ▶**f** If contract purchased, in whole or in part, to distribute benefits from a terminating plan, check here ▶ ☐**7** Contracts With Unallocated Funds (Do not include portions of these contracts maintained in separate accounts)

a Type of contract: (1) ☐ deposit administration (2) ☐ immediate participation guarantee
 (3) ☐ guaranteed investment (4) ☒ other ▶ **GROUP ANNUITY CONTRACT**

b Balance at the end of the previous year**7b**

16287408

c Additions: (1) Contributions deposited during the year**7c(1)**

372732

(2) Dividends and credits

7c(2)

0

(3) Interest credited during the year

7c(3)

284924

(4) Transferred from separate account.....

7c(4)

763378

(5) Other (specify below)

7c(5)

1349801

▶ LN PAY, LN INT, LN PRIN, ROLLOVER, TRANS FORFS

(6) Total additions

7c(6)

2770835

d Total of balance and additions (add lines **7b** and **7c(6)**)**7d**

19058243

e Deductions:

(1) Disbursed from fund to pay benefits or purchase annuities during year

7e(1)

3836873

(2) Administration charge made by carrier

7e(2)

628

(3) Transferred to separate account.....

7e(3)

783223

(4) Other (specify below)

7e(4)

1016652

▶ LN DISTRIB

(5) Total deductions

7e(5)

5637376

f Balance at the end of the current year (subtract line **7e(5)** from line **7d**)**7f**

13420867

Part III Welfare Benefit Contract Information

If more than one contract covers the same group of employees of the same employer(s) or members of the same employee organizations(s), the information may be combined for reporting purposes if such contracts are experience-rated as a unit. Where contracts cover individual employees, the entire group of such individual contracts with each carrier may be treated as a unit for purposes of this report.

8 Benefit and contract type (check all applicable boxes)

- a** ☐ Health (other than dental or vision)
b ☐ Dental
c ☐ Vision
d ☐ Life insurance
e ☐ Temporary disability (accident and sickness)
f ☐ Long-term disability
g ☐ Supplemental unemployment
h ☐ Prescription drug
i ☐ Stop loss (large deductible)
j ☐ HMO contract
k ☐ PPO contract
l ☐ Indemnity contract
m ☐ Other (specify) ▶

9 Experience-rated contracts:

a Premiums: (1) Amount received	9a(1)		
(2) Increase (decrease) in amount due but unpaid.....	9a(2)		
(3) Increase (decrease) in unearned premium reserve	9a(3)		
(4) Earned ((1) + (2) - (3)).....		9a(4)	0
b Benefit charges (1) Claims paid.....	9b(1)		
(2) Increase (decrease) in claim reserves	9b(2)		
(3) Incurred claims (add (1) and (2)).....		9b(3)	0
(4) Claims charged		9b(4)	
c Remainder of premium: (1) Retention charges (on an accrual basis) --			
(A) Commissions	9c(1)(A)		
(B) Administrative service or other fees	9c(1)(B)		
(C) Other specific acquisition costs	9c(1)(C)		
(D) Other expenses	9c(1)(D)		
(E) Taxes	9c(1)(E)		
(F) Charges for risks or other contingencies.....	9c(1)(F)		
(G) Other retention charges	9c(1)(G)		
(H) Total retention		9c(1)(H)	0
(2) Dividends or retroactive rate refunds. (These amounts were ☐ paid in cash, or ☐ credited.).....		9c(2)	
d Status of policyholder reserves at end of year: (1) Amount held to provide benefits after retirement		9d(1)	
(2) Claim reserves		9d(2)	
(3) Other reserves.....		9d(3)	
e Dividends or retroactive rate refunds due. (Do not include amount entered in line 9c(2).)		9e	

10 Nonexperience-rated contracts:

a Total premiums or subscription charges paid to carrier	10a	
b If the carrier, service, or other organization incurred any specific costs in connection with the acquisition or retention of the contract or policy, other than reported in Part I, line 2 above, report amount	10b	

Specify nature of costs.

Part IV Provision of Information

11 Did the insurance company fail to provide any information necessary to complete Schedule A?..... ☐ Yes ☒ No

12 If the answer to line 11 is "Yes," specify the information not provided. ▶

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
		2023
		This Form is Open to Public Inspection.

For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023		
A Name of plan MERICHEM COMPANY SAVINGS PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	002
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 MERICHEM COMPANY	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 74-1539883	

Part I Service Provider Information (see instructions)

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

1 Information on Persons Receiving Only Eligible Indirect Compensation

- a Check "Yes" or "No" to indicate whether you are excluding a person from the remainder of this Part because they received only eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures (see instructions for definitions and conditions).. ☒ 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
EMPOWER ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY
06-1050034

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

EMPOWER ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY O

8515 EAST ORCHARD ROAD
GREENWOOD VILLAGE, CO 80111

(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?
64 37 13 50 15	RECORDKEEPER	34711	Yes ☒ No ☐	Yes ☒ No ☐	0	Yes ☒ No ☐

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

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

(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 2023 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
---	---	--

For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023

A Name of plan <u>MERICHEM COMPANY SAVINGS PLAN</u>	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <u>002</u>	
C Plan or DFE sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>MERICHEM COMPANY</u>	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>74-1539883</u>	

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: <u>INTNL BLEND (SUB-ADV BY WELLINGTON)</u>				
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>EMPOWER ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY</u>				
c EIN-PN <u>06-1050034-349</u>	d Entity code <u>P</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>893458</u>		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>SMALL CAP VALUE / INTEGRITY FUND</u>				
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>EMPOWER ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY</u>				
c EIN-PN <u>06-1050034-439</u>	d Entity code <u>P</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>273506</u>		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>SA/INVESCO SMALL CAP GROWTH STRATEG</u>				
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>EMPOWER ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY</u>				
c EIN-PN <u>06-1050034-293</u>	d Entity code <u>P</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>577158</u>		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>LARGE CAP GROWTH / JP MORGAN INVST</u>				
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>EMPOWER ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY</u>				
c EIN-PN <u>06-1050034-141</u>	d Entity code <u>P</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>5326065</u>		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>CORE BOND ENHANCED INDEX / PGIM FUN</u>				
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>EMPOWER ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY</u>				
c EIN-PN <u>06-1050034-036</u>	d Entity code <u>P</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>1031738</u>		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>MID CAP GROWTH / TIMESSQUARE FUND</u>				
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>EMPOWER ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY</u>				
c EIN-PN <u>06-1050034-186</u>	d Entity code <u>P</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>1713308</u>		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>TRP GROWTH STK STGY</u>				
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>EMPOWER ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY</u>				
c EIN-PN <u>06-1005034-435</u>	d Entity code <u>P</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>0</u>		

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

Part II Information on Participating Plans (to be completed by DFEs, other than DCGs)

(Complete as many entries as needed to report all participating plans. DCGs must report each participating plan using Schedule DCG.)

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
		2023
		This Form is Open to Public Inspection

For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023		
A Name of plan MERICHEM COMPANY SAVINGS PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ►	002
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 MERICHEM COMPANY	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 74-1539883	

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	5231	0
b Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
(1) Employer contributions	1b(1)	0	0
(2) Participant contributions	1b(2)	0	0
(3) Other	1b(3)	0	0
c General investments:			
(1) Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit)	1c(1)	0	0
(2) U.S. Government securities	1c(2)	0	0
(3) Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(3)(A)	0	0
(B) All other	1c(3)(B)	0	0
(4) Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(4)(A)	0	0
(B) Common	1c(4)(B)	0	0
(5) Partnership/joint venture interests	1c(5)	0	0
(6) Real estate (other than employer real property)	1c(6)	0	0
(7) Loans (other than to participants)	1c(7)	0	0
(8) Participant loans	1c(8)	520961	402276
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)	0	0
(10) Value of interest in pooled separate accounts	1c(10)	7573276	9815233
(11) Value of interest in master trust investment accounts	1c(11)	0	0
(12) Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities	1c(12)	0	0
(13) Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	1c(13)	27677450	30958405
(14) Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts)	1c(14)	16287408	13420867
(15) Other	1c(15)	0	0

1d Employer-related investments:		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
(1) Employer securities	1d(1)	0	0
(2) Employer real property	1d(2)	0	0
e Buildings and other property used in plan operation	1e	0	0
f Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e)	1f	52064326	54596781
Liabilities			
g Benefit claims payable	1g	0	0
h Operating payables	1h		
i Acquisition indebtedness	1i	0	0
j Other liabilities	1j	0	0
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	52064326	54596781

Part II Income and Expense Statement

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

Income		(a) Amount	(b) Total
a Contributions:			
(1) Received or receivable in cash from: (A) Employers	2a(1)(A)	1688554	
(B) Participants	2a(1)(B)	1651552	
(C) Others (including rollovers)	2a(1)(C)	10643	
(2) Noncash contributions	2a(2)	0	
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A) , (B) , (C) , and line 2a(2)	2a(3)		3350749
b Earnings on investments:			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit)	2b(1)(A)	0	
(B) U.S. Government securities	2b(1)(B)	0	
(C) Corporate debt instruments	2b(1)(C)	0	
(D) Loans (other than to participants)	2b(1)(D)	0	
(E) Participant loans	2b(1)(E)	29105	
(F) Other	2b(1)(F)	284924	
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F)	2b(1)(G)		314029
(2) Dividends: (A) Preferred stock	2b(2)(A)	0	
(B) Common stock	2b(2)(B)	0	
(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds)	2b(2)(C)	891165	
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A) , (B) , and (C)	2b(2)(D)		891165
(3) Rents	2b(3)		0
(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets: (A) Aggregate proceeds	2b(4)(A)	0	
(B) Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions)	2b(4)(B)	0	
(C) Subtract line 2b(4)(B) from line 2b(4)(A) and enter result	2b(4)(C)		
(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets: (A) Real estate	2b(5)(A)	0	
(B) Other	2b(5)(B)	0	
(C) Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines 2b(5)(A) and (B)	2b(5)(C)		

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts.....	2b(6)		0
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts.....	2b(7)		2187489
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts.....	2b(8)		0
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities.....	2b(9)		0
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	2b(10)		3635762
c Other income	2c		-6748
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total	2d		10372446

Expenses

e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)	7758045	
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits.....	2e(2)	0	
(3) Other	2e(3)	0	
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines 2e(1) through (3)	2e(4)		7758045
f Corrective distributions (see instructions)	2f		15815
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions)	2g		31020
h Interest expense	2h		0
i Administrative expenses:			
(1) Salaries and allowances	2i(1)	0	
(2) Contract administrator fees.....	2i(2)	34711	
(3) Recordkeeping fees.....	2i(3)		
(4) IQPA audit fees.....	2i(4)	0	
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees	2i(5)	0	
(6) Bank or trust company trustee/custodial fees	2i(6)	0	
(7) Actuarial fees	2i(7)	0	
(8) Legal fees	2i(8)	0	
(9) Valuation/appraisal fees	2i(9)	0	
(10) Other trustee fees and expenses	2i(10)	0	
(11) Other expenses	2i(11)	400	
(12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines 2i(1) through (11)	2i(12)		35111
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total	2j		7839991

Net Income and Reconciliation

k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d	2k		2532455
l Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan	2l(1)		0
(2) From this plan	2l(2)		

Part III Accountant's Opinion

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

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

(1) ☒ 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: **MELTON & MELTON, LLP**

(2) EIN: **74-1550819**

d The opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is **not attached** as part of Schedule H because:

(1) ☐ This form is filed for a CCT, PSA, DCG 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. DCGs do not complete lines 4e, 4f, 4k, 4l, and 5, and DCGs generally complete the rest of Part IV collectively for all plans in the DCG, except as otherwise provided (see instructions).

During the plan year:

	Yes	No	Amount
a Was there a failure to transmit to the plan any participant contributions within the time period described in 29 CFR 2510.3-102? Continue to answer "Yes" for any prior year failures until fully corrected. (See instructions and DOL's Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program.)		☒	
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.)		☒	
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.)		☒	
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.)		☒	
e Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	☒		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?		☒	
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?		☒	
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?		☒	
i Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.)	☒		
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.)		☒	
k Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?		☒	
l Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?		☒	
m If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)		☒	
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.			

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 2023 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023		
A Name of plan MERICHEM COMPANY SAVINGS PLAN		B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 002
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 MERICHEM COMPANY		D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 74-1539883
Part I	Distributions	
All references to distributions relate only to payments of benefits during the plan year.		
1 Total value of distributions paid in property other than in cash or the forms of property specified in the instructions.....		1 0
2 Enter the EIN(s) of payor(s) who paid benefits on behalf of the plan to participants or beneficiaries during the year (if more than two, enter EINs of the two payors who paid the greatest dollar amounts of benefits): EIN(s): 20-3691708 22-1211670		
Profit-sharing plans, ESOPs, and stock bonus plans, skip line 3.		
3 Number of participants (living or deceased) whose benefits were distributed in a single sum, during the plan year		3
Part II	Funding Information (If the plan is not subject to the minimum funding requirements of section 412 of the Internal Revenue Code or ERISA section 302, skip this Part.)	
4 Is the plan administrator making an election under Code section 412(d)(2) or ERISA section 302(d)(2)? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A		
If the plan is a defined benefit plan, go to line 8.		
5 If a waiver of the minimum funding standard for a prior year is being amortized in this plan year, see instructions and enter the date of the ruling letter granting the waiver. Date: Month _____ Day _____ Year _____		
If you completed line 5, complete lines 3, 9, and 10 of Schedule MB and do not complete the remainder of this schedule.		
6 a Enter the minimum required contribution for this plan year (include any prior year accumulated funding deficiency not waived)		6a
b Enter the amount contributed by the employer to the plan for this plan year		6b
c Subtract the amount in line 6b from the amount in line 6a. Enter the result (enter a minus sign to the left of a negative amount)		6c
If you completed line 6c, skip lines 8 and 9.		
7 Will the minimum funding amount reported on line 6c be met by the funding deadline? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A		
8 If a change in actuarial cost method was made for this plan year pursuant to a revenue procedure or other authority providing automatic approval for the change or a class ruling letter, does the plan sponsor or plan administrator agree with the change? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A		
Part III	Amendments	
9 If this is a defined benefit pension plan, were any amendments adopted during this plan year that increased or decreased the value of benefits? If yes, check the appropriate box. If no, check the "No" box. ☐ Increase ☐ Decrease ☐ Both ☐ No		
Part IV	ESOPs (see instructions). If this is not a plan described under section 409(a) or 4975(e)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code, skip this Part.	
10 Were unallocated employer securities or proceeds from the sale of unallocated securities used to repay any exempt loan?..... ☐ Yes ☐ No		
11 a Does the ESOP hold any preferred stock? ☐ Yes ☐ No		
b If the ESOP has an outstanding exempt loan with the employer as lender, is such loan part of a "back-to-back" loan? (See instructions for definition of "back-to-back" loan.) ☐ Yes ☐ No		
12 Does the ESOP hold any stock that is not readily tradable on an established securities market? ☐ Yes ☐ No		
For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 5500.		
Schedule R (Form 5500) 2023 v. 230707		

Part V Additional Information for Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans

13 Enter the following information for each employer that (1) contributed more than 5% of total contributions to the plan during the plan year or (2) was one of the top-ten highest contributors (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) and (b):

a Enter the percentage of plan assets held as:

Public Equity: _____% Private Equity: _____% Investment-Grade Debt and Interest Rate Hedging Assets: _____%

High-Yield Debt: _____% Real Assets: _____% Cash or Cash Equivalents: _____% Other: _____%

b Provide the average duration of the Investment-Grade Debt and Interest Rate Hedging Assets:

☐ 0-5 years ☐ 5-10 years ☐ 10-15 years ☐ 15 years or more

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. _____

Part VII IRS Compliance Questions

21a Does the plan satisfy the coverage and nondiscrimination tests of Code sections 410(b) and 401(a)(4) by combining this plan with any other plans under the permissive aggregation rules? ☐ Yes ☒ No

21b If this is a Code section 401(k) plan, check all boxes that apply to indicate how the plan is intended to satisfy the nondiscrimination requirements for employee deferrals and employer matching contributions (as applicable) under Code sections 401(k)(3) and 401(m)(2).

☐ Design-based safe harbor method

☐ "Prior year" ADP test

☒ "Current year" ADP test

☐ N/A

22 If the plan sponsor is an adopter of a pre-approved plan that received a favorable IRS Opinion Letter, enter the date of the Opinion Letter ____/____/____ (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number _____.

Financial Statements and Supplemental
Schedule and Independent
Auditor's Report

Merichem Company Savings Plan

December 31, 2023 and 2022



MELTON & MELTON, L.L.P.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Contents

	Page
Independent Auditor's Report	1
Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits – as of December 31, 2023 and 2022	4
Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits – For the Year Ended December 31, 2023	5
Notes to Financial Statements	6
Supplemental Schedule:	
Schedule I – Schedule H, Line 4i – Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year) – December 31, 2023	16



MELTON & MELTON, L.L.P.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Savings Plan Management Committee
Merichem Company Savings Plan

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

We have performed audits of the financial statements of Merichem Company Savings 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 statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements.

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

Management has obtained certifications from a qualified institution as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and for the year ended December 31, 2023, stating that the certified investment information, as described in Note D to the financial statements, is complete and accurate.

Opinion

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

- the amounts and disclosures in the accompanying 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 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

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Plan and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. 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 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 for one year after the date the financial statements are available to be issued.

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

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Except as described in the Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit section of our report, our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with 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 the 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 audits did not extend to the certified investment information, except for obtaining and reading the certification, comparing the certified investment information with the related information presented and disclosed in the financial statements, and reading the disclosures relating to the certified investment information to assess whether they are in accordance with the presentation and disclosure requirements of accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

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

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

Other Matter — Supplemental Schedule Required by ERISA

The supplemental schedule H, line 4i - schedule of assets (held at end of year) as of December 31, 2023 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 audits of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with 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, is 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).

Melton & Melton LLP

Houston, Texas
September 26, 2024

MERICHEM COMPANY SAVINGS PLAN
STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS
December 31, 2023 and 2022

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Investments, at fair value	\$ 40,773,638	\$ 35,250,726
Investments, at contract value	13,420,867	16,287,408
Cash, non-interest bearing	-	5,231
Notes receivable from participants	<u>402,276</u>	<u>520,961</u>
Net assets available for benefits	<u>\$ 54,596,781</u>	<u>\$ 52,064,326</u>

(See accompanying notes to financial statements)

MERICHEM COMPANY SAVINGS PLAN
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS
AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Investment income:	
Interest on guaranteed income fund	\$ 284,924
Dividend income	891,165
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	<u>5,816,503</u>
	<u>6,992,592</u>
 Interest income on notes receivable from participants	 <u>29,105</u>
 Contributions:	
Participant	1,651,552
Rollover	10,643
Employer	<u>1,688,554</u>
	<u>3,350,749</u>
 Benefits paid to participants	 (7,804,880)
Administrative expenses	<u>(35,111)</u>
	<u>(7,839,991)</u>
 Change in net assets available for benefits	 2,532,455
 Net assets available for benefits at:	
Beginning of year	<u>52,064,326</u>
 End of year	 <u><u>\$ 54,596,781</u></u>

(See accompanying notes to financial statements)

Merichem Company Savings Plan

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2023 and 2022

NOTE A – THE PLAN

1. General

The following description of the Merichem Company Savings Plan (the “Plan”) provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Plan document for a more complete description of the Plan’s provisions.

The Plan is a defined contribution plan that was originally adopted effective January 1, 1969. The Plan has subsequently been amended and restated. The Plan and the related trust fund are established and maintained for the exclusive benefit of the participating employees of Merichem Company (the “Company”), the Plan sponsor. The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (“ERISA”).

2. Administration

The Plan is administered by the Company with responsibility for administration delegated to the Savings Plan Management Committee (the “Committee”) whose members are appointed by the board of directors of the Company. Among other duties, it is the responsibility of the Committee to construe and interpret the Plan, decide all questions of eligibility, and determine the amount and time of payment of any benefits.

3. Trustee and Custodian

Prudential Bank & Trust, F.S.B. (PB&T) served as the Plan’s trustee through March 31, 2023. Effective March 31, 2023, PB&T merged into Empower Trust Company, LLC (ETC), and all services performed by PB&T were assumed by ETC. Empower Annuity Insurance Company (EAIC) serves as custodian for the Guaranteed Income Fund and the pooled separate accounts.

Among other duties, the custodian and trustee of the Plan are to receive contributions; manage, invest, and reinvest the trust fund in accordance with the provisions of the Plan; and pay all costs and expenses incidental to the Plan. The term “trust fund” refers to all assets of any kind or nature held from time to time by the custodian and trustee, which assets form part of the Plan, without distinction as to income or principal.

4. Eligibility

Each covered employee (as defined in the Plan document) who has attained age 18 is eligible to participate in the Plan on the next available entry date. Employees are allowed to enter the Plan on the first day of the month coincident with or immediately following their meeting the eligibility requirements.

Merichem Company Savings Plan

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – CONTINUED

December 31, 2023 and 2022

NOTE A – THE PLAN – CONTINUED

5. Contributions

Participants in the Plan may contribute a minimum of 1% of their compensation (as defined in the Plan document). Participants may make salary deferral contributions of one or more of the following subject to certain limitations (a) up to 50% of their compensation (as defined in the Plan) contributed to the Plan on a before-tax basis, (b) up to 50% of their compensation (as defined in the Plan) contributed to the Plan as a Roth 401(k) contribution, and/or (c) up to 19% of their compensation (as defined in the Plan) contributed to the Plan on an after-tax basis.

An automatic before-tax contribution of 6% of a newly eligible or rehired employee's compensation (as defined in the Plan) is made to the Plan, unless the employee elects otherwise. A 2% automatic escalation of this contribution will occur annually on July 1, up to 15%, unless the participant elects otherwise.

Participants age 50 or older during the plan year may also elect to make a catch-up contribution, subject to certain Internal Revenue Service (IRS) limits (\$7,500 in 2023).

The Company shall make a regular matching contribution equal to 100% of the aggregate of before-tax, Roth 401(k), and after-tax contributions that are up to 6% of considered compensation (as defined in the Plan). Catch-up contributions are excluded from the match.

The Company may make a discretionary nonmatching contribution on behalf of each eligible employee hired prior to August 1, 2021. The discretionary nonmatching contribution is equal to a percentage of the employee's eligible compensation based on years of service. The formula is as follows: 3% for less than five years of service, and 5% for more than five years of service. The Company elected to make a discretionary nonmatching contribution on a pay period basis, for the 2023 plan year.

From time to time, the Company may elect to make a discretionary nonelective contribution to all participants regardless of participation who are employed on the last day of the plan year and have completed 1,000 hours during the plan year. No discretionary nonelective contributions were made for the year ended December 31, 2023.

Participants are permitted to roll over monies from other qualified plans, including after-tax contributions and accounts, as allowed under the Plan's provisions. The Plan is participant directed and participants may change their contribution amounts or investment options at any time.

Merichem Company Savings Plan

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – CONTINUED

December 31, 2023 and 2022

NOTE A – THE PLAN – CONTINUED

6. Investment of Funds

The participants' investment fund options are comprised of mutual funds, pooled separate accounts, and a guaranteed income fund.

The plan administrator may determine other categories of assets in which the Plan can invest. This could result in the addition of new investment funds within the Plan. Any new investment funds are required to be announced and made available on an equal basis to all Plan participants.

Income earned from investments and any appreciation or depreciation in the market values of the Plan assets are allocated to each participant's account on a daily basis.

7. Notes Receivable from Participants (Loans)

Participants may, subject to certain limitations, borrow a minimum of \$1,000 up to a maximum of the lesser of \$50,000 or 50% of their vested accounts in the Plan. A participant may not have more than two outstanding loans at any time. These loans are secured by the participant's vested interest in his or her account. Loans bear interest at a reasonable rate comparable to current rates charged for loans made under similar circumstances by lending institutions, with the interest rate as determined by the Plan's recordkeeper at the date of the loan. Interest rates on outstanding loans at December 31, 2023 range from 4.25% to 9.50%. Loan maturities at December 31, 2023 extend to April 2031. The loans are repaid through payroll deductions and direct payments by the participants to the trustee and custodian. A participant who pays off an existing loan may not apply for another loan during the 30-day period following the pay-off date of the prior Plan loan.

8. Distributions

Normal retirement age under the Plan is 65. Upon a participant's termination, permanent disability, or retirement, the vested funds in the participant's account may be distributed in a lump-sum payment or installments over a specified period. Upon the death of a participant, the account balance is paid to such participant's designated beneficiary.

Upon termination of a participant for any reason other than death, retirement, or total permanent disability, they are entitled to their contributions plus a vested percentage of Company contributions, including earnings allocated to their account. Participants vest in their nonelective, nonmatching, and regular matching contributions 33% after one year of service, 67% after two years of service, and 100% after three years of service. Certain participants receive credit for service with predecessor employers for purposes of vesting under the Plan.

The Plan provides an additional distribution option for participants who have terminated employment. A participant who is eligible for a distribution due to termination of employment (or their surviving beneficiary, as the case may be), may elect to receive a single sum cash payment of their vested account balance. Plan distributions are to be made as soon as reasonably practicable. All benefits of less than \$1,000 shall be paid out in a single lump sum as soon as administratively possible after termination. The Plan also allows withdrawals of after-tax contributions and rollover accounts, hardship withdrawals, and other in-service withdrawals.

Merichem Company Savings Plan

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – CONTINUED

December 31, 2023 and 2022

NOTE A – THE PLAN – CONTINUED

9. Forfeitures

The participant's nonvested Company contributions are forfeited upon termination, but may be reinstated if the participant resumes employment within five years and reinstates the vested portion of Company contributions received upon termination.

All forfeitures are used first for reinstated former participants and then to reduce contributions of the Company or to pay Plan expenses. Any forfeitures incurred during the prior plan year that remain at the end of the current plan year are allocated to participants who are employed on the last day of the plan year and completed 1,000 hours of service during the plan year. There were no forfeitures to allocate to participants at December 31, 2023. The forfeiture account balance at December 31, 2023 and 2022 was \$42,904 and \$56,735, respectively. During 2023, \$52,290 and \$13,405 in forfeitures were used to reduce contributions of the Company and pay Plan expenses, respectively.

10. Administrative Expenses

Participant transaction fees for withdrawals and loans are charged to the participants' accounts when participants have elected such transactions and are shown as administrative expenses. Other expenses of the Plan are paid directly by the Company and are excluded from these financial statements. Other investment-related expenses are included in net appreciation in fair value of investments.

11. Termination of the Plan

In the event the Plan is terminated, after payment of all expenses and proportional adjustment of the participants' accounts to reflect such expenses, trust fund profits or losses, and reallocation to the date of termination, each participant will become 100% vested and be entitled to receive any amounts credited to their account in the trust fund accumulated to the date of termination of the Plan.

NOTE B – SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1. Basis of Accounting

The accompanying financial statements are presented on the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

2. Use of Estimates

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires the plan administrator to use estimates and assumptions that affect reported amounts of assets, liabilities, and changes therein, and disclosure of contingent liabilities at the date of the financial statements. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

3. Contributions

Contributions from Plan participants and the Company's regular matching contributions are recorded in the plan year in which the participants contributions are withheld from compensation. The Company discretionary nonmatching contributions are recorded in the plan year in which participant compensation is paid.

Merichem Company Savings Plan

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – CONTINUED

December 31, 2023 and 2022

NOTE B – SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES – CONTINUED

4. Investment Valuation

Investments are reported at fair value, except the fully benefit-responsive investment contract, which is reported at contract 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. Refer to Note G for discussion of fair value measurements.

5. Investment Contract with Investment Company

The Guaranteed Income Fund is an evergreen group annuity contract issued by EAIC. This fund is designed to provide liquidity and safety of principal with a competitive rate of return. The fund invests in a broadly diversified, fixed-income portfolio within EAIC's general account. The portfolio is primarily invested in public bonds, commercial mortgages, and private placement bonds. Through this investment, the Plan owns a promise to pay interest at crediting rates, which are announced in advance and guaranteed for the indicated period of time as outlined in the group annuity contract, generally semi-annually. Investments in the Guaranteed Income Fund are recorded at contract value as the contract is fully benefit-responsive. As such, participants may direct the withdrawal or transfer of all or a portion of their investments at contract value. Contract value represents contributions made under the contract, plus earnings, less participant withdrawals and fees. In most circumstances, participants may not directly transfer amounts from this fund to a competing fund, the amount must be transferred to a non-competing fund for a period of 90 days before the amount can be invested in a competing fund.

Interest is credited on contract balances using a single "portfolio rate" approach. Under this methodology, a single interest crediting rate is applied to all contributions made to the product regardless of the timing of those contributions. Interest crediting rates are reviewed on a semi-annual basis for resetting. When establishing interest crediting rates for this product, EAIC considers many factors, including current economic and market conditions, the general interest rate environment, and both the expected and actual experience of a reference portfolio within the issuer's general account. These rates are established without the use of a specific formula. The minimum crediting interest rate under the contract is 1.5%. Generally, there are not any events that could limit the ability of the Plan to transact at contract value paid within 90 days or contract value paid over time. In addition, there are not any events that allow the issuer to terminate the contract and which require the Plan sponsor to settle at an amount different than contract value paid either within 90 days or over time.

6. Investment Income Recognition

Purchases and sales of investments are recorded on the trade date. Realized gains (losses) on sale of investments and unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of investments are reported as net appreciation in fair value of investments in the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits.

Interest income is recorded as earned. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Net appreciation in fair value of investments includes the Plan's gains and losses on investments bought and sold as well as held during the year.

7. Notes Receivable from Participants (Loans)

Notes receivable from participants (loans) are reflected at their unpaid principal balance plus any accrued but unpaid interest. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Related fees are recorded as administrative expenses and are expensed when they are incurred. Delinquent participant loans are reclassified as distributions based upon the terms of the Plan document.

Merichem Company Savings Plan

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – CONTINUED

December 31, 2023 and 2022

NOTE B – SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES – CONTINUED

8. Payment of Benefits

Benefit payments are recorded when distributed. Accordingly, benefits payable to persons who have elected to withdraw from the Plan, but not been paid, have not been accrued by the Plan. At December 31, 2023 and 2022, there were no amounts payable to participants.

NOTE C – RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The Plan provides for various investments in mutual funds, pooled separate accounts, and a guaranteed income fund. Investment securities, in general, are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, credit, and overall market volatility risks. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect participant account balances and the amounts reported in the financial statements.

The Plan, through its investment in certain funds, invests in securities with contractual cash flows, such as asset-backed securities, collateralized-mortgage obligations, and commercial mortgage-backed securities, including securities backed by subprime mortgage loans. The value, liquidity, and related income of those securities are sensitive to changes in economic conditions, including real estate value, delinquencies or defaults, or both, and may be adversely affected by shifts in the market's perception of the issuers and changes in interest rates.

NOTE D – INFORMATION CERTIFIED

The Committee has elected the method of compliance permitted by 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Accordingly, as permitted under such election, the Committee has obtained certifications from the trustee and custodian of the Plan that all of the information provided by them is complete and accurate. Information included in the accompanying financial statements and notes to financial statements as to all investments, notes receivable from participants, interest on guaranteed income fund, interest on notes receivable from participants, net appreciation in fair value of investments, dividend income, significant investment disclosures, and information in the supplemental Schedule H, Line 4i – Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year) as of December 31, 2023 is presented in reliance solely upon those certifications.

NOTE E – TAX STATUS

The Plan obtained a determination letter dated September 21, 2016 in which the IRS stated that the Plan, as then designed, was in compliance with the applicable requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"). The Plan has been amended and restated since receiving the determination letter; however, the Committee believes that the Plan is currently being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the Code, and the related trust is tax exempt.

Merichem Company Savings Plan

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – CONTINUED

December 31, 2023 and 2022

NOTE E – TAX STATUS - CONTINUED

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and to determine if the Plan has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the IRS. The plan administrator has analyzed the tax positions taken by the Plan, and has concluded that as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, there are no uncertain positions taken or expected to be taken. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress.

NOTE F – PARTY-IN-INTEREST TRANSACTIONS

Plan investments include pooled separate accounts and a guaranteed income fund managed by EAIC. EAIC is the custodian of the Plan's assets; therefore, these transactions qualify as party-in-interest transactions. Notes receivable from participants also qualify as party-in-interest transactions. These transactions are covered by an exemption from the "prohibited transactions" provisions of ERISA and the Code.

NOTE G – FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification Topic 820, *Fair Value Measurement*, establishes a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1 measurement) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurements).

Valuation techniques used need to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs. The assessment of the significance of a particular input to the fair value measurements requires judgment and may affect the valuation of assets and liabilities being measured and their placement or changes in their placement within the fair value hierarchy. Transfers between levels are recognized on the actual date of the event resulting in the transfer.

The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are as follows:

Basis of Fair Value Measurement

Level 1 - Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets that are accessible at the measurement date for identical, unrestricted assets or liabilities.

Level 2 - Quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not considered to be active or financial instruments without quoted market prices, but for which all significant inputs are observable, either directly or indirectly.

Level 3 - Prices or valuations that require inputs that are both significant to the fair value measurement and unobservable.

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

Merichem Company Savings Plan

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – CONTINUED

December 31, 2023 and 2022

NOTE G – FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS – CONTINUED

Mutual funds are valued at the daily closing price as reported by the fund. Mutual funds held by the Plan are open-end mutual funds that are registered with the SEC. These funds are required to publish their daily net asset value (NAV) and to transact at that price. The mutual funds held by the Plan are deemed to be actively traded.

Investments in pooled separate accounts are valued at fair value using NAV as a practical expedient as determined by the asset custodian by reference to published market data, if available, of the underlying assets. These investments provide for immediate redemptions by the Plan with no advance notice requirement. The Plan has no unfunded commitments and no contractual obligations to further invest in these accounts.

The methods described above may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of NAV or reflective of future fair values. Furthermore, while the Plan's valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different estimate of fair value at the reporting date.

The inputs and methodologies used for valuing securities are not an indication of the risk associated with investing in those securities. There have been no changes in the methodologies used at December 31, 2023 or 2022.

The following table sets forth, by level, a summary of the Plan's investments measured at fair value as of December 31, 2023:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Mutual funds	\$ 30,958,405	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 30,958,405
Investments measured at NAV*				9,815,233
				<u>\$ 40,773,638</u>

The following table sets forth, by level, a summary of the Plan's investments measured at fair value as of December 31, 2022:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Mutual funds	\$ 27,677,450	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 27,677,450
Investments measured at NAV*				7,573,276
				<u>\$ 35,250,726</u>

*Certain investments that are measured at fair value using the NAV per share (or its equivalent) as a practical expedient have not been categorized in the fair value hierarchy. The fair value amounts presented in this table are intended to permit reconciliation of the fair value to the amounts presented in the statements of net assets available for benefits.

Merichem Company Savings Plan

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – CONTINUED

December 31, 2023 and 2022

NOTE H – SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

On March 31, 2024, more than 20% of the Company's employees transferred to Merichem Technologies LLC, which was created from a divestiture of the Company's technologies business unit on December 31, 2023. As a result, the Plan experienced a partial plan termination, and the vesting schedule was accelerated so that all active participants impacted by the divestiture became 100% vested. The participants that transferred to Merichem Technologies LLC had the option to leave their assets in the Plan or transfer their assets to a new plan established by Merichem Technologies LLC. Approximately, \$20 million in total Plan assets have been transferred out of the Plan in relation to the divestiture.

Subsequent events have been evaluated for potential recognition and disclosure through September 26, 2024, the date these financial statements were available to be issued.

SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE

Merichem Company Savings Plan

EIN 74-1539883, Plan 002

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

December 31, 2023

Schedule I

(a)	(b) Identity of issue and description of investment	(c) Description of investment including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par or maturity value	(d) Cost	(e) Current Value
*	Empower Annuity Insurance Company:			
	Guaranteed Income Fund	Stable value fund	**	\$ 13,420,867
	Core Bond Enhanced Index/PGIM Fund	Pooled separate account	**	1,031,738
	International Blend Fund/Wellington Management	Pooled separate account	**	893,458
	Large Cap Growth/JP Morgan Invst Mgmt	Pooled separate account	**	5,326,065
	Mid Cap Growth/TimesSquare Fund	Pooled separate account	**	1,713,308
	Small Cap Value/Integrity Fund	Pooled separate account	**	273,506
	SA/Invesco Small Cap Growth Strategy	Pooled separate account	**	577,158
	MFS Mid Cap Value R6	Mutual fund	**	693,429
	Vanguard Institutional Target Retirement 2020	Mutual fund	**	2,349,494
	Vanguard Institutional Target Retirement 2025	Mutual fund	**	2,142,610
	Vanguard Institutional Target Retirement 2030	Mutual fund	**	2,195,707
	Vanguard Institutional Target Retirement 2035	Mutual fund	**	2,736,008
	Vanguard Institutional Target Retirement 2040	Mutual fund	**	5,385,001
	Vanguard Institutional Target Retirement 2045	Mutual fund	**	1,662,897
	Vanguard Institutional Target Retirement 2050	Mutual fund	**	1,210,370
	Vanguard Institutional Target Retirement 2055	Mutual fund	**	508,392
	Vanguard Institutional Target Retirement 2060	Mutual fund	**	201,271
	Vanguard Institutional Target Retirement 2065	Mutual fund	**	8,984
	Vanguard Institutional Target Retirement Income	Mutual fund	**	550,969
	Vanguard Equity-Income Fund Admiral	Mutual fund	**	2,019,877
	Vanguard Total International Stock Index Admiral	Mutual fund	**	376,245
	Vanguard Mid Cap Index Admiral	Mutual fund	**	1,753,834
	Vanguard Small Cap Index Admiral	Mutual fund	**	1,544,743
	Vanguard 500 Index Admiral	Mutual fund	**	5,618,573
	Vanguard Treasury Money Market Investor	Mutual fund	**	1
*	Participant Loans ***	4.25% - 9.50%	0	402,276
	Total assets (held at end of year)			<u>\$ 54,596,781</u>

* Indicates party in interest.

** Cost omitted for participant-directed investments.

*** Consists solely of borrowings by participants against their individual account balances. Maturities through April 2031.

SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)**MERICHEM COMPANY SAVINGS PLAN****21-OCT-23 to 31-DEC-23****25-MAY-24 09:48:37**

INVESTMENT OPTION	MATURITY DATE	INTEREST RATE	COST OF ASSETS	CURRENT VALUE
1VTINX			537,290.83	550,969.27
1VTWNX			2,553,539.33	2,349,493.81
1VTTVX			2,226,204.53	2,142,609.80
1VTHR			2,209,645.98	2,195,707.41
1VTTHX			2,743,195.09	2,736,008.24
1VFORX			5,369,211.53	5,385,001.37
1VTIVX			1,620,690.07	1,662,897.20
1VFIFX			1,178,732.80	1,210,370.20
1VFFVX			492,218.29	508,391.87
1VTTSX			192,673.48	201,271.04
1VLXVX			8,358.23	8,984.21
1VTIAX			368,163.38	376,245.00
1P0110A			797,076.21	893,458.14
1VSMA			1,160,424.89	1,544,742.71
1P0102A			556,434.60	577,157.75
1P0117A			181,471.85	273,505.72
1MVCKX			622,626.62	693,428.98
1VIMAX			1,209,113.90	1,753,833.52
1P0094A			1,467,811.58	1,713,308.16
1VFIAX			3,835,793.48	5,618,573.17
1VEIRX			1,956,331.52	2,019,876.84
1P0085A			4,503,797.90	5,326,064.89
1P0087A			1,029,992.19	1,031,738.58
1VUSXX			0.76	0.76
1P1022A			11,987,671.97	13,377,962.63
			48,808,471.01	54,151,601.27
PARTICIPANT LOANS	VARIOUS	4.250-9.500	402,896.25	402,275.85
FORFEITURES			42,750.39	42,903.89

556431-01

GA

SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)**MERICHEM COMPANY SAVINGS PLAN****21-OCT-23 to 31-DEC-23**

Page 2 of 2

C

25-MAY-24 09:48:37

INVESTMENT OPTION	MATURITY DATE	INTEREST RATE	COST OF ASSETS	CURRENT VALUE
-------------------	---------------	---------------	----------------	---------------

LEGEND

INVESTMENT OPTION:

1VTINX Vanguard Target Retirement Income Inv
 1VTTVX Vanguard Target Retirement 2025 Inv
 1VTTHX Vanguard Target Retirement 2035 Inv
 1VTIVX Vanguard Target Retirement 2045 Inv
 1VFFVX Vanguard Target Retirement 2055 Inv
 1VLXVX Vanguard Target Retirement 2065 Inv
 1P0110A Intl Blend (sub-adv by Wellington Mgmt)
 1P0102A SA/Invesco Small Cap Growth Strategy
 1MVCKX MFS Mid Cap Value R6
 1P0094A Mid Cap Growth / TimesSquare Fund
 1VEIRX Vanguard Equity-Income Adm
 1P0087A Core Bond Enhanced Index / PGIM Fund
 1P1022A Guaranteed Income Fund

1VTWNX Vanguard Target Retirement 2020 Inv
 1VTHRX Vanguard Target Retirement 2030 Inv
 1VFORX Vanguard Target Retirement 2040 Inv
 1VFIFX Vanguard Target Retirement 2050 Inv
 1VTTSX Vanguard Target Retirement 2060 Inv
 1VTIAX Vanguard Total Intl Stock Index Admiral
 1VSMAX Vanguard Small Cap Index Adm
 1P0117A Small Cap Value / Integrity Fund
 1VIMAX Vanguard Mid Cap Index Fund - Admiral
 1VFIAX Vanguard 500 Index Admiral
 1P0085A Large Cap Growth / JP Morgan Invst Mgmt
 1VUSXX Vanguard Treasury Money Market Inv

COST OF ASSETS: The original cost of the assets in each investment option as of the last day of the plan year

CURRENT VALUE: The value of all assets in each investment option as of the last day of the plan year