

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Form 5500</b></p> <p style="font-size: small;">Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</p> <hr/> <p style="font-size: small;">Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</p> <hr/> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</p>	<p><b>Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">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).</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>▶ Complete all entries in accordance with the instructions to the Form 5500.</b></p>	<p style="font-size: x-small;">OMB Nos. 1210-0110 1210-0089</p> <hr/> <p style="font-size: large; text-align: center;"><b>2023</b></p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection</b></p>
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**Part I Annual Report Identification Information**  
 For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 07/01/2023 and ending 06/30/2024

**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) \_\_\_\_\_

**B** This return/report is:  the first return/report  the final return/report

an amended return/report  a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months)

**C** If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here. . . . .

**D** Check box if filing under:  Form 5558  automatic extension  the DFVC program

special extension (enter description) \_\_\_\_\_

**E** If this is a retroactively adopted plan permitted by SECURE Act section 201, check here. . . . .

**Part II Basic Plan Information—enter all requested information**

<p><b>1a</b> Name of plan  <u>INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL UNION 953 DEATH BENEFIT PLAN</u></p>	<p><b>1b</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <u>503</u></p>
<p><b>2a</b> Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan)          Mailing address (include room, apt., suite no. and street, or P.O. Box)          City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code (if foreign, see instructions)  <u>INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING</u>   <u>151 PENNSYLVANIA SE</u>  <u>ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87108</u></p>	<p><b>1c</b> Effective date of plan  <u>09/01/2008</u></p> <p><b>2b</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN)  <u>85-0110218</u></p> <p><b>2c</b> Plan Sponsor's telephone number  <u>505-266-5757</u></p> <p><b>2d</b> Business code (see instructions)  <u>813000</u></p>

**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.

<b>SIGN HERE</b>	Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature.	10/03/2024	LESLIE JOHN
	Signature of plan administrator	Date	Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator
<b>SIGN HERE</b>	Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature.	10/04/2024	GARY MCFARLAND
	Signature of employer/plan sponsor	Date	Enter name of individual signing as employer or plan sponsor
<b>SIGN HERE</b>			
	Signature of DFE	Date	Enter name of individual signing as DFE

<b>3a</b> Plan administrator's name and address <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Same as Plan Sponsor	<b>3b</b> Administrator's EIN	
	<b>3c</b> Administrator's telephone number	
<b>4</b> 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: <b>a</b> Sponsor's name <b>c</b> Plan Name	<b>4b</b> EIN	
	<b>4d</b> PN	
<b>5</b> Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year	<b>5</b>	463
<b>6</b> Number of participants as of the end of the plan year unless otherwise stated (welfare plans complete only lines <b>6a(1)</b> , <b>6a(2)</b> , <b>6b</b> , <b>6c</b> , and <b>6d</b> ). <b>a(1)</b> Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year ..... <b>a(2)</b> Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year ..... <b>b</b> Retired or separated participants receiving benefits ..... <b>c</b> Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits ..... <b>d</b> Subtotal. Add lines <b>6a(2)</b> , <b>6b</b> , and <b>6c</b> . ..... <b>e</b> Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits ..... <b>f</b> Total. Add lines <b>6d</b> and <b>6e</b> . ..... <b>g(1)</b> Number of participants with account balances as of the beginning of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) ..... <b>g(2)</b> Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) ..... <b>h</b> Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested.....	<b>6a(1)</b>	463
	<b>6a(2)</b>	433
	<b>6b</b>	
	<b>6c</b>	
	<b>6d</b>	433
	<b>6e</b>	
	<b>6f</b>	433
	<b>6g(1)</b>	
<b>6g(2)</b>		
<b>6h</b>		
<b>7</b> Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item).....	<b>7</b>	

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

**b** If the plan provides welfare benefits, enter the applicable welfare feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:  
4L

<b>9a</b> Plan funding arrangement (check all that apply)	<b>9b</b> Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply)
(1) <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance	(1) <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance
(2) <input type="checkbox"/> Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts	(2) <input type="checkbox"/> Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts
(3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trust	(3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trust
(4) <input type="checkbox"/> General assets of the sponsor	(4) <input type="checkbox"/> 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)

<b>a Pension Schedules</b>	<b>b General Schedules</b>
(1) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>R</b> (Retirement Plan Information)	(1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>H</b> (Financial Information)
(2) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>MB</b> (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary	(2) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>I</b> (Financial Information – Small Plan)
(3) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>SB</b> (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary	(3) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>A</b> (Insurance Information) – Number Attached _____
(4) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>DCG</b> (Individual Plan Information) – Number Attached _____	(4) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>C</b> (Service Provider Information)
(5) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>MEP</b> (Multiple-Employer Retirement Plan Information)	(5) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>D</b> (DFE/Participating Plan Information)
	(6) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>G</b> (Financial Transaction Schedules)

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

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**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.

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

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**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 \_\_\_\_\_

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**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 **07/01/2023** and ending **06/30/2024**

<b>A</b> Name of plan INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL UNION 953 DEATH BENEFIT PLAN		<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	503
<b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING		<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) 85-0110218	

**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
<b>a</b> Total noninterest-bearing cash .....	<b>1a</b>	140861	139439
<b>b</b> Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
<b>(1)</b> Employer contributions .....	<b>1b(1)</b>		
<b>(2)</b> Participant contributions .....	<b>1b(2)</b>		
<b>(3)</b> Other .....	<b>1b(3)</b>		
<b>c</b> General investments:			
<b>(1)</b> Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit) .....	<b>1c(1)</b>		
<b>(2)</b> U.S. Government securities .....	<b>1c(2)</b>		
<b>(3)</b> Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
<b>(A)</b> Preferred .....	<b>1c(3)(A)</b>		
<b>(B)</b> All other .....	<b>1c(3)(B)</b>		
<b>(4)</b> Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
<b>(A)</b> Preferred .....	<b>1c(4)(A)</b>		
<b>(B)</b> Common .....	<b>1c(4)(B)</b>		
<b>(5)</b> Partnership/joint venture interests .....	<b>1c(5)</b>		
<b>(6)</b> Real estate (other than employer real property) .....	<b>1c(6)</b>		
<b>(7)</b> Loans (other than to participants) .....	<b>1c(7)</b>		
<b>(8)</b> Participant loans .....	<b>1c(8)</b>		
<b>(9)</b> Value of interest in common/collective trusts .....	<b>1c(9)</b>		
<b>(10)</b> Value of interest in pooled separate accounts .....	<b>1c(10)</b>		0
<b>(11)</b> Value of interest in master trust investment accounts .....	<b>1c(11)</b>		
<b>(12)</b> Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities .....	<b>1c(12)</b>		
<b>(13)</b> Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds) .....	<b>1c(13)</b>		
<b>(14)</b> Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts) .....	<b>1c(14)</b>		
<b>(15)</b> Other .....	<b>1c(15)</b>	35105	39247

1d Employer-related investments:		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
(1) Employer securities .....	1d(1)		
(2) Employer real property .....	1d(2)		
e Buildings and other property used in plan operation .....	1e		
f Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e) .....	1f	175966	178686
<b>Liabilities</b>			
g Benefit claims payable .....	1g		
h Operating payables .....	1h		
i Acquisition indebtedness .....	1i		
j Other liabilities .....	1j		
k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j) .....	1k		
<b>Net Assets</b>			
l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f) .....	1l	175966	178686

**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.

<b>Income</b>		(a) Amount	(b) Total
<b>a Contributions:</b>			
(1) Received or receivable in cash from: (A) Employers .....	2a(1)(A)	31767	
(B) Participants .....	2a(1)(B)		
(C) Others (including rollovers) .....	2a(1)(C)		
(2) Noncash contributions .....	2a(2)		
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A), (B), (C), and line 2a(2) .....	2a(3)		31767
<b>b Earnings on investments:</b>			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit) .....	2b(1)(A)	998	
(B) U.S. Government securities .....	2b(1)(B)		
(C) Corporate debt instruments .....	2b(1)(C)		
(D) Loans (other than to participants) .....	2b(1)(D)		
(E) Participant loans .....	2b(1)(E)		
(F) Other .....	2b(1)(F)		
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F) .....	2b(1)(G)		998
(2) Dividends:			
(A) Preferred stock .....	2b(2)(A)		
(B) Common stock .....	2b(2)(B)		
(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds) .....	2b(2)(C)		
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A), (B), and (C) .....	2b(2)(D)		
(3) Rents .....	2b(3)		
(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets:			
(A) Aggregate proceeds .....	2b(4)(A)		
(B) Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions) .....	2b(4)(B)		
(C) Subtract line 2b(4)(B) from line 2b(4)(A) and enter result .....	2b(4)(C)		
(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets:			
(A) Real estate .....	2b(5)(A)		
(B) Other .....	2b(5)(B)		
(C) Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines 2b(5)(A) and (B) .....	2b(5)(C)		

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts.....	<b>2b(6)</b>		
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts.....	<b>2b(7)</b>		
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts.....	<b>2b(8)</b>		
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities.....	<b>2b(9)</b>		
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds).....	<b>2b(10)</b>		
<b>c</b> Other income.....	<b>2c</b>		
<b>d</b> Total income. Add all <b>income</b> amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	<b>2d</b>		32765

**Expenses**

<b>e</b> Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers.....	<b>2e(1)</b>	30000	
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits.....	<b>2e(2)</b>		
(3) Other.....	<b>2e(3)</b>		
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines <b>2e(1)</b> through <b>(3)</b> .....	<b>2e(4)</b>		30000
<b>f</b> Corrective distributions (see instructions).....	<b>2f</b>		
<b>g</b> Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions).....	<b>2g</b>		
<b>h</b> Interest expense.....	<b>2h</b>		
<b>i</b> Administrative expenses:			
(1) Salaries and allowances.....	<b>2i(1)</b>		
(2) Contract administrator fees.....	<b>2i(2)</b>		
(3) Recordkeeping fees.....	<b>2i(3)</b>		
(4) IQPA audit fees.....	<b>2i(4)</b>		
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees.....	<b>2i(5)</b>		
(6) Bank or trust company trustee/custodial fees.....	<b>2i(6)</b>		
(7) Actuarial fees.....	<b>2i(7)</b>		
(8) Legal fees.....	<b>2i(8)</b>		
(9) Valuation/appraisal fees.....	<b>2i(9)</b>		
(10) Other trustee fees and expenses.....	<b>2i(10)</b>		
(11) Other expenses.....	<b>2i(11)</b>	45	
(12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines <b>2i(1)</b> through <b>(11)</b> .....	<b>2i(12)</b>		45
<b>j</b> Total expenses. Add all <b>expense</b> amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	<b>2j</b>		30045

**Net Income and Reconciliation**

<b>k</b> Net income (loss). Subtract line <b>2j</b> from line <b>2d</b> .....	<b>2k</b>		2720
<b>l</b> Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan.....	<b>2l(1)</b>		
(2) From this plan.....	<b>2l(2)</b>		

**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: **FINDELL & CO., PC**

(2) EIN: **85-0357326**

**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
<b>a</b> 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.) .....		X	
<b>b</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.).....		X	
<b>c</b> 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.) .....		X	
<b>d</b> 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.).....		X	
<b>e</b> Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?.....		X	
<b>f</b> Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty? .....		X	
<b>g</b> Did the plan hold any assets whose current value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser? .....		X	
<b>h</b> Did the plan receive any noncash contributions whose value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?.....		X	
<b>i</b> Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.).....		X	
<b>j</b> Were any plan transactions or series of transactions in excess of 5% of the current value of plan assets? (Attach schedule of transactions if "Yes" is checked and see instructions for format requirements.).....		X	
<b>k</b> Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC? .....		X	
<b>l</b> Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan? .....		X	
<b>m</b> If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.).....		X	
<b>n</b> 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. ....		X	

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

**5b** If, during this plan year, any assets or liabilities were transferred from this plan to another plan(s), identify the plan(s) to which assets or liabilities were transferred. (See instructions.)

<b>5b(1)</b> Name of plan(s)	<b>5b(2)</b> EIN(s)	<b>5b(3)</b> 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 \_\_\_\_\_.

**INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING  
ENGINEERS LOCAL UNION 953  
DEATH BENEFIT PLAN AND RELATED TRUST FUND**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**Years Ended June 30, 2024 and 2023**

**FINDELL & COMPANY, P.C.**  
Certified Public Accountants

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# FINDELL & COMPANY, P.C.

Certified Public Accountants  
6605 Uptown Blvd., N.E., Suite 320  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87110  
(505) 889-9104

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

The International Union of Operating Engineers Local Union 953  
Death Benefit Committee  
International Union of Operating Engineers Local 953  
Death Benefit Plan  
Albuquerque, New Mexico

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 953 Death Benefit Plan and the related Trust Fund (Plan) which comprise the net assets available for benefits-(modified cash basis) as of June 30, 2024 and 2023, and the related statements of changes in net assets available for benefits-(modified cash basis) years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the assets, liabilities and net assets of the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 953 Death Benefit Plan and the related Trust Fund (Plan) as of June 30, 2024 and 2023 and the changes in its net assets for the years then ended in the changes in its net assets (modified cash basis) for the years then ended, on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

### **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent International Union of Operating Engineers Local 953 Death Benefit Plan and the related Trust Fund (Plan) and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our 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.

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 International Union of Operating Engineers Local 953 Death Benefit Plan and the related Trust Fund (Plan) ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

### **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements, including omissions, are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

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

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of International Union of Operating Engineers Local 953 Death Benefit Plan and the related Trust Fund (Plan) 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 International Union of Operating Engineers Local 953 Death Benefit Plan and the related Trust Fund (Plan) ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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.

***Basis of Accounting***

We draw your attention to Note 1 to the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

*FindeLL & Co, P.C.*

FINDELL & COMPANY, P. C.  
Certified Public Accountants

Albuquerque, NM  
September 20, 2024

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS  
 LOCAL UNION 953 DEATH BENEFIT PLAN AND RELATED TRUST FUND  
 STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS - CASH BASIS  
 JUNE 30, 2024 AND 2023

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash	\$ 139,439	\$ 140,861
Receivable-Operating account	<u>39,247</u>	<u>35,105</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	178,686	175,966
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Other Liabilities	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS</b>	<b>\$ <u>178,686</u></b>	<b>\$ <u>175,966</u></b>

See accompanying notes.

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS  
 LOCAL UNION 953 DEATH BENEFIT PLAN AND RELATED TRUST FUND  
 STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS - CASH BASIS  
 YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2024 AND 2023

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
<b>ADDITIONS</b>		
Additions to plan assets attributed to:		
Employee contributions	\$ 31,767	\$ 36,292
Interest income	998	605
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONS</b>	<u>32,765</u>	<u>36,897</u>
<b>DEDUCTIONS</b>		
Deductions from plan assets attributed to:		
Payments to beneficiaries	30,000	28,000
Bank charges	45	-
Legal fees	-	1,599
<b>TOTAL DEDUCTIONS</b>	<u>30,045</u>	<u>29,599</u>
<b>NET INCREASE</b>	2,720	7,298
<b>NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS</b>		
<b>BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	<u>175,966</u>	<u>168,668</u>
<b>END OF YEAR</b>	<u>\$ 178,686</u>	<u>\$ 175,966</u>

See accompanying notes.

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS  
LOCAL UNION 953 DEATH BENEFIT PLAN AND RELATED TRUST

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 1 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Cash Basis of Accounting - The accounts of the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 953 Death Benefit Plan and the related Trust Fund (the Plan) are maintained and the financial statements have been prepared on the basis of cash receipts and disbursements, except that they include provision for depreciation of equipment. Certain revenue and the related assets are recognized when received rather than when earned, and certain expenses are recognized when paid rather than when the obligations are incurred. Consequently, dues, fees and reimbursements receivable and unpaid expenses are not shown in the financial statements.

Basis of Presentation - Financial statement presentation follows the requirements for an employee benefit plan as presented in the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants Audit and Accounting Guide, "Audits of Employee Benefit Plans," except for the use of the modified cash basis of accounting.

Use of Estimates - The preparation of financial statements in conformity with the modified cash basis of accounting requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of additions and deductions during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Value of Cash - Cash is valued at cost, which approximates fair value.

Subsequent Events - The plan has evaluated subsequent events through September 20, 2024, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

NOTE 2 - DESCRIPTION OF PLAN

International Union of Operating Engineers Local 953 Death Benefit Plan and the related Trust Fund (the Plan) were established September 1, 2008 by the International Union of Operating Engineers Locals 953, 953A, 953B, 953C, and 953RA (Locals). The Plan and the Fund are administered by the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 953 Death Benefit Committee (Committee) which consists of the following officers of Local Union 953: Business manager, President, Vice President, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, and Recording Corresponding Secretary and of one retired member of the Locals in good standing who is selected by the other members of the Committee.

The Plan provides a death benefit and an additional accidental death and dismemberment benefit. Payments are made to the Fund by members of the Locals in accordance with the Plan. At June 30, 2024 and 2023, there were 433 and 463 participants in the Plan, respectively.

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS  
LOCAL UNION 953 DEATH BENEFIT PLAN AND RELATED TRUST

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 3 - FUNDING POLICY

Payments to the Plan and the Fund are made by members in accordance with collective bargaining and other agreements. Payments are collected by the Locals. All benefits are funded solely by Local Union membership dues. None of the benefits that the Plan provides are insured by any contract of insurance. If the total benefit claims incurred in any one calendar month exceed the sum of \$50,000 or in any one fiscal year (July 1, through June 30) exceed the sum \$100,000, neither the Death Benefit Committee nor the Locals will be liable for benefits in excess of the amount. In the event the total claims in any one calendar month or any fiscal year exceed these limits, the Plan will pay claims on a "first come, first serve" basis.

NOTE 4 - PRIORITIES IN TERMINATION

The Committee has the right, in its sole discretion, to terminate this Plan at any time or to merge it into another plan established for like purposes.

NOTE 5 - INCOME TAXES AND IRS/DOL FILING

The Locals are exempt from Federal income tax under Section 501 (c)(5). Therefore, the Plan and the Fund are exempt as part of the Locals. The Locals have not been determined to be a private foundation by the Internal Revenue Service. No income taxes were paid or payable for the years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023. It is the opinion of the Plan's and the Fund's management that the Plan and the Fund are operating in accordance with the exemption.

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

The Plan and the Fund are not exempt from the reporting and disclosure requirements under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 based on compliance with regulations published by the U.S. Department of Labor and has filed a Form 5500.

NOTE 6 – ECONOMIC RISK

The Plan receives most of its cash receipts from employers who are obligated to pay contributions to the Plan and the Fund per collective bargaining agreements. The employers may discontinue such agreements in the future or if the status of the economy in the future was to deteriorate, some employers may cease operations. In addition, the number of members who participate may vary depending upon the economy.