

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
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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 BERTELSMANN 401(K) SAVINGS PLAN
1b	Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 004
1c	Effective date of plan 04/01/1987
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) BERTELSMANN, INC. 1745 BROADWAY CORPORATE BENEFITS DEPT, 20TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10019
2b	Employer Identification Number (EIN) 95-2949493
2c	Plan Sponsor's telephone number 212-782-1150
2d	Business code (see instructions) 511130

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.	10/08/2024	ERIKA KIRCHNER
	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 BERTELSMANN DEFINED CONTRIBUTION ADMINISTRATION & INVESTMENT COMMITTEE 1745 BROADWAY CORPORATE BENEFITS DEPT, 20TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10019		3b Administrator's EIN 95-2949493 3c Administrator's telephone number 212-782-1150																						
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 13896																						
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		<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td colspan="2" style="height: 20px;"></td></tr> <tr><td style="width: 15%;">6a(1)</td><td style="text-align: right;">8368</td></tr> <tr><td>6a(2)</td><td style="text-align: right;">8782</td></tr> <tr><td>6b</td><td style="text-align: right;">129</td></tr> <tr><td>6c</td><td style="text-align: right;">5604</td></tr> <tr><td>6d</td><td style="text-align: right;">14515</td></tr> <tr><td>6e</td><td style="text-align: right;">56</td></tr> <tr><td>6f</td><td style="text-align: right;">14571</td></tr> <tr><td>6g(1)</td><td style="text-align: right;">13410</td></tr> <tr><td>6g(2)</td><td style="text-align: right;">13799</td></tr> <tr><td>6h</td><td style="text-align: right;">17</td></tr> </table>			6a(1)	8368	6a(2)	8782	6b	129	6c	5604	6d	14515	6e	56	6f	14571	6g(1)	13410	6g(2)	13799	6h	17
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6f	14571																							
6g(1)	13410																							
6g(2)	13799																							
6h	17																							
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: 2F 2G 2J 2K 2S 2T 2E 3H 2U 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 <u>0</u> (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 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 BERTELSMANN 401(K) SAVINGS PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 004
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 BERTELSMANN, INC.	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 95-2949493

Part I

Service Provider Information (see instructions)

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

1

Information on Persons Receiving Only Eligible Indirect Compensation

- a

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

X

YesNo
- 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

FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL

04-2647786

(b)

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

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

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

STRATEGIC ADVISORS, INC.

04-2654524

(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?
27	ADVISOR	607588	Yes ☐ No ☒	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

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

FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL

04-2647786

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
37 64 65	RECORDKEEPER	472876	Yes ☒ No ☐	Yes ☒ No ☐	0	Yes ☐ No ☒

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

MERCER

61-0736136

(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?
16	CONSULTANT	138508	Yes ☐ No ☒	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

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

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

CARON & BLETZER

04-3499945

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
10	ACCOUNTANT/AUDITOR	30800	Yes ☐ No ☒	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

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

ALSTON & BIRD LLP

58-0137615

(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?
16	CONSULTANT	10010	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
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(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.
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For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023

A Name of plan <u>BERTELSMANN 401(K) SAVINGS PLAN</u>	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <u>004</u>	
C Plan or DFE sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>BERTELSMANN, INC.</u>	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>95-2949493</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)
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRU CORE PL BD CL 5

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRUDENTIAL TRUST COMPANY

c EIN-PN <u>23-6994310-165</u>	d Entity code <u>C</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>60927437</u>
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: MIP II CL 3

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): FIDELITY MANAGEMENT TRUST COMPANY

c EIN-PN <u>04-3022712-025</u>	d Entity code <u>C</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>115706144</u>
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: FID FRDM INX 2040 T

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): FIAM TRUST COMPANY

c EIN-PN <u>20-4659714-082</u>	d Entity code <u>C</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>70312948</u>
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: FID FRDM INX 2055 T

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): FIAM TRUST COMPANY

c EIN-PN <u>20-4659714-112</u>	d Entity code <u>C</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>66534719</u>
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: FID FRDM INX 2025 T

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): FIAM TRUST COMPANY

c EIN-PN <u>20-4659714-079</u>	d Entity code <u>C</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>28691975</u>
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: FID FRDM INX 2060 T

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): FIAM TRUST COMPANY

c EIN-PN <u>20-4659714-146</u>	d Entity code <u>C</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>28358028</u>
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: FID FRDM INX INC T

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): FIAM TRUST COMPANY

c EIN-PN <u>20-4659714-074</u>	d Entity code <u>C</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>2598652</u>
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: FID FRDM INX 2020 T		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): FIAM TRUST COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 20-4659714-078	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 34326471
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: FID FRDM INX 2045 T		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): FIAM TRUST COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 20-4659714-083	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 77797353
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: FID FRDM INX 2005 T		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): FIAM TRUST COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 20-4659714-075	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 1075203
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: FID FRDM INX 2010 T		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): FIAM TRUST COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 20-4659714-076	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 3240476
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: FID FRDM INX 2015 T		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): FIAM TRUST COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 20-4659714-077	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 8631634
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: FID FRDM INX 2050 T		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): FIAM TRUST COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 20-4659714-084	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 95554673
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: FID FRDM INX 2035 T		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): FIAM TRUST COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 20-4659714-081	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 58443324
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: FID FRDM INX 2065 T		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): FIAM TRUST COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 20-4659714-169	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 4745781
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: FID FRDM INX 2030 T		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): FIAM TRUST COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 20-4659714-080	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 46699622
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 BERTELSMANN 401(K) SAVINGS PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ►	004
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 BERTELSMANN, INC.	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 95-2949493	

Part I	Asset and Liability Statement
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1 Current value of plan assets and liabilities at the beginning and end of the plan year. Combine the value of plan assets held in more than one trust. Report the value of the plan's interest in a commingled fund containing the assets of more than one plan on a line-by-line basis unless the value is reportable on lines 1c(9) through 1c(14). Do not enter the value of that portion of an insurance contract which guarantees, during this plan year, to pay a specific dollar benefit at a future date. **Round off amounts to the nearest dollar.** MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 1b(1), 1b(2), 1c(8), 1g, 1h, and 1i. CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 1d and 1e. See instructions.

Assets		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
a Total noninterest-bearing cash	1a	0	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)	50966	243296
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)	637968	818372
(B) Common	1c(4)(B)	91627563	160224386
(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)	9814145	10785244
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)	594669322	703644440
(10) Value of interest in pooled separate accounts	1c(10)	0	0
(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)	831799512	886990055
(14) Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts)	1c(14)	0	0
(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	1528599476	1762705793
Liabilities			
g Benefit claims payable	1g	412718	70144
h Operating payables	1h	102990	130159
i Acquisition indebtedness	1i	0	0
j Other liabilities	1j	124053	4996
k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j)	1k	639761	205299
Net Assets			
l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f)	1l	1527959715	1762500494

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)	37192913	
(B) Participants	2a(1)(B)	60708572	
(C) Others (including rollovers)	2a(1)(C)	7086462	
(2) Noncash contributions	2a(2)	0	
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A) , (B) , (C) , and line 2a(2)	2a(3)		104987947
b Earnings on investments:			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit)	2b(1)(A)	4	
(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)	629693	
(F) Other	2b(1)(F)	17	
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F)	2b(1)(G)		629714
(2) Dividends: (A) Preferred stock	2b(2)(A)	9592	
(B) Common stock	2b(2)(B)	738663	
(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds)	2b(2)(C)	25373271	
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A) , (B) , and (C)	2b(2)(D)		26121526
(3) Rents	2b(3)		0
(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets: (A) Aggregate proceeds	2b(4)(A)	48842730	
(B) Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions)	2b(4)(B)	43690841	
(C) Subtract line 2b(4)(B) from line 2b(4)(A) and enter result	2b(4)(C)		5151889
(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets: (A) Real estate	2b(5)(A)	0	
(B) Other	2b(5)(B)	47337592	
(C) Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines 2b(5)(A) and (B)	2b(5)(C)		47337592

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts.....	2b(6)		77976683
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts.....	2b(7)		0
(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)		130647748
c Other income	2c		0
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total	2d		392853099

Expenses

e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)	157020881	
(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)		157020881
f Corrective distributions (see instructions)	2f		3289
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions)	2g		28369
h Interest expense	2h		0
i Administrative expenses:			
(1) Salaries and allowances	2i(1)	0	
(2) Contract administrator fees.....	2i(2)	3900	
(3) Recordkeeping fees.....	2i(3)	468976	
(4) IQPA audit fees.....	2i(4)	30300	
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees	2i(5)	589382	
(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)	167223	
(12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines 2i(1) through (11)	2i(12)		1259781
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total	2j		158312320

Net Income and Reconciliation

k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d	2k		234540779
l Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan	2l(1)		0
(2) From this plan	2l(2)		0

Part III Accountant's Opinion

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

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

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

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

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

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

(1) Name: **CARON & BLETZER PLLC**

(2) EIN: **04-3499945**

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.)	☒	☐	279819
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?	☒	☐	20000000
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?	☒	☐	34396
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)
BERTELSMANN PRINTING GROUP 401(K) AND PROFIT SHARING PLAN	23-1873471	002

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

A Name of plan BERTELSMANN 401(K) SAVINGS PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 004
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 BERTELSMANN, INC.	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 95-2949493

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

1 Total value of distributions paid in property other than in cash or the forms of property specified in the instructions.....	1
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): 04-6568107 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)? If the plan is a defined benefit plan, go to line 8.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A
5 If a waiver of the minimum funding standard for a prior year is being amortized in this plan year, see instructions and enter the date of the ruling letter granting the waiver. Date: Month _____ Day _____ Year _____ If you completed line 5, complete lines 3, 9, and 10 of Schedule MB and do not complete the remainder of this schedule.	
6 a Enter the minimum required contribution for this plan year (include any prior year accumulated funding deficiency not waived)	6a
b Enter the amount contributed by the employer to the plan for this plan year	6b
c Subtract the amount in line 6b from the amount in line 6a. Enter the result (enter a minus sign to the left of a negative amount)	6c
If you completed line 6c, skip lines 8 and 9.	
7 Will the minimum funding amount reported on line 6c be met by the funding deadline?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A
8 If a change in actuarial cost method was made for this plan year pursuant to a revenue procedure or other authority providing automatic approval for the change or a class ruling letter, does the plan sponsor or plan administrator agree with the change?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Part III	Amendments
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9 If this is a defined benefit pension plan, were any amendments adopted during this plan year that increased or decreased the value of benefits? If yes, check the appropriate box. If no, check the "No" box.	☐ Increase ☐ Decrease ☐ Both ☐ No
---	--

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) 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) 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)	14a 14b 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
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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
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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 _____.	
--	--

SCHEDULE MEP (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration	MULTIPLE-EMPLOYER RETIREMENT PLAN 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
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For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023		
A Name of plan BERTELSMANN 401(K) SAVINGS PLAN	B Three-digit Plan number (PN) ►	004
C Plan administrator's name as shown on line 3a of Form 5500/Form 5500-SF BERTELSMANN DEFINED CONTRIBUTION ADMINISTRATION & INVESTMENT COMMITTEE	D Administrator's EIN 95-2949493	

Part I	Type of Multiple-Employer Pension Plan. All multiple-employer pension plans must complete.
---------------	---

1 Check the appropriate box to indicate type of multiple-employer pension plan. (Only defined contribution plans may check lines 1a, 1b, and 1c. Defined benefit plans and defined contribution plans not checking lines 1a, 1b, or 1c should check line 1d. See Instructions).

- a** ☒ association retirement plan (See 29 CFR 2510.3-55) (Complete Part II)
- b** ☐ professional employer organization plan (PEO Plan) (See 29 CFR 29 CFR 2510.3-55) (Complete Part II)
- c** ☐ pooled employer plan (PEP) (See 29 CFR 2510.3-44) (Complete Parts II and III)
- d** ☐ other multiple-employer pension plan (Describe) _____ (Complete Part II)

Part II	Participating Employer Information.
----------------	--

2 All multiple-employer pension plans that are subject to section 210(a) of ERISA (see instructions for filing the Form 5500) must complete Part II, in addition to Part I, in accordance with the instructions, to report the information for each employer participating in the multiple-employer pension plan. **Defined contribution plans must complete lines 2a-2d. All other multiple-employer pension plans complete lines 2a-2c only. Complete as many entries as needed to list the required information for each participating employer that is not an individual person (see instructions).**

2a Name of Participating Employer PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE LLC	2b EIN 46-2905685	2c Percentage of Total Contributions for the Plan Year 63.42	2d Aggregate Account Balances Attributable to Participating Employer 1282131042
2a Name of Participating Employer RELIAS LLC	2b EIN 01-0730157	2c Percentage of Total Contributions for the Plan Year 14.33	2d Aggregate Account Balances Attributable to Participating Employer 84527198

CAUTION Do not individually list information for working owners (see instructions and 29 CFR 2510.3-55(d)(2)) or other individuals who are participants or beneficiaries in the plan or arrangement that are no longer associated with a particular participating employer or participating employer plan (see instructions). Providing identifying information for individuals may result in rejection of this filing. If there are any such individuals in the plan, answer "Yes" to line 2e and provide the total information for all such individuals, without providing names or other identifying information.

2e Does the plan include any individuals not participating through an employer or who are individual working owners?	2e	☐ Yes ☒ No
2f If you answer "Yes" in line 2e, enter a good faith estimate of the percentage of total contributions made by all such individuals that are not listed on line 2a during the plan year.	2f	
2g If you answer "Yes" in Line 2e, enter the aggregate account balances for all such individuals that are not listed on line 2a.	2g	

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

**Schedule MEP (2023)
v. 230728**

Part II Participating Employer Information (Continued).

Use this page for additional participating employer information.

2 All multiple-employer pension plans that are subject to section 210(a) of ERISA (see instructions for filing the Form 5500) must complete Part II, in addition to Part I, in accordance with the instructions, to report the information for each employer participating in the multiple-employer pension plan.

Defined contribution plans must complete lines 2a-2d. All other multiple-employer pension plans complete lines 2a-2c only. Complete as many entries as needed to list the required information for each participating employer that is not an individual person (see instructions).

2a Name of Participating Employer	2b EIN	2c Percentage of Total Contributions for the Plan Year	2d Aggregate Account Balances Attributable to Participating Employer
ARVATO DIGITAL SERVICES LLC	23-1196005	8.7	115859814
2a Name of Participating Employer	2b EIN	2c Percentage of Total Contributions for the Plan Year	2d Aggregate Account Balances Attributable to Participating Employer
FREMANTLEMEDIA NORTH AMERICA, INC.	13-3621012	4.63	51515188
2a Name of Participating Employer	2b EIN	2c Percentage of Total Contributions for the Plan Year	2d Aggregate Account Balances Attributable to Participating Employer
BMG RIGHTS MANAGEMENT (US) LLC	26-4055343	3.99	38709968
2a Name of Participating Employer	2b EIN	2c Percentage of Total Contributions for the Plan Year	2d Aggregate Account Balances Attributable to Participating Employer
BERTELSMANN, INC.	95-2949493	1.42	130185483
2a Name of Participating Employer	2b EIN	2c Percentage of Total Contributions for the Plan Year	2d Aggregate Account Balances Attributable to Participating Employer
BERTELSMANN ACCOUNTING SERVICES, INC.	81-5077096	1.13	20916017
2a Name of Participating Employer	2b EIN	2c Percentage of Total Contributions for the Plan Year	2d Aggregate Account Balances Attributable to Participating Employer
ARVATO SYSTEMS NORTH AMERICA, INC.	56-2390706	0.86	10547925
2a Name of Participating Employer	2b EIN	2c Percentage of Total Contributions for the Plan Year	2d Aggregate Account Balances Attributable to Participating Employer
THIS IS HIT, INC	62-1709065	0.63	4385900
2a Name of Participating Employer	2b EIN	2c Percentage of Total Contributions for the Plan Year	2d Aggregate Account Balances Attributable to Participating Employer
VERSIDI, INC	87-2274045	0.21	366756
2a Name of Participating Employer	2b EIN	2c Percentage of Total Contributions for the Plan Year	2d Aggregate Account Balances Attributable to Participating Employer
RTL NY, INC.	20-1953057	0.18	4743133

CAUTION Do not individually list information for working owners (see instructions and 29 CFR 2510.3-55(d)(2)) or other individuals who are participants or beneficiaries in the plan or arrangement that are no longer associated with a particular participating employer or participating employer plan (see instructions). Providing identifying information for individuals may result in rejection of this filing. If there are any such individuals in the plan, answer "Yes" to line 2e and provide the total information for all such individuals, without providing names or other identifying information.

Part II Participating Employer Information (Continued).

Use this page for additional participating employer information.

2 All multiple-employer pension plans that are subject to section 210(a) of ERISA (see instructions for filing the Form 5500) must complete Part II, in addition to Part I, in accordance with the instructions, to report the information for each employer participating in the multiple-employer pension plan.

Defined contribution plans must complete lines 2a-2d. All other multiple-employer pension plans complete lines 2a-2c only. Complete as many entries as needed to list the required information for each participating employer that is not an individual person (see instructions).

2a Name of Participating Employer	2b EIN	2c Percentage of Total Contributions for the Plan Year	2d Aggregate Account Balances Attributable to Participating Employer
RTL ADCONNECT, INC.	32-0548440	0.17	569658
YOSPACE, INC.	85-4341826	0.15	807089
RISE RECORDS, INC.	20-8351660	0.07	1067233
FREMANTLEMEDIA LATIN AMERICA, INC.	13-3615735	0.07	661894
STERN MAGAZINE CORPORATION	13-2681772	0.02	175768
APPLIKE SERVICES, INC.	92-1621106	0.01	15379
HOTCHALK, INC.	47-0940342	0.01	4474851

CAUTION Do not individually list information for working owners (see instructions and 29 CFR 2510.3-55(d)(2)) or other individuals who are participants or beneficiaries in the plan or arrangement that are no longer associated with a particular participating employer or participating employer plan (see instructions). Providing identifying information for individuals may result in rejection of this filing. If there are any such individuals in the plan, answer "Yes" to line 2e and provide the total information for all such individuals, without providing names or other identifying information.

Part III

Pooled Employer Plan Information

Line 3. All Pooled employer plans must answer all of the questions in Part III, in addition to completing all of Parts I and II.

- 3a

Is the pooled plan provider (identified as the plan sponsor and administrator in Part II of the Form 5500) currently in compliance with the Form PR (Pooled Plan Provider Registration Statement) requirements? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2510.3-44)

☐ Yes ☐ No
- 3b

If line 3a is "Yes", enter the ACK ID for the most recent Form PR that was required to be filed under the Form PR filing requirements. (Failure to enter a valid ACK ID will subject the Form 5500 filing to rejection as incomplete.)

ACK ID

BERTELSMANN 401(k) SAVINGS PLAN

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2023 and 2022 and
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023



CARON & BLETZER, PLLC

Certified Public Accountants and Business Consultants



Independent Auditor's Report

To the Plan Administrator of the Bertelsmann 401(k) Savings Plan:

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

We have performed audits of the financial statements of the Bertelsmann 401(k) 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 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 ("DOL") 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 DOL'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 of our report:

- 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 ("GAAP").
- 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 GAAP, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. Management's election of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit does not affect management's responsibility for the financial statements.

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

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

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 certifications, 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 GAAP.

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 GAAP.

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 Schedules Required by ERISA

The supplemental Schedule H, Line 4(a) - Schedule of Delinquent Participant Contributions for the year ended December 31, 2023 and the Schedule H, Line 4(i) - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year) as of December 31, 2023, are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements but are supplementary information required by the DOL'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 these supplemental schedules, 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 schedules 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 schedules, we evaluated whether the supplemental schedules, other than the information agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, including their form and content, are presented in conformity with the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

In our opinion:

- the form and content of the supplemental schedules, other than the information in the supplemental schedules that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, are presented, in all material respects, in conformity with the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.
- the certified information in the supplemental schedules 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).

Caron & Bletner, PLLC

Kingston, NH
October 4, 2024

BERTELSMANN 401(k) SAVINGS PLAN
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Certain supplemental schedules have been omitted because they are either not required or not applicable.

BERTELSMANN 401(k) SAVINGS PLAN
STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS
December 31, 2023 and 2022

	2023	2022
<u>Assets:</u>		
Investments at fair value:		
Common collective trusts	\$ 703,644,440	\$ 594,669,322
Common stock	160,224,386	91,627,563
Preferred stock	818,372	637,968
Mutual funds	<u>886,990,055</u>	<u>831,799,512</u>
Total investments	1,751,677,253	1,518,734,365
Receivables:		
Participant contributions	528,743	297,623
Employer contributions	1,421,486	1,191,566
Notes receivable from participants	10,785,244	9,814,145
Other receivables	<u>243,296</u>	<u>50,966</u>
Total receivables	<u>12,978,769</u>	<u>11,354,300</u>
 Total assets	 1,764,656,022	 1,530,088,665
<u>Liabilities:</u>		
Operating payables	130,159	102,990
Other liabilities	<u>75,140</u>	<u>536,771</u>
Total liabilities	<u>205,299</u>	<u>639,761</u>
 Net assets available for benefits	 <u>\$ 1,764,450,723</u>	 <u>\$ 1,529,448,904</u>

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

BERTELSMANN 401(k) SAVINGS PLAN
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS
For the year ended December 31, 2023

	<u>2023</u>
Additions:	
Investment income:	
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	\$ 259,493,071
Dividend and interest income	<u>28,372,081</u>
	287,865,152
Contributions:	
Participant contributions	60,939,692
Rollover contributions	7,086,462
Employer contributions	<u>37,422,833</u>
	<u>105,448,987</u>
 Total additions	 393,314,139
Deductions:	
Benefits paid to participants	157,052,539
Administrative expenses	<u>1,259,781</u>
 Total deductions	 <u>158,312,320</u>
 Net increase	 235,001,819
Net assets available for benefits:	
Beginning of year	<u>1,529,448,904</u>
 End of year	 <u>\$ 1,764,450,723</u>

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

BERTELSMANN 401(k) SAVINGS PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

A. PLAN DESCRIPTION:

The following description of the Bertelsmann 401(k) Savings Plan (the "Plan") is provided for general information purposes only. Participants should refer to the Plan document for more detailed information.

General

The Plan is a defined contribution plan covering employees of Bertelsmann, Inc. and certain participating affiliated companies as listed in the plan document (collectively the "Company"). The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA").

The Plan covers substantially all Company employees, except those individuals who are covered by a collective bargaining agreement, active participants in another defined contribution plan maintained by the Company, leased employees, or non-resident aliens. Employees are eligible to participate immediately upon hire provided they are expected to complete 1,000 hours of service in the twelve-month period beginning with their date of hire. Employees who are not expected to complete 1,000 hours of service become eligible to enter the Plan once they have met the 1,000 hour requirement as provided in the Plan. Participants become eligible to receive matching contributions on the first anniversary of their date of hire.

Effective July 1, 2023, Applike Services, Inc. became a participating employer eligible to participate in the Plan.

Contributions

Participants may make pre-tax or after-tax Roth contributions in amounts up to 75% of their eligible compensation (as defined by the Plan), subject to Internal Revenue Code ("IRC") limitations. The Company shall make Company Matching Contributions to the Plan equal to 100% of the participant's contributions up to 6% of the participant's eligible compensation. Participants who are at least age 50 may make an additional "catch-up" contribution subject to IRC limitations. Participants may also contribute funds from another qualified retirement plan ("rollover contributions"), subject to certain requirements.

Eligible employees with employment commencement dates on or after July 1, 2005 (or January 1, 2008 for eligible employees participating in the Random House Plan on December 31, 2009) will be automatically enrolled in the Plan 60 days after their eligibility date or on their automatic re-entry date if they have not affirmatively elected to participate or opt-out. Pre-tax automatic contributions of 3% of eligible compensation, as defined by the plan document, will begin with the first pay period occurring 60 days after the participant's eligibility date or on the first pay period following the automatic re-entry date. The participant may elect to cease or change the amount of these contributions at any time.

BERTELSMANN 401(k) SAVINGS PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, continued

Effective January 1, 2017, the Plan was amended to increase the automatic contribution rate from 3% to 6% for eligible employees whose employment commencement date (or re-employment date) under the Plan is on or after January 1, 2017. Effective January 1, 2009, the Plan was amended to provide for automatic increases of 1% each year in the automatic enrollment deferral rate up to a maximum of 6% for employees hired or rehired after January 1, 2005 (or January 1, 2008 for eligible employees participating in the Random House Plan on December 31, 2009).

Certain employees of Arvato Systems, FremantleMedia NA, Inc., FremantleMedia Latin America, Inc., RTL NY, Inc., and Bertelsmann, Inc., are also eligible for a special Company contribution in an amount equal to a percentage of their eligible earnings, based on their age and years of service. This contribution is a replacement benefit since these entities ceased active participation in another Company pension plan. These Company contributions amounted to \$741,789 for the year ended December 31, 2023.

Certain employees of participating Random House Companies are also eligible for a discretionary profit sharing contribution. To be eligible for profit sharing contributions employees must be employed with a company on the last day of the Plan year and have completed as least 1,000 hours of service during the Plan year. No profit sharing contribution was made for the year ended December 31, 2023.

Participant Accounts

Each participant's account is credited or charged with contributions, investment income, and administrative expenses. Investment income, including realized and unrealized gains and losses, and expenses are allocated to participants' accounts based on each participant's account balance within each fund. Participants determine the percentage in which contributions are to be invested in each fund. Participants may change their investment options as set forth in the plan document. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant's vested account.

Vesting

Participants are fully vested in that portion of their account which represents their contributions, safe harbor matching contributions, and the income earned thereon. Participants become 100% vested in the Company's contributions and earnings thereon upon death, total and permanent disability, or attainment of normal retirement age. Otherwise, eligible employees who receive special company contributions become fully vested in the special Company contributions upon completion of five years of vesting service prior to September 1, 2006. After September 1, 2006, the vesting schedule for Company contributions changed to three years of vested service for participants employed on or after such date.

Participants hired on or after January 1, 1998 and terminated prior to January 1, 2001 vest in their company matching contributions at a rate of 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % per each year resulting in 100% vesting after 3 years of credited service as defined by the Plan.

BERTELSMANN 401(k) SAVINGS PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, continued

Eligible employees who receive profit sharing contributions become fully vested in the Company's contributions based on years of continuous service, as follows:

<u>Years of Service</u>	<u>Vested Percentage</u>
Less than 1 year	0%
1	33%
2	67%
3	100%

Forfeitures

When certain terminations of participation in the Plan occur, the nonvested portion of a participant's account represents a forfeiture, as defined by the Plan. If a forfeiting participant is re-employed and fulfills certain requirements, as set forth in the Plan, the participant's account will be restored. Forfeitures are used to reduce future employer contributions or pay administrative expenses of the Plan. During 2023 \$545,361 of forfeitures were used to pay expenses and \$92,806 of forfeitures were used to reduce employer contributions. Total unapplied forfeitures were \$263,477 and \$761,134 at December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

Unallocated Account

The Plan holds assets in a revenue credit account which receives deposits as a result of a revenue sharing agreement with Fidelity Management Trust Company. During 2023, there were no deposits to the account. Funds in the account are used to pay qualified plan expenses. During 2023, no funds were used to pay plan expenses.

Notes Receivable from Participants

Participants may borrow from their fund accounts a minimum of \$1,000 up to a maximum equal to the lesser of \$50,000 or 50 percent of their vested account balance. The loans are secured by the balance in the participant's account. Loans must bear a rate of interest of prime plus 1%. All loans must be repaid within five years unless the proceeds are used to acquire a principal residence, in which case a longer repayment period is allowed. No more than one loan may be outstanding at any time. Principal and interest is generally paid ratably through payroll deductions each pay period.

Distribution of Benefits

Benefits may be distributed to participants upon termination of employment by reason of retirement, disability, death or other separation from service. Distributions under the Plan may be made in lump sums, partial withdrawals, or installment payments.

A participant may also request a withdrawal upon attainment of age 59½ or upon demonstration by the participant to the plan administrator that the participant is suffering from "hardship", as defined in the plan document. Participants also have the option to withdraw rollover contributions or after-tax Roth contributions from the Plan at any time.

BERTELSMANN 401(k) SAVINGS PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, continued

B. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES:

Basis of Accounting

The accompanying financial statements of the Plan are prepared on the accrual basis of accounting.

Use of Estimates

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

Investment Valuation and Income Recognition

Investments are reported at fair value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants on the measurement date. See Note C for discussion of fair value measurements.

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

Notes Receivable from Participants

Notes receivable from participants are measured at their unpaid principal balance plus any accrued but unpaid interest. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. No allowance for credit losses has been recorded as of December 31, 2023 or 2022. Delinquent participant loans are reclassified as distributions based upon the terms of the plan document.

Payment of Benefits

Benefits are recorded when paid.

Plan Expenses

Participant transactions and annual administrative fees incurred by the Plan are paid by the participants. Investment related expenses are included in net appreciation in fair value of investments. Any remaining fees not paid from plan assets are paid by the Company. Expenses that are paid by the Company are excluded from these financial statements.

BERTELSMANN 401(k) SAVINGS PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, continued

C. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS:

The framework for measuring fair value provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (level 1) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (level 3). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy under FASB ASC 820 are described as follows:

Level 1 - Inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that the Plan has the ability to access.

Level 2 - Inputs to the valuation methodology include quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets; quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets; inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability; inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means. If the asset or liability has a specified (contractual) term, the level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.

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

The asset or liability's fair value measurement level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement.

Following is a description of the valuation methodologies used by the Plan. There have been no changes in the methodologies used at December 31, 2023 and 2022.

Common and preferred stocks – Valued at the closing price reported on the active market on which the individual securities are traded.

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

Common collective trusts – Valued at the net asset value of units of a collective trust. The net asset value, as provided by the fund manager, is used as a practical expedient to estimate fair value. The net asset value is based on the fair value of the underlying investments held by the fund less its liabilities. This practical expedient would not be used if it is determined to be probable that the fund will sell the investment for an amount different from the reported net asset value.

BERTELSMANN 401(k) SAVINGS PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, continued

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

	2023			
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Level 2</u>	<u>Level 3</u>
Mutual funds	\$ 886,990,055	\$ 886,990,055	\$ -	\$ -
Preferred stock	818,372	818,372	-	-
Common stock	<u>160,224,386</u>	<u>160,224,386</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total investments in the fair value hierarchy	1,048,032,813	<u>\$ 1,048,032,813</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Investments measured at net asset value(1):				
Common collective trusts	<u>703,644,440</u>			
Investments at fair value	<u>\$ 1,751,677,253</u>			

	2022			
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Level 2</u>	<u>Level 3</u>
Mutual funds	\$ 831,799,512	\$ 831,799,512	\$ -	\$ -
Preferred stock	637,968	637,968	-	-
Common stock	<u>91,627,563</u>	<u>91,627,563</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total investments in the fair value hierarchy	924,065,043	<u>\$ 924,065,043</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Investments measured at net asset value(1):				
Common collective trusts	<u>594,669,322</u>			
Investments at fair value	<u>\$ 1,518,734,365</u>			

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

Redemptions of the common collective trusts held by the Plan are allowed daily for participants; however, the Plan is subject to a twelve month redemption notice period for the stable value fund, a 5 day notice period for the Prudential Core Bond Plus fund, and a 60 day notice period for all other common collective trusts. There are no unfunded commitments.

BERTELSMANN 401(k) SAVINGS PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, continued

D. CERTIFIED INVESTMENTS:

Certain information related to investments and notes receivable from participants disclosed in the accompanying financial statements and ERISA-required supplemental schedule, including investments and notes receivable from participants held at December 31, 2023 and 2022, and net appreciation (depreciation) in fair value of investments and interest and dividends for the year ended December 31, 2023, was obtained by management and agreed to or derived from information certified as complete and accurate by Fidelity Management Trust Company, the trustee of the Plan.

E. PARTIES-IN-INTEREST:

Section 3(14) of ERISA defines a party-in-interest to include, among others, fiduciaries or employees of the Plan, any person who provides services to the Plan or an employer whose employees are covered by the Plan. Accordingly, loans to participants and the management of investments held by the trustee are considered party-in-interest transactions.

F. TAX STATUS:

The Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") has determined and informed the Company by a letter dated August 5, 2014 that the Plan and related trust are designed in accordance with applicable sections of the IRC. Although the Plan has been amended since receiving the letter, the Plan administrator and the Plan's tax counsel believe that the Plan is designed and is currently being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC.

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

G. PLAN TERMINATION:

Although the Plan was established with the intention that it will continue indefinitely, the Company retains the right to discontinue its contributions at any time or to terminate the Plan, subject to the provisions of ERISA. In the event of plan termination, all participants will become 100% vested in their accounts.

H. RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES:

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

BERTELSMANN 401(k) SAVINGS PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, continued

I. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS:

The Company has evaluated subsequent events through October 4, 2024, the date these financial statements were available for issuance.

Effective January 1, 2024, Hay House, LLC became a participating employer eligible to participate in the Plan.

J. RECONCILIATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO FORM 5500:

The following is a reconciliation of net assets available for benefits on the financial statements to the Form 5500 as of December 31:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Net assets available for benefits on the financial statements	\$ 1,764,450,723	\$ 1,529,448,904
Participant contributions receivable not on the Form 5500	(528,743)	(297,623)
Employer contributions receivable not on the Form 5500	<u>(1,421,486)</u>	<u>(1,191,566)</u>
Net assets available for benefits on the Form 5500	<u>\$ 1,762,500,494</u>	<u>\$ 1,527,959,715</u>

The following is a reconciliation of contributions on the financial statements to the Form 5500 for the year ended December 31, 2023:

	<u>Participant contributions</u>	<u>Employer contributions</u>
Contributions on the financial statements	\$ 60,939,692	\$ 37,422,833
Contributions receivable not on the Form 5500 as of:		
December 31, 2022	297,623	1,191,566
December 31, 2023	<u>(528,743)</u>	<u>(1,421,486)</u>
Contributions on the Form 5500	<u>\$ 60,708,572</u>	<u>\$ 37,192,913</u>

BERTELSMANN 401(k) SAVINGS PLAN

EIN: 95-2949493

Plan Number: 004

SCHEDULE H, LINE 4(a) - SCHEDULE OF DELINQUENT PARTICIPANT CONTRIBUTIONS
for the year ended December 31, 2023

Total that Constitute Nonexempt Prohibited Transactions

Plan Year	Participant Contributions Transferred Late to Plan		Contributions Not Corrected	Contributions Corrected Outside VFCP	Contributions Pending Correction in VFCP	Total Fully Corrected Under VFCP and PTE 2002-51
2021	\$ 137,574 *	\$	-	\$ 137,574	\$ -	\$ -
2022	54,434 *		-	54,434	-	-
2023	87,812 *		87,812	-	-	-

* Indicates late participant loan repayments are included.

BERTELSMANN 401(k) SAVINGS PLAN

EIN: 95-2949493

Plan Number: 004

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

December 31, 2023

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
	Identity of issue, borrower, lessor or similar party	Description of Investment including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par or maturity value	Cost	Current Value
*	Fidelity Managed Income Portfolio II	Common collective trust	**	\$ 115,706,144
*	Fidelity Freedom Index Income Fund	"	**	2,598,652
*	Fidelity Freedom Index 2005 Fund	"	**	1,075,203
*	Fidelity Freedom Index 2010 Fund	"	**	3,240,476
*	Fidelity Freedom Index 2015 Fund	"	**	8,631,634
*	Fidelity Freedom Index 2020 Fund	"	**	34,326,471
*	Fidelity Freedom Index 2025 Fund	"	**	28,691,975
*	Fidelity Freedom Index 2030 Fund	"	**	46,699,622
*	Fidelity Freedom Index 2035 Fund	"	**	58,443,324
*	Fidelity Freedom Index 2040 Fund	"	**	70,312,948
*	Fidelity Freedom Index 2045 Fund	"	**	77,797,353
*	Fidelity Freedom Index 2050 Fund	"	**	95,554,673
*	Fidelity Freedom Index 2055 Fund	"	**	66,534,719
*	Fidelity Freedom Index 2060 Fund	"	**	28,358,028
*	Fidelity Freedom Index 2065 Fund	"	**	4,745,781
	Prudential Core Plus Bond Fund	"	**	60,927,437
	Adobe Inc	Common stock	**	3,067,632
	Advanced Micro Devices Inc	"	**	6,322,452
	Airbnb Inc Class A	"	**	959,429
	Alphabet Inc Cl C	"	**	4,511,912
	Alphabet Inc Cl A	"	**	4,529,849
	Amazon.Com Inc	"	**	12,440,869
	American Tower Corp	"	**	1,952,235
	Apple Inc	"	**	7,229,576
	ARM Holdings LTD	"	**	917,344
	Astrazeneca PLC Spons ADR	"	**	1,931,376
	Boeing Co	"	**	1,627,633
	Broadcom Inc	"	**	4,524,444
	Cadence Design Systems Inc	"	**	2,023,596
	Chipotle Mexican Grill Inc	"	**	979,409
	Costco Wholesale Corp	"	**	3,462,125
	CrowdStrike Holdings Inc	"	**	2,078,454
	Meta Platforms Inc Cl A	"	**	6,190,909
	Home Depot Inc	"	**	2,574,084
	Hubspot Inc	"	**	937,808
	Intuitive Surgical Inc	"	**	2,059,031
	Keysight Technologies Inc	"	**	816,846
	Eli Lilly & Co	"	**	5,471,144
	Lululemon Athletica Inc	"	**	2,858,304
	Marriott International Inc A	"	**	1,671,084
	Mastercard Inc Cl A	"	**	4,494,522
	Mercadolibre Inc	"	**	2,962,755
	Microsoft Corp	"	**	13,256,015
	Micron Technology Inc	"	**	862,679
	Mobileye Global Inc A	"	**	430,808
	Mongodb Inc Cl A	"	**	1,893,266
	Moodys Corp	"	**	1,176,938

BERTELSMANN 401(k) SAVINGS PLAN

EIN: 95-2949493

Plan Number: 004

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

December 31, 2023

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
	Identity of issue, borrower, lessor or similar party	Description of Investment including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par or maturity value	Cost	Current Value
	Netflix Inc	"	**	3,621,800
	Nike Inc Cl B	"	**	1,028,610
	Novo-Nordisk As Class B ADR	"	**	3,650,781
	Nvidia Corp	"	**	9,301,956
	O'Reily Automotive Inc	"	**	1,390,389
	Palo Alto Networks Inc	"	**	468,475
	Salesforce Inc	"	**	3,252,309
	Servicenow Inc	"	**	2,817,386
	Snowflake Inc Class A	"	**	2,117,020
	TJX Companies Inc New	"	**	1,623,497
	Tesla Inc	"	**	5,250,649
	Trade Desk Inc	"	**	1,015,252
	Uber Technologies Inc	"	**	2,986,313
	United Health Group Inc	"	**	2,751,642
	Vertex Pharmaceuticals Inc	"	**	2,168,617
	Visa Inc Class A	"	**	4,770,151
	ASML Holdin NV (NY REG SHS)	"	**	1,631,938
	L'Oreal SA ORD	"	**	1,739,730
	LVMH Moet-Hennessy Louis Vuitton SE	"	**	2,423,343
	DR Ing HC F Porsche AG PFD	Preferred stock	**	818,372
	Hartford Global Impact R6 Fund	Mutual fund	**	3,638,747
	Vanguard Total International Stock Fund	"	**	67,881,923
	Vanguard Extended Market Index Fund	"	**	129,859,734
	Vanguard Value Index Institutional Fund	"	**	87,184,155
	Vanguard Institutional Index Plus Fund	"	**	313,037,621
	Vanguard Total Bond Market Fund	"	**	82,305,808
	Vanguard Federal Money Market Fund	"	**	6
	American Funds American Balanced Fund	"	**	61,414,116
	PIMCO Inflation Response Multi-Asset Institutional Fund	"	**	4,324,924
	Deutsche Real Estate Fund	"	**	9,176,944
	Dreyfus Government Cash Management Institutional Fund	"	**	1,427,728
*	Fidelity Diversified International Fund	"	**	73,212,178
*	Fidelity Low Priced Stock Fund	"	**	53,526,171
	Total investments on the statement of net assets available for benefits			1,751,677,253
*	Participant loans	(4.25%-9.50%)	-	10,785,244
	Total investments on the Form 5500			\$ 1,762,462,497

** Cost omitted for participant directed investments.

* Denotes party-in-interest to the Plan.



BERTELSMANN 401(k) SAVINGS PLAN

EIN: 95-2949493

Plan Number: 004

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	Keysight Technologies Inc	"	**	816,846
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BERTELSMANN 401(k) SAVINGS PLAN

EIN: 95-2949493

Plan Number: 004

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

December 31, 2023

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** Cost omitted for participant directed investments.

* Denotes party-in-interest to the Plan.

BERTELSMANN 401(k) SAVINGS PLAN

EIN: 95-2949493

Plan Number: 004

SCHEDULE H, LINE 4(a) - SCHEDULE OF DELINQUENT PARTICIPANT CONTRIBUTIONS
for the year ended December 31, 2023

Total that Constitute Nonexempt Prohibited Transactions

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2021	\$ 137,574 *		\$ -	\$ 137,574	\$ -	\$ -
2022	54,434 *		-	54,434	-	-
2023	87,812 *		87,812	-	-	-

* Indicates late participant loan repayments are included.

Application for Extension of Time To File Certain Employee Plan Returns

Go to www.irs.gov/form5558 for the latest information.

OMB No. 1545-1610

File With IRS Only

Part I Identification

A Name of filer, plan administrator, or plan sponsor (see instructions) Bertelsmann, Inc.	B Employer identification number (EIN) 95-2949493
Number, street, and room or suite no. (If a P.O. box, see instructions) 1745 Broadway Corporate Benefits Dept, 20th Floor	
City or town, state, and ZIP code New York, NY 10019	
C Name of plan Bertelsmann 401(K) Savings Plan	D Three-digit plan number (PN) 004
E Plan year end date 12/31/2023	

Part II Extension of Time To File Form 5500 Series, and/or Form 8955-SSA

1 ☐ Check this box if you are requesting an extension of time on line 2 to file the first Form 5500 series return/report for the plan listed in Part I, item C, above.

2 I request an extension of time until 10 / 15 / 2024 to file Form 5500 series. See instructions.

3 I request an extension of time until 10 / 15 / 2024 to file Form 8955-SSA. See instructions.

The application is **automatically approved** to the date shown on line 2 and/or line 3 (above) if **(a)** the Form 5558 is filed on or before the normal due date of Form 5500 series, and/or Form 8955-SSA for which this extension is requested; and **(b)** the date on line 2 and/or line 3 (above) is not later than the 15th day of the 3rd month after the normal due date.