

**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

**2022**

**This Form is Open to Public Inspection**

**Part I Annual Report Identification Information**

For calendar plan year 2022 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2022 and ending 12/31/2022

- A** This return/report is for:
  - a multiemployer plan
  - a single-employer plan
  - a multiple-employer plan (Filers checking this box must attach a list of participating employer information in accordance with the form instructions.)
  - a DFE (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- B** This return/report is:
  - the first return/report
  - the final return/report
  - an amended return/report
  - a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months)
- C** If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here. . . . . ▶
- D** Check box if filing under:
  - Form 5558
  - automatic extension
  - the DFVC program
  - special extension (enter description)
- E** If this is a retroactively adopted plan permitted by SECURE Act section 201, check here. . . . . ▶

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

<b>1a</b> Name of plan <u>MERCEDES-BENZ U.S.A., LLC VOLUNTARY EMPLOYEES' BENEFICIARY ASSOCIATION PLAN</u>	<b>1b</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <u>505</u>
<b>2a</b> Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan) Mailing address (include room, apt., suite no. and street, or P.O. Box) City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code (if foreign, see instructions) <u>MERCEDES-BENZ USA, LLC</u>  <u>ONE MERCEDES BENZ DRIVE</u> <u>SANDY SPRINGS, GA 30328-4312</u>	<b>1c</b> Effective date of plan <u>01/01/1976</u>  <b>2b</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>22-2375138</u>  <b>2c</b> Plan Sponsor's telephone number <u>770-705-3200</u>  <b>2d</b> Business code (see instructions) <u>423100</u>

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

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

<b>SIGN HERE</b>	Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature.	04/07/2025	JAMES C. WHITLOW
	Signature of plan administrator	Date	Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator
<b>SIGN HERE</b>			
	Signature of employer/plan sponsor	Date	Enter name of individual signing as employer or plan sponsor
<b>SIGN HERE</b>			
	Signature of DFE	Date	Enter name of individual signing as DFE

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

Form 5500 (2022)  
v. 220413

<b>3a</b> Plan administrator's name and address <input type="checkbox"/> Same as Plan Sponsor  MERCEDES-BENZ USA, LLC FIDUCIARY BENEFITS COMMITTEE  1 MERCEDES BENZ DRIVE SANDY SPRINGS, GA 30328-4312	<b>3b</b> Administrator's EIN 84-3293910  <b>3c</b> Administrator's telephone number 770-705-2134
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<b>4</b> If the name and/or EIN of the plan sponsor or the plan name has changed since the last return/report filed for this plan, enter the plan sponsor's name, EIN, the plan name and the plan number from the last return/report: <b>a</b> Sponsor's name <b>c</b> Plan Name	<b>4b</b> EIN  <b>4d</b> PN
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<b>5</b> Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year	<b>5</b>	3206
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<b>6</b> Number of participants as of the end of the plan year unless otherwise stated (welfare plans complete only lines <b>6a(1)</b> , <b>6a(2)</b> , <b>6b</b> , <b>6c</b> , and <b>6d</b> ).		
<b>6a(1)</b> Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year .....	<b>6a(1)</b>	3050
<b>6a(2)</b> Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year .....	<b>6a(2)</b>	0
<b>b</b> Retired or separated participants receiving benefits .....	<b>6b</b>	0
<b>c</b> Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits.....	<b>6c</b>	0
<b>d</b> Subtotal. Add lines <b>6a(2)</b> , <b>6b</b> , and <b>6c</b> .....	<b>6d</b>	0
<b>e</b> Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits. ....	<b>6e</b>	
<b>f</b> Total. Add lines <b>6d</b> and <b>6e</b> .....	<b>6f</b>	
<b>g</b> Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item).....	<b>6g</b>	
<b>h</b> Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested.....	<b>6h</b>	

<b>7</b> Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item) .....	<b>7</b>	
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**8a** If the plan provides pension benefits, enter the applicable pension feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:

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

<b>9a</b> Plan funding arrangement (check all that apply) (1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Insurance (2) <input type="checkbox"/> Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts (3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trust (4) <input type="checkbox"/> General assets of the sponsor	<b>9b</b> Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply) (1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Insurance (2) <input type="checkbox"/> Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts (3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trust (4) <input type="checkbox"/> General assets of the sponsor
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**10** Check all applicable boxes in 10a and 10b to indicate which schedules are attached, and, where indicated, enter the number attached. (See instructions)

<b>a Pension Schedules</b> (1) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>R</b> (Retirement Plan Information)  (2) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>MB</b> (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary  (3) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>SB</b> (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary	<b>b General Schedules</b> (1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>H</b> (Financial Information) (2) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>I</b> (Financial Information – Small Plan) (3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> <b>A</b> (Insurance Information) (4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>C</b> (Service Provider Information) (5) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>D</b> (DFE/Participating Plan Information) (6) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>G</b> (Financial Transaction Schedules)
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**Part III Form M-1 Compliance Information (to be completed by welfare benefit plans)**

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

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

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

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**11c** Enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the 2022 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2022 Form M-1 annual report, enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the most recent Form M-1 that was required to be filed under the Form M-1 filing requirements. (Failure to enter a valid Receipt Confirmation Code will subject the Form 5500 filing to rejection as incomplete.)

Receipt Confirmation Code \_\_\_\_\_

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<p><b>SCHEDULE A</b> <b>(Form 5500)</b></p> <p>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</p> <hr/> <p>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</p> <hr/> <p>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</p>	<p><b>Insurance Information</b></p> <p>This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).</p> <p>▶ <b>File as an attachment to Form 5500.</b></p> <p>▶ Insurance companies are required to provide the information pursuant to ERISA section 103(a)(2).</p>	<p>OMB No. 1210-0110</p> <hr/> <p><b>2022</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection</b></p>
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For calendar plan year 2022 or fiscal plan year beginning **01/01/2022** and ending **12/31/2022**

<p><b>A</b> Name of plan <b>MERCEDES-BENZ U.S.A., LLC VOLUNTARY EMPLOYEES' BENEFICIARY ASSOCIATION PLAN</b></p>	<p><b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶</p>	<p><b>505</b></p>
<p><b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <b>MERCEDES-BENZ USA, LLC</b></p>	<p><b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <b>22-2375138</b></p>	

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

**1 Coverage Information:**

**(a)** Name of insurance carrier  
**RELIASTAR LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY**

(b) EIN	(c) NAIC code	(d) Contract or identification number	(e) Approximate number of persons covered at end of policy or contract year	Policy or contract year	
				(f) From	(g) To
41-0451140	67105	EXRK	3292	01/01/2022	12/31/2022

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

<b>(a)</b> Total amount of commissions paid	<b>(b)</b> Total amount of fees paid
<b>262478</b>	<b>11667</b>

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

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

**MERCER HEALTH & BENEFITS LLC** **4565 PAYSHERE CIRCLE**  
**CHICAGO, IL 60674**

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
131239	11667	SERVICE FEE	3

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

**MERCER HEALTH & BENEFITS, LLC** **PO BOX 850502**  
**MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55485**

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
131239			3

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Part II Investment and Annuity Contract Information**  
 Where individual contracts are provided, the entire group of such individual contracts with each carrier may be treated as a unit for purposes of this report.

<b>4</b> Current value of plan's interest under this contract in the general account at year end.....	<b>4</b>	
<b>5</b> Current value of plan's interest under this contract in separate accounts at year end.....	<b>5</b>	

**6** Contracts With Allocated Funds:

**a** State the basis of premium rates ▶

<b>b</b> Premiums paid to carrier .....	<b>6b</b>	
<b>c</b> Premiums due but unpaid at the end of the year .....	<b>6c</b>	
<b>d</b> If the carrier, service, or other organization incurred any specific costs in connection with the acquisition or retention of the contract or policy, enter amount..... Specify nature of costs ▶	<b>6d</b>	

**e** Type of contract: (1)  individual policies (2)  group deferred annuity  
 (3)  other (specify) ▶

**f** If contract purchased, in whole or in part, to distribute benefits from a terminating plan, check here ▶

**7** Contracts With Unallocated Funds (Do not include portions of these contracts maintained in separate accounts)

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

**b** Balance at the end of the previous year ..... **7b** 0

<b>c</b> Additions: (1) Contributions deposited during the year .....	<b>7c(1)</b>		
(2) Dividends and credits.....	<b>7c(2)</b>		
(3) Interest credited during the year.....	<b>7c(3)</b>		
(4) Transferred from separate account.....	<b>7c(4)</b>		
(5) Other (specify below) .....	<b>7c(5)</b>		

(6) Total additions..... **7c(6)** 0

**d** Total of balance and additions (add lines **7b** and **7c(6)**)..... **7d** 0

**e** Deductions:

(1) Disbursed from fund to pay benefits or purchase annuities during year	<b>7e(1)</b>		
(2) Administration charge made by carrier.....	<b>7e(2)</b>		
(3) Transferred to separate account.....	<b>7e(3)</b>		
(4) Other (specify below) .....	<b>7e(4)</b>		

(5) Total deductions..... **7e(5)** 0

**f** Balance at the end of the current year (subtract line **7e(5)** from line **7d**)..... **7f** 0

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

- 8** Benefit and contract type (check all applicable boxes)
- |  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| <b>a</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Health (other than dental or vision)         | <b>b</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Dental               | <b>c</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Vision                    | <b>d</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Life insurance     |
| <b>e</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary disability (accident and sickness) | <b>f</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Long-term disability | <b>g</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Supplemental unemployment | <b>h</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Prescription drug  |
| <b>i</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stop loss (large deductible)      | <b>j</b> <input type="checkbox"/> HMO contract         | <b>k</b> <input type="checkbox"/> PPO contract              | <b>l</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Indemnity contract |
| <b>m</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) ▶                            |  |   |  |

**9** Experience-rated contracts:

<b>a</b> Premiums: (1) Amount received .....	<b>9a(1)</b>		
(2) Increase (decrease) in amount due but unpaid .....	<b>9a(2)</b>		
(3) Increase (decrease) in unearned premium reserve.....	<b>9a(3)</b>		
(4) Earned ((1) + (2) - (3)).....		<b>9a(4)</b>	0
<b>b</b> Benefit charges (1) Claims paid.....	<b>9b(1)</b>		
(2) Increase (decrease) in claim reserves .....	<b>9b(2)</b>		
(3) Incurred claims (add (1) and (2)).....		<b>9b(3)</b>	0
(4) Claims charged .....		<b>9b(4)</b>	
<b>c</b> Remainder of premium: (1) Retention charges (on an accrual basis) --			
(A) Commissions .....	<b>9c(1)(A)</b>		
(B) Administrative service or other fees .....	<b>9c(1)(B)</b>		
(C) Other specific acquisition costs.....	<b>9c(1)(C)</b>		
(D) Other expenses .....	<b>9c(1)(D)</b>		
(E) Taxes .....	<b>9c(1)(E)</b>		
(F) Charges for risks or other contingencies .....	<b>9c(1)(F)</b>		
(G) Other retention charges.....	<b>9c(1)(G)</b>		
(H) Total retention.....		<b>9c(1)(H)</b>	0
(2) Dividends or retroactive rate refunds. (These amounts were <input type="checkbox"/> paid in cash, or <input type="checkbox"/> credited.).....		<b>9c(2)</b>	
<b>d</b> Status of policyholder reserves at end of year: (1) Amount held to provide benefits after retirement.....		<b>9d(1)</b>	
(2) Claim reserves .....		<b>9d(2)</b>	
(3) Other reserves .....		<b>9d(3)</b>	
<b>e</b> Dividends or retroactive rate refunds due. (Do not include amount entered in line 9c(2).).....		<b>9e</b>	
<b>10</b> Nonexperience-rated contracts:			
<b>a</b> Total premiums or subscription charges paid to carrier .....	<b>10a</b>		1458340
<b>b</b> If the carrier, service, or other organization incurred any specific costs in connection with the acquisition or retention of the contract or policy, other than reported in Part I, line 2 above, report amount .....	<b>10b</b>		
Specify nature of costs.			

**Part IV Provision of Information**

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

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

<b>SCHEDULE C</b> <b>(Form 5500)</b>  <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small>  <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small>  <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	<b>Service Provider Information</b>  This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).  <b>▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.</b>	<small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small>  <b>2022</b>  <b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection.</b>
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For calendar plan year 2022 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2022 and ending 12/31/2022

<b>A</b> Name of plan <u>MERCEDES-BENZ U.S.A., LLC VOLUNTARY EMPLOYEES' BENEFICIARY ASSOCIATION PLAN</u>	<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<u>505</u>
<b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>MERCEDES-BENZ USA, LLC</u>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>22-2375138</u>	

**Part I Service Provider Information (see instructions)**

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

**1 Information on Persons Receiving Only Eligible Indirect Compensation**

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

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

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**(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)

BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD OF GA

58-0469845

(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?
12 13 15 49 62	NONE	2168068	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	103820	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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

EXPRESS SCRIPTS, INC.

22-3461740

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
13	NONE	206226	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

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

DELTA DENTAL INSURANCE COMPANY

94-2761537

(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?
12	NONE	153504	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

**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.

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

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

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

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<b>(a)</b> Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	<b>(b)</b> Nature of Service Code(s)	<b>(c)</b> 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)

<b>a</b> Name:	<b>b</b> EIN:
<b>c</b> Position:	
<b>d</b> Address:	<b>e</b> Telephone:

Explanation:

<b>a</b> Name:	<b>b</b> EIN:
<b>c</b> Position:	
<b>d</b> Address:	<b>e</b> Telephone:

Explanation:

<b>a</b> Name:	<b>b</b> EIN:
<b>c</b> Position:	
<b>d</b> Address:	<b>e</b> Telephone:

Explanation:

<b>a</b> Name:	<b>b</b> EIN:
<b>c</b> Position:	
<b>d</b> Address:	<b>e</b> Telephone:

Explanation:

<b>a</b> Name:	<b>b</b> EIN:
<b>c</b> Position:	
<b>d</b> Address:	<b>e</b> Telephone:

Explanation:



**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

**c** EIN-PN

**d** Entity code

**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)

**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

**c** EIN-PN

**d** Entity code

**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)

**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

**c** EIN-PN

**d** Entity code

**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)

**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

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**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

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**d** Entity code

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**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)

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**c** EIN-PN

**d** Entity code

**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)

**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

**c** EIN-PN

**d** Entity code

**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)



<b>SCHEDULE H</b> <b>(Form 5500)</b>  <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small>  <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small>  <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	<b>Financial Information</b>  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).  <b>► File as an attachment to Form 5500.</b>	<small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small>  <b>2022</b>  <b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection</b>
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For calendar plan year 2022 or fiscal plan year beginning **01/01/2022** and ending **12/31/2022**

<b>A</b> Name of plan <b>MERCEDES-BENZ U.S.A., LLC VOLUNTARY EMPLOYEES' BENEFICIARY ASSOCIATION PLAN</b>	<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN)	<b>505</b>
<b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <b>MERCEDES-BENZ USA, LLC</b>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <b>22-2375138</b>	

**Part I Asset and Liability Statement**

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

Assets		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
<b>a</b> Total noninterest-bearing cash.....	<b>1a</b>	512140	0
<b>b</b> Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
<b>(1)</b> Employer contributions.....	<b>1b(1)</b>		
<b>(2)</b> Participant contributions.....	<b>1b(2)</b>		
<b>(3)</b> Other.....	<b>1b(3)</b>	2145	0
<b>c</b> General investments:			
<b>(1)</b> Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit).....	<b>1c(1)</b>		
<b>(2)</b> U.S. Government securities.....	<b>1c(2)</b>		
<b>(3)</b> Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
<b>(A)</b> Preferred.....	<b>1c(3)(A)</b>		
<b>(B)</b> All other.....	<b>1c(3)(B)</b>		
<b>(4)</b> Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
<b>(A)</b> Preferred.....	<b>1c(4)(A)</b>		
<b>(B)</b> Common.....	<b>1c(4)(B)</b>		
<b>(5)</b> Partnership/joint venture interests.....	<b>1c(5)</b>		
<b>(6)</b> Real estate (other than employer real property).....	<b>1c(6)</b>		
<b>(7)</b> Loans (other than to participants).....	<b>1c(7)</b>		
<b>(8)</b> Participant loans.....	<b>1c(8)</b>		
<b>(9)</b> Value of interest in common/collective trusts.....	<b>1c(9)</b>		
<b>(10)</b> Value of interest in pooled separate accounts.....	<b>1c(10)</b>		
<b>(11)</b> Value of interest in master trust investment accounts.....	<b>1c(11)</b>	32947378	0
<b>(12)</b> Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities.....	<b>1c(12)</b>		
<b>(13)</b> Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds).....	<b>1c(13)</b>		
<b>(14)</b> Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts).....	<b>1c(14)</b>		
<b>(15)</b> Other.....	<b>1c(15)</b>		

1d Employer-related investments:		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
(1) Employer securities.....	1d(1)		
(2) Employer real property.....	1d(2)		
e Buildings and other property used in plan operation.....	1e		
f Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e).....	1f	33461663	0
<b>Liabilities</b>			
g Benefit claims payable.....	1g		
h Operating payables.....	1h		
i Acquisition indebtedness.....	1i		
j Other liabilities.....	1j		
k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j).....	1k	0	0
<b>Net Assets</b>			
l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f).....	1l	33461663	0

**Part II Income and Expense Statement**

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

<b>Income</b>		(a) Amount	(b) Total
<b>a Contributions:</b>			
(1) Received or receivable in cash from: (A) Employers.....	2a(1)(A)	8862961	
(B) Participants.....	2a(1)(B)	5925890	
(C) Others (including rollovers).....	2a(1)(C)		
(2) Noncash contributions.....	2a(2)		
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A), (B), (C), and line 2a(2).....	2a(3)		14788851
<b>b Earnings on investments:</b>			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit).....	2b(1)(A)		
(B) U.S. Government securities.....	2b(1)(B)		
(C) Corporate debt instruments.....	2b(1)(C)		
(D) Loans (other than to participants).....	2b(1)(D)		
(E) Participant loans.....	2b(1)(E)		
(F) Other.....	2b(1)(F)		
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F).....	2b(1)(G)		0
(2) Dividends:			
(A) Preferred stock.....	2b(2)(A)		
(B) Common stock.....	2b(2)(B)		
(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds).....	2b(2)(C)		
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A), (B), and (C).....	2b(2)(D)		0
(3) Rents.....	2b(3)		
(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets:			
(A) Aggregate proceeds.....	2b(4)(A)		
(B) Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions).....	2b(4)(B)		
(C) Subtract line 2b(4)(B) from line 2b(4)(A) and enter result.....	2b(4)(C)		
(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets:			
(A) Real estate.....	2b(5)(A)		
(B) Other.....	2b(5)(B)		
(C) Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines 2b(5)(A) and (B).....	2b(5)(C)		

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts .....	2b(6)		
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts .....	2b(7)		
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts .....	2b(8)		88520
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities.....	2b(9)		
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds) .....	2b(10)		
<b>c</b> Other income .....	2c		
<b>d</b> Total income. Add all <b>income</b> amounts in column (b) and enter total .....	2d		14877371
<b>Expenses</b>			
<b>e</b> Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers .....	2e(1)		
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits .....	2e(2)	45712602	
(3) Other .....	2e(3)		
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines 2e(1) through (3).....	2e(4)		45712602
<b>f</b> Corrective distributions (see instructions).....	2f		
<b>g</b> Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions) .....	2g		
<b>h</b> Interest expense.....	2h		
<b>i</b> Administrative expenses: (1) Professional fees .....	2i(1)		
(2) Contract administrator fees.....	2i(2)	2626432	
(3) Investment advisory and management fees .....	2i(3)		
(4) Other .....	2i(4)		
(5) Total administrative expenses. Add lines 2i(1) through (4).....	2i(5)		2626432
<b>j</b> Total expenses. Add all <b>expense</b> amounts in column (b) and enter total .....	2j		48339034
<b>Net Income and Reconciliation</b>			
<b>k</b> Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d.....	2k		-33461663
<b>l</b> Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan .....	2l(1)		
(2) From this plan.....	2l(2)		

**Part III Accountant's Opinion**

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

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

- (1)  Unmodified (2)  Qualified (3)  Disclaimer (4)  Adverse

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

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

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

(1) Name: WARREN AVERETT CPAS & ADVISORS

(2) EIN: 45-4084397

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

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

**Part IV Compliance Questions**

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

During the plan year:

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

	Yes	No	Amount
4a		X	

	Yes	No	Amount
<b>b</b> Were any loans by the plan or fixed income obligations due the plan in default as of the close of the plan year or classified during the year as uncollectible? Disregard participant loans secured by participant's account balance. (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part I if "Yes" is checked.).....	4b	X	
<b>c</b> Were any leases to which the plan was a party in default or classified during the year as uncollectible? (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part II if "Yes" is checked.) .....	4c	X	
<b>d</b> Were there any nonexempt transactions with any party-in-interest? (Do not include transactions reported on line 4a. Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part III if "Yes" is checked.).....	4d	X	
<b>e</b> Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?.....	4e	X	10000000
<b>f</b> Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty? .....	4f	X	
<b>g</b> Did the plan hold any assets whose current value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?.....	4g	X	
<b>h</b> Did the plan receive any noncash contributions whose value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?.....	4h	X	
<b>i</b> Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.).....	4i	X	
<b>j</b> Were any plan transactions or series of transactions in excess of 5% of the current value of plan assets? (Attach schedule of transactions if "Yes" is checked and see instructions for format requirements.).....	4j	X	
<b>k</b> Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?.....	4k	X	
<b>l</b> Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?.....	4l	X	
<b>m</b> If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.).....	4m	X	
<b>n</b> If 4m was answered "Yes," check the "Yes" box if you either provided the required notice or one of the exceptions to providing the notice applied under 29 CFR 2520.101-3.....	4n		

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

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

5b(1) Name of plan(s)	5b(2) EIN(s)	5b(3) PN(s)

**5c** Was the plan a defined benefit plan covered under the PBGC insurance program at any time during this plan year? (See ERISA section 4021 and instructions.) .....  Yes  No  Not determined  
 If "Yes" is checked, enter the My PAA confirmation number from the PBGC premium filing for this plan year \_\_\_\_\_.

**MERCEDES-BENZ USA, LLC  
VOLUNTARY EMPLOYEES' BENEFICIARY ASSOCIATION PLAN**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021 AND  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 2022**



[www.warrenaverett.com](http://www.warrenaverett.com)

The report accompanying this deliverable was issued by Warren Averett, LLC.

**MERCEDES-BENZ USA, LLC  
VOLUNTARY EMPLOYEES' BENEFICIARY ASSOCIATION PLAN  
TABLE OF CONTENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021**

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC  
Fiduciary Benefits Committee

### **Opinion**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Mercedes-Benz U.S.A., LLC Voluntary Employees' Beneficiary Association Plan (the Plan), an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), which comprise the statements of net assets available for benefits and the statements of plan benefit obligations as of December 31, 2022 and 2021, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits and statement of changes in plan benefit obligations for the year ended December 31, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits of the Plan and plan obligations as of December 31, 2022 and 2021, and the changes in its net assets available for benefits and changes in plan benefit obligations for the year ended December 31, 2022, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

### **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audits 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 audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### **Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

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

### **Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audits of the Financial Statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance; and therefore, is not a guarantee that audits conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users made on the basis of these financial statements.

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

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audits.
- 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 audits 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.

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

*Warren Averett, LLC*

Atlanta, Georgia  
October 6, 2023

**MERCEDES-BENZ USA, LLC  
VOLUNTARY EMPLOYEES' BENEFICIARY ASSOCIATION PLAN  
STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS  
AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021**

---

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>INVESTMENTS AT FAIR VALUE</b>		
Interest in Master Trust (Note 3)	\$ -	\$ 32,947,378
Income receivable	-	2,145
Cash	-	512,140
<b>NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 33,461,663</b>

See notes to the financial statements.

**MERCEDES-BENZ USA, LLC  
VOLUNTARY EMPLOYEES' BENEFICIARY ASSOCIATION PLAN  
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021**

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**ADDITIONS**

Net gain from Master Trust (Note 3)	\$ 88,520
Sponsor contributions	8,862,961
Participants contributions	5,925,890

<b>TOTAL ADDITIONS</b>	<b>14,877,371</b>
------------------------	-------------------

**DEDUCTIONS**

Claims paid	44,350,404
Premium Paid	1,289,053
Claims paid – disability	73,145
Administrative expenses, including claims processing	2,626,432

<b>TOTAL DEDUCTIONS</b>	<b>48,339,034</b>
-------------------------	-------------------

<b>NET DECREASE</b>	<b>(33,461,663)</b>
---------------------	---------------------

**AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS AT:**

<b>BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	<b>33,461,663</b>
--------------------------	-------------------

<b>END OF YEAR</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
--------------------	-------------

See notes to the financial statements.

**MERCEDES-BENZ USA, LLC  
VOLUNTARY EMPLOYEES' BENEFICIARY ASSOCIATION PLAN  
STATEMENTS OF PLAN BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS  
AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>PLAN BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS</b>		
Amounts currently payable		
Claims incurred but not reported and claims payable	\$ 3,369,503	\$ 3,324,637
Postemployment benefit obligations:		
Long-term disability benefits	-	2,894,349
<b>TOTAL PLAN BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS</b>	<b>\$ 3,369,503</b>	<b>\$ 6,218,986</b>

See notes to the financial statements.

**MERCEDES-BENZ USA, LLC  
VOLUNTARY EMPLOYEES' BENEFICIARY ASSOCIATION PLAN  
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN PLAN BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022**

---

**NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN PLAN BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS**

Change in current benefit obligations:	
Claims and premiums incurred	\$ 45,757,468
Claims and insurance premiums paid	<u>(45,712,602)</u>
Net change in current benefit obligations	<u>44,866</u>
Change in postemployment benefit obligations:	
Interest	26,000
Benefits paid	(253,368)
Assumption changes	(226,536)
Additional reserve for newly disabled	522,934
Actuarial gain	(33,553)
Buyout transaction	<u>(2,929,826)</u>
Net decrease in postemployment benefit obligations	<u>(2,894,349)</u>
<b>DECREASE IN POSTRETIREMENT BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS</b>	<b>(2,849,483)</b>
<b>NET DECREASE IN PLAN BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS AT:</b>	
<b>BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	<u>6,218,986</u>
<b>END OF YEAR</b>	<u><u>\$ 3,369,503</u></u>

See notes to the financial statements.

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## **1. GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PLAN**

The following brief description of the Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC Voluntary Employees' Beneficiary Association Plan (the Plan) is provided for general information purposes only. Participants should refer to the Plan document for more complete information. The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as amended.

### **General**

The Plan provides medical, dental and long-term disability benefits for active employees and covered dependents. Effective January 1, 2020, the Company amended the Plan to spin off the retiree medical benefits into a separate stand-alone plan. As such, effective January 1, 2020, the Plan only covered active employees. Effective with the transfer, the Plan and the retiree plan were both funded through a master trust (Master Trust), whereby the Plan has a ratable interest in the Master Trust (Note 3). The major portion of the cost is borne by the Plan sponsor (Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC, (MBUSA)).

Each participating employee of MBUSA and its subsidiary and affiliated companies (collectively the Company) for MBUSA (excluding Mercedes-Benz Manhattan (MBM) employees) contributes by way of withholding from their salaries on a monthly basis based upon the options elected by the eligible participant.

In 2022, the Company elected to liquidate the Master Trust and fund all future benefits through the general assets of the Company. The basis for funding of the Plan changed; however, the Plan is still active. As such, the Plan has no interest in the Master Trust or assets as of December 31, 2022.

The Company expects, and has the ability, to make contributions which are sufficient to meet the current and future costs of the Plan as determined by utilizing appropriate experience rates.

### **Contributions**

Contributions, together with the earnings on the investments, were held in a trust fund and were used to provide benefits to the covered employee and their dependents. Subsequent to the liquidation of the trust, all benefits are paid from the general assets of the Company and no longer funded through a trust.

### **Plan Termination**

The Plan is administered by the Company's Fiduciary Committee, which has been appointed by the Board of Directors of the Company. The Company anticipates and believes that the Plan will continue without interruption, but reserves the right to discontinue or amend the Plan and revise the amount of the Company contributions and eligible participants at any time and to terminate the Plan subject to the provisions set forth in ERISA. If terminated, the remaining assets of the Plan on the date of such termination shall be exhausted to pay benefits in the order of settlement.

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## **2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

### **Basis of Accounting**

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

### **Use of Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (GAAP) requires the Company to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of benefit obligations, assets, liabilities, and changes therein, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities, and the actuarial present value of accumulated benefits at the date of the financial statements. Actual results could differ materially from those estimates.

### **Investment Valuation and Income Recognition**

As stated in Note 1, the Plan has a ratable interest in the Master Trust as of December 31, 2021 and a portion of 2022. Investments in the Master Trust and the Plan are stated at fair value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Investment income is generally reinvested by the trustee on a daily basis.

### **Expenses of the Plan**

All expenses incurred in the administration of the Plan and the Master Trust fund related to claims processing and legal fees are paid by the Plan and reflected in the financial statements. All other expenses are paid by the Company.

### **Payment of Benefits**

Benefit payments to or on behalf of participants are recorded upon payment of claims or payment of premiums.

### **Risks and Uncertainties**

The Plan and Master Trust may invest in various types of investment securities. Investment securities are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, market and credit risks. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities and the current world economy, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect the amounts reported in the December 31, 2022 and 2021 statements of plan benefit obligations and net assets available for benefits.

The postemployment benefit obligations are reported based on certain assumptions pertaining to interest rates; health care inflation rates and employee demographics, all of which are subject to change. Due to uncertainties inherent in the estimations and assumptions process, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in these estimates and assumptions in the near-term would be material to the financial statements.

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**2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – CONTINUED**

**Uninsured Cash Balances**

Certain investments and cash accounts of the trustee as of December 31, 2021 were insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation for amounts up to \$250,000. Management monitored its credit risk and had not experienced any credit losses related to its investments.

**3. INTEREST IN MASTER TRUST**

Plan's investments are in the Master Trust, which was established for the investment of assets of the Plan and another Company-sponsored welfare plan. Each participating plan had an undivided interest in the Master Trust. The assets of the Master Trust were held by JP Morgan Chase Bank, NA, an institutional trustee, (the Trustee) as of December 31, 2021. As of December 31, 2021, the Plan's percentage of interest in the Master Trust was 84%. Investment income relating to the Master Trust was allocated to the individual plans based upon their ratable interest in the Master Trust. The following table summarizes the net assets of the Plan and Master Trust as of December 31, 2021:

	<b>Master Trust 2021</b>	<b>Plan's Interest in Master Trust 2021</b>
<b>Investments at fair value:</b>		
Money Market Fund	\$ 39,037,283	\$ 32,947,378

The net investment income for the Master Trust for the year ended December 31, 2022 included interest income of \$100,249.

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**4. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS**

Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) Topic 820, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures*, establishes a framework for measuring fair value. That framework provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurements). The hierarchy consists of three broad levels, 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; and inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means. If the asset or liability has a specified (contractual) term, the Level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.
- Level 3 – Inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement.

The Master Trust and Plan investment valuation methodology as of December 31, 2021 is as follows:

*Money Market Fund:* Valued by net asset value (NAV) based upon the underlying investments of the fund as determined by the custodian. The fund transacts on a daily basis.

In accordance with authoritative guidance, the table below represents the Plan's fair value hierarchy for its financial assets measured at fair value, by class of asset, on a recurring basis as of December 31, 2021.

	<b>Master Trust 2021</b>	<b>Plan's Interest 2021</b>
<b>Investments at Fair Value</b>		
Investments measured at NAV*		
(Money market fund)	\$ 39,037,283	84%*

In accordance with FASB ASC Subtopic 820-10, certain investments that were measured at NAV per unit (or its equivalent) have not been classified in their 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.

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## **5. TAX STATUS OF THE PLAN**

The Voluntary Employees Benefit Association (VEBA) was established for the purpose of holding the Plan's (Master Trust) assets and is intended to qualify pursuant to Section 501(c)(9) of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC). VEBA received a favorable determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) dated August 23, 1977, which stated that the related trust is designed in accordance with the applicable sections of the IRC and is tax exempt. VEBA has been amended since receiving the determination letter. However, the Company and the Plan's tax counsel believe that the VEBA is currently designed and is being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC. Therefore, no provision for income taxes has been included in the Plan's financial statements.

GAAP requires 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.

## **6. PLAN BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS**

The Plan makes payments to the administrator of plan benefits on a weekly basis (as requested) to fund benefit payments. Such payment requests represent the known liability to the Plan at any given point in time. The estimated liability for amounts disbursed subsequent to the period end is encompassed in "claims incurred but not reported" in the statements of plan benefit obligations as of December 31, 2022 and 2021.

The Plan's excess of benefit obligations over the net assets at December 31, 2022 relates to claims incurred but not reported and post employment benefit obligations in 2022. It is expected that the deficiency in net assets will be funded through future contributions from participants and the Company.

### **Benefit Obligations**

Plan obligations at December 31, 2022 and 2021 for health claims incurred by active participants but not reported at that date (IBNR) have been based upon the actual payments made to the administrator of plan benefits during the five-month period subsequent to the end of each Plan year. This assumption is based on management's experience in the claim's payment stream, noting that it generally takes three months between occurrence and payment. The Plan also considers claims reported in subsequent periods against recorded amounts. As a result of the relatively short period of time relating to the IBNR disbursements, such amounts have not been adjusted to reflect the time value of money.

In August 2022, the Company sold the LTD portion of the Plan to SunLife Financial via a buyout transaction. Following the sale, Sun Life Financial accepted the liabilities of the Plan and will pay benefits to participants going forward. As such, there is no postemployment liability as of December 31, 2022.

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**6. PLAN BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS – CONTINUED**

The Plan's obligation for postemployment benefit obligations to members considered permanently disabled as December 31, 2021 was estimated by the Plan's actuary and was based on the value of expected future benefit payments using the following significant assumptions in determining the estimate:

Long-term risk-free interest rate: 1.61% (2021)

Mortality: 1987 Commissioner's Group Mortality Table with a six-month elimination period.

Such estimated amounts are reported in the accompanying statements of plan benefit obligations as of December 31, 2021.

**7. PARTY-IN-INTEREST TRANSACTIONS**

The Plan and Master Trust investment in 2021 were units of a money market fund managed by the Trustee. Therefore, these transactions qualified as party-in-interest transactions. In addition, as noted in Note 2, the Plan pays various fees for claims processing and legal fees associated with the administration of the Plan. These fees are considered party-in-interest transactions and are reflected in the financial statements as administrative fees.

Certain administrative functions are performed by employees of the Company. No such employee receives compensation from the Plan.

**8. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

Management has evaluated subsequent events occurring after the financial statement date through October 6, 2023, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued and has determined that there are no subsequent events that require disclosure under the Subsequent Events topic FASB ASC 855, *Subsequent Events*.