

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Form 5500</b></p> <p style="font-size: small;">Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</p> <hr/> <p style="font-size: small;">Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</p> <hr/> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</p>	<p><b>Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">This form is required to be filed for employee benefit plans under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and sections 6057(b) and 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code).</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>▶ Complete all entries in accordance with the instructions to the Form 5500.</b></p>	<p style="font-size: x-small;">OMB Nos. 1210-0110 1210-0089</p> <hr/> <p style="font-size: large; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">2024</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">This Form is Open to Public Inspection</p>
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**Part I Annual Report Identification Information**  
 For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 12/31/2024

**A** This return/report is for:  a multiemployer plan  a multiple-employer plan (Filers checking this box must provide participating employer information in accordance with the form instructions.)

a single-employer plan  a DFE (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

special extension (enter description)

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

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

<p><b>1a</b> Name of plan <u>AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC 401(K) PLAN</u></p>	<p><b>1b</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <u>001</u></p>
<p><b>2a</b> Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan) Mailing address (include room, apt., suite no. and street, or P.O. Box) City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code (if foreign, see instructions) <u>AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC</u></p> <p><u>4200 GARDNER AVENUE</u> <u>KANSAS CITY, MO 64120</u></p>	<p><b>1c</b> Effective date of plan <u>01/01/2014</u></p> <p><b>2b</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>86-2121661</u></p> <p><b>2c</b> Plan Sponsor's telephone number <u>816-242-0118</u></p> <p><b>2d</b> Business code (see instructions) <u>541214</u></p>

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

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

<b>SIGN HERE</b>	Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature.	10/09/2025	AIMEE STUDNA
	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

<b>3a</b> Plan administrator's name and address <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Same as Plan Sponsor	<b>3b</b> Administrator's EIN	
	<b>3c</b> Administrator's telephone number	
<b>4</b> If the name and/or EIN of the plan sponsor or the plan name has changed since the last return/report filed for this plan, enter the plan sponsor's name, EIN, the plan name and the plan number from the last return/report: <b>a</b> Sponsor's name <b>c</b> Plan Name	<b>4b</b> EIN	
	<b>4d</b> PN	
<b>5</b> Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year	<b>5</b>	733
<b>6</b> Number of participants as of the end of the plan year unless otherwise stated (welfare plans complete only lines <b>6a(1)</b> , <b>6a(2)</b> , <b>6b</b> , <b>6c</b> , and <b>6d</b> ). <b>a(1)</b> Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year ..... <b>a(2)</b> Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year ..... <b>b</b> Retired or separated participants receiving benefits..... <b>c</b> Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits ..... <b>d</b> Subtotal. Add lines <b>6a(2)</b> , <b>6b</b> , and <b>6c</b> ..... <b>e</b> Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits. .... <b>f</b> Total. Add lines <b>6d</b> and <b>6e</b> ..... <b>g(1)</b> Number of participants with account balances as of the beginning of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) ..... <b>g(2)</b> Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) ..... <b>h</b> Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested.....	<b>6a(1)</b>	681
	<b>6a(2)</b>	640
	<b>6b</b>	11
	<b>6c</b>	70
	<b>6d</b>	721
	<b>6e</b>	0
	<b>6f</b>	721
	<b>6g(1)</b>	308
<b>6g(2)</b>	363	
<b>6h</b>	31	
<b>7</b> Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item) .....	<b>7</b>	

**8a** If the plan provides pension benefits, enter the applicable pension feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:  
 2A 2E 2F 2G 2J 2K 2T 3D 3H

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

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

**10** Check all applicable boxes in 10a and 10b to indicate which schedules are attached, and, where indicated, enter the number attached. (See instructions)

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

**11c** Enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the 2024 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2024 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 style="text-align: center;"><b>SCHEDULE A</b> <b>(Form 5500)</b></p> <p style="font-size: small;">Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</p> <hr/> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</p> <hr/> <p style="font-size: x-small;">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 style="font-size: large;"><b>2024</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection</b></p>
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For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning **01/01/2024** and ending **12/31/2024**

<p><b>A</b> Name of plan <b>AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC 401(K) PLAN</b></p>	<p><b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <b>001</b></p>	
<p><b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <b>AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC</b></p>	<p><b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <b>86-2121661</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  
**TALCOTT RESOLUTION 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
06-0974148	88072	755570-01	367	01/01/2024	12/31/2024

**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.

<p><b>(a)</b> Total amount of commissions paid <b>20797</b></p>	<p><b>(b)</b> Total amount of fees paid <b>0</b></p>
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**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

**OPPENHEIMER LIFE AGENCY LTD** **13455 NOEL ROAD**  
**DALLAS, TX 75240**

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
10399	0	COMMISSIONS	3

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

**OPPENHEIMER LIFE AGENCY LTD** **13455 NOEL ROAD**  
**DALLAS, TX 75240**

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
10398	0	COMMISSIONS	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>	241362
<b>5</b> Current value of plan's interest under this contract in separate accounts at year end.....	<b>5</b>	6473282

**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 ▶ GROUP ANNUITY CONTRACT

**b** Balance at the end of the previous year ..... **7b** 365337

<b>c</b> Additions: (1) Contributions deposited during the year .....	<b>7c(1)</b>	8402
(2) Dividends and credits.....	<b>7c(2)</b>	0
(3) Interest credited during the year.....	<b>7c(3)</b>	7646
(4) Transferred from separate account .....	<b>7c(4)</b>	21237
(5) Other (specify below).....	<b>7c(5)</b>	16835

▶ FORFEITURES

(6) Total additions ..... **7c(6)** 54120

**d** Total of balance and additions (add lines **7b** and **7c(6)**) ..... **7d** 419457

**e** Deductions:

(1) Disbursed from fund to pay benefits or purchase annuities during year	<b>7e(1)</b>	160579
(2) Administration charge made by carrier.....	<b>7e(2)</b>	0
(3) Transferred to separate account .....	<b>7e(3)</b>	17516
(4) Other (specify below).....	<b>7e(4)</b>	0

(5) Total deductions ..... **7e(5)** 178095

**f** Balance at the end of the current year (subtract line **7e(5)** from line **7d**)..... **7f** 241362

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

**8** Benefit and contract type (check all applicable boxes)

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

**9** Experience-rated contracts:

<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>
<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>
	(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>
	(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>

**10** Nonexperience-rated contracts:

<b>a</b>	Total premiums or subscription charges paid to carrier .....	<b>10a</b>	
<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>2024</b>  <b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection.</b>
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For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning **01/01/2024** and ending **12/31/2024**

<b>A</b> Name of plan <b>AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC 401(K) PLAN</b>	<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<b>001</b>
<b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <b>AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC</b>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <b>86-2121661</b>	

**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)

NOVA 401(K) ASSOCIATES

10777 NORTHWEST FREEWAY  
STE 440  
HOUSTON, TX 77092

(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	CONTRACT ADMIN	5175	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2598	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

(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 <input type="checkbox"/> No <input 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)

(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 <input type="checkbox"/> No <input 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.

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
NOVA 401(K) ASSOCIATES	13	2598
(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.	
EMPOWER ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY  84-0467907	TPA ALLOWANCE PAYMENT	
(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.

<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

<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

<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:

<b>SCHEDULE D</b> <b>(Form 5500)</b>  <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small>  <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small>	<b>DFE/Participating Plan 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>	OMB No. 1210-0110  <hr/> <b>2024</b>  <b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection.</b>
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For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 12/31/2024

<b>A</b> Name of plan <u>AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC 401(K) PLAN</u>	<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN)	<u>001</u>
<b>C</b> Plan or DFE sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC</u>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>86-2121661</u>	

<b>Part I</b>	<b>Information on interests in MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs (to be completed by plans and DFEs)</b> (Complete as many entries as needed to report all interests in DFEs)
---------------	--

<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>SEPARATE ACCOUNT 401</u>		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>TALCOTT RESOLUTION LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY</u>		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN <u>06-0974148-000</u>	<b>d</b> Entity code <u>P</u>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>6473282</u>
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN	<b>d</b> Entity code	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN	<b>d</b> Entity code	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN	<b>d</b> Entity code	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN	<b>d</b> Entity code	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN	<b>d</b> Entity code	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN	<b>d</b> Entity code	<b>e</b> 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>2024</b>  <b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection</b>
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For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning <b>01/01/2024</b> and ending <b>12/31/2024</b>	
<b>A</b> Name of plan <b>AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC 401(K) PLAN</b>	<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <b>001</b>
<b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <b>AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC</b>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <b>86-2121661</b>

<b>Part I</b>	<b>Asset and Liability Statement</b>
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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.

		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
<b>a</b> Total noninterest-bearing cash .....	<b>1a</b>		
<b>b</b> Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
<b>(1)</b> Employer contributions .....	<b>1b(1)</b>	12450	
<b>(2)</b> Participant contributions .....	<b>1b(2)</b>	43028	
<b>(3)</b> Other .....	<b>1b(3)</b>		
<b>c</b> General investments:			
<b>(1)</b> Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit) .....	<b>1c(1)</b>		
<b>(2)</b> U.S. Government securities .....	<b>1c(2)</b>		
<b>(3)</b> Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
<b>(A)</b> Preferred .....	<b>1c(3)(A)</b>		
<b>(B)</b> All other .....	<b>1c(3)(B)</b>		
<b>(4)</b> Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
<b>(A)</b> Preferred .....	<b>1c(4)(A)</b>		
<b>(B)</b> Common .....	<b>1c(4)(B)</b>		
<b>(5)</b> Partnership/joint venture interests .....	<b>1c(5)</b>		
<b>(6)</b> Real estate (other than employer real property) .....	<b>1c(6)</b>		
<b>(7)</b> Loans (other than to participants) .....	<b>1c(7)</b>		
<b>(8)</b> Participant loans .....	<b>1c(8)</b>		
<b>(9)</b> Value of interest in common/collective trusts .....	<b>1c(9)</b>		
<b>(10)</b> Value of interest in pooled separate accounts .....	<b>1c(10)</b>		
<b>(11)</b> Value of interest in master trust investment accounts .....	<b>1c(11)</b>		
<b>(12)</b> Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities .....	<b>1c(12)</b>		
<b>(13)</b> Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds) .....	<b>1c(13)</b>	4399129	6473282
<b>(14)</b> Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts).....	<b>1c(14)</b>	365337	241362
<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	4819944	6714644
<b>Liabilities</b>			
g Benefit claims payable.....	1g		
h Operating payables.....	1h		
i Acquisition indebtedness.....	1i		
j Other liabilities.....	1j		
k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j).....	1k		
<b>Net Assets</b>			
l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f).....	1l	4819944	6714644

**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
<b>a Contributions:</b>			
(1) Received or receivable in cash from: (A) Employers.....	2a(1)(A)	498502	
(B) Participants.....	2a(1)(B)	1355380	
(C) Others (including rollovers).....	2a(1)(C)	223602	
(2) Noncash contributions.....	2a(2)		
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A), (B), (C), and line 2a(2).....	2a(3)		2077484
<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)	7646	
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F).....	2b(1)(G)		7646
(2) Dividends:			
(A) Preferred stock.....	2b(2)(A)		
(B) Common stock.....	2b(2)(B)		
(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds).....	2b(2)(C)		
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A), (B), and (C).....	2b(2)(D)		
(3) Rents.....	2b(3)		
(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets:			
(A) Aggregate proceeds.....	2b(4)(A)		
(B) Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions).....	2b(4)(B)		
(C) Subtract line 2b(4)(B) from line 2b(4)(A) and enter result.....	2b(4)(C)		
(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets:			
(A) Real estate.....	2b(5)(A)		
(B) Other.....	2b(5)(B)		
(C) Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines 2b(5)(A) and (B).....	2b(5)(C)		

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
<b>(6)</b> Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts .....	<b>2b(6)</b>		745079
<b>(7)</b> Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts .....	<b>2b(7)</b>		
<b>(8)</b> Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts .....	<b>2b(8)</b>		
<b>(9)</b> Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities .....	<b>2b(9)</b>		
<b>(10)</b> Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds) .....	<b>2b(10)</b>		0
<b>c</b> Other income .....	<b>2c</b>		
<b>d</b> Total income. Add all <b>income</b> amounts in column (b) and enter total .....	<b>2d</b>		2830209

**Expenses**

<b>e</b> Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
<b>(1)</b> Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers .....	<b>2e(1)</b>	903713	
<b>(2)</b> To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits .....	<b>2e(2)</b>		
<b>(3)</b> Other .....	<b>2e(3)</b>		
<b>(4)</b> Total benefit payments. Add lines <b>2e(1)</b> through <b>(3)</b> .....	<b>2e(4)</b>		903713
<b>f</b> Corrective distributions (see instructions) .....	<b>2f</b>		
<b>g</b> Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions) .....	<b>2g</b>		
<b>h</b> Interest expense .....	<b>2h</b>		
<b>i</b> Administrative expenses:			
<b>(1)</b> Salaries and allowances .....	<b>2i(1)</b>		
<b>(2)</b> Contract administrator fees .....	<b>2i(2)</b>	31796	
<b>(3)</b> Recordkeeping fees .....	<b>2i(3)</b>		
<b>(4)</b> IQPA audit fees .....	<b>2i(4)</b>		
<b>(5)</b> Investment advisory and investment management fees .....	<b>2i(5)</b>		
<b>(6)</b> Bank or trust company trustee/custodial fees .....	<b>2i(6)</b>		
<b>(7)</b> Actuarial fees .....	<b>2i(7)</b>		
<b>(8)</b> Legal fees .....	<b>2i(8)</b>		
<b>(9)</b> Valuation/appraisal fees .....	<b>2i(9)</b>		
<b>(10)</b> Other trustee fees and expenses .....	<b>2i(10)</b>		
<b>(11)</b> Other expenses .....	<b>2i(11)</b>		
<b>(12)</b> Total administrative expenses. Add lines <b>2i(1)</b> through <b>(11)</b> .....	<b>2i(12)</b>		31796
<b>j</b> Total expenses. Add all <b>expense</b> amounts in column (b) and enter total .....	<b>2j</b>		935509

**Net Income and Reconciliation**

<b>k</b> Net income (loss). Subtract line <b>2j</b> from line <b>2d</b> .....	<b>2k</b>		1894700
<b>l</b> Transfers of assets:			
<b>(1)</b> To this plan .....	<b>2l(1)</b>		
<b>(2)</b> From this plan .....	<b>2l(2)</b>		

**Part III Accountant's Opinion**

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

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

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

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

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

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

(1) Name: MIZE CPAS INC

(2) EIN: 48-0882363

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

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

**Part IV Compliance Questions**

**4** CCTs and PSAs do not complete Part IV. MTIAs, 103-12 IEs, and GIAs do not complete lines 4a, 4e, 4f, 4g, 4h, 4k, 4m, 4n, or 5. 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 4j and 4l. MTIAs also do not complete line 4l. DCGs do not complete lines 4e, 4f, 4k, 4l, and 5, and DCGs generally complete the rest of Part IV collectively for all plans in the DCG, except as otherwise provided (see instructions).

During the plan year:

	Yes	No	Amount
<b>a</b> Was there a failure to transmit to the plan any participant contributions within the time period described in 29 CFR 2510.3-102? Continue to answer "Yes" for any prior year failures until fully corrected. (See instructions and DOL's Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program.)		X	
<b>b</b> Were any loans by the plan or fixed income obligations due the plan in default as of the close of the plan year or classified during the year as uncollectible? Disregard participant loans secured by participant's account balance. (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part I if "Yes" is checked.)		X	
<b>c</b> Were any leases to which the plan was a party in default or classified during the year as uncollectible? (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part II if "Yes" is checked.)		X	
<b>d</b> Were there any nonexempt transactions with any party-in-interest? (Do not include transactions reported on line 4a. Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part III if "Yes" is checked.)		X	
<b>e</b> Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	X		500000
<b>f</b> Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?		X	
<b>g</b> Did the plan hold any assets whose current value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?		X	
<b>h</b> Did the plan receive any noncash contributions whose value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?		X	
<b>i</b> Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.)	X		
<b>j</b> Were any plan transactions or series of transactions in excess of 5% of the current value of plan assets? (Attach schedule of transactions if "Yes" is checked and see instructions for format requirements.)		X	
<b>k</b> Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?		X	
<b>l</b> Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?		X	
<b>m</b> If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)		X	
<b>n</b> If 4m was answered "Yes," check the "Yes" box if you either provided the required notice or one of the exceptions to providing the notice applied under 29 CFR 2520.101-3.			

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

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

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

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

<b>SCHEDULE R</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>Retirement Plan Information</b>  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).  <b>▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.</b>	<small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small>  <b>2024</b>  <b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection.</b>
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For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 12/31/2024

<b>A</b> Name of plan <u>AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC 401(K) PLAN</u>	<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<u>001</u>
<b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC</u>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>86-2121661</u>	

<b>Part I</b>	<b>Distributions</b>
---------------	----------------------

**All references to distributions relate only to payments of benefits during the plan year.**

**1** Total value of distributions paid in property other than in cash or the forms of property specified in the instructions..... 

1		0
---	--	---

**2** Enter the EIN(s) of payor(s) who paid benefits on behalf of the plan to participants or beneficiaries during the year (if more than two, enter EINs of the two payors who paid the greatest dollar amounts of benefits):  
 EIN(s): 84-0467907

**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	
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<b>Part II</b>	<b>Funding Information</b> (If the plan is not subject to the minimum funding requirements of section 412 of the Internal Revenue Code or ERISA section 302, skip this Part.)
----------------	---

**4** Is the plan administrator making an election under Code section 412(d)(2) or ERISA section 302(d)(2)? .....  Yes  No  N/A  
**If the plan is a defined benefit plan, go to line 8.**

**5** If a waiver of the minimum funding standard for a prior year is being amortized in this plan year, see instructions and enter the date of the ruling letter granting the waiver. **Date:** Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_  
**If you completed line 5, complete lines 3, 9, and 10 of Schedule MB and do not complete the remainder of this schedule.**

<b>6 a</b> Enter the minimum required contribution for this plan year (include any prior year accumulated funding deficiency not waived) .....	<b>6a</b>	
<b>b</b> Enter the amount contributed by the employer to the plan for this plan year .....	<b>6b</b>	
<b>c</b> 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).....	<b>6c</b>	

**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

<b>Part III</b>	<b>Amendments</b>
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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

<b>Part IV</b>	<b>ESOPs</b> (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.
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**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

**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:

<b>a</b> The current plan year. Check the box to indicate the counting method used to determine the number of inactive participants: <input type="checkbox"/> last contributing employer <input type="checkbox"/> alternative <input type="checkbox"/> reasonable approximation (see instructions for required attachment).....	<b>14a</b>	
<b>b</b> The plan year immediately preceding the current plan year. <input type="checkbox"/> Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment).....	<b>14b</b>	
<b>c</b> The second preceding plan year. <input type="checkbox"/> Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment).....	<b>14c</b>	

**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:

<b>a</b> The corresponding number for the plan year immediately preceding the current plan year .....	<b>15a</b>	
<b>b</b> The corresponding number for the second preceding plan year .....	<b>15b</b>	

**16** Information with respect to any employers who withdrew from the plan during the preceding plan year:

<b>a</b> Enter the number of employers who withdrew during the preceding plan year .....	<b>16a</b>	
<b>b</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.....	<b>16b</b>	

**17** If assets and liabilities from another plan have been transferred to or merged with this plan during the plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment .....

**Part VI Additional Information for Single-Employer and Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans**

**18** If any liabilities to participants or their beneficiaries under the plan as of the end of the plan year consist (in whole or in part) of liabilities to such participants and beneficiaries under two or more pension plans as of immediately before such plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment .....

**19** If the total number of participants is 1,000 or more, complete lines (a) and (b):

**a** Enter the percentage of plan assets held as:  
 Public Equity: \_\_\_\_\_% Private Equity: \_\_\_\_\_% Investment-Grade Debt and Interest Rate Hedging Assets: \_\_\_\_\_%  
 High-Yield Debt: \_\_\_\_\_% Real Assets: \_\_\_\_\_% Cash or Cash Equivalents: \_\_\_\_\_% Other: \_\_\_\_\_%

**b** Provide the average duration of the Investment-Grade Debt and Interest Rate Hedging Assets:  
 0-5 years  5-10 years  10-15 years  15 years or more

**20 PBGC missed contribution reporting requirements.** If this is a multiemployer plan or a single-employer plan that is not covered by PBGC, skip line 20.

**a** Is the amount of unpaid minimum required contributions for all years from Schedule SB (Form 5500) line 40 greater than zero?  Yes  No

**b** If line 20a is "Yes," has PBGC been notified as required by ERISA sections 4043(c)(5) and/or 303(k)(4)? Check the applicable box:  
 Yes.  
 No. Reporting was waived under 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) because contributions equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution were made by the 30th day after the due date.  
 No. The 30-day period referenced in 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) has not yet ended, and the sponsor intends to make a contribution equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution by the 30th day after the due date.  
 No. Other. Provide explanation: \_\_\_\_\_

**Part VII IRS Compliance Questions**

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

**21b** If this is a Code section 401(k) plan, check all boxes that apply to indicate how the plan is intended to satisfy the nondiscrimination requirements for employee deferrals and employer matching contributions (as applicable) under Code sections 401(k)(3) and 401(m)(2).  
 Design-based safe harbor method  
 "Prior year" ADP test  
 "Current year" ADP test  
 N/A

**22** If the plan sponsor is an adopter of a pre-approved plan that received a favorable IRS Opinion Letter, enter the date of the Opinion Letter 06 / 30 / 2020 (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number Q702830A.



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**AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC 401(K) PLAN**

Financial Statements and  
Independent Auditor's Report

December 31, 2024 and 2023

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## AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC 401(K) PLAN

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## Independent Auditor's Report

To the Plan Administrator  
AESOP Intermediate, LLC 401(k) Plan  
Kansas City, Missouri 64120

### **Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit for the 2024 Financial Statements**

We have performed an audit of the accompanying financial statements of AESOP Intermediate, LLC 401(k) Plan (the Plan), an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) [ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit]. The financial statements comprise the statement of net assets available for Plan benefits as of December 31, 2024, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for Plan benefits for the year then ended and the related summary of significant accounting policies and notes to the financial statements.

Management, having determined it is permissible in the circumstances, has elected to have the audit of the 2024 financial statements performed in accordance with ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. As permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C), our audit need not extend to any statements or information related to assets held for investment of the Plan (investment information) by a bank or similar institution or insurance carrier that is regulated, supervised, and subject to periodic examination by a state or federal agency, provided that the statements or information regarding assets so held are prepared and certified to by the bank or similar institution or insurance carrier in accordance with 29 CFR 2520.103-5 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA (qualified institution).

Management has obtained a certification from a qualified institution as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, stating that the certified investment information, as described in Note 2 to the financial statements, is complete and accurate.

### **Opinion on the 2024 Financial Statements**

In our opinion, based on our audit and on the procedures performed as described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the 2024 Financial Statements section:

- The amounts and disclosures in the 2024 financial statements referred to above, other than those agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
- The information in the 2024 financial statements referred to above 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).



## Independent Auditor's Report

### **Basis for Opinion on the 2024 Financial Statements**

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the 2024 Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of AESOP Intermediate, LLC 401(k) Plan and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit opinion.

### **Responsibilities of Management for the 2024 Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. Management's election of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit does not affect management's responsibility for the financial statements.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about AESOP Intermediate, LLC 401(k) Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

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

### **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the 2024 Financial Statements**

Except as described in the Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit for the 2024 Financial Statements section of our report, our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

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

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.

## Independent Auditor's Report

### **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the 2024 Financial Statements** (continued)

- 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 AESOP Intermediate, LLC 401(k) 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 AESOP Intermediate, LLC 401(k) Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Our audit did not extend to the certified investment information, except for obtaining and reading the certification, comparing the certified investment information with the related information presented and disclosed in the 2024 financial statements, and reading the disclosures relating to the certified investment information to assess whether they are in accordance with the presentation and disclosure requirements of accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

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

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

### **Other Matters**

#### **2024 Supplemental Schedule Required by ERISA**

The supplemental schedule of assets (held at end of year) as of December 31, 2024, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information included in the supplemental schedule, other than that agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, has been subjected to auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. For information included in the supplemental schedule that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, we compared such information to the related certified investment information.

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

## Independent Auditor's Report

### **Other Matters** (continued)

#### 2024 Supplemental Schedule Required by ERISA (continued)

In our opinion:

- The form and content of the supplemental schedule, other than the information in the supplemental schedule that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, are presented, in all material respects, in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.
- The information in the supplemental schedule related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

#### Auditor's Report on the 2023 Financial Statements

The financial statements of AESOP Intermediate, LLC 401(k) Plan as of December 31, 2023, were audited by predecessor auditors. In accordance with ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA, the prior year audit did not extend to any statements or information related to assets held for investment of the plan that were certified by a qualified institution. Their report dated December 19, 2024 indicated that in their opinion (a) the amounts and disclosures in the 2023 financial statements, other than those agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, were presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and (b) the information in the 2023 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). Their report also indicated that the form and content of the 2023 supplemental schedule, other than the information in the 2023 supplemental schedule that agrees to or is derived from the certified investment information, were presented, in all material respects, in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA, and the information in the 2023 supplemental schedule related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

*Mize CPAs Inc.*

Overland Park, Kansas  
October 7, 2025

**AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC 401(K) PLAN**

Statements of Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits  
December 31,

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Assets:		
Investments at fair value	\$ 6,473,282	\$ 4,399,129
Investment at contract value	241,362	365,337
Employer contributions receivable	-	12,450
Employee contributions receivable	<u>-</u>	<u>43,028</u>
Total assets	<u>6,714,644</u>	<u>4,819,944</u>
Liabilities:		
Excess contributions payable	<u>12,308</u>	<u>6,875</u>
Total liabilities	<u>12,308</u>	<u>6,875</u>
Net assets available for Plan benefits	<u><u>\$ 6,702,336</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 4,813,069</u></u>

## AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC 401(K) PLAN

### Statements of Changes in Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits Year Ended December 31, 2024

Additions to net assets attributed to:

Contributions:

Employer	\$ 498,502
Participant	1,343,072
Rollover	<u>223,602</u>
Total contributions	<u>2,065,176</u>

Investment income:

Net appreciation in fair value of investments	461,761
Dividend and interest income	<u>290,964</u>
Total investment income	<u>752,725</u>

Total additions	<u>2,817,901</u>
-----------------	------------------

Deductions from net assets attributed to:

Benefit payments to participants	896,838
Administrative expenses	<u>31,796</u>
Total deductions	<u>928,634</u>

Net increase	<u>1,889,267</u>
--------------	------------------

Net assets available for Plan benefits:

Beginning of year	<u>4,813,069</u>
End of year	<u>\$ 6,702,336</u>

## **AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC 401(K) PLAN**

### Summary of Significant Accounting Policies December 31, 2024 and 2023

#### **Basis of Accounting**

AESOP Intermediate, LLC 401(k) Plan (the Plan) presents its financial statements on the accrual basis of accounting.

#### **Use of Estimates**

In preparing financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, Plan management is required to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of net assets available for Plan benefits and changes therein, and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

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

The Plan's investments are stated at fair value (except for the fully benefit-responsive investment contract which is reported at contract value). Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Plan management determines the Plan's valuation policies utilizing information provided by the Plan's custodian. See Note 3 for a discussion of fair value measurements.

Guaranteed investment contracts held by a defined contribution plan are reported at contract value. Contract value is the relevant measurement attribute for that portion of the net assets available for Plan benefits of a defined contribution plan attributable to fully benefit-responsive investment contracts because contract value is the amount participants normally would receive if they were to initiate permitted transactions under the terms of the Plan. The statements of net assets available for Plan benefits present the contract value of the guaranteed investment contract. The statements of changes in net assets available for Plan benefits includes the changes in contract value of the guaranteed investment contract.

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

#### **Receivables and Allowance for Credit Losses**

Receivables are stated at the amount management expects to collect from balances outstanding at year-end. The allowance estimate, if any, is derived from a review of the Plan's historical losses in relation to the Plan's historical receivable balances as well as management's assessment of current conditions, reasonable and supportable forecasts regarding future events, and any other factors deemed relevant by the Plan. Management has concluded that realized losses on balances outstanding at year-end will be immaterial. Accordingly, no allowance for credit losses has been recorded. There were no write-offs or recoveries during the year ended December 31, 2024.

#### **Contributions**

Contributions from Plan participants and the matching contributions from the Company are recorded in the year in which the employee contributions are withheld from compensation.

#### **Excess Contributions Payable**

Amounts payable to participants for contributions in excess of amounts allowed by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) are recorded as a liability with a corresponding reduction to contributions.

## **AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC 401(K) PLAN**

### Summary of Significant Accounting Policies December 31, 2024 and 2023

#### **Payment of Benefits**

Benefits are recorded when paid.

#### **Expenses**

Certain expenses of administering and maintaining the Plan are paid directly by the participating employer and are excluded from these financial statements. Fees related to the administration of payment of benefits are charged directly to the participants' accounts when incurred and are included in benefit payments to participants. Investment related expenses are included in net appreciation in fair value of investments.

## AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC 401(K) PLAN

### Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 2024 and 2023

#### 1. Description of Plan

The following description of the Plan provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Plan document for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions, which are available from the plan administrator.

##### General

The Plan is a defined contribution plan sponsored by AESOP Intermediate, LLC and includes Revolve Management Company LLC, AESOP of North Carolina, LLC and AESOP Auto, LLC as participating employers. The Plan is for the benefit of employees who have six months of service and are age 21 or older. Effective January 1, 2024, the Plan was amended to remove the hours requirement from eligibility which was 780 hours of service through December 31, 2023. Leased employees are excluded from the Plan. Effective January 1, 2024, the Plan was amended to exclude temporary employees and seasonal employees from the Plan.

The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). The Plan is administered by members of management of the Company (Management). Management has overall responsibility for the operation and administration of the Plan. Management, along with the Plan's investment advisor, determines the appropriateness of the Plan's investment offerings and monitors investment performance.

##### Contributions

Each year, participants may contribute up to 90% of annual compensation as pre-tax contributions, as defined in the Plan. Additionally, participants age 50 or older, who are making contributions to the Plan, are allowed to make catch-up contributions as defined in the Plan. Participants direct the investment of all contributions into various investment options offered by the Plan. The Company may make a discretionary contributions and discretionary profit-sharing contributions to participants. During the year ended December 31, 2024, the Company contributed 50% up to 5% of eligible compensation that a participant contributed to the Plan. No profit-sharing amounts were contributed during the year ended December 31, 2024. Additional amounts may be contributed at the option of the Company. Contributions are subject to certain Internal Revenue Code (IRC) limitations. Participants may also contribute amounts representing distributions from other qualified plans (rollover contributions). Rollover contributions are not subject to contribution limitations.

##### Participant Investment Account Options

The Plan currently offers various pooled separate accounts and a guaranteed interest account as investment options for participants. Each investment option has its own investment strategy, which can be obtained through the prospectus of the respective fund. Participants may change their investment options at any time. Participant accounts - Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contribution and allocations of (a) the Company's discretionary contribution, if any, and (b) plan earnings (losses), and charged with an allocation of administrative expenses. Allocations are based on participant earnings or account balances, as defined. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant's vested account.

## AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC 401(K) PLAN

### Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 2024 and 2023

#### 1. Description of Plan (continued)

##### Vesting

Participants' contributions and rollover contributions plus actual earnings are 100% vested immediately. Employer contributions are subject to the following vesting schedule:

<u>Years of Service</u>	<u>Vested %</u>
Less than 2	0%
2	20%
3	40%
4	60%
5	80%
6	100%

##### Payment of Benefits

On termination of service due to death, disability, retirement, or other reasons, a participant may elect to receive either a lump sum amount equal to the value of the participant's vested interest in his or her account, partial withdrawals, or equal installments. For termination of service due to other reasons, a participant may receive the value of the vested interest in his or her account as a lump sum distribution.

##### Forfeitures

At December 31, 2024 and 2023, forfeited nonvested accounts totaled \$0 and \$309, respectively. These accounts will be used to reduce employer contributions. For the year ended December 31, 2024, employer contributions were reduced by \$17,379 from forfeited nonvested accounts.

##### SECURE Act 2.0

On December 29, 2022, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 was signed into law, which includes the package of retirement provisions referred to as "SECURE Act 2.0." These provisions continue the themes and reforms that began with the 2019 SECURE Act, focusing on getting more participants into the retirement system, finding ways for them to accumulate more assets, and then ensuring they get connected with those assets when retirement comes. Plan management is monitoring the SECURE Act 2.0 provisions and will implement mandatory provisions as they become effective and relate to the plan.

#### 2. Certified Information

Certain information in the accompanying financial statements and ERISA-required supplemental schedule related to investments held as of the date of the financial statements under audit and covered by the certification, and net appreciation in fair value of investments and interest and dividends, as of December 31, 2024 and 2023 and for the year ended December 31, 2024 was obtained by management and agreed to or derived from information certified as complete and accurate by Empower Annuity Insurance Company of America (Empower), the custodian of the Plan.

## AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC 401(K) PLAN

### Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 2024 and 2023

#### 2. **Certified Information** (continued)

The following table includes the values of the Plan's investments at December 31, 2024 and 2023 , as certified by Empower:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Investments (participant directed):		
Pooled separate accounts at fair value	\$ 6,473,282	\$ 4,399,129
General account at contract value	<u>241,362</u>	<u>365,337</u>
 Total investments	 <u>\$ 6,714,644</u>	 <u>\$ 4,764,466</u>

The following table includes the Plan's investment activity for the year ended December 31, 2024, as certified by Empower:

Investment income:	
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	\$ 461,761
Dividend and interest income	<u>290,964</u>
 Total investment income	 <u>\$ 752,725</u>

#### 3. **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, *Fair Value Measurement*, 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 other than quoted market prices that are observable. These 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's fair value measurement level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Valuation techniques maximize the use of relevant observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

## AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC 401(K) PLAN

### Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 2024 and 2023

#### 3. Fair Value Measurements (continued)

Following is a description of the valuation methodology used to determine the fair value of investments. There have been no changes in the methodology used at December 31, 2024 and 2023.

- Pooled separate accounts are valued at the net asset value (NAV) of units of the separate account. The NAV, as provided by the custodian, is used as a practical expedient to estimate fair value.

The preceding valuation method may produce fair value calculations that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. Furthermore, although the Plan believes its valuation method is appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in different fair value measurements at the reporting date.

The availability of observable market data is monitored to assess the appropriate classification of financial instruments within the fair value hierarchy. Changes in economic conditions or model-based valuation techniques may require the transfer of financial instruments from one fair value level to another. In such instances, the transfer is reported at the beginning of the reporting period. For the year ended December 31, 2024, there were no transfers.

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

	2024			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Investments in the fair value hierarchy	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total assets in the fair value hierarchy	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Pooled separate accounts (a)				6,473,282
Total investments at fair value				\$ 6,473,282
	2023			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Investments in the fair value hierarchy	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total assets in the fair value hierarchy	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Pooled separate accounts (a)				4,399,129
Total investments at fair value				\$ 4,399,129

## AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC 401(K) PLAN

### Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 2024 and 2023

#### 3. **Fair Value Measurements** (continued)

- (a) In accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, certain investments measured at NAV 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 Plan benefits. These investments are valued daily, participant transactions (purchases and sales) may occur daily. Were the Plan to initiate a full redemption of the separate account, the investment advisor reserves the right to temporarily delay withdrawal from the account in order to ensure that securities liquidations will be carried out in an orderly business manner. Additionally, there are no unfunded commitments.

#### 4. **Fully Benefit-Responsive Investment Contract**

The Plan has a fully benefit-responsive guaranteed investment contract with Empower. Empower maintains the contributions in a general account. The account is credited with earnings on the underlying investments and charged for participant withdrawals and administrative expenses. The guaranteed investment contract issuer is contractually obligated to repay the principal and a specified interest rate that is guaranteed to the Plan. The crediting rate is based on a formula established by the contract issuer but may not be less than one percent. The crediting interest rate is reviewed on a quarterly basis for resetting. The average crediting rate was 2.80% during the year ended December 31, 2024. The guaranteed investment contract does not permit the insurance company to terminate the agreement prior to the scheduled maturity date.

The contract meets the fully benefit-responsive investment contract criteria and therefore is reported at contract value. Contract value is the relevant measure for fully benefit-responsive investment contracts because this is the amount received by participants if they were to initiate permitted transactions under the Plan. Contract value, as reported to the Plan by Empower, represents contributions made under the contract, plus earnings, less participant withdrawals and administrative expenses. Participants may ordinarily direct the withdrawal or transfer of all or a portion of their investment at contract value.

The Plan's ability to receive amounts due is dependent on the issuer's ability to meet its financial obligations. The issuer's ability to meet its contractual obligations may be affected by future economic and regulatory developments.

Certain events might limit the ability of the Plan to transact at contract value with the issuer. Such events include the following: (1) amendment to the Plan document (including complete or partial termination or merger with another plan.), (2) changes to the Plan's prohibition on competing investment options or deletion of equity wash provisions, (3) bankruptcy of the plan sponsor or other plan sponsor events (for example, divestitures or spin-offs of a subsidiary) that cause a significant withdrawal from the Plan, (4) the failure of the trust to qualify for exemption from federal income taxes or any required prohibited transaction exemption under ERISA, or (5) premature termination of the contract. No events are probable of occurring that might limit the ability of the Plan to transact at contract value with the contract issuers and that would limit the ability of the Plan to transact at contract value with the participants.

## AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC 401(K) PLAN

### Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 2024 and 2023

#### 5. Tax Status

The Plan has adopted a pre-approved plan which has received an opinion letter dated June 30, 2020 from the IRS indicating that the Plan, as then designed, was qualified for tax-exempt status under the appropriate sections of the IRC. The Plan has been amended since receiving the opinion letter. However, the Plan administrator believes that the Plan is currently designed and being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC. Therefore, the Plan administrator believes the Plan is qualified and tax-exempt as of the financial statement date and no provision for income taxes has been recorded in the financial statements.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require Plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability (or asset) if the Plan has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the IRS. The Plan administrator has analyzed the tax positions taken by the Plan, and has concluded that as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, there are no uncertain tax positions taken or expected to be taken that would require recognition of a liability (or asset) or disclosure in the financial statements. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress. The Plan administrator believes it is no longer subject to income tax examinations for years prior to 2021.

#### 6. Plan Termination

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

#### 7. Reconciliation of Financial Statements to Schedule H of Form 5500

The following is a reconciliation of net assets available for benefits per the financial statements at December 31, 2024 and 2023 to Form 5500:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Net assets available for Plan benefits per the financial statements	\$ 6,702,336	\$ 4,813,069
Excess contributions payable	<u>12,308</u>	<u>6,875</u>
Net assets available for Plan benefits per Schedule H of the Form 5500	<u>\$ 6,714,644</u>	<u>\$ 4,819,944</u>

The following is a reconciliation of net increase per the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2024 to Form 5500:

Net increase per the financial statements	\$ 1,889,267
Prior year excess contributions payable	(6,875)
Current year excess contributions payable	<u>12,308</u>
Net income per Schedule H of the Form 5500	<u>\$ 1,894,700</u>

## AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC 401(K) PLAN

### Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 2024 and 2023

#### **8. 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. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term and such changes could materially affect participants' account balances and the amounts reported in the statements of net assets available for Plan benefits and the statements of changes in net assets available for Plan benefits.

#### **9. Related Party Transactions and Party-in-Interest Transactions**

Certain Plan investments are units of pooled separate accounts and a guaranteed interest account managed by Empower. Empower is the custodian, recordkeeper and investment advisor for the Plan and therefore, these transactions qualify as party-in-interest transactions. Fees incurred by the Plan for the investment management services are included in net appreciation in fair value of the investments, as they are paid through revenue sharing, rather than a direct payment. The Plan made direct payments to Empower for recordkeeping of \$24,023 for the year ended December 31, 2024.

Nova 401(k) Associates provides certain administrative services to the Plan pursuant to the Administrative Services Agreement between the Company and Nova 401(k) Associates. The Plan made direct payments to the third-party administrator of \$7,773 for the year ended December 31, 2024.

These investments, as well as fees paid by the Plan, qualify as party-in-interest transactions which are exempt from the prohibited transaction rules of ERISA.

The Plan Sponsor pays directly any other fees related to the Plan's operations.

#### **10. Subsequent Events**

Management of the Plan has evaluated subsequent events through October 7, 2025, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

**SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE**

**AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC 401(K) PLAN EIN 86-2121661 PLAN #001**

Schedule 1

Schedule H, Line 4i – Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)  
December 31, 2024

(a)	(b) Identity of Issue, Borrower, Lessor, or Similar Party	(c) Description of Investment	(d) Cost	(e) Current Value
*	General Account	Guaranteed interest account	**	\$ 241,362
*	American Funds 2015 Target Date Retire R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	20,259
*	American Funds 2020 Target Date Retire R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	51,584
*	American Funds 2025 Target Date Retire R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	208,816
*	American Funds 2030 Target Date Retire R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	309,935
*	American Funds 2035 Target Date Retire R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	284,767
*	American Funds 2040 Target Date Retire R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	685,360
*	American Funds 2045 Target Date Retire R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	592,783
*	American Funds 2050 Target Date Retire R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	379,854
*	American Funds 2055 Target Date Retire R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	411,739
*	American Funds 2060 Target Date Retire R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	231,097
*	Franklin International Growth R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	330,256
*	Hartford Schroders International Multi-Cap Value SDR	Pooled Separate Account	**	343,499
*	Franklin Small Cap Value R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	184,381
*	Invesco Small Cap Growth R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	135,384
*	Vanguard Small Cap Index Admiral	Pooled Separate Account	**	12,066
*	Alger Weatherbie Specialized Growth Y	Pooled Separate Account	**	158,492
*	MFS Mid Cap Value R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	187,469
*	Vanguard Mid-Cap Growth Index Admiral	Pooled Separate Account	**	17,790
*	Vanguard Mid-Cap Index Admiral	Pooled Separate Account	**	17,491
*	Alger Capital Appreciation Institutional Y	Pooled Separate Account	**	406,212
*	American Funds American Mutual R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	424,161
*	JPMorgan US Equity R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	244,454
*	Vanguard 500 Index Admiral	Pooled Separate Account	**	342,305
*	American Funds Income Fund of America R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	15,443
*	American Funds American Balanced R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	1,480
*	Hartford Balanced Income R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	2,061
*	American Funds Capital World Bond R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	146,828
*	Fidelity Advisor Total Bond Z	Pooled Separate Account	**	155,179
*	Franklin High Income R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	172,137
				<u>\$ 6,714,644</u>

The above information has been certified by Empower, the custodian of the Plan, as complete and accurate.

\* Party-in-interest to the Plan

\*\* Not required for participant directed investments



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**AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC 401(K) PLAN**

Financial Statements and  
Independent Auditor's Report

December 31, 2024 and 2023

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## AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC 401(K) PLAN

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## Independent Auditor's Report

To the Plan Administrator  
AESOP Intermediate, LLC 401(k) Plan  
Kansas City, Missouri 64120

### **Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit for the 2024 Financial Statements**

We have performed an audit of the accompanying financial statements of AESOP Intermediate, LLC 401(k) Plan (the Plan), an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) [ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit]. The financial statements comprise the statement of net assets available for Plan benefits as of December 31, 2024, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for Plan benefits for the year then ended and the related summary of significant accounting policies and notes to the financial statements.

Management, having determined it is permissible in the circumstances, has elected to have the audit of the 2024 financial statements performed in accordance with ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. As permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C), our audit need not extend to any statements or information related to assets held for investment of the Plan (investment information) by a bank or similar institution or insurance carrier that is regulated, supervised, and subject to periodic examination by a state or federal agency, provided that the statements or information regarding assets so held are prepared and certified to by the bank or similar institution or insurance carrier in accordance with 29 CFR 2520.103-5 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA (qualified institution).

Management has obtained a certification from a qualified institution as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, stating that the certified investment information, as described in Note 2 to the financial statements, is complete and accurate.

### **Opinion on the 2024 Financial Statements**

In our opinion, based on our audit and on the procedures performed as described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the 2024 Financial Statements section:

- The amounts and disclosures in the 2024 financial statements referred to above, other than those agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
- The information in the 2024 financial statements referred to above 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).



## Independent Auditor's Report

### **Basis for Opinion on the 2024 Financial Statements**

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the 2024 Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of AESOP Intermediate, LLC 401(k) Plan and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit opinion.

### **Responsibilities of Management for the 2024 Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. Management's election of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit does not affect management's responsibility for the financial statements.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about AESOP Intermediate, LLC 401(k) Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

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

### **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the 2024 Financial Statements**

Except as described in the Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit for the 2024 Financial Statements section of our report, our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

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

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.

## Independent Auditor's Report

### **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the 2024 Financial Statements** (continued)

- 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 AESOP Intermediate, LLC 401(k) 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 AESOP Intermediate, LLC 401(k) Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Our audit did not extend to the certified investment information, except for obtaining and reading the certification, comparing the certified investment information with the related information presented and disclosed in the 2024 financial statements, and reading the disclosures relating to the certified investment information to assess whether they are in accordance with the presentation and disclosure requirements of accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

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

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

### **Other Matters**

#### **2024 Supplemental Schedule Required by ERISA**

The supplemental schedule of assets (held at end of year) as of December 31, 2024, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information included in the supplemental schedule, other than that agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, has been subjected to auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. For information included in the supplemental schedule that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, we compared such information to the related certified investment information.

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

## Independent Auditor's Report

### **Other Matters** (continued)

#### 2024 Supplemental Schedule Required by ERISA (continued)

In our opinion:

- The form and content of the supplemental schedule, other than the information in the supplemental schedule that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, are presented, in all material respects, in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.
- The information in the supplemental schedule related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

#### Auditor's Report on the 2023 Financial Statements

The financial statements of AESOP Intermediate, LLC 401(k) Plan as of December 31, 2023, were audited by predecessor auditors. In accordance with ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA, the prior year audit did not extend to any statements or information related to assets held for investment of the plan that were certified by a qualified institution. Their report dated December 19, 2024 indicated that in their opinion (a) the amounts and disclosures in the 2023 financial statements, other than those agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, were presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and (b) the information in the 2023 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). Their report also indicated that the form and content of the 2023 supplemental schedule, other than the information in the 2023 supplemental schedule that agrees to or is derived from the certified investment information, were presented, in all material respects, in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA, and the information in the 2023 supplemental schedule related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

*Mize CPAs Inc.*

Overland Park, Kansas  
October 7, 2025

**AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC 401(K) PLAN**

Statements of Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits  
December 31,

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Assets:		
Investments at fair value	\$ 6,473,282	\$ 4,399,129
Investment at contract value	241,362	365,337
Employer contributions receivable	-	12,450
Employee contributions receivable	<u>-</u>	<u>43,028</u>
Total assets	<u>6,714,644</u>	<u>4,819,944</u>
Liabilities:		
Excess contributions payable	<u>12,308</u>	<u>6,875</u>
Total liabilities	<u>12,308</u>	<u>6,875</u>
Net assets available for Plan benefits	<u><u>\$ 6,702,336</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 4,813,069</u></u>

## AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC 401(K) PLAN

### Statements of Changes in Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits Year Ended December 31, 2024

Additions to net assets attributed to:

Contributions:

Employer	\$ 498,502
Participant	1,343,072
Rollover	<u>223,602</u>
Total contributions	<u>2,065,176</u>

Investment income:

Net appreciation in fair value of investments	461,761
Dividend and interest income	<u>290,964</u>
Total investment income	<u>752,725</u>

Total additions	<u>2,817,901</u>
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Deductions from net assets attributed to:

Benefit payments to participants	896,838
Administrative expenses	<u>31,796</u>
Total deductions	<u>928,634</u>

Net increase	<u>1,889,267</u>
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Net assets available for Plan benefits:

Beginning of year	<u>4,813,069</u>
End of year	<u>\$ 6,702,336</u>

## **AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC 401(K) PLAN**

### Summary of Significant Accounting Policies December 31, 2024 and 2023

#### **Basis of Accounting**

AESOP Intermediate, LLC 401(k) Plan (the Plan) presents its financial statements on the accrual basis of accounting.

#### **Use of Estimates**

In preparing financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, Plan management is required to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of net assets available for Plan benefits and changes therein, and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

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

The Plan's investments are stated at fair value (except for the fully benefit-responsive investment contract which is reported at contract value). Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Plan management determines the Plan's valuation policies utilizing information provided by the Plan's custodian. See Note 3 for a discussion of fair value measurements.

Guaranteed investment contracts held by a defined contribution plan are reported at contract value. Contract value is the relevant measurement attribute for that portion of the net assets available for Plan benefits of a defined contribution plan attributable to fully benefit-responsive investment contracts because contract value is the amount participants normally would receive if they were to initiate permitted transactions under the terms of the Plan. The statements of net assets available for Plan benefits present the contract value of the guaranteed investment contract. The statements of changes in net assets available for Plan benefits includes the changes in contract value of the guaranteed investment contract.

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

#### **Receivables and Allowance for Credit Losses**

Receivables are stated at the amount management expects to collect from balances outstanding at year-end. The allowance estimate, if any, is derived from a review of the Plan's historical losses in relation to the Plan's historical receivable balances as well as management's assessment of current conditions, reasonable and supportable forecasts regarding future events, and any other factors deemed relevant by the Plan. Management has concluded that realized losses on balances outstanding at year-end will be immaterial. Accordingly, no allowance for credit losses has been recorded. There were no write-offs or recoveries during the year ended December 31, 2024.

#### **Contributions**

Contributions from Plan participants and the matching contributions from the Company are recorded in the year in which the employee contributions are withheld from compensation.

#### **Excess Contributions Payable**

Amounts payable to participants for contributions in excess of amounts allowed by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) are recorded as a liability with a corresponding reduction to contributions.

## **AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC 401(K) PLAN**

### Summary of Significant Accounting Policies December 31, 2024 and 2023

#### **Payment of Benefits**

Benefits are recorded when paid.

#### **Expenses**

Certain expenses of administering and maintaining the Plan are paid directly by the participating employer and are excluded from these financial statements. Fees related to the administration of payment of benefits are charged directly to the participants' accounts when incurred and are included in benefit payments to participants. Investment related expenses are included in net appreciation in fair value of investments.

## AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC 401(K) PLAN

### Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 2024 and 2023

#### 1. Description of Plan

The following description of the Plan provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Plan document for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions, which are available from the plan administrator.

##### General

The Plan is a defined contribution plan sponsored by AESOP Intermediate, LLC and includes Revolve Management Company LLC, AESOP of North Carolina, LLC and AESOP Auto, LLC as participating employers. The Plan is for the benefit of employees who have six months of service and are age 21 or older. Effective January 1, 2024, the Plan was amended to remove the hours requirement from eligibility which was 780 hours of service through December 31, 2023. Leased employees are excluded from the Plan. Effective January 1, 2024, the Plan was amended to exclude temporary employees and seasonal employees from the Plan.

The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). The Plan is administered by members of management of the Company (Management). Management has overall responsibility for the operation and administration of the Plan. Management, along with the Plan's investment advisor, determines the appropriateness of the Plan's investment offerings and monitors investment performance.

##### Contributions

Each year, participants may contribute up to 90% of annual compensation as pre-tax contributions, as defined in the Plan. Additionally, participants age 50 or older, who are making contributions to the Plan, are allowed to make catch-up contributions as defined in the Plan. Participants direct the investment of all contributions into various investment options offered by the Plan. The Company may make a discretionary contributions and discretionary profit-sharing contributions to participants. During the year ended December 31, 2024, the Company contributed 50% up to 5% of eligible compensation that a participant contributed to the Plan. No profit-sharing amounts were contributed during the year ended December 31, 2024. Additional amounts may be contributed at the option of the Company. Contributions are subject to certain Internal Revenue Code (IRC) limitations. Participants may also contribute amounts representing distributions from other qualified plans (rollover contributions). Rollover contributions are not subject to contribution limitations.

##### Participant Investment Account Options

The Plan currently offers various pooled separate accounts and a guaranteed interest account as investment options for participants. Each investment option has its own investment strategy, which can be obtained through the prospectus of the respective fund. Participants may change their investment options at any time. Participant accounts - Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contribution and allocations of (a) the Company's discretionary contribution, if any, and (b) plan earnings (losses), and charged with an allocation of administrative expenses. Allocations are based on participant earnings or account balances, as defined. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant's vested account.

## AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC 401(K) PLAN

### Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 2024 and 2023

#### 1. Description of Plan (continued)

##### Vesting

Participants' contributions and rollover contributions plus actual earnings are 100% vested immediately. Employer contributions are subject to the following vesting schedule:

<u>Years of Service</u>	<u>Vested %</u>
Less than 2	0%
2	20%
3	40%
4	60%
5	80%
6	100%

##### Payment of Benefits

On termination of service due to death, disability, retirement, or other reasons, a participant may elect to receive either a lump sum amount equal to the value of the participant's vested interest in his or her account, partial withdrawals, or equal installments. For termination of service due to other reasons, a participant may receive the value of the vested interest in his or her account as a lump sum distribution.

##### Forfeitures

At December 31, 2024 and 2023, forfeited nonvested accounts totaled \$0 and \$309, respectively. These accounts will be used to reduce employer contributions. For the year ended December 31, 2024, employer contributions were reduced by \$17,379 from forfeited nonvested accounts.

##### SECURE Act 2.0

On December 29, 2022, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 was signed into law, which includes the package of retirement provisions referred to as "SECURE Act 2.0." These provisions continue the themes and reforms that began with the 2019 SECURE Act, focusing on getting more participants into the retirement system, finding ways for them to accumulate more assets, and then ensuring they get connected with those assets when retirement comes. Plan management is monitoring the SECURE Act 2.0 provisions and will implement mandatory provisions as they become effective and relate to the plan.

#### 2. Certified Information

Certain information in the accompanying financial statements and ERISA-required supplemental schedule related to investments held as of the date of the financial statements under audit and covered by the certification, and net appreciation in fair value of investments and interest and dividends, as of December 31, 2024 and 2023 and for the year ended December 31, 2024 was obtained by management and agreed to or derived from information certified as complete and accurate by Empower Annuity Insurance Company of America (Empower), the custodian of the Plan.

## AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC 401(K) PLAN

### Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 2024 and 2023

#### 2. **Certified Information** (continued)

The following table includes the values of the Plan's investments at December 31, 2024 and 2023 , as certified by Empower:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Investments (participant directed):		
Pooled separate accounts at fair value	\$ 6,473,282	\$ 4,399,129
General account at contract value	<u>241,362</u>	<u>365,337</u>
 Total investments	 <u>\$ 6,714,644</u>	 <u>\$ 4,764,466</u>

The following table includes the Plan's investment activity for the year ended December 31, 2024, as certified by Empower:

Investment income:	
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	\$ 461,761
Dividend and interest income	<u>290,964</u>
 Total investment income	 <u>\$ 752,725</u>

#### 3. **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, *Fair Value Measurement*, 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 other than quoted market prices that are observable. These 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's fair value measurement level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Valuation techniques maximize the use of relevant observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

## AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC 401(K) PLAN

### Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 2024 and 2023

#### 3. **Fair Value Measurements** (continued)

Following is a description of the valuation methodology used to determine the fair value of investments. There have been no changes in the methodology used at December 31, 2024 and 2023.

- Pooled separate accounts are valued at the net asset value (NAV) of units of the separate account. The NAV, as provided by the custodian, is used as a practical expedient to estimate fair value.

The preceding valuation method may produce fair value calculations that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. Furthermore, although the Plan believes its valuation method is appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in different fair value measurements at the reporting date.

The availability of observable market data is monitored to assess the appropriate classification of financial instruments within the fair value hierarchy. Changes in economic conditions or model-based valuation techniques may require the transfer of financial instruments from one fair value level to another. In such instances, the transfer is reported at the beginning of the reporting period. For the year ended December 31, 2024, there were no transfers.

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

	2024			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Investments in the fair value hierarchy	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total assets in the fair value hierarchy	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Pooled separate accounts (a)				6,473,282
Total investments at fair value				\$ 6,473,282
	2023			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Investments in the fair value hierarchy	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total assets in the fair value hierarchy	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Pooled separate accounts (a)				4,399,129
Total investments at fair value				\$ 4,399,129

## AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC 401(K) PLAN

### Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 2024 and 2023

#### 3. **Fair Value Measurements** (continued)

- (a) In accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, certain investments measured at NAV 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 Plan benefits. These investments are valued daily, participant transactions (purchases and sales) may occur daily. Were the Plan to initiate a full redemption of the separate account, the investment advisor reserves the right to temporarily delay withdrawal from the account in order to ensure that securities liquidations will be carried out in an orderly business manner. Additionally, there are no unfunded commitments.

#### 4. **Fully Benefit-Responsive Investment Contract**

The Plan has a fully benefit-responsive guaranteed investment contract with Empower. Empower maintains the contributions in a general account. The account is credited with earnings on the underlying investments and charged for participant withdrawals and administrative expenses. The guaranteed investment contract issuer is contractually obligated to repay the principal and a specified interest rate that is guaranteed to the Plan. The crediting rate is based on a formula established by the contract issuer but may not be less than one percent. The crediting interest rate is reviewed on a quarterly basis for resetting. The average crediting rate was 2.80% during the year ended December 31, 2024. The guaranteed investment contract does not permit the insurance company to terminate the agreement prior to the scheduled maturity date.

The contract meets the fully benefit-responsive investment contract criteria and therefore is reported at contract value. Contract value is the relevant measure for fully benefit-responsive investment contracts because this is the amount received by participants if they were to initiate permitted transactions under the Plan. Contract value, as reported to the Plan by Empower, represents contributions made under the contract, plus earnings, less participant withdrawals and administrative expenses. Participants may ordinarily direct the withdrawal or transfer of all or a portion of their investment at contract value.

The Plan's ability to receive amounts due is dependent on the issuer's ability to meet its financial obligations. The issuer's ability to meet its contractual obligations may be affected by future economic and regulatory developments.

Certain events might limit the ability of the Plan to transact at contract value with the issuer. Such events include the following: (1) amendment to the Plan document (including complete or partial termination or merger with another plan.), (2) changes to the Plan's prohibition on competing investment options or deletion of equity wash provisions, (3) bankruptcy of the plan sponsor or other plan sponsor events (for example, divestitures or spin-offs of a subsidiary) that cause a significant withdrawal from the Plan, (4) the failure of the trust to qualify for exemption from federal income taxes or any required prohibited transaction exemption under ERISA, or (5) premature termination of the contract. No events are probable of occurring that might limit the ability of the Plan to transact at contract value with the contract issuers and that would limit the ability of the Plan to transact at contract value with the participants.

## AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC 401(K) PLAN

### Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 2024 and 2023

#### 5. Tax Status

The Plan has adopted a pre-approved plan which has received an opinion letter dated June 30, 2020 from the IRS indicating that the Plan, as then designed, was qualified for tax-exempt status under the appropriate sections of the IRC. The Plan has been amended since receiving the opinion letter. However, the Plan administrator believes that the Plan is currently designed and being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC. Therefore, the Plan administrator believes the Plan is qualified and tax-exempt as of the financial statement date and no provision for income taxes has been recorded in the financial statements.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require Plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability (or asset) if the Plan has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the IRS. The Plan administrator has analyzed the tax positions taken by the Plan, and has concluded that as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, there are no uncertain tax positions taken or expected to be taken that would require recognition of a liability (or asset) or disclosure in the financial statements. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress. The Plan administrator believes it is no longer subject to income tax examinations for years prior to 2021.

#### 6. Plan Termination

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

#### 7. Reconciliation of Financial Statements to Schedule H of Form 5500

The following is a reconciliation of net assets available for benefits per the financial statements at December 31, 2024 and 2023 to Form 5500:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Net assets available for Plan benefits per the financial statements	\$ 6,702,336	\$ 4,813,069
Excess contributions payable	<u>12,308</u>	<u>6,875</u>
Net assets available for Plan benefits per Schedule H of the Form 5500	<u>\$ 6,714,644</u>	<u>\$ 4,819,944</u>

The following is a reconciliation of net increase per the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2024 to Form 5500:

Net increase per the financial statements	\$ 1,889,267
Prior year excess contributions payable	(6,875)
Current year excess contributions payable	<u>12,308</u>
Net income per Schedule H of the Form 5500	<u>\$ 1,894,700</u>

## AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC 401(K) PLAN

### Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 2024 and 2023

#### **8. 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. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term and such changes could materially affect participants' account balances and the amounts reported in the statements of net assets available for Plan benefits and the statements of changes in net assets available for Plan benefits.

#### **9. Related Party Transactions and Party-in-Interest Transactions**

Certain Plan investments are units of pooled separate accounts and a guaranteed interest account managed by Empower. Empower is the custodian, recordkeeper and investment advisor for the Plan and therefore, these transactions qualify as party-in-interest transactions. Fees incurred by the Plan for the investment management services are included in net appreciation in fair value of the investments, as they are paid through revenue sharing, rather than a direct payment. The Plan made direct payments to Empower for recordkeeping of \$24,023 for the year ended December 31, 2024.

Nova 401(k) Associates provides certain administrative services to the Plan pursuant to the Administrative Services Agreement between the Company and Nova 401(k) Associates. The Plan made direct payments to the third-party administrator of \$7,773 for the year ended December 31, 2024.

These investments, as well as fees paid by the Plan, qualify as party-in-interest transactions which are exempt from the prohibited transaction rules of ERISA.

The Plan Sponsor pays directly any other fees related to the Plan's operations.

#### **10. Subsequent Events**

Management of the Plan has evaluated subsequent events through October 7, 2025, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

**SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE**

**AESOP INTERMEDIATE, LLC 401(K) PLAN EIN 86-2121661 PLAN #001**

Schedule 1

Schedule H, Line 4i – Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)  
December 31, 2024

(a)	(b) Identity of Issue, Borrower, Lessor, or Similar Party	(c) Description of Investment	(d) Cost	(e) Current Value
*	General Account	Guaranteed interest account	**	\$ 241,362
*	American Funds 2015 Target Date Retire R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	20,259
*	American Funds 2020 Target Date Retire R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	51,584
*	American Funds 2025 Target Date Retire R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	208,816
*	American Funds 2030 Target Date Retire R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	309,935
*	American Funds 2035 Target Date Retire R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	284,767
*	American Funds 2040 Target Date Retire R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	685,360
*	American Funds 2045 Target Date Retire R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	592,783
*	American Funds 2050 Target Date Retire R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	379,854
*	American Funds 2055 Target Date Retire R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	411,739
*	American Funds 2060 Target Date Retire R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	231,097
*	Franklin International Growth R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	330,256
*	Hartford Schroders International Multi-Cap Value SDR	Pooled Separate Account	**	343,499
*	Franklin Small Cap Value R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	184,381
*	Invesco Small Cap Growth R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	135,384
*	Vanguard Small Cap Index Admiral	Pooled Separate Account	**	12,066
*	Alger Weatherbie Specialized Growth Y	Pooled Separate Account	**	158,492
*	MFS Mid Cap Value R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	187,469
*	Vanguard Mid-Cap Growth Index Admiral	Pooled Separate Account	**	17,790
*	Vanguard Mid-Cap Index Admiral	Pooled Separate Account	**	17,491
*	Alger Capital Appreciation Institutional Y	Pooled Separate Account	**	406,212
*	American Funds American Mutual R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	424,161
*	JPMorgan US Equity R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	244,454
*	Vanguard 500 Index Admiral	Pooled Separate Account	**	342,305
*	American Funds Income Fund of America R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	15,443
*	American Funds American Balanced R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	1,480
*	Hartford Balanced Income R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	2,061
*	American Funds Capital World Bond R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	146,828
*	Fidelity Advisor Total Bond Z	Pooled Separate Account	**	155,179
*	Franklin High Income R6	Pooled Separate Account	**	172,137
				<u>\$ 6,714,644</u>

The above information has been certified by Empower, the custodian of the Plan, as complete and accurate.

\* Party-in-interest to the Plan

\*\* Not required for participant directed investments