

Form 5500

Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan

OMB Nos. 1210-0110 1210-0089

2024

This Form is Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

This form is required to be filed for employee benefit plans under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and sections 6057(b) and 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code).

Complete all entries in accordance with the instructions to the Form 5500.

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... [X] a single-employer plan [ ] a DFE... B This return/report is: [ ] the first return/report [ ] the final return/report... [X] an amended return/report [ ] a short plan year return/report... C If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here... [X] D Check box if filing under: [X] Form 5558 [ ] automatic extension [ ] the DFVC program [ ] special extension... E If this is a retroactively adopted plan permitted by SECURE Act section 201, check here... [ ]

Part II Basic Plan Information—enter all requested information

1a Name of plan: VORTEX COMPANIES, LLC 401(K) PLAN
1b Three-digit plan number (PN): 001
1c Effective date of plan: 01/01/2017
2a Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan): VORTEX COMPANIES, LLC
2b Employer Identification Number (EIN): 36-4879397
2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number: 713-750-9081
2d Business code (see instructions): 237100

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.

Table with 4 columns: SIGN HERE, Signature of plan administrator, Date, Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator. Includes rows for plan administrator, employer/plan sponsor, and DFE.

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

Form 5500 (2024) v. 240311

<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>	830
<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>	742
	<b>6a(2)</b>	825
	<b>6b</b>	0
	<b>6c</b>	62
	<b>6d</b>	887
	<b>6e</b>	1
	<b>6f</b>	888
	<b>6g(1)</b>	380
	<b>6g(2)</b>	385
<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 2S 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 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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(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>	237879
<b>5</b> Current value of plan's interest under this contract in separate accounts at year end.....	<b>5</b>	15107068

**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>b</b> Balance at the end of the previous year .....	<b>7b</b>	156229
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<b>c</b> Additions: (1) Contributions deposited during the year .....	<b>7c(1)</b>	72038
	<b>7c(2)</b>	0
	<b>7c(3)</b>	2253
	<b>7c(4)</b>	81972
	<b>7c(5)</b>	1169

▶ LOAN REPAYMENT

(6) Total additions .....	<b>7c(6)</b>	157432
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<b>d</b> Total of balance and additions (add lines <b>7b</b> and <b>7c(6)</b> ) .....	<b>7d</b>	313661
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<b>e</b> Deductions: (1) Disbursed from fund to pay benefits or purchase annuities during year .....	<b>7e(1)</b>	10136
	<b>7e(2)</b>	3291
	<b>7e(3)</b>	60122
	<b>7e(4)</b>	2233

▶ LOANS ISSUED

(5) Total deductions .....	<b>7e(5)</b>	75782
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<b>f</b> Balance at the end of the current year (subtract line <b>7e(5)</b> from line <b>7d</b> ).....	<b>7f</b>	237879
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**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>	0
<b>b</b>	Benefit charges (1) Claims paid .....	<b>9b(1)</b>		
	(2) Increase (decrease) in claim reserves .....	<b>9b(2)</b>		
	(3) Incurred claims (add (1) and (2)) .....		<b>9b(3)</b>	0
	(4) Claims charged .....		<b>9b(4)</b>	
<b>c</b>	Remainder of premium: (1) Retention charges (on an accrual basis) --			
	(A) Commissions .....	<b>9c(1)(A)</b>		
	(B) Administrative service or other fees .....	<b>9c(1)(B)</b>		
	(C) Other specific acquisition costs .....	<b>9c(1)(C)</b>		
	(D) Other expenses .....	<b>9c(1)(D)</b>		
	(E) Taxes .....	<b>9c(1)(E)</b>		
	(F) Charges for risks or other contingencies .....	<b>9c(1)(F)</b>		
	(G) Other retention charges .....	<b>9c(1)(G)</b>		
	(H) Total retention .....		<b>9c(1)(H)</b>	0
	(2) Dividends or retroactive rate refunds. (These amounts were <input type="checkbox"/> paid in cash, or <input type="checkbox"/> credited.) .....		<b>9c(2)</b>	
<b>d</b>	Status of policyholder reserves at end of year: (1) Amount held to provide benefits after retirement .....		<b>9d(1)</b>	
	(2) Claim reserves .....		<b>9d(2)</b>	
	(3) Other reserves .....		<b>9d(3)</b>	
<b>e</b>	Dividends or retroactive rate refunds due. (Do not include amount entered in line 9c(2).) .....		<b>9e</b>	

**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>VORTEX COMPANIES, 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>VORTEX COMPANIES, LLC</b>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <b>36-4879397</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

**AMERICAN UNITED LIFE INSURANCE CO**

**35-0145825**

**(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)

AMERICAN UNITED LIFE INSURANCE CO

35-0145825

(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?
15 37 38 50 64 66 67	NONE	11459	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	102319	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
AMERICAN UNITED LIFE INSURANCE CO	66 67	102319
(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.	
AMERICAN UNITED LIFE INSURANCE CO  35-0145825	ASSET CHARGE	
(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

<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

**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>	<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>VORTEX COMPANIES, 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>VORTEX COMPANIES, LLC</u>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>36-4879397</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)
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**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: SEPARATE ACCOUNT II

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): AMERICAN UNITED LIFE INSURANCE CO

<b>c</b> EIN-PN <u>35-0145825-000</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>15107068</u>
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**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**c** EIN-PN

**d** Entity code

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

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

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

**c** EIN-PN

**d** Entity code

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

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

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

**c** EIN-PN

**d** Entity code

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

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

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

**c** EIN-PN

**d** Entity code

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

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

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

**c** EIN-PN

**d** Entity code

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

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

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

**c** EIN-PN

**d** Entity code

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

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

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

**c** EIN-PN

**d** Entity code

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

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

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

**c** EIN-PN

**d** Entity code

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

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

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

**c** EIN-PN

**d** Entity code

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

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

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

**c** EIN-PN

**d** Entity code

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



<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>	OMB No. 1210-0110  <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>VORTEX COMPANIES, 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>VORTEX COMPANIES, LLC</b>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <b>36-4879397</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>Assets</b>			
<b>a</b> Total noninterest-bearing cash .....	<b>1a</b>	0	0
<b>b</b> Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
<b>(1)</b> Employer contributions .....	<b>1b(1)</b>	0	0
<b>(2)</b> Participant contributions .....	<b>1b(2)</b>	0	37771
<b>(3)</b> Other .....	<b>1b(3)</b>	0	0
<b>c</b> General investments:			
<b>(1)</b> Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit) .....	<b>1c(1)</b>	0	0
<b>(2)</b> U.S. Government securities .....	<b>1c(2)</b>	0	0
<b>(3)</b> Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
<b>(A)</b> Preferred .....	<b>1c(3)(A)</b>	0	0
<b>(B)</b> All other .....	<b>1c(3)(B)</b>	0	0
<b>(4)</b> Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
<b>(A)</b> Preferred .....	<b>1c(4)(A)</b>	0	0
<b>(B)</b> Common .....	<b>1c(4)(B)</b>	0	0
<b>(5)</b> Partnership/joint venture interests .....	<b>1c(5)</b>	0	0
<b>(6)</b> Real estate (other than employer real property) .....	<b>1c(6)</b>	0	0
<b>(7)</b> Loans (other than to participants) .....	<b>1c(7)</b>	0	0
<b>(8)</b> Participant loans .....	<b>1c(8)</b>	90731	159658
<b>(9)</b> Value of interest in common/collective trusts .....	<b>1c(9)</b>	0	0
<b>(10)</b> Value of interest in pooled separate accounts .....	<b>1c(10)</b>	11601297	0
<b>(11)</b> Value of interest in master trust investment accounts .....	<b>1c(11)</b>	0	0
<b>(12)</b> Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities .....	<b>1c(12)</b>	0	0
<b>(13)</b> Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds) .....	<b>1c(13)</b>	0	15107068
<b>(14)</b> Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts) .....	<b>1c(14)</b>	156229	237879
<b>(15)</b> Other .....	<b>1c(15)</b>	0	0

<b>1d</b> Employer-related investments:		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
(1) Employer securities.....	<b>1d(1)</b>	0	0
(2) Employer real property.....	<b>1d(2)</b>	0	0
<b>e</b> Buildings and other property used in plan operation.....	<b>1e</b>	0	0
<b>f</b> Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e).....	<b>1f</b>	11848257	15542376
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>g</b> Benefit claims payable.....	<b>1g</b>	0	0
<b>h</b> Operating payables.....	<b>1h</b>	0	0
<b>i</b> Acquisition indebtedness.....	<b>1i</b>	0	0
<b>j</b> Other liabilities.....	<b>1j</b>	0	0
<b>k</b> Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j).....	<b>1k</b>	0	0
<b>Net Assets</b>			
<b>l</b> Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f).....	<b>1l</b>	11848257	15542376

**Part II Income and Expense Statement**

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

<b>Income</b>		(a) Amount	(b) Total
<b>a Contributions:</b>			
(1) Received or receivable in cash from: <b>(A)</b> Employers.....	<b>2a(1)(A)</b>	525320	
<b>(B)</b> Participants.....	<b>2a(1)(B)</b>	2147304	
<b>(C)</b> Others (including rollovers).....	<b>2a(1)(C)</b>	109282	
(2) Noncash contributions.....	<b>2a(2)</b>	0	2781906
(3) Total contributions. Add lines <b>2a(1)(A)</b> , <b>(B)</b> , <b>(C)</b> , and line <b>2a(2)</b> .....	<b>2a(3)</b>		
<b>b Earnings on investments:</b>			
<b>(1) Interest:</b>			
<b>(A)</b> Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit).....	<b>2b(1)(A)</b>	0	
<b>(B)</b> U.S. Government securities.....	<b>2b(1)(B)</b>	0	
<b>(C)</b> Corporate debt instruments.....	<b>2b(1)(C)</b>	0	
<b>(D)</b> Loans (other than to participants).....	<b>2b(1)(D)</b>	0	
<b>(E)</b> Participant loans.....	<b>2b(1)(E)</b>	8363	
<b>(F)</b> Other.....	<b>2b(1)(F)</b>	2253	
<b>(G)</b> Total interest. Add lines <b>2b(1)(A)</b> through <b>(F)</b> .....	<b>2b(1)(G)</b>		10616
<b>(2) Dividends:</b>			
<b>(A)</b> Preferred stock.....	<b>2b(2)(A)</b>	0	
<b>(B)</b> Common stock.....	<b>2b(2)(B)</b>	0	
<b>(C)</b> Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds).....	<b>2b(2)(C)</b>	0	
<b>(D)</b> Total dividends. Add lines <b>2b(2)(A)</b> , <b>(B)</b> , and <b>(C)</b> .....	<b>2b(2)(D)</b>		0
<b>(3)</b> Rents.....	<b>2b(3)</b>		0
<b>(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets:</b>			
<b>(A)</b> Aggregate proceeds.....	<b>2b(4)(A)</b>	0	
<b>(B)</b> Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions).....	<b>2b(4)(B)</b>	0	
<b>(C)</b> Subtract line <b>2b(4)(B)</b> from line <b>2b(4)(A)</b> and enter result.....	<b>2b(4)(C)</b>		
<b>(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets:</b>			
<b>(A)</b> Real estate.....	<b>2b(5)(A)</b>	0	
<b>(B)</b> Other.....	<b>2b(5)(B)</b>	0	
<b>(C)</b> Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines <b>2b(5)(A)</b> and <b>(B)</b> .....	<b>2b(5)(C)</b>		

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts .....	<b>2b(6)</b>		0
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts .....	<b>2b(7)</b>		0
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts .....	<b>2b(8)</b>		0
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities .....	<b>2b(9)</b>		0
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds) .....	<b>2b(10)</b>		1790663
<b>c</b> Other income .....	<b>2c</b>		0
<b>d</b> Total income. Add all <b>income</b> amounts in column (b) and enter total .....	<b>2d</b>		4583185

**Expenses**

<b>e</b> Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers .....	<b>2e(1)</b>	879010	
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits .....	<b>2e(2)</b>	0	
(3) Other .....	<b>2e(3)</b>	0	
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines <b>2e(1)</b> through <b>(3)</b> .....	<b>2e(4)</b>		879010
<b>f</b> Corrective distributions (see instructions) .....	<b>2f</b>		87
<b>g</b> Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions) .....	<b>2g</b>		0
<b>h</b> Interest expense .....	<b>2h</b>		0
<b>i</b> Administrative expenses:			
(1) Salaries and allowances .....	<b>2i(1)</b>	0	
(2) Contract administrator fees .....	<b>2i(2)</b>	9969	
(3) Recordkeeping fees .....	<b>2i(3)</b>	0	
(4) IQPA audit fees .....	<b>2i(4)</b>	0	
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees .....	<b>2i(5)</b>	0	
(6) Bank or trust company trustee/custodial fees .....	<b>2i(6)</b>	0	
(7) Actuarial fees .....	<b>2i(7)</b>	0	
(8) Legal fees .....	<b>2i(8)</b>	0	
(9) Valuation/appraisal fees .....	<b>2i(9)</b>	0	
(10) Other trustee fees and expenses .....	<b>2i(10)</b>	0	
(11) Other expenses .....	<b>2i(11)</b>	0	
(12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines <b>2i(1)</b> through <b>(11)</b> .....	<b>2i(12)</b>		9969
<b>j</b> Total expenses. Add all <b>expense</b> amounts in column (b) and enter total .....	<b>2j</b>		889066

**Net Income and Reconciliation**

<b>k</b> Net income (loss). Subtract line <b>2j</b> from line <b>2d</b> .....	<b>2k</b>		3694119
<b>l</b> Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan .....	<b>2l(1)</b>		0
(2) From this plan .....	<b>2l(2)</b>		0

**Part III Accountant's Opinion**

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

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

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

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

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

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

(1) Name: CROWE, LLP

(2) EIN: 35-0921680

**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.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	74
<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.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<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.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<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.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>e</b> Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1000000
<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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<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.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<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.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>l</b> Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>m</b> If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<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.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

**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 <b>VORTEX COMPANIES, 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>VORTEX COMPANIES, LLC</b>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <b>36-4879397</b>	

<b>Part I</b>	<b>Distributions</b>
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**All references to distributions relate only to payments of benefits during the plan year.**

<b>1</b> Total value of distributions paid in property other than in cash or the forms of property specified in the instructions.....	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>
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**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): 35-0145825

**Profit-sharing plans, ESOPs, and stock bonus plans, skip line 3.**

<b>3</b> Number of participants (living or deceased) whose benefits were distributed in a single sum, during the plan year .....	<b>3</b>	
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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.)
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**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.
----------------	---

**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 08 / 19 / 2020 (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number Q704137A.

**VORTEX COMPANIES, LLC**  
**401(K) PLAN**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
December 31, 2024 and 2023

VORTEX COMPANIES, LLC 401(K) PLAN  
Houston, Texas

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
December 31, 2024 and 2023

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Plan Administrator of  
Vortex Companies, LLC 401(k) Plan  
Houston, Texas

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

We have performed audits of the financial statements of Vortex Companies, 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 statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements.

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

Management has obtained certifications from a qualified institution as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, and for the year ended December 31, 2024, stating that the certified investment information, as described in Note 3 to the financial statements, is complete and accurate.

**Opinion**

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

- the amounts and disclosures in the accompanying financial statements, other than those agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
- the information in the accompanying financial statements related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

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(Continued)

### ***Basis for Opinion***

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Plan's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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(Continued)

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

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

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


***Other Matter – Supplemental Schedules Required by ERISA***

The supplemental schedule of Schedule H, Line 4i – Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year) as of December 31, 2024 and Schedule H, Line 4a – Schedule of Delinquent Participant Contributions for the year ended December 31, 2024, are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements but are 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 schedules, other than that agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, has been subjected to auditing procedures applied in the audits of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS. For information included in the supplemental schedules that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, we compared such information to the related certified investment information.

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

In our opinion

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

  
Crowe LLP

Houston, Texas  
October 8, 2025

VORTEX COMPANIES, LLC 401(K) PLAN  
 STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS  
 December 31, 2024 and 2023

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	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Investments at fair value	\$ 15,107,068	\$ 11,601,297
Investment at contract value	237,879	156,229
Receivables		
Participant contributions	37,845	25,989
Employer contributions	628,320	544,605
Notes receivable from participants	159,658	90,731
Total receivables	<u>825,823</u>	<u>661,325</u>
 Total assets	 16,170,770	 12,418,851
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Excess participant contributions payable	<u>2,971</u>	<u>87</u>
 <b>NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS</b>	 <u>\$ 16,167,799</u>	 <u>\$ 12,418,764</u>

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See accompanying notes to financial statements.

VORTEX COMPANIES, LLC 401(K) PLAN  
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS  
Year ended December 31, 2024

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**Additions**

Investment income:

Net appreciation in fair value of investments	\$ 1,790,663
Interest	<u>2,253</u>
Total investment income	<u>1,792,916</u>

Interest income on notes receivable from participants 8,363

Contributions

Participants	2,118,418
Employer	609,035
Rollovers	<u>109,282</u>
Total contributions	<u>2,836,735</u>

Total additions 4,638,014

**Deductions**

Benefits paid to participants	879,010
Administrative expenses	<u>9,969</u>
Total deductions	<u>888,979</u>

**Net increase** 3,749,035

Net assets available for benefits, beginning of year 12,418,764

**Net assets available for benefits, end of year** \$ 16,167,799

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See accompanying notes to financial statements.

VORTEX COMPANIES, LLC 401(K) PLAN  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
December 31, 2024 and 2023

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**NOTE 1 – DESCRIPTION OF PLAN**

Vortex Companies, LLC 401(k) Plan (the Plan) is a qualified retirement plan adopted by Vortex Companies, LLC established for the benefit of eligible employees of the Company to save for retirement on a tax-advantaged basis. The Plan was effective on January 1, 2017, and was amended and restated effective March 15, 2024. The Plan is administered by the Company and is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

The Plan is a member of a controlled group. The following are participating employers who have adopted the Plan: Vortex Lining Systems formerly known as Quadex Lining Systems; Vortex Industrial Solutions; Quadex, LLC; Schwalm USA LLC; Vortex Infrastructure Services, LLC; Vortex Infrastructure Products, LLC; Vortex Services, LLC; and Excavating Services, LLC. Vortex Companies, LLC and the participating employers are hereinafter collectively referred to the Company.

The following description of the Plan provides only general information. Participants should refer to the legal Plan document and trust agreement for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions.

Eligibility: All non-excluded employees of the Company who have completed six months of service and have reached at least age 21 are eligible to participate in the Plan. The Plan's entry date is the first day of the month coinciding with or next following the date an employee satisfies the eligibility requirements.

Effective March 15, 2024, the Plan was amended to reduce the age requirement for plan eligibility to 18 years.

Contributions: Participants may elect to reduce their compensation and make a contribution to the Plan on a pre-tax basis as an elective deferral contribution (up to 90% of compensation), not to exceed the dollar limit set by law. The Plan also allows for elective deferral contributions to be made as Roth contributions. Participants who are age 50 or over may defer an additional amount, called a catch-up contribution. Participants are permitted to revoke their elections at any time during the Plan year, and may make any other modifications as of each payroll period. The Plan includes an auto-enrollment provision. Upon meeting the Plan's eligibility requirements, all newly eligible employees are automatically enrolled in the Plan at a deferral rate of 3% of eligible compensation, unless they affirmatively elect to opt out of the Plan or elect a deferral rate other than 3%. Participants may suspend their elections at any time.

The Company may make a discretionary matching contribution on a participant's behalf during the Plan year. Each year, the Company will determine the amount of the discretionary percentage. The matching contribution made on behalf of any participant for any Plan year will not exceed \$4,000. For 2024, the Company contributed 50% of the first eligible 6% of a participant's compensation, up to \$4,000.

The Company may also make a discretionary profit-sharing contribution to the Plan on a participant's behalf. Participants will be eligible to receive an allocation with no service requirement during the Plan year, provided they are employed by the Company on the last day of the Plan year.

Employees may be permitted to deposit into the Plan distributions they have received from other retirement plans and certain IRAs. Such a deposit is called a rollover contribution.

Participant Accounts: Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contributions and an allocation of (a) the Company's contributions, (b) Plan earnings and losses, and (c) forfeiture of employer discretionary matching contributions and is charged with his or her withdrawals and an allocation of administrative expenses. Allocations are based on participant contributions, eligible compensation, participant account balances, or specific participant transactions, as defined. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant's vested account. Each participant directs the investment of his or her account to any of the investment options available under the Plan.

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(Continued)

VORTEX COMPANIES, LLC 401(K) PLAN  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
December 31, 2024 and 2023

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**NOTE 1 – DESCRIPTION OF PLAN (Continued)**

Retirement, Death, and Disability: A participant is entitled to 100% of his or her account balance upon retirement, death, or disability.

Vesting: Participants are immediately vested in their contribution and rollover contributions. A participant's interest in their matching contribution account and profit-sharing contribution account will vest based on years of vesting service. A participant receives a 25% vested percentage after one year of vesting service and an additional 25% for each additional year of vesting service. Participants become 100% vested after four years of credited service.

Payment of Benefits: After a participant's termination of employment from the Company, the vested account balance will be distributed directly to the participant in cash as soon as administratively feasible. Participant consent is required only if the distribution is over \$5,000. With respect to mandatory distributions of amounts that are \$5,000 or less, if the participant makes no election, the amount will be distributed as a lump-sum into an IRA provided that the vested amount is at least \$60. Distributions upon death will be made pursuant to the election of the participant or the designated beneficiary.

Participants who reach age 59½ may receive an in-service distribution from all accounts, provided that distributions are made only from accounts that are fully vested and distributions from the Roth Elective Deferral Account may only be made if the distribution is a qualified distribution. Effective March 15, 2024, participants who reach age 55 may receive an in-service distribution from all accounts, subject to certain limitations as defined in the legal Plan document.

Notes Receivable from Participants: Loans are made available under the Plan on a reasonably equivalent basis. Participants may borrow from their accounts a minimum of \$1,000 up to a maximum equal to the lesser of 50% of their vested account balance, or \$50,000 reduced by the highest outstanding loan balance in the last 12 months. The loans are secured by the balance in the participant's account. All Plan loans bear an interest rate of prime rate plus 2%. The interest rate remains fixed throughout the term of the loan. All loans must be repaid in level payments on at least a quarterly basis over a five-year period, unless the loan is for the purchase of the participant's principal residence, in which case the loan repayment period may not extend beyond 20 years from the date of the loan. Participants may only have one Plan loan outstanding at any given time. Loans will only be granted in the event of a Participant's hardship or for the purpose of enabling a Participant to meet specified financial situations.

Forfeitures: If a participant terminates employment before being fully vested, then the non-vested portion of the terminated participant's account balance remains in the Plan and is called a forfeiture. At December 31, 2024 and 2023, forfeited non-vested accounts totaled \$29,634 and \$29,818, respectively. During 2024, forfeitures of \$49,102 were used to reduce employer contributions and \$3,244 were used to pay plan expenses.

Plan Termination: Although the Company intends to maintain the Plan indefinitely, the Company reserves the right to terminate the Plan at any time. Upon termination, no further contributions will be made to the Plan and all amounts credited to participant accounts will continue to be 100% vested. The company will direct the distribution of participant accounts in a manner permitted by the Plan as soon as practicable.

Administrative Expenses: Certain expenses of maintaining the Plan are paid by the Plan, unless otherwise paid by the Company. Expenses that are paid by the Company are excluded from these financial statements. Fees related to the administration of notes receivable from participants are charged directly to the participant's account and are included in administrative expenses. Investment management related expenses are included in net appreciation in fair value of investments.

Subsequent Events: Plan management has evaluated subsequent events for recognition and disclosure through October 8, 2025, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

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(Continued)

VORTEX COMPANIES, LLC 401(K) PLAN  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
December 31, 2024 and 2023

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**NOTE 1 – DESCRIPTION OF PLAN** (Continued)

Effective January 1, 2025, the Plan was amended and restated to reduce the service requirement for plan eligibility to two months and increase the auto-enrollment deferral rate to 6%.

In addition, the Plan was amended to add new participating employers. Tristate Utilities was added effective April 1, 2025; Sancon Technologies, Inc. was added effective July 1, 2025; and Prism Contractors & Engineers, Inc. was added effective August 1, 2025.

**NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

Basis of Accounting: The financial statements of the Plan are prepared on the accrual basis of accounting.

Estimates: The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires the plan administrator to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures, and actual results may differ from these estimates.

Investment Valuation and Income Recognition: The Plan's investments, other than the fully benefit responsive investment contract, are reported at fair value as further described in Notes 4 and 5. Fair value is the price that would be received by the Plan for an asset or paid by the Plan to transfer a liability (an exit price) in an orderly transaction between market participants on the measurement date in the Plan's principal or most advantageous market for the asset or liability. Contract value is the relevant measure for the Plan's fully benefit-responsive investment contracts, because contract value is the amount Plan participants generally receive when executing transactions under the terms of the contract and Plan provisions.

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

Notes Receivable from Participants: Notes receivable from participants reported at their unpaid principal balance plus any accrued but unpaid interest, with no allowance for credit losses, as repayments of principal and interest are received through payroll deductions and the notes are collateralized by the participant's account balances. Related fees are recorded as administrative expenses and are expensed when they are incurred.

Payment of Benefits: Benefits are recorded when paid.

Excess Contributions: Refunds of excess participant deferral contributions may be required to satisfy the relevant nondiscrimination provisions of the Plan. Such refunds are accrued as a liability and reduction in contributions in the Plan year in which the excess deferrals were made to the Plan.

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

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(Continued)

VORTEX COMPANIES, LLC 401(K) PLAN  
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
 December 31, 2024 and 2023

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**NOTE 3 – CERTIFIED INFORMATION**

Certain information related to investments and notes receivable from participants disclosed in the accompanying financial statements and ERISA-required supplemental schedules, including investments and notes receivable from participants held at December 31, 2024 and 2023, and net appreciation in fair value of investments and interest income on notes receivable from participants for the year ended December 31, 2024, was obtained by management and agreed to or derived from information certified as complete and accurate by American United Life Insurance Company (AUL).

**NOTE 4 – FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS**

Fair value measurements are determined by maximizing the use of observable inputs and minimizing the use of unobservable inputs. The hierarchy places the highest priority on unadjusted quoted market prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1 measurements) and gives the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurements). The three levels of inputs within the fair value hierarchy are defined as follows:

*Level 1:* Quoted prices (unadjusted) for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that the Plan has the ability to access as of the measurement date.

*Level 2:* Significant other observable inputs other than Level 1 prices such as quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities; quoted prices in markets that are not active; or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data.

*Level 3:* Significant unobservable inputs that reflect the Plan's own assumptions about the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing as asset or liability.

In some cases, a valuation technique used to measure fair value may include inputs from multiple levels of the fair value hierarchy. The lowest level of significant input determines the placement of the entire fair value measurement in the hierarchy.

The following presents the valuation methods and assumptions used by the Plan to estimate the fair values of investments.

Pooled Separate Accounts: The fair values of participant units held in pooled separate accounts are based on the net asset values reported by the fund managers as of the financial statement dates and recent transactions prices. Each pooled separate account provides for daily redemptions by the Plan with no advance notice requirements and has redemption prices that are determined by the fund's net asset value per unit.

Investments measured at fair value on a recurring basis are summarized below:

	2024			
	Total	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Pooled separate accounts*	\$ 15,107,068	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total investments at fair value	\$ 15,107,068	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

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(Continued)

VORTEX COMPANIES, LLC 401(K) PLAN  
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
 December 31, 2024 and 2023

**NOTE 4 – FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS** (Continued)

	2023			
	Total	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Pooled separate accounts*	\$ 11,601,297	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total investments at fair value	\$ 11,601,297	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

\* Investments measured at fair value using net asset value per share (or its equivalent) as a practical expedient have not been classified in the fair value hierarchy. The fair value amounts presented in the hierarchy tables for such investments are intended to permit reconciliation of the fair value hierarchy to the investments at fair value line item presented in the statement of net assets available for benefits.

**NOTE 5 – GROUP ANNUITY CONTRACT**

The Plan holds a fully benefit-responsive group annuity contract with AUL, which provides the Stable Value Account (SVA) investment option. The contract is part of a guaranteed benefit group annuity agreement and is backed by AUL's general account. The SVA is reported at contract value, which is the amount participants would receive for withdrawals or transfers under normal plan operations.

AUL credits interest to SVA balances daily based on a guaranteed annual interest rate declared in advance of each calendar year. The minimum guaranteed rate is 0%. Participants' balances cannot decline due to market performance.

Participants may generally withdraw or transfer funds from the SVA at contract value for retirement, death or disability, financial hardship, termination of employment, or required minimum distributions. These withdrawals are not subject to charges.

While the contract is designed to be benefit-responsive, there are certain events that may limit access or result in delayed payments or charges, including Plan termination, mass layoffs or facility closures, Employer bankruptcy or shutdown, or large withdrawals exceeding 20% of plan assets in a year. In these cases, SVA funds may be moved to an interest-bearing account, payouts may be delayed up to 12 months, and withdrawal charges may apply depending on the circumstances.

Additionally, pursuant to a February 1, 2021 contract amendment, transfers from the SVA to competing investment options (such as money market or other short-duration fixed income funds) are prohibited. Further, amounts transferred from the SVA to a non-competing investment option may not be transferred back into the SVA or into a competing investment option until 90 days have elapsed from the date of the original transfer.

If the contract is terminated, all SVA balances will continue to earn interest but may be subject to delayed payout and withdrawal limitations as noted above.

(Continued)

VORTEX COMPANIES, LLC 401(K) PLAN  
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December 31, 2024 and 2023

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**NOTE 6 – PARTY IN INTEREST TRANSACTIONS**

Parties-in-interest are defined under DOL regulations as any fiduciary of the Plan, any party rendering service to the Plan, the employer, and certain others. Certain administrative functions are performed by officers or employees of the Company. No such officer or employee received compensation from the Plan. Some administrative expenses of the Plan are paid directly by the Company. The Plan holds units of pooled separate accounts managed by AUL and an unallocated investment contract with AUL. AUL is a service provider to the Plan and, therefore, these transactions and the Plan's payment of fees to AUL and its affiliates qualify as party-in-interest transactions. Notes receivable from participants also reflect party-in-interest transactions.

**NOTE 7 – TAX STATUS**

The Internal Revenue Service issued an opinion letter dated June 30, 2020 indicating that the non-standardized pre-approved plan adopted by the Plan, as then designed, was in compliance with applicable requirements of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC). Although the Plan has been amended from the original non-standardized pre-approved plan document, Plan management believes that the Plan is currently being operated in accordance with the IRC.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan. 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 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.

**NOTE 8 – RECONCILIATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO FORM 5500**

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

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Net assets available for benefits per the financial statements	\$ 16,167,799	\$ 12,418,764
Participant contributions receivable	(74)	(25,989)
Employer contributions receivable	(628,320)	(544,605)
Excess participant contributions payable	<u>2,971</u>	<u>87</u>
 Net assets available for benefits per the Form 5500	 <u>\$ 15,542,376</u>	 <u>\$ 11,848,257</u>

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(Continued)

VORTEX COMPANIES, LLC 401(K) PLAN  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
December 31, 2024 and 2023

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**NOTE 8 – RECONCILIATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO FORM 5500** (Continued)

The following is a reconciliation of the change in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2024, per the financial statements to the net income reported in the 2024 Form 5500:

Increase in net assets available for benefits per the financial statements	\$ 3,749,035
Add: employer contributions receivable at December 31, 2023	544,605
Add: participant contributions receivable at December 31, 2023	25,989
Less: excess participant contributions payable at December 31, 2023	(87)
Less: employer contributions receivable at December 31, 2024	(628,320)
Less: participant contributions receivable at December 31, 2024	(74)
Add: excess participant contributions payable at December 31, 2024	<u>2,971</u>
Net income per the Form 5500	<u>\$ 3,694,119</u>

**SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULES**

VORTEX COMPANIES, LLC 401(K) PLAN  
SCHEDULE H, LINE 4i – SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)  
December 31, 2024

Name of Plan Sponsor: Vortex Companies, LLC  
Employee Identification Number: 36-4879397  
Three-digit Plan Number: 001

(a) Party in Interest	(b) Identity of Issue, Borrower, Lessor, or Similar Party	(c) Description of Investment	(d) Cost	(e) Current Value
*	American Funds American Balanced	Pooled separate account	**	\$ 38,357
*	DFA Commodity Strategy I	Pooled separate account	**	7,583
*	DFA Global Equity	Pooled separate account	**	45,405
*	DFA Real Estate Securities	Pooled separate account	**	154,903
*	DFA US Large Company I	Pooled separate account	**	152,527
*	JP Morgan Large Cap Growth R6	Pooled separate account	**	510,583
*	PGIM High-Yield	Pooled separate account	**	130,559
*	PGIM Jennison Mid-Cap Growth R6	Pooled separate account	**	49,001
*	PGIM Total Return Bond R6	Pooled separate account	**	117,706
*	PIMCO Income	Pooled separate account	**	44,412
*	TIAA-CREF Large Cap Growth Index	Pooled separate account	**	505,084
*	TIAA-CREF Large Cap Value Index	Pooled separate account	**	50,343
*	TIAA-CREF Lifecycle Index 2010 I	Pooled separate account	**	8,855
*	TIAA-CREF Lifecycle Index 2015 I	Pooled separate account	**	8,935
*	TIAA-CREF Lifecycle Index 2020 I	Pooled separate account	**	155,775
*	TIAA-CREF Lifecycle Index 2025 I	Pooled separate account	**	474,715
*	TIAA-CREF Lifecycle Index 2030 I	Pooled separate account	**	240,411
*	TIAA-CREF Lifecycle Index 2035 I	Pooled separate account	**	674,390
*	TIAA-CREF Lifecycle Index 2040 I	Pooled separate account	**	1,639,185
*	TIAA-CREF Lifecycle Index 2045 I	Pooled separate account	**	2,254,602
*	TIAA-CREF Lifecycle Index 2050 I	Pooled separate account	**	2,597,095
*	TIAA-CREF Lifecycle Index 2055 I	Pooled separate account	**	1,073,996
*	TIAA-CREF Lifecycle Index 2060 I	Pooled separate account	**	788,210
*	TIAA-CREF Lifecycle Index 2065 I	Pooled separate account	**	258,780
*	TIAA-CREF Lifecycle Index Inc I	Pooled separate account	**	653
*	Vanguard 500 Index	Pooled separate account	**	1,671,647
*	Vanguard Developing Markets Index	Pooled separate account	**	267,793
*	Vanguard Emerging Markets Stock Index	Pooled separate account	**	121,227
*	Vanguard Equity Income Adm	Pooled separate account	**	33,638
*	Vanguard Extended Market Index	Pooled separate account	**	197,593
*	Vanguard International Trs Index Adm	Pooled separate account	**	45,777
*	Vanguard International GR Adm	Pooled separate account	**	50,174
*	Vanguard Intermediate Term Bond Index	Pooled separate account	**	317,077
*	Vanguard Selected Value	Pooled separate account	**	75,309
*	Vanguard Small Cap Growth Index	Pooled separate account	**	83,530
*	Vanguard Small Cap Index	Pooled separate account	**	162,501
*	Vanguard Small Cap Value Index	Pooled separate account	**	98,737
*	AUL Stable Value Account	Group Annuity Contract	**	237,879
*	Notes receivable from participants	Interest rate range: 4.25% - 9.00%	**	<u>159,658</u>
	Total assets held for investment			<u><u>\$ 15,504,605</u></u>

\* Represents a party in interest as defined by ERISA.

\*\* Cost information is not required as these assets are participant-directed.

See independent auditor's report.

VORTEX COMPANIES, LLC 401(K) PLAN  
 SCHEDULE H, LINE 4a – SCHEDULE OF DELINQUENT PARTICIPANT CONTRIBUTIONS  
 Year ended December 31, 2024

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Name of Plan Sponsor: Vortex Companies, LLC  
 Employee Identification Number: 36-4879397  
 Three-digit Plan Number: 001

Check here if late participant loan repayments are <u>included</u>	Total That Constitutes Nonexempt Prohibited Transactions			Total Fully Corrected Under VFCP and PTE <u>2002-51</u>
	Contributions Not Corrected	Contributions Corrected Outside VFCP	Contributions Pending Correction in VFCP	
	\$ 74 *	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

\* During 2024, the Company had delinquent participant contributions totaling \$74, which have been funded to the Plan. The Company intends to calculate and remit lost earnings on the delinquent participant contributions to the Plan.

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See independent auditor's report.

**Schedule H, Line 4i**  
**Schedule of Assets (Held At End of Year)**

Name of Plan: VORTEX COMPANIES, LLC 401(K) PLAN  
Employer Identification Number: 36-4879397  
For plan year (beginning/ending): 01-01-2024 TO 12-31-2024 Plan number: 001

(a)	(b) Identity of issue, borrower, lessor, or similar party	(c) Description of investment including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par or maturity value	(d) Cost	(e) Current value
	AMERICAN FUNDS	AMERFDS AMERICAN BALANCED R6 MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	38,357
*	AMERICAN UNITED LIFE INS CO	AUL STABLE VALUE ACCOUNT	0	237,879
	DFA	DFA COMMODITY STRATEGY I MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	7,583
	DFA	DFA GLOBAL EQTY I MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	45,405
	DFA	DFA REAL ESTATE SECURITIES I MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	154,903
	DFA	DFA US LARGE COMPANY I MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	152,527
	JPMORGAN	JPMORGAN LARGE CAP GROWTH R6 MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	510,583
*	PARTICIPANTS	LOANS 4.25% TO 10.5%	0	159,658
	NUVEEN	NUVEEN LARGE CAP GR IDX R6 MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	505,085
	NUVEEN	NUVEEN LARGE CAP VALUE IDX R6 MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	50,343
	NUVEEN	NUVEEN LIFECYCLE IDX 2065 R6 MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	258,780
	NUVEEN	NUVEEN LIFECYCLE IDX 2055 R6 MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	1,073,996
	NUVEEN	NUVEEN LIFECYCLE IDX 2010 R6 MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	8,855
	NUVEEN	NUVEEN LIFECYCLE IDX 2015 R6 MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	8,935
	NUVEEN	NUVEEN LIFECYCLE IDX 2020 R6 MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	155,775
	NUVEEN	NUVEEN LIFECYCLE IDX 2025 R6 MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	474,715
	NUVEEN	NUVEEN LIFECYCLE IDX 2030 R6 MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	240,411
	NUVEEN	NUVEEN LIFECYCLE IDX 2035 R6 MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	674,390
	NUVEEN	NUVEEN LIFECYCLE IDX 2040 R6 MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	1,639,185
	NUVEEN	NUVEEN LIFECYCLE IDX 2045 R6 MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	2,254,602
	NUVEEN	NUVEEN LIFECYCLE IDX 2050 R6 MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	2,597,095
	NUVEEN	NUVEEN LIFECYCLE IDX 2060 R6 MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	788,210
	NUVEEN	NUVEEN LIFECYCLE IDX INC R6 MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	652
	PRUDENTIAL	PGIM HIGH-YIELD R6 MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	130,559
	PRUDENTIAL	PGIM JENN MIDCAP GRTH R6 MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	49,001
	PRUDENTIAL	PGIM TOTAL RETURN BOND R6 MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	117,706
	PIMCO	PIMCO INCOME INSTL MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	44,412
	VANGUARD	VANGUARD 500 INDEX ADM MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	1,671,647
	VANGUARD	VANGUARD DEV MKTS IDX ADM MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	267,793
	VANGUARD	VANGUARD EMRG MKTS STK IDX ADM MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	121,227
	VANGUARD	VANGUARD EQUITY-INCOME ADM MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	33,638
	VANGUARD	VANGUARD EXTENDED MKT IDX ADM MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	197,593
	VANGUARD	VANGUARD INT TRS IDX ADM MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	45,777
	VANGUARD	VANGUARD INT-TERM BOND IDX ADM MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	317,077
	VANGUARD	VANGUARD INTL GR ADM MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	50,174
	VANGUARD	VANGUARD SELECTED VALUE INV MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	75,309
	VANGUARD	VANGUARD SMALL CAP INDEX ADM MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	162,501
	VANGUARD	VANGUARD SMCAP GRTH IDX ADM MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	83,530
	VANGUARD	VANGUARD SMCAP VALUE IDX ADM MUTUAL FUND SHARES	0	98,737