



**The Broaster Company 401(k) Profit Sharing Plan
Annual Participant Disclosures required by U.S. Dept. of Labor**

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**Prepared and Distributed by the Plan Administrator**

The report that follows is required by regulations originated in 2012 by the United States Department of Labor ("DoL") called ERISA §404(a)(5). The regulations dictate much of the report's format and content. They also require the Plan Administrator on behalf of the Plan's Trustee to create and distribute the report to anyone who is currently, or anticipated to become, eligible to participate in our 401(k) Plan. Updating and distribution of this report must occur at least once each rolling fourteen month period. The report was last issued in July, 2023. Compensation & Capital Administrative Services, Inc. (CCAS) acts as your Plan's Third-Party Plan Administrator and is therefore engaged by the Plan Administrator to prepare and distribute this report.

The DoL intends this report to provide Plan participants with a standardized set of information for making investment and other plan-related decisions including but not limited to the expenses associated with participation in our Plan and the historical performance of investment options available in the Plan.

The Trustee does not intend this report to take the place of all other available sources of such information made available to Plan participants, particularly as available on and through the Plan's website at [www.planspecs.com/broaster](http://www.planspecs.com/broaster).

The report contains information on the following topics:

- How Plan administration expenses are handled;
- What costs are associated with elective Plan features;
- What fees are associated with our Plan's investment options;
- What rights you have with respect to the Plan's operation;
- How the performances of the Plan's investment choices compare to broad-based benchmarks; and
- Where to go for additional information concerning the Plan's investments.

**Summary Comment on Fees and Expenses**

By law, retirement plan participants can be assessed all or just about any portion of most costs incurred to operate the plan including administration fees, accounting fees, legal fees, asset custody fees, investment management and advisory fees, etc. In fact, many employers that sponsor retirement plans do so with *no* cost to the employer by forcing participants to absorb 100% of the plan costs through their plan accounts. These costs can amount to or even exceed 3% of the value of the participants' plan accounts each year. And until the DoL mandated this participant disclosure, the costs absorbed by the participants could be hidden in reported investment returns.

While nothing is guaranteed forever, it continues as of this date to be the policy of The Broaster Company as the sponsoring employer of the Plan to absorb 100% of all plan-level costs except investment management costs associated directly with participants' personal investment choices and administrative fees related directly to plan loans as requested by participants.

Participants using options in the Plan's Select Funds Venue pay ONLY the operating costs as reported by each mutual fund option's prospectus as charged to any and all shareholders of that option. These fund costs are reduced by any fee rebates received from the funds. Investment option costs are only one of many important criteria that the Trustees consider in selection and maintenance of investment options for our Plan.

Questions concerning this report should be directed to the Plan's Third-Party Administrator, Compensation & Capital Administrative Services, Inc. via e-mail to them at [info@planspecs.com](mailto:info@planspecs.com).

September, 2024



This U.S. Department of Labor (DoL)-required report contains important information concerning our Plan. Its introductory first section provides general information about the Plan's investing structure including expenses you might incur through participation in the Plan or upon exercising various Plan rights and features. The second section provides information about risks inherent in any investing process and points you to internet-based sources of additional information to help you learn more about investing. Its third section provides information specific to the Plan's investment options, including historical performance, fees or expenses associated with those investments, and industry-based comparisons thereof for quick reference.

If you have questions concerning any of this information or would like to request further information regarding anything associated with this report, contact the Plan's Third-Party Plan Administrators (its "TPA") at [info@planspecs.com](mailto:info@planspecs.com). Plan-specific information required in this report or elsewhere in the public domain includes annual operating expenses of the Plan investments; prospectuses, financial statements, reports, or other materials relating to Plan investment options provided to the Plan; a list of assets contained in each Plan investment portfolio; the value of those assets and fund units or shares; and the past and current performance of each Plan investment option as compared to appropriate broad based market indices. The Plan's website at [www.planspecs.com/broaster](http://www.planspecs.com/broaster) contains comprehensive and focused materials specifically relevant to the Plan's operations and available investments. You may also view the Plan's *Summary Plan Description* on the website.

## **Section I: Explanation of the Plan's Investments Structure and Plan Expenses**

### **Plan Investment Structure**

The Plan is intended to be an ERISA §404(c) plan. This simply means that you "exercise control" over direction of the mix of the Plan's investment options in your Plan account. Provided that the Plan's fiduciaries exercise due diligence under ERISA regulations in the selection, monitoring and replacement of these options, the Plan's fiduciaries are legally relieved of liability, or responsibility, for any losses that you may experience as a direct result of your investment decisions. You provide the TPA with investment directions for your Plan account, selecting from investment options provided under the Plan as determined by its Trustees: Jay Cipra, Mark Krueger and Stephen Boomershine.

The Plan's investment venue is called the Select Funds Venue. It currently offers twelve open-end mutual funds each of which is termed a "Designated Investment Alternative ("DIA") by the DoL. Your participation in any of the Select Funds Venue DIA options may be changed at your discretion at any time. Changes to and limitations on investment options chosen by a participant within the Select Funds DIA venue are imposed by the Trustees and stipulated in the Plan document as well as in notes contained on the Plan's administrative forms.

The Plan's Trustees maintain authority for exercise of certain voting, tender or similar rights as applicable to investments held in the Plan's DIA Venue.

### **Plan Expenses**

401(k) and profit sharing retirement plans can have a number of different types of expenses. In general these can be categorized into Administrative and Investment-Related.

*Administrative Expenses:* These include costs of administration, legal, accounting services and, in our Plan, the cost of engaging an independent investment advisory firm to counsel the Trustees related to selection, monitoring and replacement of the Select Funds DIA Venue's investment options. Your employer shoulders all of these costs except those related to the administration of participant-initiated Plan loans (\$100 at initiation for a new loan, \$150 at initiation for a refinance, \$20 for proceeds by Fed Wire as opposed to fee-free proceeds by check or ACH to your personal checking account, and \$50 annually for any loan with an outstanding balance each December 15<sup>th</sup>.)

*Investment-related Expenses:* Your Plan authorizes investment product providers to the Plan such as mutual funds offered to participants as DIA's to charge appropriate and pre-determined investment-related expenses against their investment products in your account. The level, purpose and basis for such expenses are directly related to the specific DIA investments within the Select Funds Venue that you choose for your Plan account. Participants in the Plan's DIA Select Funds Venue investment options are responsible only for each option's prospectus-published operating expenses as charged to any and all shareholders of that investment.

These prospectus-published fees are further reduced by rebates paid to the Plan's Trust by six of your current Select Funds Venue's twelve mutual fund DIA's. These fee rebates range from 0.10% to 0.25% per year. In general, many mutual funds offer fee rebates to retirement plan trusts to offset the plan's administrative costs

and thereby entice the plan's employer sponsor to maintain the fund in their plan's investment line-up. Your Plan's Trustees and The Broaster Company believe that using such fee rebates to reduce Broaster's cost to run the Plan could jeopardize their fund selection objectivity. Therefore, The Broaster Company does NOT accept these rebates directly. Instead the Plan's Trust accepts them as an additional benefit to be allocated to its employee/participants and authorizes the Trustee to return any and all fund fee rebates to the Plan's participants' accounts. This completely voluntary policy enhances investment returns for participants invested in those funds which provide such fee rebates. The Plan allocates no other investment-related fees against participant accounts in the Select Funds Venue.

## **Section II: Basic Investing Risks and Terms**

*Asset Allocation Risk:* A fund's risks will directly correspond to the risks of any underlying asset classes (generally speaking, stocks, bonds, or money markets) in which it invests. By diversifying across all asset classes the fund has partial exposure to the risks of many different areas of the market, and the fund's overall level of risk should thereby be lessened over time relative that is to a fund invested in only one asset class. However, the selection of the underlying asset classes and the allocation of the fund's assets among the various asset classes and market sectors could cause the fund to underperform other funds with similar asset allocations.

*General Equity Risk:* Stocks generally fluctuate in value more than bonds and may decline significantly over short periods. As with any fund having equity exposure, the fund's share price can fall because of overall weakness in the stock market. The value of individual stocks in which the fund invests or the fund as a whole may decline due to general market conditions or because of factors that affect a particular industry or market sector.

*Small & Mid -Cap Stock Risk:* Investing in Small and Mid-Cap funds entails greater risk than investing in funds that focus on larger companies. Stocks of smaller companies are usually more volatile than stocks of larger companies because smaller companies may have more limited financial resources and less experienced management, and seldom pay significant dividends that could help to cushion returns in a falling market.

*Growth & Value Approach Risk:* Growth stocks tend to be more volatile than value stocks and are more sensitive to changes in current or expected earnings. Value stocks carry the risk that investors will not recognize their intrinsic value for a long time or simply continue to believe that they are actually appropriately priced at a low level. If a fund concentrates its investments in stocks of companies with only growth (or only value) characteristics, its share price may be negatively affected if either investing approach generally falls out of favor for a period of time.

*Interest Rate Risk:* This is the risk that a rise in interest rates could cause the price of a bond in which a bond fund invests to fall. Generally, the longer the weighted average maturity of a fund's underlying bond portfolio, the greater its interest rate risk.

*Credit Risk:* This is the risk that an issuer of a debt security or counterparty to an over-the-counter derivative held by bond fund could be downgraded or default on its repayment agreements, thereby negatively affecting the fund's price or yield.

*Liquidity Risk:* This is the risk that a fund may not be able to sell a security in a timely manner at a desired price. This risk could affect both stocks and bonds in which the fund invests. It's a significant concern in funds that focus on Small-Cap stocks.

*Foreign Investing Risk:* This is the risk that the fund's investments in international stocks (or bonds) may be adversely affected by economic conditions or developments overseas, or decreases in foreign currency values relative to the U.S. dollar. The risks are heightened for funds that focus on emerging markets.

The internet contains several free, independently sponsored glossaries for far more specific investment terms relevant to investment options available in the DIA Venue of our Plan. Two such sites are [www.investmentterms.com](http://www.investmentterms.com), and [www.ici.org/401k/11\\_401k\\_glos](http://www.ici.org/401k/11_401k_glos). These glossaries are intended to help you better understand the comprehensive set of issues surrounding your investing options under the Plan.

**Section III: Performance and Expenses for Mutual Fund DIA Investment Options as of August 31, 2024**

This section of this DoL-required report includes important information to help you compare the mutual fund DIA's available in your Plan.

**Table 1: Total Annual Operating Expense and Shareholder Fees Information**

Table 1 shows investment-related fee and expense information for each mutual fund DIA as well as industry average fee levels for funds comparable to each of the Plan's mutual fund DIA's. The cumulative effect of fees and expenses can substantially reduce the growth of your retirement savings. That said, fees and expenses are only one of many factors to consider when you decide to invest in an option. You may also want to consider whether an investment in a particular option, along with your other investments, will help you achieve your financial goals.

| TICKER | Fund Name                                         | Fund's Total Annual Operating Expenses |                                  | Shareholder-Type Fees for Your Fund       |                                    |
|--------|---------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
|        |                                                   | As a % of Your Plan Account            | Per \$1,000 of Your Plan Account | Sales Charges:<br>Deferred Sales Charges: | Purchase Fees:<br>Redemption Fees: |
|        | <i>Morningstar™ Fund Category (Average Fees)</i>  |                                        |                                  |                                           |                                    |
| FCNTX  | Fidelity Contrafund                               | 0.39%                                  | \$3.90                           | 0%                                        | 0%                                 |
|        | <i>Large-Cap Growth Stock Funds</i>               | 0.99%                                  | \$9.90                           | 0%                                        | 0%                                 |
| FBNDX  | Fidelity Investment Grade Bond                    | 0.45%                                  | \$4.50                           | 0%                                        | 0%                                 |
|        | <i>Intermediate Core Bond Funds</i>               | 0.59%                                  | \$5.90                           | 0%                                        | 0%                                 |
| TROX   | T.Rowe Price Overseas Stock                       | 0.63%                                  | \$6.30                           | 0%                                        | 0%                                 |
|        | <i>Foreign Large Blend Funds</i>                  | 0.98%                                  | \$9.80                           | 0%                                        | 0%                                 |
| LSSIX  | Loomis-Sayles Small Cap Growth Institutional      | 0.79%                                  | \$7.90                           | 0%                                        | 0%                                 |
|        | <i>Small-Cap Growth Stock Funds</i>               | 1.20%                                  | \$12.00                          | 0%                                        | 0%                                 |
| VTSMX  | Vanguard Tax-Managed Small Cap Admiral            | 0.09%                                  | \$0.90                           | 0%                                        | 0%                                 |
|        | <i>Small-Cap Blend Stock Funds</i>                | 1.05%                                  | \$10.50                          | 0%                                        | 0%                                 |
| PRWCX  | T.Rowe Price Capital Appreciation                 | 0.56%                                  | \$5.60                           | 0%                                        | 0%                                 |
|        | <i>Moderate Allocation (Stocks + Bonds) Funds</i> | 0.80%                                  | \$8.00                           | 0%                                        | 0%                                 |
| VEIRX  | Vanguard Equity-Income Admiral                    | 0.18%                                  | \$1.80                           | 0%                                        | 0%                                 |
|        | <i>Large-Cap Value Stock Funds</i>                | 0.97%                                  | \$9.70                           | 0%                                        | 0%                                 |
| MAWIX  | Blackrock Strategic Global Bond Institutional     | 0.55%                                  | \$5.50                           | 0%                                        | 0%                                 |
|        | <i>Global Bond Funds</i>                          | 0.96%                                  | \$9.60                           | 0%                                        | 0%                                 |
| VFSUX  | Vanguard Short-Term Investment Grade Admiral      | 0.10%                                  | \$1.00                           | 0%                                        | 0%                                 |
|        | <i>Short-Term Bond Funds</i>                      | 0.68%                                  | \$6.80                           | 0%                                        | 0%                                 |
| VIMAX  | Vanguard Mid-Cap Stock Index Admiral              | 0.05%                                  | \$0.50                           | 0%                                        | 0%                                 |
|        | <i>Mid-Cap Blend Stock Funds</i>                  | 1.01%                                  | \$10.10                          | 0%                                        | 0%                                 |
| VTMAX  | Vanguard Total Stock Market Index Admiral         | 0.04%                                  | \$0.40                           | 0%                                        | 0%                                 |
|        | <i>Large-Cap Blend Stock Funds</i>                | 0.85%                                  | \$8.50                           | 0%                                        | 0%                                 |
| VUSXX  | Vanguard Treasury Money Market Investor           | 0.09%                                  | \$0.90                           | 0%                                        | 0%                                 |
|        | <i>Taxable Money Market Funds</i>                 | 0.41%                                  | \$4.10                           | 0%                                        | 0%                                 |

**Important Note:** Your mutual fund DIAs' Annual Operating Expenses are shown net of any fee rebate available from that fund as described in the Report's Section I, Plan Expenses. This Plan policy in combination with a judicious DIA selection and monitoring process results in our Plan's entire DIA menu having Annual Operating Expenses below, and in most cases significantly below, their Morningstar™ Fund Category's Average Fees.

**Table2: Performance and Links to Further Fund-Specific Information**

Table 2 focuses on the historical performance of the Plan's mutual fund DIA's. It's important to note the Plan's mutual fund DIA's do not have a fixed or stated rate of return. The table shows how these options have performed over DoL-mandated time periods and allows you to compare them with an appropriate broad-based benchmark index for those same time periods. Past performance does not guarantee how the investment option will perform in the future. Your investment in these options could lose money. Comprehensive information on each investment option in the Select Fund Venue including that option's principal investing risks and strategy is available at [www.planspecs.com/broaster](http://www.planspecs.com/broaster) >>Plan Investing.

|        |                                                  | Average Annualized Total Return % as of 8/31/2024 |         |          |                 |                |
|--------|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|---------|----------|-----------------|----------------|
| TICKER | Mutual Fund Name                                 | 1 Year                                            | 5 Years | 10 Years | Since Inception | Inception Date |
|        | Prospectus Benchmark Index                       |                                                   |         |          |                 |                |
| FCNTX  | Fidelity Contrafund                              | 38.78                                             | 18.15   | 14.87    | 12.97           | 5/17/1967      |
|        | Russell 1000 Growth Stock Index                  | 30.75                                             | 19.08   | 16.03    | n/a             |                |
| FBNDX  | Fidelity Investment Grade Bond                   | 7.84                                              | 0.77    | 2.11     | 6.24            | 8/6/1971       |
|        | Bloomberg US Aggregate Bond Index                | 7.30                                              | -0.04   | 1.64     | n/a             |                |
| TROX   | T.Rowe Price Overseas Stock                      | 17.35                                             | 8.80    | 5.24     | 4.01            | 12/29/2006     |
|        | MSCI EAFE (NR) Index                             | 19.40                                             | 8.61    | 5.20     | n/a             |                |
| LSSIX  | Loomis-Sayles Small Cap Growth Institutional     | 15.19                                             | 8.67    | 9.93     | 7.72            | 12/31/1996     |
|        | Russell 2000 Growth Stock Index                  | 17.67                                             | 8.35    | 8.21     | n/a             |                |
| VTMSX  | Vanguard Tax-Managed Small Cap Admiral           | 17.16                                             | 10.64   | 9.31     | 10.34           | 3/25/1999      |
|        | Russell 2000 Stock Index                         | 18.47                                             | 9.68    | 8.03     | n/a             |                |
| PRWCX  | T.Rowe Price Capital Appreciation                | 16.38                                             | 11.45   | 10.75    | 11.35           | 6/30/1986      |
|        | Morningstar Moderate Allocation Funds Average    | 16.06                                             | 7.87    | 6.50     | n/a             |                |
| VEIRX  | Vanguard Equity-Income Admiral                   | 20.32                                             | 12.02   | 12.02    | 8.77            | 8/13/2001      |
|        | Russell 1000 Value Stock Index                   | 21.15                                             | 11.16   | 8.85     | n/a             |                |
| MAWIX  | Blackrock Strategic Global Bond Institutional    | 8.49                                              | 0.18    | 1.48     | 3.57            | 9/29/1988      |
|        | Bloomberg Global Bond Aggregate Index USD        | 6.90                                              | -1.37   | 0.12     | n/a             |                |
| VFSUX  | Vanguard Short-Term Investment Grade Adm         | 7.94                                              | 1.96    | 2.20     | 3.27            | 2/12/2001      |
|        | Bloomberg US Gov/Credit 1-5 Yr Index             | 6.67                                              | 1.32    | 1.66     | n/a             |                |
| VIMAX  | Vanguard Mid-Cap Stock Index Admiral             | 19.46                                             | 11.12   | 9.57     | 10.07           | 11/12/2001     |
|        | Russell Mid-Cap Stock Index                      | 20.16                                             | 11.20   | 9.58     | n/a             |                |
| VTSAX  | Vanguard Total Stock Market Index Admiral        | 26.19                                             | 15.10   | 12.31    | 8.43            | 11/13/2000     |
|        | Russell 1000 Stock Index                         | 26.60                                             | 15.55   | 12.66    | n/a             |                |
| VUSXX  | Vanguard Treasury Money Market Investor          | 5.43                                              | 2.23    | 1.55     | 2.43            | 12/14/1992     |
|        | Morningstar Benchmark Taxable Money Market Funds | 5.28                                              | 2.14    | 1.48     | n/a             |                |

**Note:** In compliance with DoL regulations for this report, the "Since Inception Date" return is provided in lieu of 10-year performance any fund that has not been in existence in excess of 10 years.