# Sheet Metal Workers' Local 73 Annuity Plan

**Summary Plan Description** 

Final Draft – January 1, 2025

# Contacts

Contact the Fund Office or Fidelity Retirement Services Specialists if you have any questions about your benefits or how the Plan works.

Fund Office	Fidelity Retirement Services
Sheet Metal Workers' International Association Local Union No. 73 Annuity Plan 4530 Roosevelt Road Hillside, IL 60162 Phone (708) 449-7373 Fax (708) 449-7333	Fidelity Retirement Services Specialists: 1-866-84UNION (1-866-848-6466) www.fidelity.com/atwork
www.sm73funds.org	

**Annuity Plan SPD** 

# **Your Annuity Plan**

The Sheet Metal Workers' International Association Local Union No. 73 Annuity Trust Fund (the Annuity Plan or Plan) is designed to supplement your other retirement benefits by providing you with an additional source of income during retirement.

When you become a participant in the Annuity Plan, Employer contributions made on your behalf are deposited to your individual annuity account. You are always 100% vested in the money in your account.



#### **ACTION STEPS: Choose Your Investment Funds**

Since your investment needs are unique, *you* choose how to invest the employer contributions made to the Annuity Plan on your behalf. See page 9.

With some investment knowledge and the flexibility to choose among the Annuity Plan investment options – offered through Fidelity Investments – you can help build the retirement nest egg you'll need.

Please take some time to review this Summary Plan Description (SPD). This SPD describes the Plan as of January 1, 2025 and replaces any prior SPDs and summaries. If you're married, please share the information in this SPD with your spouse.



Nothing in this SPD is meant to interpret or change the provisions in the Plan Document. If there is a discrepancy between the wording in this SPD and the Plan Document, the Plan Document will govern.

Only the full Board of Trustees has the discretion and authority to interpret the Plan described in this SPD. No Employer, Union or any representative of any Employer or Union, in such capacity, is authorized to interpret the Plan nor act as agent of the Trustees. The Trustees reserve the right to amend, change or discontinue all or part of the Plan at any time when, in their judgment, conditions so warrant.

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# Plan-at-a-Glance

The information below highlights some of the features of the Annuity Plan. More detailed information is provided later in the SPD.

Feature	Details
Becoming a Participant	<ul> <li>You become a participant on the date you complete one hour of service with a Contributing Employer.</li> <li>You are always 100% vested in the money in your individual account. You need to meet certain eligibility requirements before you are able to access the money in your account.</li> </ul>
Your Annuity Plan Account	<ul> <li>When you first become a participant, an individual Annuity Plan account is established in your name.</li> <li>You determine how your Annuity Plan account is invested.</li> <li>You may change how your account is invested as often as daily.</li> <li>If you do not designate how you want your account invested, effective July 1, 2019, your account balance will be invested in the Fidelity Freedom Fund year that ends within five years after you reach age 65.</li> <li>The value of your account is updated at the end of each business day.</li> <li>Your account balance reflects contributions made on your behalf, investment earnings and/or losses, any distributions made from your account, administrative expenses, and rollover contributions (if applicable).</li> <li>Four times a year you will receive a statement for each quarter ending March 31<sup>st</sup>, June 30<sup>th</sup>, September 30<sup>th</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup> showing the balance of your account, unless you elect to receive your account statement by e-mail.</li> </ul>
Eligibility for Benefits	<ul> <li>In general, you become eligible for benefits when you:</li> <li>Become totally disabled and submit a copy of your Social Security Disability Award;</li> <li>Retire;</li> <li>Terminate employment in the Sheet Metal industry. Your employment is considered terminated if no contributions have been paid to the Annuity Fund on your behalf by a Contributing Employer for at least six consecutive months (payment will be made only after the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the eighth (8<sup>th</sup>) month following your last day of work);</li> <li>Die, or</li> <li>For withdrawals while still actively employed with a Contributing Employer, reach age 59 ½ (limited to once every six (6) months).</li> </ul>
Choosing How Your Benefit is Paid	<ul> <li>The Annuity Plan offers the following forms of payment:</li> <li>Joint and 50% survivor annuity (only available to married participants),</li> <li>Joint and 75% survivor annuity (only available to married participants),</li> <li>Single life annuity,</li> <li>Fixed or variable annuity,</li> <li>Installment payments, and</li> <li>Lump-sum payment (includes partial withdrawals and rollovers).</li> </ul>

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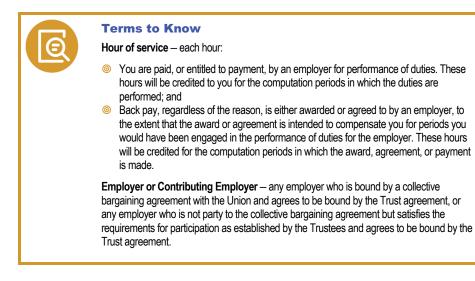
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Feature	Details
In the Event of Your Death	<ul> <li>If you die <i>before</i> payment of your Annuity Plan benefits begin:</li> <li>If the value of your account balance as of the date of your death is \$7,000 or less, the benefit will be paid to your beneficiary as a lump-sum payment.</li> <li>If you are married at the time of your death, your spouse may be eligible for a pre-retirement survivor annuity. This benefit is paid as a monthly annuity payable for his or her life, a lump-sum payment, a fixed or variable annuity, or as installment payments.</li> <li>If you are not married at the time of your death, your benefit will be paid to your beneficiary as either a lump-sum payment, a fixed or variable annuity, or as installment payments.</li> <li>If you die <i>after</i> payment of your Annuity Plan benefits begin, payments, if any, will continue to your surviving spouse or beneficiary under the form of payment you were receiving.</li> </ul>

# Eligibility

You become a participant in the Annuity Plan on the date you complete one hour of service with a Contributing Employer. Participation begins automatically; you do not need to complete any enrollment forms. However, you may determine how you want your account invested (see page 6). After you become a participant, you will receive an enrollment packet, which contains investment option information.

When you become a participant in the Annuity Plan, an "individual annuity account" is established in your name. Employer contributions are made on your behalf to your individual annuity account.



# Naming a Beneficiary

When your participation begins, you need to complete a beneficiary designation form. You may update your beneficiary at any time by completing and submitting a beneficiary designation form. Your beneficiary will receive your Annuity Plan benefit in the event of your death.

You may name anyone you want as your beneficiary, including a trust. However, any trust you designate as a beneficiary must be a valid trust under applicable state law. In addition, if you're married and wish to designate a person other than your spouse as your beneficiary, your spouse must consent to the designation in writing in the presence of a notary public or designated Annuity Plan representative.

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If you do not have a designated beneficiary at the time of your death, the Trustees will designate that benefits be paid to first to survive in the following order, starting with:

- Your spouse, then
- Your children, then
- Your parents, then
- Your siblings, then
- Sour nieces and nephews, then
- Your estate.

	ACTION STEPS: Name a Beneficiary Contact the Fund Office to obtain a beneficiary designation form. Complete the form and return it to the Fund Office.
If You Are Married	If you're married and wish to designate a person other than your spouse as your primary beneficiary, your spouse must consent to the designation in writing before a notary public or designated Annuity Plan representative.
Change in Marital Status	Contact the Fund Office immediately if you marry or divorce at any time before receiving a distribution from your annuity account so that you may update your beneficiary designation form accordingly.

# **Your Annuity Plan Account**

### Vesting

You are always 100% vested in (you own) the money in your individual account. See Payment of Benefits on page 21, for information about when you become eligible to access the money in your account.

# **Rollover Account**

You may rollover any tax-deductible voluntary contributions that were distributed from a qualified retirement plan [except for Supplemental Employee Retirement Plan (SERP) contributions]. You may also rollover the full amount of an individual retirement account (IRA) if the IRA represents the entire rollover from a previous qualified retirement plan. If you rollover any amount from another qualified retirement plan, it will be allocated to your Rollover Contribution Account.

The Rollover Contribution Account will be subject to the same rules as the Employer Contributions Account. In addition, if you take a partial distribution of your Rollover Contribution Account, the balance must be at least \$100.

# **Investment Elections**

You determine the investment mix of your individual account. You may choose to invest the money in your account among several investment funds available to you through the Annuity Plan. If you do not elect how you want your account balance invested, your entire account balance will be invested in the Fidelity Freedom Fund year that ends within five years after you reach age 65.



#### **ACTION STEPS:** Choose How to Invest Your Account

To elect or change how your individual account is invested, contact Fidelity Retirement Services Specialists at 1-866-84UNION (1-866-848-6466) or log into your Net Benefits account at <u>www.fidelity.com/atwork</u>.

Personal identification Number

Your enrollment packet will contain instructions for establishing a Personal Identification Number (PIN), which you will need to elect or change your investment options.

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# **Your Investment Options**

For specific information about the investment funds offered by the Annuity Plan, contact the Fund Office or Fidelity Investments. It's a good idea to study your investment options and consider your personal situation before deciding how to invest the money in your individual Annuity Plan account.

You may change your investments on a daily basis; however, you should be aware that certain funds have a short-term trading fee. Investment option elections become effective as soon as administratively possible. Keep in mind that it's usually *not* a good idea to try to time the market. In addition, when making changes to your investment mix, you'll want to consider your long-term investment strategy. For things to consider when making investment decisions, see page 10.



The Trustees have the right to change the investment funds offered by the Annuity Plan at any time. You will be notified of any investment fund changes.

# Valuation Date

The value of your account is updated as of the end of each business day and includes:

- Employer contributions made on your behalf,
- Investment earnings and/or losses,
- Any distributions made from your account,
- Rollover contributions (if applicable), and
- Administrative expenses. Administrative expenses are distributed proportionately across all participants' accounts.

	<ul> <li>ACTION STEPS: Review Your Quarterly Statements</li> <li>You will receive a quarterly statement that shows:</li> <li>The value of your account,</li> <li>Any earnings and/or losses,</li> <li>Any distributions made from your account, and</li> <li>Administrative expenses.</li> </ul>
	Please file these statements in a safe place for future reference.
Requesting	You may order a statement at any time by contacting Fidelity

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 a Statement
 Retirement Services Specialists at 1-866-84UNION (1-866-848-6466) or log into your Net Benefits account at www.fidelity.com/atwork.

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# **Overview of Investment Topics**

The Annuity Plan is designed to provide you with retirement income. The value of your account builds throughout your working years, and how much it grows is influenced by the investment choices you make.

When deciding the investment mix that is best for you, you'll want to consider your time horizon, the risks and returns of the available investment options and your level of comfort with investment risk.

The information in this section introduces some investment topics you should know. It's always a good idea to consult with a professional investment advisor before making any decisions.



Nothing in this section or this SPD is meant to provide investment or retirement advice. You should seek the counsel of professional advisors before making investment or retirement decisions or plans.

# Your Time Horizon

Your time horizon is the number of years you have until you plan to retire.

It's important to consider your time horizon when deciding the investment options that are best for you. The appropriateness of an investment depends largely on how long you have until you need to access your money.

# **Risks and Returns**

Like most things in life, all investments have risk. When you make investment decisions, it's important to understand the types of risk involved, and their relationship to the amount that you can earn on your investments (known as rate of return). This knowledge can help you create an investment strategy that's best for your situation.

In general, there are two types of risk involved in investing: **investment (short-term)** risk and inflation (long-term) risk.

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#### Terms to Know

**Diversification** – by putting your money in several investment options available through the Annuity Plan you may be able to reduce your exposure to any one type of risk.

**Inflation** — an increase in the level of consumer prices or a decrease in the purchasing power of money. Inflation can be caused by an increase in available currency and credit above the availability of goods and services.

Inflation risk (long-term risk) — risk that the purchasing power of your money will decrease over time because of inflation.

**Investment risk (short-term risk)** – risk that your investment may decrease in value in the near future.

#### Investment Risk (Short-Term Risk)

Investment risk is the risk that your investment may decrease in value in the near future (over the short-term). Take, for instance, the stock market. The value of a stock can fluctuate (increase and decrease) significantly over short time periods. For this reason, stocks are often referred to as "volatile" investments and have a higher level of risk than other types of investments.

At the same time, history has shown that stocks can be an excellent long-term investment. U.S. stock market returns have historically outperformed other types of investments and beaten the rate of inflation over the long-term. In general, you increase your ability to earn higher rates of return on your long-term investments (generally 10 years or more) when you take on more investment risk.

If you're nearing retirement age, minimizing exposure to *investment* risk may be more important. The Annuity Plan benefit you receive at retirement is based on the value of your account when you retire and elect to begin payment of your benefit. So, as you prepare for retirement, you may want to minimize your chances of a sudden investment loss. However, if you have several years until you plan to retire, you may be more concerned about minimizing your exposure to *inflation* risk.

#### Inflation Risk (Long-Term Risk)

Inflation (long-term) risk is the risk that the purchasing power of your money will erode because of inflation. Inflation is a serious risk for any long-term investor.

Conservative investors may feel that it's "safer" to lower their short-term investment risk by avoiding stock investments. However, they miss earning potentially higher rates of return. A conservative investment strategy may be appropriate if you're nearing retirement. If you invest too conservatively over long periods, you may be taking on unnecessary inflation risk.

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#### **Diversification**

By investing your money in different available options (diversifying your investments), you may be able to reduce your exposure to any one type of risk.

# **Types of Investments**

Each type of investment has a different investment risk and return potential.



#### **Terms to Know**

Bonds - an investment where you're essentially buying an IOU.

Cash equivalents – investment type that seeks to preserve the money you invest and provide a steady stream of current income through the interest earned on the investment.

Certificates of deposit (CD) – a certificate by a bank or a savings and loan association that a fixed dollar amount has been deposited with it for a fixed period at a predetermined rate of interest.

**Mutual fund** – investment where money is pooled by investors that is professionally managed, diversified and follows a particular investment objective. A mutual fund can invest in different types of investment vehicles, such as stocks, bonds and/or real estate.

Stocks – investments that rise and fall in value depending upon the performance of the company and the investment market's reaction to how well the company is performing or other economic or environmental factors.

#### **Cash Equivalents**

These investment vehicles are short-term investments such as:

- Money market funds,
- Certificates of deposits (CDs), and
- Treasury Bills.

These investments are "liquid" or easy to redeem as cash and are often backed by the U.S. government. These types of investments are considered relatively secure and offer a lower investment risk. This means that they generally have a lower rate of return and a higher inflation risk than other types of investments.

#### Bonds

If you lend money to someone, you get an IOU, or a promise that the money will be paid back. When you purchase a bond, you're essentially buying that IOU. Corporations, municipalities and government agencies (such as the U.S. Treasury) can issue bonds. A bond's rating gives you an idea of how likely it is that the entity that issued the bond will be able to make its payments on the loan. Most bonds pay interest at specific

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intervals. You get back the original loan amount – the principal – when the bond matures (the date the loan is paid off).

A bond can be bought or sold between the time it is first issued and its maturity date. The value of a bond can fluctuate during this period. When interest rates are rising, bond prices usually go down. The reverse typically happens when interest rates are falling – bond prices usually go up. Bonds offer moderate investment and inflation risk. Their values are generally subject to fewer price swings than stock funds and usually have a higher rate of return than cash equivalent funds.

#### Stocks

Common stock is a unit of ownership in a company. Each share of stock represents a part of the company that issued it. In addition to the market value of a stock, some stocks pay dividends, which offer the investor the opportunity for current income without selling the stock.

Stocks provide the potential for higher investment risk and a lower inflation risk than cash equivalent and bond investments in exchange for greater long-term growth potential.

#### **Mutual Funds**

A mutual fund is a fund operated by an investment company that raises money from shareholders and invests in a group of assets, based on stated objectives (for example, high-growth stocks, blue chip or high-quality stocks, high-rated or low-rated bonds, international stocks, pharmaceutical stocks, etc.).

Benefits may include diversification, risk management, and professional money management. Shares are issued or redeemed on demand, based on the fund's net asset value (NAV), which is determined at the end of each trading session (or business day that the market is open).



#### **ACTION STEPS: Think About Your Investments**

Do your homework before choosing an investment. It's important to understand your investment options. Most investments are rated, which can give you some indication of the risk involved. Read an investment's prospectus or annual report for additional information.

Seek Professional Advice It's a good idea to seek professional financial advice when determining your investment strategy.

# **In-Service Loans and Withdrawals**

Under certain circumstances, you may be allowed to take a loan or make a withdrawal from your account.

# Hardship and General Purpose Loans

There are two types of loans: Hardship Loans and General Purpose Loans (loans for any other reason).

Loan Feature	Hardship Loan	General Purpose Loan	
Loan Eligibility	<ul> <li>Active and retired participants: Only active, terminated/former, and retired participants are eligible for loans. Loans are not available to alternate payees or beneficiaries.</li> <li>Outstanding loans: You may have more than one loan outstanding, but you cannot receive more loans if you are in default on any loan.</li> </ul>		
Loan Amount			
Minimum Amount	\$1,000	\$1,000	

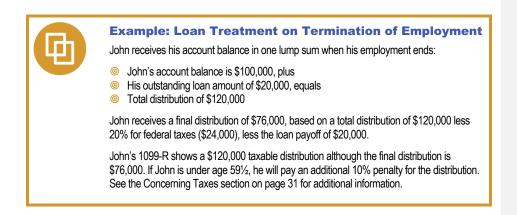
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Loan Feature	Hardship Loan	General Purpose Loan
Maximum Amount	<ul> <li>All hardship loans from the Money Purchase Plan (based on contributions made on your behalf before February 1, 2010) cannot collectively exceed the lessor of:         <ul> <li>50% of the vested balance in your account; or</li> <li>\$50,000.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Each loan is up to the amount you need for an immediate and heavy financial need due to:         <ul> <li>Medical care expenses (incurred or necessary in the future) for you or your dependent, including expenses for the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment or prevention of disease, as well as for transportation primarily for and essential to this medical care.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Tuition and related educational fees for the next 12 months of post-secondary education for you or your dependents. Related educational fees include fees, books, equipment required for and courses of instruction, and room and board. Students loans are not eligible.</li> <li>Down payment and other costs directly related to the purchase of your primary residence (excluding mortgage payments).</li> <li>Payments to prevent your eviction from your principal residence or foreclosure on the mortgage of your principal residence. Please note that this provision is limited to one distribution in each 24-month period. An eviction notice or foreclosure lawsuit must have been received by the Participant and a copy provided to the Fund Office.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>All general purpose loans from the Profit Sharing Account and Money Purchase Account cannot collectively exceed the lessor of:         <ul> <li>50% of the vested balance in your account; or</li> <li>\$20,000.</li> </ul> </li> <li>You can request one General Purpose Loan during any 12 consecutive months</li> </ul>

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Loan Feature	Hardship Loan	General Purpose Loan	
Loan Features			
Loan Fees	\$35 loan setup fee per loan plus \$3.75 quarter adminis	tration fee for each loan.	
Interest Rate	The interest rate of a loan is determined at the time the loan is issued and will remain fixed throughout the life of the loan. The current interest rate is fixed by the Trustees and will be changed periodically so that it is approximately 1% over the prime interest rate being charged by a local financial institution designated by the Trustees. The Trustees reserve the right, in their discretion, to modify the interest rate at any time.		
Repayment Period	The maximum repayment period is five years; howeve penalty. Your Plan loans are repaid by ACH debits fror		
Missed Payme	nts and Termination of Employment		
Missed Payment			
Termination of Employment	If you terminate employment, you may continue to repara distribution of your account, then the loan will be in d distribution of your account and the loan, including interview.	efault and must be repaid in full before	

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#### Applying for a Loan

	ACTION STEPS: Request a Loan You must apply for a loan by completing and submitting a loan application to the Loan Administrator. You must provide documentation as required by the Loan Administrator, including a promissory note to the principal amount and the interest payable.	
Hardship Loan	You will be required to submit any documents to support the need and reason for a hardship loan as may be determined in the discretion of the Trustees.	
Spousal Consent	If you are married, you must obtain consent from your spouse or show that consent cannot be obtained as described in Spousal Consent for Loans or Withdrawals on page $\underline{18}_{r}$	

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# Hardship and Age 591/2 Withdrawals

There are two types of withdrawals while you are still active: hardship withdrawals and age 59% withdrawals.

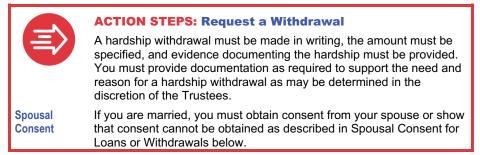
Withdrawal Feature	Hardship Withdrawal	Age 59½ or Older Withdrawal
Withdrawal Eligibility	<ul> <li>Only active participants are eligible for hardship withdrawals.</li> <li>You must be a participant in this Plan for at least three years to be eligible to take a hardship withdrawal.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Only active participants are eligible for age 59½ withdrawals.</li> <li>You must be at least age 59½ to request this withdrawal.</li> </ul>
Withdrawal Amount		

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Withdrawal Feature	Hardship Withdrawal	Age 59½ or Older Withdrawal
Accounts Available for Withdrawal and Maximum Amount	<ul> <li>The gross amount of the withdrawal must be a minimum of \$2,000.</li> <li>The withdrawal cannot exceed 50% of the Profit Sharing Account (contributions made on or after February 1, 2010 with associated gains and losses) after any processing fee, if any, has been deducted.</li> <li>Hardship withdrawals require that you have an immediate and heavy financial need and the hardship withdrawal is in an amount up to the amount of the need. Specifically, the financial need must be due to any one or more of the following reasons:</li> <li>Medical care expenses (incurred or necessary in the future) for you or your dependent. Medical Care expenses include expenses for the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment or prevention of disease, as well as for transportation primarily for and essential to this medical care.</li> <li>Tuition and related educational fees for the next 12 months for post-secondary education for you or your dependent. Related educational fees include fees, books, equipment required for and courses of instruction and room and board. Students loans are not eligible.</li> <li>Down payment and other costs directly related to the purchase of your primary residence (excluding mortgage payments).</li> <li>Payments to prevent your eviction from your principal residence or foreclosure on the mortgage of your principal residence. Please note that this provision is limited to one distribution in each 24-month period. An eviction notice or foreclosure lawsuit must have been received by the Participant and a copy provided to the Fund Office.</li> <li>Payments for burial or funeral expenses for the participant's deceased parent, spouse, children, or dependents.</li> <li>Expenses incurred as a result of a natural disaster as defined by FEMA, provided that the Participant at the time of the disaster was located in the disaster area.</li> </ul>	Entire Profit Sharing Account; any Money Purchase Account is not available for withdrawal.

Withdrawal Feature	Hardship Withdrawal	Age 59½ or Older Withdrawal
Withdrawal Fe	atures	
Meet Requirements	<ul> <li>A distribution will be deemed necessary to satisfy your immediate and heavy financial need if the Trustees rely on your written representation that the need cannot be relieved by any of the following:</li> <li>Through disbursement or compensation by insurance or otherwise,</li> <li>By reasonable liquidation of your assets (or those of your spouse or minor children) to the extent such liquidation does not create a financial hardship,</li> <li>By making other withdrawals or nontaxable loans (including Hardship Loans and General Purpose Loans) from all plans in which you participate, or</li> <li>By borrowing from commercial sources on reasonable commercial terms.</li> </ul>	Attained age 59½.

#### Applying for a Withdrawal



# **Other Withdrawals**

Withdrawal Feature	Withdrawal	Age 59½ or Older Withdrawal
Crime Victims Relief Distribution	<ul> <li>Victim of a violent crime, or immediate family member was victim of violent crime on or after June 1, 2020;</li> <li>Distribution may be up to 50% of the Participant's Profit Sharing Account;</li> <li>Must make application within one-year of the police report;</li> <li>Crime or injury must not have been self-inflicted or have incurred during the commission of a crime.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>All active Participants are eligible</li> </ul>
Qualified Birth or Adoption Distribution	<ul> <li>Eligible beginning one-year from the birth or adoption of a child who is under 18 years of age or is physically or mentally incapable of self-support as described in Section 72(m)(7) of the IRC;</li> <li>Distribution of up to \$5,000 per qualifying child;</li> <li>May be repaid by the Participant within three (3) years if the Participant chooses.</li> </ul>	All active Participants are eligible

# **Spousal Consent for Loans or Withdrawals**

If you are married, your spouse must consent to the loan or withdrawal in writing and must do so in the presence of a notary public or a designated Fund representative. Once your spouse consents, that consent is irrevocable for the life of the loan.

You do not need to get spousal consent if you can establish to the satisfaction of the Plan Administrator or Trustees that you cannot obtain consent because:

- You have no spouse,
- Your spouse cannot be located,
- Your spouse is incompetent and you have the consent of your spouse's guardian, or
- You have a court order that you are legally separated or have been abandoned by your spouse and there is not a Qualified Domestic Relations Order (QDRO) that requires payment to the spouse.

**Annuity Plan SPD** 

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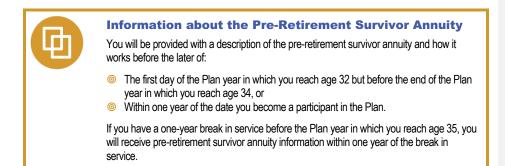
# In the Event of Death

# If You Die Before Payment of Your Benefit Begins

If you die:

- Before you start payment of your Annuity Plan benefit and the value of your account as of the date of your death is \$7,000 or less, your benefit will be paid to your beneficiary as a lump-sum payment.
- Before receiving payment of your Annuity Plan benefit and the value of the benefit as of the date of your death is more than \$7,000, the benefit is paid to your beneficiary as described below.
- While performing qualified military service, your beneficiaries will be entitled to benefits as if you had returned to work and then died. No contributions will be credited for the time you were in military service.

#### **Pre-Retirement Survivor Annuity**



If you are **married** and you die before you start payment of your Annuity Plan benefit, your surviving qualified spouse will be entitled to a pre-retirement survivor annuity if:

- Sou did not waive the pre-retirement survivor annuity before your death,
- Your beneficiary is your spouse and no other beneficiary has been designated, or
- Your spouse did not consent to designation of another beneficiary.

If your spouse waives his or her rights to the pre-retirement survivor annuity before the end of the Plan year in which you reach age 35, you may make a special election to waive the pre-retirement survivor annuity until January 1 of the year in which you turn age 35. At that time or later, you will need to submit a new waiver with your spouse's written, notarized consent. If you do not submit a new waiver and you die, your spouse will be the beneficiary of your pre-retirement survivor annuity.

Annuity Plan SPD

The amount of the benefit is 100% of the balance of your account. Your spouse may elect to begin receiving payment of the pre-retirement survivor annuity as a:

- Monthly life annuity payable for his or her life,
- Iump-sum payment (see page <u>25</u>),
- Fixed or variable annuity (see page 26), or
- Installment payments (see page 26).



Your spouse is considered a "qualified spouse" if you were married on the date of your death. Marriage does not include domestic partners unless you were married in a state or foreign jurisdiction that recognizes same sex marriages, or civil unions.

Your surviving spouse may elect to defer payment of the pre-retirement survivor annuity. See Payment of Death Benefits below for more information.

#### **Death Benefit**

If you are not married or you have a designated beneficiary other than your spouse, your Annuity Plan benefit will be paid to your beneficiary as a lump-sum payment. Your beneficiary may also elect to have benefits paid as:

- A fixed or variable annuity (see page 26), or
- Installment payments (see page 26).

# If You Die After Payment of Your Benefit Begins

If you die after your Annuity Plan benefit begins, payments, if any, will continue based on the form of payment you elected. If you received your benefit as a lump-sum payment, no further benefits are payable after your death.

### **Payment of Death Benefits**

Payment of death benefits will begin within a reasonable time after the Fund Office receives your death certificate. If the designated beneficiary is your spouse, your spouse may defer payment until the later of:

- December 31 immediately following the calendar year of your death, or
- December 31 of the calendar year in which you would have reached age 73.

If you have a designated beneficiary other than your spouse, your beneficiary may begin to receive payments by December 31 immediately following the year of your death, if elected by September 30 of the calendar year of the distribution. Your beneficiary may delay payment until later, but in no event later than the December 31 of the calendar year containing the fifth anniversary of your death.

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# **Payment of Benefits**

Because the Annuity Plan is designed to provide retirement income, certain rules apply when you become eligible to receive the money in your account.



#### **Terms to Know**

**Six-month break in service** – a six-consecutive-month period during which no contributions have been paid to the Annuity Fund on your behalf by a Contributing Employer, beginning on the date you terminate employment. Any Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) leave granted by your employer will not be counted as a break in service.

Required beginning date - April 1 following the calendar year in which you reach age 73.

# **Eligibility for Payment of Benefits**

You are eligible to receive your Annuity Plan benefit when you:

- Become totally disabled,
- Retire, or
- Have no contributions paid to the Fund on our behalf during a six-consecutive-month period.

#### **Disability**

If you become totally disabled, you will be eligible to receive a benefit from the Annuity Plan. You are considered totally disabled if you:

- Have a physical or mental condition that prohibits you from performing any employment, and
- Are eligible for a Social Security disability benefit. You must provide proof of your Social Security disability benefit award.

#### Retirement

You are eligible to receive a benefit from the Annuity Plan when you retire.

The normal retirement date is age 62. Payment may be deferred until no later than April 1 following the calendar year in which you reach age 73.

#### If You Leave Employment Before You Retire

You are eligible to receive a benefit from the Annuity Plan if:

- Contributions have not been paid to the Fund on your behalf within a sixconsecutive-month period by a Contributing Employer,
- You provide proof that contributions have not been paid to the Fund on your behalf during this six-month period, and
- You file a claim for benefits.

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Benefit payments generally begin as of your normal retirement date (generally age 62). However, no payment can begin before the Trustees are able to locate you, your heirs or your legal representative.

If you are eligible to receive an early distribution from the Annuity Plan and are under age  $59\frac{1}{2}$  when you withdraw your account balance, your withdrawal will be subject to a 20% withholding tax and an additional early withdrawal tax penalty of 10% (required by law).

If no contributions have been made on your behalf by a Contributing Employer for six consecutive months and the value of your account is \$1,000 or less, the Trustees may distribute your account to you as a lump-sum payment.

Finally, if no contributions have been made on your behalf by a Contributing Employer for at least six consecutive months and your account has never been above \$7,000, the Trustees may distribute your account to you as a lump-sum payment without your consent. Distributions under this section may be taken only once every six (6) months.



You may want to consult your tax advisor before making a withdrawal from your Annuity Plan account.

# **Benefit Amount**

When you become eligible for and elect distribution of your Annuity Plan account, the amount of your benefit will be based on the balance of your individual account as of the last valuation date plus any employer contributions (or rollover contributions, if applicable) made to your account since the last valuation date less any distributions or administrative expenses. The value of your account is updated at the end of each business day.

# **Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) Requirements**

Your required beginning date is the April 1 of the calendar year immediately following the calendar year in which you reach age 73. Once you reach this date, you must begin receiving at least the required minimum distribution (RMD) each calendar year. The calculation of the RMD divides your account balance by a factor based on life expectancies for you individually or jointly with your spouse. These RMDs will be calculated each calendar year and distributed to you. You or your beneficiary must receive the RMD in the year of your death.

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After you die, your beneficiary must continue to receive the RMD annually, which would be recalculated based on your beneficiary's age. In addition, your beneficiary may elect a complete withdrawal of the annuity account balance in lieu of the RMD.

# Divorce and Qualified Domestic Relations Orders (QDROs)

If you and your spouse divorce, your spouse may receive a benefit pursuant to a Qualified Domestic Relations Order (QDRO). Under the terms of a QDRO, certain payments could be made from your account to pay:

- Alimony,
- Ohild support, or
- Marital property rights.

If the Board of Trustees receives a QDRO, you will be notified. A QDRO may affect the amount of benefits you will receive or are receiving.



#### **ACTION STEPS: Request QDRO Procedures**

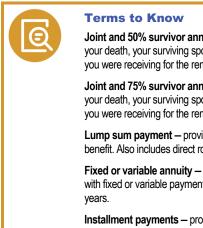
If you have questions about QDROs or would like to receive a free copy of the Plan's QDRO procedures, please send a written request to the Fund Office that includes information related to the alternate payee.

**Annuity Plan SPD** 

# Forms of Payment

If your Annuity Plan benefit is \$7,000 or less, your benefit will automatically be paid to you as a lump-sum payment, provided your account has never exceeded \$7,000. The Annuity Plan offers these forms of payment if your benefit is greater than \$7,000 and you meet the requirements for the specific form of payment:

- Ioint and 50% survivor annuity (if you are married),
- Joint and 75% survivor annuity (if you are married),
- Single sum cash payment or a non-periodic partial cash payment,
- Fixed or variable annuity, and
- Installment payments.



Joint and 50% survivor annuity – provides a monthly benefit to you for your lifetime. After your death, your surviving spouse will receive a monthly benefit equal to 50% of the amount you were receiving for the remainder of his or her lifetime.

Joint and 75% survivor annuity – provides a monthly benefit to you for your lifetime. After your death, your surviving spouse will receive a monthly benefit equal to 75% of the amount you were receiving for the remainder of his or her lifetime.

Lump sum payment – provides a single or partial payment to you of your Annuity Plan benefit. Also includes direct rollover to another plan (see <u>Rollovers</u> for more information).

**Fixed or variable annuity** – a contract or agreement that provides you (or your beneficiary) with fixed or variable payments on an investment for a lifetime or for a specified number of years.

**Installment payments** – provides payments for a specified number of months. If you die before all the payments have been made, the balance of your payments will be paid to your beneficiary.



The joint and 50% or 75% survivor annuity and fixed or variable annuities are payable through the purchase of an annuity from an *outside* company. The outside company assumes responsibility for payment of the benefit and the Plan will have no further liability for payment of benefits.

You (or your spouse for survivor benefits) will need to coordinate with the annuity company on any issues concerning your annuity.

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#### Joint and 50% Survivor Annuity

The normal form of payment for married participants is the joint and 50% survivor annuity. If you are married, to receive a different form of payment, you and your spouse must waive the joint and 50% survivor annuity.

The joint and 50% survivor annuity provides a reduced monthly benefit while you are living. After your death, your surviving spouse will receive a monthly benefit equal to 50% of the amount you were receiving while you were alive. Your spouse will receive payment of this benefit until he or she dies.

#### Joint and 75% Survivor Annuity

An optional form of payment for married participants is the joint and 75% survivor annuity. If you are married, you may choose that your benefit will be paid as a joint and 75% survivor annuity without waving the joint and 50% survivor annuity.

The joint and 75% survivor annuity provides a reduced monthly benefit while you are living. After your death, your surviving spouse will receive a monthly benefit equal to 75% of the amount you were receiving while you were alive. Your spouse will receive payment of this benefit until he or she dies.

#### Lump-Sum Payments

If your Annuity Plan benefit is \$7,000 or less, it may be paid to you as a lump-sum payment (see Concerning Taxes on page 31).

If you are not married, your benefit may be paid as one lump-sum payment unless you elect otherwise.

If the value of your benefit is greater than \$1,000 and you are married, you may elect to receive your benefit as a single or partial lump-sum payment or other optional form of payment. You and your spouse must elect, in writing, to waive the joint and 50% survivor annuity.

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#### **Fixed or Variable Annuity**

If you are not married, you may waive the lump-sum payment option and have your benefit paid as a fixed or variable annuity. If you are married, you may elect, in writing, to have your benefit paid as a fixed or variable annuity, with the written consent of your spouse. An annuity is a contract or agreement that provides you (or your beneficiary) with fixed or variable payments on an investment for a lifetime or for a specified number of years. An outside company assumes payment responsibility for annuity payments.

An annuity can provide fixed or variable income for:

- Your lifetime,
- Your and your designated beneficiary's life, or
- Any period offered through the annuity company.

Some annuities offer the option to provide a minimum number of payments for a specified period. For example, a single life annuity with a 36-month guarantee provides payments for your lifetime. If you die before receiving 36 monthly payments, your beneficiary receives the remainder of those 36 monthly payments. If you die after 36 payments have been made, no further benefits are payable to your beneficiary.

Contact the Fund Office for information on the types of annuities that are available to you.

#### **Installment Payments**

You may elect to receive your benefit as a fixed monthly amount in equal installments if you are:

- Not married and elect, in writing, to waive the lump-sum payment; or
- Married and you and your spouse elect, in writing, to waive the joint and 50% survivor annuity.

The installment payments may be paid over a period of specified months (for example, 36, 60 or 120 months). Contact the Fund Office for more information about installment payment periods available to you.

If you die before all the payments you elected to receive have been made, the remainder of your payments are paid to your beneficiary.

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# Applying for Benefits

	ACTION STEPS: Apply for Benefits When you retire or leave covered employment, request an application from the Fund Office to claim your benefits. Payment can't be made until your application is filed at the Fund Office and approved by the Trustees.
Review Payment Option Information	Generally, the Fund Office provides an explanation of the payment forms and amount of those payments available to you within 90 days of your application receipt. Under special circumstances, this 90-day period may be extended up to 180 days. You will be notified of such extension, why it's necessary, and when you can expect a decision on your application. To protect your rights, contact the Fund Office if you have not received a response within 90 days of filing your application.
	If your application is for a distribution due to a disability, you will receive written notice of a decision within 45 days of receipt of your application. If additional time is required to make a determination (for reasons beyond the control of the Plan), you will be notified within this time. The Plan may extend this 45-day period up to an additional 60-day maximum (two periods of 30 days each). You will be notified in writing before the end of the 45-day period if the first extension is used, or within 75 days if the second extension is used.
If You Are Married	You will receive a description of the terms and conditions of the joint and 50% (or 75%) survivor annuity at least 30 days (but no more than 90 days) before your benefits begin. The description includes your and your spouse's right to waive the joint and 50% (or 75%) survivor annuity form of payment and a description of optional forms of payment. To waive the joint and 50% (or 75%) survivor annuity form of payment, you and your spouse must provide a written waiver within the 90-day period <b>before</b> payment of your Annuity Plan benefit begins. You and your spouse must sign the written statement in the presence of a notary public or a designated Annuity Plan representative. A waiver is only effective if you receive a written explanation of the joint and 50% (or 75%) survivor annuity at least 30 days (but no more than 90 days) before you begin to receive payment of your Annuity Plan benefit.
If Additional Information Is Needed	If additional information is needed to process and make a decision on your application when it is due to a disability, the Plan will notify you within 45 days of receiving your request. You then have up to 45 days to submit the additional information. If you do not provide the information within this time, your application may be denied.

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The Fund Office relies on the information you provide when reviewing your application.

Generally, once your application has been approved, benefits are payable within 45-60 days. If your application is denied, you have the right to request a review.

In the event it is determined that you, your surviving spouse or beneficiary is unable to care for your affairs because of mental or physical incapacity, any payment due may be applied to your maintenance and support or to such person as the Trustees find to be appropriate.

For more information on denied claims, see Appealing Claims on the next page.

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# **Appealing Claims**

# If Your Application Is Denied

If your application for benefits is denied, wholly or in part, the Fund Office will provide you with a written notice that will include:

- The specific reasons for the denial;
- Specific references to the Plan provisions on which the denial is based;
- A description of any additional information necessary as well as an explanation of why such information is necessary;
- A description of the steps you will need to take if you wish to appeal; and
- A statement of your rights, under ERISA, to bring a civil action.

# **Appeal Procedures**

You or your authorized representative may file a written appeal with the Fund Office no later than 90 days (180 days in the case of a disability application) after you receive notice that your application for benefits has been denied. You also have a right to review pertinent documents and to submit comments in writing.

A Participant has 90 days following a claim denial within which to appeal to the Board of Trustees. The appeal must be in writing and shall set forth all facts and include all documents necessary to support the appeal. Failure to file a timely appeal shall be a bar to your ability to appeal or challenge a denial of a benefit under the Plan.

If the Participant or Beneficiary fails to appeal or request such a review to the Plan Administrator in writing within the prescribed period of time, the Plan Administrator's adverse determination shall be final, binding and conclusive.

Before filing a lawsuit challenging an adverse benefit decision, you must first exhaust your administrative remedies set forth in the Plan, including filing a timely appeal. Suit may be filed in state or federal court and must be filed within one year from the date your appeal was denied. The mailbox rule shall apply in determining the date the appeal was denied. A failure to file suit within one year following the date your appeal was denied shall be a bar to any recovery.

You may:

- Submit additional materials, including comments, statements or documents; and
- Request to review all relevant information (free of charge).

In addition, when filing an appeal for a distribution due to a disability:

- If you have the right to be advised of the identity of any medical experts.
- If the determination was based on an internal rule, guideline, protocol or other similar criteria, you have the right to request a free copy of such information.

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- If the determination was based on a medical necessity, experimental treatment or similar exclusion or limit, you have the right to request a free copy of an explanation of the scientific or clinical judgment for the determination.
- If the determination is based on medical necessity or appropriateness, the Annuity Plan must consult a medical professional who is not the same individual who consulted on the initial review of the application or a subordinate of that individual.

### **Appeal Decisions**

The Board of Trustees will complete a new, full and fair review of your application based on all information available, including any additional information you provide. The Board of Trustees will make a decision regarding the appeal at the next regularly scheduled quarterly meeting. However, if the Fund Office receives your request for review less than 30 days before the meeting, the decision may be made at the second meeting following receipt of your request for review. If special circumstances require an extension, the decision may be made at the third meeting following receipt of your request and you will be given written notice of the extension before the date of the review.

Within five days after the determination on your appeal is made, you will be sent written notice of the decision. The decision will include the specific basis for the decision and specific references to Annuity Plan provisions on which the decision was based.

In addition, you will receive a statement notifying you:

- That you have the right to request a free copy of all documents, records and relevant information,
- That you may bring a civil action suit under ERISA, and
- Of any additional voluntary appeal procedures offered by the Plan.

The decision of the Board of Trustees is final and binding. The Trustees' decision will be given judicial deference in any later court action. You (or any person acting on your behalf) cannot bring a lawsuit against the Annuity Plan to recover benefits from the Plan if you do not timely appeal a benefit denial in accordance with the Plan's procedures. In the event your appeal is denied in whole or in part by the Board of Trustees, you have one year after the appeal is denied to file suit to challenge the claim denial. If you do not timely file an appeal with the Plan or file suit within the one-year limitation period, you will be barred from challenging the Board's decision.

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# **Concerning Taxes**

How your benefit is taxed depends on how and when you receive your distribution from the Annuity Plan. Before the Plan makes a taxable payment to you or your beneficiary, the Plan will provide you with a tax notice. This notice explains the tax rules that apply to distributions from the Plan. It also informs you that you have the right to have your lump-sum taxable payment:

- Paid directly to you,
- Paid as a "direct rollover" to an eligible retirement plan, or
- Split between payment to you and payment as a direct rollover.

To determine what may be the best way for you to receive payment of your account and the tax consequences of the benefits you receive, it's a good idea to consult a qualified tax advisor.



#### **ACTION STEPS: Consult with a Tax Advisor**

Because of how frequently tax laws change and the complexity of the tax laws applicable to Annuity Plan distributions, it's always a good idea to consult a qualified tax advisor before making any distribution decisions and before receiving a distribution from the Annuity Plan.

### **Direct Payment**

Whenever a taxable distribution is paid directly to you or your beneficiary, 20% of the distribution will automatically be withheld to pay federal income taxes. The entire distribution is considered taxable income in the year it is received.

To defer payment of the 20% federal withholding tax, you may "rollover" your distribution to an eligible retirement plan within 60 days of receipt of your distribution. However, this 60-day period may be extended in cases of casualty, disaster or other events beyond your reasonable control.

In addition to withholding 20% for federal income taxes, you may be responsible for an additional 10% tax penalty if payment is received before age 59½; this is in addition to your regular income taxes (and any applicable state income taxes). Under certain circumstances the additional 10% tax may not apply (including for distributions made to surviving spouses). You will receive more detailed information when you apply for distribution of your account.

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# Rollovers

If you become eligible for a distribution from the Annuity Plan, you may defer payment of the 20% federal withholding tax (and an additional 10% tax penalty if received before age 59½) by rolling over the taxable portion of your distribution to an eligible retirement plan (if that plan accepts rollovers).

To be considered an eligible retirement plan, a plan must accept eligible rollover distributions and be:

- In individual retirement account under Section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code;
- In individual retirement annuity under Section 401(b) of the Internal Revenue Code;
- A Roth individual retirement account under Section 408(A) of the Internal Revenue Code;
- In annuity plan under Section 403(a) of the Internal Revenue Code;
- A qualified trust under Section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code;
- In annuity contract under Section 403(b) of the Internal Revenue Code; or
- An eligible plan under Section 457(b) of the Internal Revenue Code that is maintained by a state, political subdivision of a state, or any agency of a state or political subdivision that agrees to separately account for amounts into such a plan.

In addition, a non-spousal beneficiary may elect a direct rollover into an inherited IRA.

It is important to note that some individuals may not be eligible to make a rollover into a Roth IRA. It is your responsibility to determine if you are eligible to make a rollover into a Roth IRA. In addition, even if you are eligible to rollover into a Roth IRA, the rollover will be considered taxable income.

The above also applies to surviving spouses and alternate payees under a Qualified Domestic Relations Order (QDRO).

You *cannot* rollover a payment if it is part of a series of equal (or almost equal) payments that are made at least once a year and that will last for:

- Your lifetime (or your life expectancy),
- Your lifetime and your beneficiary's lifetime (or life expectancies), or
- A period of ten or more years.

In addition, you cannot rollover:

- Any distribution that is required under Section 401(a)(9) of the Internal Revenue Code,
- A distribution to more than one retirement plan, or
- Any portion of a distribution that is not included in your gross income.

You may elect to split the distribution between a direct rollover to a qualified plan and lump-sum payment to you. The amount not rolled over will be subject to the 20% federal withholding tax. If you are under age 59½, you may also be subject to an additional 10% tax penalty.

If the amount of your benefit is \$7,000 or less, and you do not elect to make a rollover, you will receive a lump-sum payment, subject to the 20% federal withholding tax. If you are under age  $59\frac{1}{2}$ , you may also be subject to an additional 10% tax penalty.

If your benefit exceeds \$7,000, the benefit will remain in the Plan until you make an election. Beginning in the year you reach age 73, a certain portion of your payment cannot be rolled over because it is a "required minimum payment" that must be paid to you.

**Annuity Plan SPD** 

# **Administrative Facts**

# **Plan Information**

Feature	Details	
Plan Name	Sheet Metal Workers' International Association Local Union No. 73 Annuity Plan	
Employer Identification Number	20-5002115	
Plan Number	003	
Plan Year	June 1 – May 31	
Plan Sponsor and Plan Administrator	Sheet Metal Workers' International Association Local Union No. 73 Annuity Plan 4530 Roosevelt Road Hillside, IL 60162 (708) 449-7373 Fax: (708) 449-7333 www.sm73funds.org	
	Union Trustees: Mr. Dave Brown Mr. Dan Ahern Mr. Ray Suggs Mr. Brian Mulheran Available at: Sheet Metal Workers' Local 73 4550 Roosevelt Road Hillside, IL 60162	<ul> <li>Employer Trustees:</li> <li>Mr. Robert Axelrod SMACNA Greater Chicago 1415 W. 22<sup>nd</sup> Oak Brook, IL 60523</li> <li>Mr. John Hewitt. SMACNA Greater Chicago 1415 W. 22<sup>nd</sup> Oak Brook, IL 60523</li> <li>Mr. James Cesak SMACNA Greater Chicago 1415 W. 22<sup>nd</sup> Oak Brook, IL 60523</li> <li>Mr. Bob Hill SMACNA Greater Chicago 1415 W. 22<sup>nd</sup> Oak Brook, IL 60523</li> </ul>
Plan Type and Administration	The Sheet Metal Workers' International Association Local Union No. 73 is a profit sharing plan that provides payments in the form of an annuity. The Board of Trustees and the Plan Administrator administer the Plan. They are assisted by an administrative staff.	
Source of Contributions	Benefits described in this SPD are provided through employer contributions. The provisions of the collective bargaining agreements determine the amount of employer contributions. All contributions and Annuity Plan assets are held in trust in individual accounts.	

Annuity Plan SPD

Feature	Details
Trust Fund Name	Sheet Metal Workers' International Association Local Union No. 73 Annuity Fund

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# Agent for Service of Legal Process

The Fund Administrator is the Plan's agent for service of legal process. Accordingly, if legal disputes involving the Plan arise, any legal documents should be served on:

Fund Administrator Sheet Metal Workers' Local 73 Annuity Fund 4530 Roosevelt Road Hillside, IL 60162, or

# **Collective Bargaining Agreement**

This Plan is maintained pursuant to Collective Bargaining Agreements between Sheet Metal Workers' International Association Local Union No. 73 and Contributing Employers. The Plan Administrator will provide you, upon written request, information as to whether a particular employer is contributing to the Plan on behalf of employees working under the collective bargaining agreements and a copy of the relevant collective bargaining agreement.

# Sole Determination and Plan Interpretation by Trustees

Only the Board of Trustees has the discretion and authority to determine eligibility for benefits and the right to participate in the Annuity Plan and to exercise all the other powers specified in the Plan Document. No officer, agent or employee of the Union or employer or any other person, is authorized to speak for, or on behalf of, or to commit the Board of Trustees, on any matter relating to the Annuity Plan.

The Board of Trustees has the right to interpret the Plan and its provisions in its sole discretion. The Board's interpretation shall be final and binding and may only be disturbed if it is found to be arbitrary, capricious, and an abuse of discretion. The Plan Administrator is responsible for answering all day-to-day questions concerning eligibility, benefits, applications, and appeal procedures.

# **No Employment Guarantees**

Your coverage by this Plan does not constitute a guarantee of your continued employment.

### **Right to Change or Terminate the Plan**

The Board of Trustees has the right to amend or terminate this Plan when required by law or when deemed appropriate. The Plan may be amended at any time if the Trustees agree to do so in writing, as long as the amendment does not affect the ability of the Plan to provide the annuity benefits you have accrued in your account. The Plan will be amended pursuant to the requirements of the Trust Agreement and ERISA. If the Plan is amended or terminated, you will be notified in writing.

In the event of a termination (or partial termination) of the Plan, or in the event contributions are discontinued, you will remain 100% vested in your account balance. Any assets remaining after paying out participants' vested account balances and

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expenses of the Plan will be distributed among the participants. Each participant will receive a part of the assets as specified in the Plan Document. No assets will be returned to any employer for the benefit of any employer or the Union.

Once the Plan is terminated and all assets have been distributed, the Board of Trustees will be discharged from all liability under the Plan and participants and beneficiaries will have no further rights or claims.

### **Non-Assignment of Benefits**

You cannot assign or transfer benefits under the Sheet Metal Workers' International Association Local Union No. 73 Annuity Plan to someone else, except as otherwise provided under federal law. Your Plan benefits are exempt from execution, attachment, garnishment, pledge or bankruptcy. However, the Board of Trustees will honor a Qualified Domestic Relations Order (QDRO).

# **Top-Heavy Provisions**

Federal law requires that if the Annuity Plan becomes a "top-heavy" plan as described in the Internal Revenue Code, minimum contributions may apply. In the unlikely event that this Annuity Plan becomes top-heavy, you will be notified accordingly.

### **Maximum Contributions**

The Internal Revenue Code imposes maximum limitations on contributions permitted under all qualified plans. These limits are liberal and would not normally prevent you from receiving full benefits. In the unlikely event that the employer contributions made on your behalf are limited, the Fund Office will contact you with more information.

# **Your ERISA Rights**

As a participant in the Annuity Plan, you are entitled to certain rights and protections under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ERISA provides that all Plan participants are entitled to certain rights, as outlined in the following information.

### **Receive Information about Your Plan and Benefits**

You have the right to:

- Examine, without charge, at the Plan Administrator's office and at other specified locations, such as worksites and union halls, all documents governing the Plan, including insurance contracts, collective bargaining agreements and a copy of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series) filed by the Plan with the U.S. Department of Labor and available at the Public Disclosure Room of the Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA);
- Obtain, upon written request to the Plan Administrator, copies of documents governing the operation of the Plan, including insurance contracts, collective bargaining agreements and copies of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series) and updated Summary Plan Description (the Plan Administrator may make a reasonable charge for the copies);
- Receive a summary of the Plan's annual financial report, which the Plan Administrator is required by law to furnish each participant with a copy; and
- Obtain a statement telling you whether you have a right to receive an annuity at normal retirement age (age 62), and, if so, what your benefits would be at normal retirement age if you stop working under the Plan now. If you do not have a right to a pension, the statement will tell you how many more years you have to work to get a right to a pension. This statement must be requested in writing and is not required to be given more than once every 12 months. The Plan must provide the statement free of charge.

# **Prudent Actions by Plan Fiduciaries**

In addition to creating rights for Plan participants, ERISA imposes duties upon the people who are responsible for the operation of the employee benefit plan. The people who operate your Plan, called "fiduciaries" of the Plan, have a duty to do so prudently and in the interest of you and other Plan participants and beneficiaries. No one, including your employer, your Union or any other person, may fire you or otherwise discriminate against you in any way to prevent you from obtaining a pension benefit or exercising your rights under ERISA.

# **Enforce Your Rights**

If your application for an annuity benefit is denied or ignored, in whole or in part, you have a right to know why this was done, to obtain copies of documents relating to the decision without charge and to appeal any denial, all within certain time schedules.

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Under ERISA, there are steps you can take to enforce the above rights. For instance, if you request a copy of the Plan Documents or the latest annual report from the Plan and do not receive them within 30 days, you may file suit in a federal court. In such a case, the court may require the Plan Administrator to provide the materials and pay you up to \$110 a day until you receive the materials, unless the materials were not sent because of reasons beyond the control of the Plan Administrator.

If you have an application for benefits that is denied or ignored, in whole or in part, you may file suit in a state or federal court. In addition, if you disagree with the Plan's decision or lack thereof concerning the qualified status of a domestic relations order, you may file suit in federal court. If it should happen that Plan fiduciaries misuse the Plan's money, or if you are discriminated against for asserting your rights, you may seek assistance from the U.S. Department of Labor or you may file suit in a federal court. The court will decide who should pay court costs and legal fees. If you are successful, the court may order the person you have sued to pay these costs and fees. If you lose, the court may order you to pay these costs and fees, for example, if it finds your claim is frivolous.

### **Assistance with Your Questions**

If you have any questions about your Plan, you should contact the Plan Administrator. If you have any questions about this statement or about your rights under ERISA, or if you need assistance in obtaining documents from the Plan Administrator, you should contact the nearest office of the Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA), U.S. Department of Labor, listed in your telephone directory or:

Division of Technical Assistance and Inquiries Employee Benefits Security Administration U.S. Department of Labor 200 Constitution Avenue NW Washington, D.C. 20210

For more information on your rights and responsibilities under ERISA or for a list of EBSA offices, contact the EBSA by:

© Calling (866) 444-3272 (866-444-EBSA), or

Visiting the Web site of the EBSA at <u>www.dol.gov/ebsa</u>.

# Glossary

# **Annuity Starting Date**

The first day of the first period for which an amount under the Plan is paid as an annuity or another form of payment.

# Beneficiary

A person designated to receive any amount payable under this Plan because of a participant's death.

# **Collective Bargaining Agreement or Agreement**

A written agreement entered into between the Union and the association, or any employers, where the employers are required to make contributions to the Trust Fund and which is written in conformance with language acceptable to the Trustees. This term also includes any amendments, supplements or modifications.

# **Contributing Employer or Employer**

A Contributing Employer or employer means any employer who is bound by a collective bargaining agreement with the union and agrees to be bound by the Trust agreement, or any employer who is not party to the collective bargaining agreement, but who satisfies the requirements for participation as established by the Trustees.

# **Computation Period**

The computation period is a Plan Year.

# **Contributions (employer)**

Payment made from a Contributing Employer pursuant to this Plan and the Trust agreement, and collective bargaining agreement or other written agreement requiring payments to the Trust Fund.

# **Hour of Service**

Each hour:

- You are paid or entitled to payment by an employer for performance of duties. These hours will be credited to you for the computation periods or periods in which the duties are performed; or
- Back pay, regardless of the reason, is either awarded or agreed to by an employer, to the extent that the award or agreement is intended to compensate you for periods you would have been engaged in the performance of duties for the employer. These hours will be credited for the computation periods in which the award, agreement, or payment is made.

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### Insurer

Any legal reserve life insurance company that issues contracts under the Plan.

# **Normal Retirement Date**

The date you reach age 62.

# **Six-Month Break in Service**

A six-consecutive-month period during which no contributions have been paid to the Annuity Fund on your behalf by a Contributing Employer, beginning on the date you terminate employment. Any Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) leave granted by your employer will not be counted as a break in service.

Special rules apply for military service. If you serve in the military, you should check with the Fund Office to determine how this affects your benefits.

### Plan

Sheet Metal Workers' International Association Local Union No. 73 Annuity Plan.

### Plan Start Date

June 1, 1992

# Plan Year

Each 12-consecutive-month period beginning June 1 and ending May 31.

# Trust

The legal entity created by execution of the Plan and the Trust agreement, to which employer contributions are made for the purpose of distributing the capital or principal amount of the Trust and income to participants and beneficiaries in accordance with the Plan.

### Union

Sheet Metal Workers' International Association Local Union No. 73.

# Valuation Date

The date the investment administrator determines the value of an investment vehicle. Valuation dates will occur on dates determined by the investment administrator, but at least on the last business day of a calendar month. Valuation will occur at the end of each such day, according to the investment administrator's then current procedures.

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