STANLEY BLACK & DECKER, INC.
Form 11-K
June 22, 2016

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 11-K

(Mark One)
þ Annual Report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015

or

¨ Transition Report Pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the transition period from __________ to ___________

Commission file number 1-5224

Stanley Black & Decker
Retirement Account Plan
(Full title of the plan)

Stanley Black & Decker, Inc.
1000 Stanley Drive
New Britain, Connecticut 06053
(Name of issuer of the securities held pursuant to the plan and the address of its principal executive offices)

Audited Financial Statements and Supplemental Schedules
Stanley Black & Decker Retirement Account Plan
Years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

2

Stanley Black & Decker Retirement Account Plan

Audited Financial Statements
and Supplemental Schedules

Years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

Contents

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Finance and Pension Committee of the Board of Directors
Stanley Black & Decker, Inc.:

We have audited the accompanying statements of net assets available for benefits of the Stanley Black & Decker Retirement Account Plan (the Plan) as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2015. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Plan’s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. The Plan is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of its internal control over financial reporting. Our audits included consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Plan's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits of the Plan as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2015, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The supplemental information in the accompanying schedules of assets (held at end of year) as of December 31, 2015, and reportable transactions for the year then ended have been subjected to audit procedures performed in conjunction with the audit of the Plan's financial statements. The supplemental information is presented for the purpose of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but include supplemental information required by the Department of Labor’s Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. The supplemental information is the responsibility of the Plan's management. Our audit procedures included determining whether the supplemental information reconciles to the financial statements or the underlying accounting and other records, as applicable, and performing procedures to test the completeness and accuracy of the information presented in the supplemental information. In forming our opinion on the supplemental information, we evaluated whether the supplemental information, including its form and content, is presented in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. In our opinion, the supplemental information in the accompanying schedules is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

/s/ Fiondella, Milone & LaSaracina LLP
Glastonbury, Connecticut
June 22, 2016

Stanley Black & Decker Retirement Account Plan

Statement of Net Assets Available for Benefits

December 31, 2015

	Unallocated Fund	Participant Directed	Total
Assets			
Investments, at current market value:			
Stanley Black & Decker Common Stock:			
2,506,878 shares (cost $78,048,027)	$—	$267,559,089	$267,559,089
1,880,256 shares (cost $34,897,551)	200,679,723	—	200,679,723
Short Term funds (cost $5,302,237)	—	5,302,237	5,302,237
Mutual funds (cost $119,413,160)	20,110,628	97,227,655	117,338,283
Common/Collective Trusts (cost $816,033,187)	—	965,327,740	965,327,740
	220,790,351	1,335,416,721	1,556,207,072
Dividends and interest receivable	3,185	855	4,040
Contribution receivable from employer	—	2,691,425	2,691,425
Contribution receivable from participants	—	268,748	268,748
Notes receivable from participants	—	19,029,047	19,029,047
	220,793,536	1,357,406,796	1,578,200,332
Liabilities			
Debt	58,030,840	—	58,030,840
Other liabilities	—	457,710	457,710
	58,030,840	457,710	58,488,550
Net assets available for benefits	$162,762,696	$1,356,949,086	$1,519,711,782

See accompanying notes.

Stanley Black & Decker Retirement Account Plan

Statement of Net Assets Available for Benefits

December 31, 2014

	Unallocated Fund	Participant Directed	Total
Assets			
Investments, at current market value:			
Stanley Black & Decker Common Stock:			
2,680,831 shares (cost $84,984,907)	$—	$257,574,243	$257,574,243
2,346,162 shares (cost $43,544,767)	225,419,245	—	225,419,245
Short Term funds (cost $3,096,821)	—	3,096,821	3,096,821
Mutual funds (cost $109,941,894)	19,104,249	101,529,774	120,634,023
Common/Collective Trusts (cost $754,556,913)	—	939,145,529	939,145,529
	244,523,494	1,301,346,367	1,545,869,861
Dividends and interest receivable	196	670	866
Contribution receivable from employer	—	2,867,882	2,867,882
Contribution receivable from participants	—	553,591	553,591
Notes receivable from participants	—	18,233,861	18,233,861
	244,523,690	1,323,002,371	1,567,526,061
Liabilities			
Debt	72,405,840	—	72,405,840
Other liabilities	—	178,636	178,636
	72,405,840	178,636	72,584,476
Net assets available for benefits	$172,117,850	$1,322,823,735	$1,494,941,585

See accompanying notes.

6

Stanley Black & Decker Retirement Account Plan

Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits

Year ended December 31, 2015

	Unallocated Fund	Participant Directed	Total
Additions			
Investment income:			
Dividends	$4,306,031	$6,814,620	$11,120,651
Interest	8,740	774,483	783,223
	4,314,771	7,589,103	11,903,874
Net appreciation (depreciation)	58,464,431	(23,749,763)	34,714,668
Employer contributions	7,203,731	4,305,421	11,509,152
Employee contributions	—	58,118,692	58,118,692
	69,982,933	46,263,453	116,246,386
Deductions			
Distributions	—	(116,279,168)	(116,279,168)
Administrative expenses	(11,514)	(1,618,099)	(1,629,613)
Interest expense	(3,836,480)	—	(3,836,480)
	(3,847,994)	(117,897,267)	(121,745,261)
Interfund transfers (out) in	(75,490,093)	75,490,093	—
Net (decrease) increase before transfer from other plans	(9,355,154)	3,856,279	(5,498,875)
Transfers from other plans	—	30,269,072	30,269,072
Net (decrease) increase	(9,355,154)	34,125,351	24,770,197
Net assets available for benefits at the beginning of the year	172,117,850	1,322,823,735	1,494,941,585
Net assets available for benefits at the end of the year	$162,762,696	$1,356,949,086	$1,519,711,782

See accompanying notes.

7

Stanley Black & Decker Retirement Account Plan
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2015

1. Description of the Plan

The following brief description of the Stanley Black & Decker Retirement Account Plan (formerly the Stanley Account Value Plan) (the “Plan”) is provided for general information purposes only. Participants should refer to the Plan document for a more complete description of the Plan’s provisions.

Plan Overview
In connection with the merger of The Black & Decker Corporation with and into The Stanley Works, effective March 12, 2010, the Plan was amended and restated in its entirety, effective January 1, 2011, and the name of the Plan was changed from the “Stanley Account Value Plan” to the “Stanley Black & Decker Retirement Account Plan.” Effective February 23, 2015, the Plan accepted the transfer of all of the assets and liabilities of the AeroScout, Inc. 401(k) P/S Plan (the “AeroScout Plan”). In addition, effective August 12, 2015, the Plan accepted the transfer of all of the assets and liabilities of the CRC-Evans Pipeline International, Inc. 401(k) Plan (the “CRC-Evans Plan”) and effective October 16, 2015, the Plan accepted the transfer of all of the assets and liabilities of the Niscayah, Inc. Incentive Savings and Retirement Plan (the “Niscayah Plan”).

The Plan, which operates as a leveraged employee stock ownership plan, is designed to comply with Sections 401(a), 401(k) and 4975(e)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), and is subject to the applicable provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA"). The Plan is a defined contribution plan for eligible United States salaried and hourly paid employees of Stanley Black & Decker, Inc. and its U.S. affiliates (the "Company"). Each individual employed by the Company as a common law employee who is subject to the income tax laws of the United States is covered by the Plan, unless the individual is a "leased employee" as defined in the Plan, is in a unit of employees listed in Part I of Appendix A of the Plan, or is covered by a collective bargaining agreement with the Company with respect to which retirement benefits were the subject of good faith negotiation and, as a result of such negotiation, the collective bargaining agreement does not provide that the individuals covered by such bargaining agreement are to be covered under the Plan. In addition, an individual employed after November 1, 2004, by an entity that first becomes a wholly-owned (direct or indirect) U.S. subsidiary of Stanley Black & Decker, Inc. after that date, pursuant to the acquisition of such entity by a member of the Company’s affiliated group of corporations or entities from an unrelated party, is not covered under the Plan during any period in which he or she is employed by the Company, unless the Plan provides for his or her coverage. An individual who is employed by the Company on a temporary assignment from a foreign affiliate is not considered an eligible employee and will not be covered under the Plan during any period for which he or she is eligible to accrue a benefit under a foreign retirement plan that covers employees of the foreign affiliate pursuant to the laws of a country other than the United States. Effective July 1, 2011, an individual who is employed by CRC- Evans Pipeline International, Inc. or Microalloying International, Inc. (each a subsidiary of the Company) and is paid pursuant to a payroll program that is administered outside of the United States is not considered an eligible employee and will not be covered under the Plan. Effective October 1, 2011, an individual whose earnings from the Company are not subject to the income tax laws of the United States, that apply to tax qualified retirement plans, is not considered an eligible employee and will not be covered under the Plan.

Effective January 1, 2011, eligible employees who are not "highly compensated" (as defined under the Plan), may elect to make before-tax and after-tax contributions under the Plan of up to a total of 25% of pay for a pay period. Under certain circumstances, participants who have attained age 50 are permitted under the Code to make additional pre-tax contributions (“catch-up” contributions) to the Plan. Highly compensated employees may contribute up to 7% of pay for a pay period, on a pre-tax basis (plus “catch-up” contributions, if applicable), but may not make after-tax contributions to the Plan. A participant’s contributions (including, if applicable, “catch-up” contributions) and matching allocations are allocated to a “Choice Account.” A participant’s Choice Account is automatically credited with matching allocations with respect to a payroll cycle equal to 50% of the participant’s pre-tax contributions for the payroll cycle credited to such account, taking into account only pre-tax contributions that do not exceed 7% of compensation for the payroll cycle. Therefore, the maximum matching allocation with respect to a participant’s pre-tax contributions for a payroll cycle is 3.5% of the participant’s compensation for such payroll cycle. Matching allocations with respect to a payroll cycle are allocated to the Choice Account of a participant on whose behalf such allocations are made as soon as practicable after compensation is paid to the participant with respect to the payroll cycle. “Catch-up” contributions are not eligible for matching allocations.

All amounts which are credited to a participant’s Choice Account may be invested as directed by the participant in one or more of the investment funds made available by the Plan administrator. Amounts received by the Plan on behalf of a participant in a direct rollover or a direct transfer from a qualified plan of an entity that has been acquired by the Company may be invested as directed by the Plan administrator until such time as the participant provides investment instructions with respect to such amounts.

The allocations credited to a participant's Choice Account as of a date before July 1, 1998 (other than matching allocations credited after June 30, 1985 and other than a participant's after-tax contributions to the Plan) are guaranteed a cumulative minimum return by the Pension Plan for Hourly Paid Employees of Stanley Black & Decker, Inc. for the period or periods during which they are invested or reinvested in the Company Stock Fund. This guarantee provides that the investment return will not be less than an investment return based on two-year U.S. Treasury notes (but not less than 5% nor greater than 12.5%).

Choice Account Fund Investments

A participant may direct the investment of the funds credited to his or her Choice Account among certain investment funds made available under the Plan. Investment options available as of December 31, 2015 for Choice Account investments were as follows:

1. BlackRock LifePath® Index Non-Lendable Funds F ("Target Retirement Funds")
2. BlackRock Money Market Fund
3. State Street Global Advisors ("SSgA") U.S. Intermediate Government/Credit Bond Index Fund - Class A
4. Mellon Capital Aggregate Bond Index Fund
5. SSgA U.S. Inflation Protected Bond Index Fund - Class A
6. Mellon Capital S&P 500 Index Fund
7. SSgA U.S. Total Market Index Fund - Class A
8. SSgA U.S. Extended Market Index Fund - Class C
9. SSgA Global Equity ex-U.S. Index Fund - Class A
10. Neuberger Berman Genesis Institutional Fund
11. Dodge & Cox International Stock Fund
12. Stanley Black & Decker Stock Fund (“Company Stock Fund”)
13. Loomis Sayles Core PLUS Fixed Income Fund

Core Account Allocations

The Plan also provides for separate allocations for certain eligible participants. The Core Account allocation for a Plan year is based on the eligible employee's age on December 31 of the allocation year and is determined in notional, quarterly credits. In order to receive a Core Account allocation credit for a calendar quarter that ends on or after March 31, 2011, an eligible Plan participant must be employed on the last day of such calendar quarter and not be employed in a classification that is excluded from Core Account allocations according to the terms of the Plan. Eligible employees under age 40 on December 31 of the applicable Plan year will receive 2% of pay; eligible employees age 40 to 54 on December 31 of the applicable Plan year will receive 4% of pay; and eligible employees age 55 or older on December 31 of the applicable Plan year will receive 6% of pay. In addition, Core Transition Benefit Allocations and Additional Core Transition Benefit Allocations were made under the Plan’s requirements for five years (2011-2015) for certain employees who were previously eligible for Cornerstone Account allocations (the predecessor to the Core Account allocations) of 3%, 5% or 9% of pay, and certain employees who were previously eligible to accrue benefits under specified defined benefit plans. No Core Transition Benefit Allocations or Additional Core Transition Benefit Allocations will be made after December 31, 2015.

A participant is not eligible for these separate Core Account allocations if he or she is covered under a collective bargaining agreement which calls for participation in the Plan; eligible to accrue a benefit under the Pension Plan for

Hourly Paid Employees of Stanley Black & Decker, Inc.; an employee of Stanley Security Solutions, Inc.; an employee of JENSEN Tools + Supply, Inc., known previously as Stanley Supply & Services, Inc. (other than an employee who was employed by Jensen Tools, Inc. on December 29, 2001); an employee at the Kannapolis, North Carolina distribution center whose employment commences on or after December 1, 2004; an employee of Stanley Access Technologies LLC at Dallas, Texas, Cortland, New York, San Diego, California, Denver, Fort Collins or Colorado Springs, Colorado, Mandeville, Louisiana, Indianapolis, Indiana, Burnsville, Minnesota, Memphis, Nashville or Knoxville, Tennessee, Jackson, Mississippi, Little Rock, Arkansas, or Salt Lake City, Utah; an employee of Sargent & Greenleaf, Inc.; an employee of Stanley Black & Decker, Inc. at Kentwood, Michigan, including employees whose primary duties are not performed at the Kentwood, Michigan facilities; an employee of Stanley Convergent Security Solutions, Inc.; an employee of CRC-Evans Pipeline International, Inc. or Microalloying International, Inc.; an employee of InfoLogix, Inc. or InfoLogix Systems Corporation; effective December 28, 2013, an employee of Stanley Industrial & Automotive, LLC at Marietta, Georgia or Holliston, Massachusetts; an employee of AeroScout, (US) LLC (formerly AeroScout Inc.), effective January 1, 2014, an employee of Infastech Decorah, LLC, or an employee of Avdel USA LLC; effective July 1, 2014, an employee of Stanley Black & Decker, Inc. at North Andover, Massachusetts, Waltham, Massachusetts, Noblesville, Indiana, Fishers, Indiana (Crosspoint), East 75th Street, Indianapolis, Indiana, Fremont, California, Tulsa, Oklahoma, Lincoln, Nebraska or Houston, Texas; effective January 1, 2015, an employee of Stanley Black & Decker, Inc. at Plymouth, Minnesota, Nicholasville, Kentucky, Irving, Texas, Marietta, Georgia, Decorah, Iowa, or Stanfield, North Carolina; effective January 1, 2015, an employee of Black & Decker (U.S.) Inc. at Decorah, Iowa; effective March 31, 2015, an employee of Stanley Industrial & Automotive, LLC at Kentwood, Michigan, or Lincoln, Nebraska; effective April 6, 2015, an employee of Emhart Teknologies LLC at Stanfield, North Carolina; effective July 1, 2015, an employee of Pacom Systems (North America) Inc.; or effective September 1, 2015, an employee of SentryNet, Inc. A participant who is employed by Stanley Black & Decker, Inc. pursuant to the Executive Chairman Agreement, as defined in the Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of November 2, 2009, is excluded from Core Account allocations. An individual who is designated as participating in the Company’s management incentive compensation plan may be eligible to have Core Account allocations made on his or her behalf under the Plan.

A participant may, at any time, direct the investment of the funds credited to his or her Core Account into one of the Target Retirement Funds made available under the Plan for investment of amounts credited to Core Accounts. A participant may direct that his or her Core Account funds be moved from one Target Retirement Fund to another Target Retirement Fund, provided that all of his or her Core Account funds are invested in the same Target Retirement Fund. If a participant does not direct the investment of new contributions or allocations to his or her Core Account, these funds will automatically be invested in the participant's age appropriate Target Retirement Fund until the participant makes an affirmative election for a different Target Retirement Fund.

Distributions and Vesting

Participants are fully vested in their own contributions and earnings thereon and amounts transferred or rolled over from other qualified plans on their behalf. All participants who are employed on or after January 1, 2002, but are not credited with any hours of service after December 31, 2010, are vested in 100% of the value of the matching allocations made on their behalf once they have completed three years of service with no vesting in the matching allocations before completion of three years of service. All participants who are employed on or after January 1, 2007, but are not credited with any hours of service after December 31, 2010, are vested in 100% of the value of Core Account allocations made on their behalf once they have completed three years of service. Upon the earlier of completion of one year of service or attainment of age 55 while an employee of the Company, a participant who is credited with an hour of service with the Company, on or after January 1, 2011, will become 100% vested in the portion of his or her Choice Account attributable to matching allocations credited after 1986, matching contributions transferred from The Black & Decker Retirement Savings Plan that were made to that plan after 2007, and certain other allocations to a Choice Account made after 1997. Moreover, a participant who is credited with an hour of service on or after January 1, 2011, will become vested in allocations to his or her Core Account, upon the earlier of the date on which the participant completes three years of service or the date on which the participant attains age 55 while an employee of the Company.

Benefits generally are distributed upon retirement, disability, death, or termination of employment. Normally, a lump-sum distribution is made in cash or whole shares of the Company's common stock (hereinafter referred to as Stanley Black & Decker Stock or Common Stock or shares), at the election of the participant, equal to the value of assets in the participant’s accounts under the Plan at the time of the distribution. Special distribution rules apply to certain money purchase pension plan assets transferred from the CRC-Evans Plan. At the election of a participant who receives a distribution after attainment of age 70 1/2, the distribution may be made in annual installment payments, as provided under the Plan. Certain restrictions on transfers of assets to or from the Company Stock Fund, or the receipt of loans, withdrawals, or distributions from the Company Stock Fund, apply to those participants who are subject to Section 16(b) of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934. Certain transfer restrictions also apply during the quarterly blackout periods enforced by the Company with respect to trading in Stanley Black & Decker Stock by insiders.

During active employment, subject to financial hardship rules or the attainment of age 59 1/2, a participant, subject to certain procedures, may make withdrawals from the vested amounts in his or her Choice Account. Also, a participant whose Choice Account holds funds that were transferred to the Plan on behalf of the participant in a direct transfer from another defined contribution plan sponsored by a business that was acquired by the Company ("Acquired Plan") may, under certain circumstances set forth in the Plan, withdraw a portion of such transferred funds held in the participant's Choice Account. A participant may, for any reason, withdraw all or a portion of the amount in the participant's Choice Account that is attributable to any after-tax contributions he or she has made to the Plan. Effective January 1, 2011, a participant may also withdraw all or a portion of the amount that is attributable to any rollover contributions or direct rollovers that have been credited to his or her Choice Account under the Plan.

Notes Receivable from Participants

Participants may borrow from their Choice Accounts up to an aggregate amount equal to the lesser of $50,000 or 50% of the value of their vested interest in such accounts, with a minimum loan of $1,000. The $50,000 loan amount limitation is reduced by the participant's highest outstanding balance of loans from the Plan during the 12 months preceding the date the loan is made. Each loan is evidenced by a negotiable promissory note bearing a rate of interest equal to the prime rate, as reported in The Wall Street

Journal on the first business day of the month in which the loan request is processed, plus one percent (1%), which is payable, through payroll deductions, over a term of not more than five years. If, after a participant's loan repayments have begun under the Plan, it cannot be repaid through payroll deductions during a period in which the individual continues in employment status with the Company, the loan administrator may, in its sole discretion, accept repayment by individual check, or another acceptable manual re-payment method. General-purpose loans must be repaid within 60 months; however, participants are allowed ten years to repay the loan if the proceeds are used to purchase a principal residence. As a general rule, a participant may not have more than one loan outstanding at any time, except to the extent that, after the participant has taken a loan from the Plan, one or more loans that are not in default are transferred to the Plan on behalf of the participant in a direct transfer from an Acquired Plan. A participant may not request a new loan until a loan on which payments are currently being made, including any transferred loan from an Acquired Plan, is paid in full. If a loan is outstanding at the time a distribution becomes payable to a participant (or beneficiary), the distribution is made net of the outstanding loan amount.

Unallocated Fund

The Plan borrowed $180,000,000 in 1991 from the Company (see Notes 4 and 5) to acquire 9,696,968 shares of Common Stock from the Company's treasury and previously unissued shares ("Exempt Loan"). The shares purchased from the proceeds of the Exempt Loan were placed in the Unallocated Stanley Black & Decker Stock Fund (the "Unallocated Fund"). The Exempt Loan agreement was refinanced effective June 30, 1998.

Monthly transfers of shares of Stanley Black & Decker Stock are made from the Unallocated Fund for allocation to participants based on the current period debt principal and interest payments made under the Exempt Loan as a percentage of total future debt principal and interest payments. In 2015 and 2014, additional debt payments were made and additional shares were released, the net proceeds of which were used to partially fund employer contributions. As a general rule, dividends received on allocated shares of Stanley Black & Decker Stock are applied to make payments on the Exempt Loan. Dividends received on unallocated shares of Stanley Black & Decker Stock and participant and Company contributions (other than contributions of Stanley Black & Decker Stock) are used to make payments under the Exempt Loan.

The Company will make a contribution to the Plan for a Plan year, of the amount, if any, by which the sum of the value of Stanley Black & Decker Stock released from the Unallocated Fund with respect to the Plan year and the contributions to the Plan that are not used to make payments under the Exempt Loan for the Plan year is less than the total of: (i) the participants' contributions for the Plan year; (ii) any matching allocations or Core Account allocations made for the Plan year, (other than the amount of such allocations attributable to forfeitures); and (iii) any dividends paid on shares of Stanley Black & Decker Stock in the Company Stock Fund attributable to participants' interests in the Company Stock Fund that are used to make payments under the Exempt Loan for that Plan year. Moreover, the Company will make a contribution to the Plan for a Plan year, of the amount, if any, by which the amount needed to make payments under the Exempt Loan for the Plan year exceeds the total of: (i) the participants' contributions; (ii) dividends paid on shares of Stanley Black & Decker Stock in the Company Stock Fund attributable to participants' interests in the Company Stock Fund that are applied to make payments under the Exempt Loan for that Plan year; (iii) dividends paid on shares of Stanley Black & Decker Stock in the Unallocated Fund that are applied to make payments under the Exempt Loan for that Plan year; and (iv) any Company contributions to the Plan for such Plan year that are applied to make payments under the Exempt Loan for that Plan year. A contribution will be applied in accordance with the terms of the Plan.

Additional allocations will be made proportionally to the Choice Accounts of eligible participants for a Plan year, if the value of Stanley Black & Decker Stock released from the Unallocated Fund with respect to the Plan year, and the contributions made to the Plan for that Plan year that are not used to make payments under the Exempt Loan, exceeds the total of participant contributions made for the Plan year, matching and Core Account allocations (other than the amount of such allocations attributable to forfeitures) made for the Plan year, and dividends paid during the Plan year on allocated shares of Stanley Black & Decker Stock in the Company Stock Fund applied to make payments under the Exempt Loan for the Plan year. Special rules expanding participant eligibility for such allocations apply in the event of a change in control of the Company (as such term is defined in the Plan). There was no such additional allocation for the 2015 Plan year.

The trust agreement governing the Plan provides that the trustee will vote the shares of Stanley Black & Decker Stock in the Company Stock Fund attributable to a participant's Choice Account in the Plan in accordance with such participant's directions. The trust agreement governing the Plan provides that, if the trustee does not receive voting instructions with respect to shares of Stanley Black & Decker Stock in the Company Stock Fund attributable to a participant's Choice Account in the Plan, the trustee will vote such shares in the same proportion as it votes the allocated shares for which instructions are received from Plan participants. The trust agreement also provides that shares in the Unallocated Fund are to be voted by the trustee in the same proportion as it votes the shares of Stanley Black & Decker Stock in the Company Stock Fund attributable to Choice Accounts for which instructions are received from Plan participants. Therefore, by providing voting instructions with respect to shares of Stanley Black & Decker

Stock in the Company Stock Fund attributable to a participant's Choice Account in the Plan, a Plan participant will, in effect, be providing instructions with respect to a portion of the shares in the Unallocated Fund and a portion of the shares of Stanley Black & Decker Stock in the Company Stock Fund attributable to Choice Accounts in the Plan for which instructions were not provided as well. The foregoing provisions are subject to applicable law which requires the trustee to act as a fiduciary for Plan participants. Therefore, it is possible that the trustee may vote shares of Stanley Black & Decker Stock in the Company Stock Fund attributable to Choice Accounts in the Plan for which it does not receive instructions (as well as shares held in the Unallocated Fund) in a manner other than the proportionate method described above if it believes that proportionate voting would violate applicable law.

In addition, the trust agreement provides that the trustee will respond to a tender or exchange offer with respect to the number of shares of Stanley Black & Decker Stock in the Company Stock Fund attributable to a participant's Choice Account in the Plan in accordance with such participant's directions. If a participant does not direct the trustee as to the manner in which to respond to a tender or exchange offer, such participant will be deemed to have directed the trustee not to tender or exchange shares of Stanley Black & Decker Stock that are attributable to his or her interest in the Company Stock Fund. Any such allocated shares with respect to which the trustee has not received timely instructions from a participant will not be tendered or exchanged. Shares of Stanley Black & Decker Stock held by the trustee which have not been allocated to the Choice Account of any participant shall be tendered or exchanged by the trustee in the same proportion as the allocated shares of Stanley Black & Decker Stock as to which the trustee receives instructions (including deemed instructions as described above). Therefore, by providing instructions as to whether to tender or exchange shares of Stanley Black & Decker Stock in the Company Stock Fund attributable to his or her Choice Account (including deemed instructions as described above), a participant will, in effect, be providing instructions with respect to a portion of the shares held in the Unallocated Fund in the Plan. The foregoing provisions are subject to applicable law, which requires the trustee to act as a fiduciary for Plan participants. Therefore, it is possible that the trustee may make decisions regarding the tender or exchange of shares of Stanley Black & Decker Stock held in the Unallocated Fund in a manner other than the proportionate method described above if it believes that this proportionate method would violate applicable law.

Plan Termination

The Company reserves the right to amend or terminate the Plan at any time. Upon the termination of the Plan, the interest of each participant in the trust fund will become vested and will be distributed to such participant or his or her beneficiary at the time prescribed by the Plan terms and the Code.

Separate Accounts

The Plan maintains separate accounts for participants. In addition to the participants' contributions, matching allocations, Core Account allocations, and the participants' loan payments, such accounts are credited with related gains, losses, and dividend and interest income.

Terminated Participants

At December 31, 2015 and 2014, benefits payable to terminated vested participants who had requested their payments were $1,018,690 and $24,304, respectively.

Forfeited Accounts

During the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, amounts forfeited from non-vested accounts totaled $803,406 and $911,349, respectively. As of December 31, 2015 and 2014, the balance in the forfeited non-vested account totaled $352,035 and $468,523, respectively. Such forfeitures are applied under the terms of the Plan to fund matching allocations and Core Account allocations.

2. Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

The accompanying financial statements of the Plan have been prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Benefit payments to participants are recorded upon distribution.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that can affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Adoption of New Accounting Pronouncement

In May of 2015, Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Accounting Standards Update (ASU) 2015-07, Disclosures for Investments in Certain Entities that Calculate Net Asset Value Per Share (or its Equivalent). ASU 2015-07 removes the requirement to categorize within the fair value hierarchy investments for which fair values are estimated using the net asset value practical expedient provided by ASC 820, Fair Value Measurement. Disclosures about investments in certain entities that calculate net asset value per share are limited under ASU 2015-07 to those investments for which the entity has elected to estimate the fair value using the net asset value practical expedient. ASU 2015-07 is effective for public business entities for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2015, with retrospective application to all periods presented. Early application is permitted. The Plan has elected to early adopt ASU 2015-07; however the guidance under ASU 2015-07 is not applicable to the Plan as of December 31, 2015 and 2014.

In July 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-12, Plan Accounting: Defined Benefit Pension Plans (Topic 960), Defined Contribution Pension Plans (Topic 962), and Health and Welfare Benefit Plans (Topic 965) - I. Fully Benefit-Responsive Investment Contracts; II. Plan Investment Disclosures, and III. Measurement Date Practical Expedient. This ASU reduces complexity in employee benefit plan financial reporting and disclosure requirements. Upon adoption of the standard, plans are no longer required to: measure fully benefit-responsive investment contracts at fair value, disaggregate investments by nature, risks and characteristics, and disclose individual investments that represent five percent or more of net assets available for benefits or disclose net appreciation or depreciation for investments by general type. The amendments in Parts I and II of this standard are effective retrospectively for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2015. The amendments in Part III of this standard are effective prospectively for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2015. Early application for all amendments is permitted. The Plan has elected to early adopt ASU 2015-12. The adoption of ASU 2015-12 removed the investments representing five percent or more of net assets available for benefits disclosures in the financial statements presented.

Investments

The carrying amounts of all investments are reported at fair value. The Plan investments consist predominantly of shares of Stanley Black & Decker Stock, money market funds, mutual funds, and common/collective trusts. Stanley Black & Decker Stock and the mutual funds are traded on a national exchange and valued at the last reported sales price on the last business day of the Plan year. The Stanley Black & Decker Stock Fund and other common/collective trusts are stated at fair market value on the last business day of the Plan year using independent pricing services. Short-term investments consist of short-term bank-administered trust funds which earn interest daily at rates approximating U.S. Government securities; cost approximates market value.

Effective January 1, 2011 the assets of the Plan are held in trust by an independent corporate trustee, Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, (the "Trustee") pursuant to the terms of a written Trust Agreement between the Trustee and the Company.

Income Recognition

Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Dividend income is accrued on the ex-dividend date. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis.

Gains or Losses on Sales of Investments

Gains or losses realized on the sales of investments are determined based on average cost.

Expenses

Administrative expenses not paid by the Plan are paid by the Company. Investment management fees and operating expenses charged to the Plan for investments in the various funds are deducted from income earned on a daily basis and reflected as a component of net appreciation.

3. Fair Value Measurements

Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standard Codification ("ASC") 820 “Fair Value Measurement” defines, establishes a consistent framework for measuring, and expands disclosure requirements about fair value. The framework for measuring fair value provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (level

1) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (level 3). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy under FASB ASC 820 are described as follows:

Level 1 - Unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that the Plan has the ability to access.

Level 2 - Quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets; quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active; other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability; and assets or liabilities that are derived principally from, or corroborated by, observable market data by correlation or other means.

Level 3 - Assets or liabilities that are valued using unobservable inputs.

The asset or liability's fair value measurement level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Valuation techniques maximize the use of the relevant observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

Following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value. There have been no changes in the methodologies used at December 31, 2015 and 2014.

Common Stocks - Level 1 common stocks are valued at the closing price reported on the active market on which the individual securities are traded. Level 2 common stocks are a unitized fund with a cash component resulting in the fund being valued at the closing price of similar assets in active markets.

Short-term Money Market - Valued at the closing price of similar assets in active markets.

Mutual Funds - Valued at the daily closing price as reported by the fund. Mutual funds held by the Plan are open-end mutual funds that are registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission. These funds are required to publish their daily NAV and to transact at that price. The mutual funds held by the Plan are deemed to be actively traded.

Common/Collective Trusts - Valued at the closing price of similar assets in active markets.

The following table summarizes the fair values, and levels within the fair value hierarchy in which the fair value measurements fall, for assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis:

	Fair Value at December 31, 2015			
	Total	Level 1 Inputs	Level 2 Inputs	Level 3 Inputs
Stanley Black & Decker Stock	$468,238,812	$200,679,723	$267,559,089	$ —
Short-term Investments	5,302,237	—	5,302,237	—
Mutual Funds	117,338,283	117,338,283	—	—
Common/Collective Trusts	965,327,740	—	965,327,740	—
Total	$1,556,207,072	$318,018,006	$1,238,189,066	$ —

	Fair Value at December 31, 2014			
	Total	Level 1 Inputs	Level 2 Inputs	Level 3 Inputs

Stanley Black & Decker Stock	$482,993,488	$225,419,245