

ACTUANT CORP  
Form 11-K  
February 02, 2016

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

FORM 11-K  
(Mark One)

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended August 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: 1-11288

A. Full title of the plan and the address of the plan, if different from that of the issuer named below:

ACTUANT CORPORATION 401(k) PLAN

B. Name of issuer of the securities held pursuant to the plan and the address of its principal executive office:

ACTUANT CORPORATION  
N86 W12500 WESTBROOK CROSSING  
MENOMONEE FALLS, WISCONSIN 53051  
Mailing address: P.O. Box 3241, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201

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Actuant Corporation 401(k) Plan  
Financial Statements and Additional Information  
August 31, 2015 and 2014

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Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

Plan Administrator  
Actuant Corporation 401(k) Plan  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

We have audited the accompanying statements of net assets available for benefits of Actuant Corporation 401(k) Plan (the "Plan") as of August 31, 2015 and 2014, and the related statements of changes in net assets available for benefits for the years then ended. 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 from 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 audit 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 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. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes 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 August 31, 2015 and 2014, and the changes in its net assets available for benefits for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

The supplemental information in the accompanying Schedule H, Line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year) as of August 31, 2015, has been subjected to audit procedures performed in conjunction with the audit of Actuant Corporation 401(k) 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 in the accompanying schedule, 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 schedule is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

/s/ Wipfli LLP

February 2, 2016  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

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ACTUANT CORPORATION 401(K) PLAN  
STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS

	August 31, 2015	2014
Cash	\$ 12,916	\$ 12,869
Investments		
Mutual funds	93,014,873	100,486,301
Common collective trusts	30,868,109	34,800,787
Actuant Corporation stock fund	18,297,111	29,077,679
Assets held for investment purposes	142,180,093	164,364,767
Receivables		
Company contribution receivable	4,226,292	4,113,763
Participant notes receivable	2,229,005	2,359,000
Total receivables	6,455,297	6,472,763
Total assets	148,648,306	170,850,399
Liability		
Excess contributions payable	(2,619	) (3,614
Accrued administrative expenses	(45,821	) -
Net assets available for benefits, at fair value	148,599,866	170,846,785
Adjustment from fair value to contract value for interest in fully benefit-responsive investment contracts	(133,276	) (245,202
Net assets available for benefits	\$ 148,466,590	\$ 170,601,583

See accompanying notes to financial statements

ACTUANT CORPORATION 401(K) PLAN  
 STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS

	Year Ended August 31,	
	2015	2014
Investment (loss)/gain		
Net realized and unrealized (losses)/gains on fair value of investments	\$ (14,047,292 )	\$ 18,707,928
Interest and dividend income from investments	1,400,100	1,540,009
	(12,647,192 )	20,247,937
Interest income on participant notes receivable	99,593	99,989
Contributions		
Company	4,272,637	4,113,763
Rollover	1,266,229	1,120,376
Participant	7,536,203	7,605,696
	13,075,069	12,839,835
Benefits and withdrawal payments	(22,225,000 )	(18,540,530 )
Administrative expenses	(437,463 )	(360,689 )
Net (decrease)/increase in net assets available for benefits before asset transfers	(22,134,993 )	14,286,542
Transfer of plan assets (Note 1)	—	(24,109,254 )
Net decrease in net assets available for benefits	(22,134,993 )	(9,822,712 )
Net assets available for benefits at beginning of year	170,601,583	180,424,295
Net assets available for benefits at end of year	\$ 148,466,590	\$ 170,601,583

See accompanying notes to financial statements

Actuant Corporation 401(k) Plan  
Notes to Financial Statements

Note 1. Description of Plan

The following description of the Actuant Corporation 401(k) Plan (the “Plan”) provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Plan’s summary plan description for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions. The Plan is subject to and complies with the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (“ERISA”). The purpose of the Plan is to encourage eligible employees to regularly save part of their earnings and to assist them in accumulating additional financial security for their retirement. Generally, all employees of domestic subsidiaries of Actuant Corporation (the “Company”) who are scheduled to work at least 1,000 hours in a one-year period are immediately eligible to participate in the Plan, except those subject to a collective bargaining agreement (“CBA”), unless the CBA specifically provides for coverage under the Plan. Employees of acquired companies are eligible to participate in the Plan at the discretion of the Company and employees of designated operating units may be excluded from plan participation.

Transfer of Plan Assets

During fiscal 2014, the Company established a new 401(k) savings plan in connection with its divestiture of its Electrical segment. As a result, \$24,109,254 of assets held for investment (the balance in the Plan related to active employees of the former Electrical segment) were transferred to this new 401(k) savings plan on November 1, 2013.

Contributions

Participants may make voluntary pre-tax and after tax (“Roth”) contributions of between 1% and 50% of qualifying compensation, subject to certain Internal Revenue Code (“IRC”) limitations. Participants who have attained the age of 50 are eligible to make catch-up contributions to the Plan. Depending on the Company’s financial performance, the Company may make discretionary contributions (“matching” and “core”) to eligible employees. The matching contribution applies only to participant contributions up to 6% of a participant’s eligible compensation, while the core contribution represents 3% of each employee’s eligible compensation. Both the matching and core contributions are made in the form of either Company common stock or cash (into the Actuant Corporation Stock Fund). In addition, the Company is required to make contributions to certain participants who are subject to a CBA.

Participants must be employed by the Company on the last day of the plan year to be eligible for the discretionary contributions. If the participant is not employed on the last day of the plan year due to retirement, death or disability, the participant is still eligible for the core contribution in that plan year.

Investment Options

Participants direct the investment of their voluntary contributions and may redirect the investment for the Company’s core and matching contributions to any of the defined investment options. Participants may change their investment options at any time.

Participant Accounts

Each participant’s account is credited with contributions, participant rollovers, an allocation of plan earnings thereon and reduced for benefit payments and certain fees charged by the trustee. Plan earnings are determined and credited to each participant’s account on a daily basis in accordance with the proportion of the participant’s account to all accounts. Substantially all administrative expenses of the Plan are paid by the Plan. Separate pre-tax and Roth contribution accounts are maintained for participants.

Vesting

Participants have, at all times, a fully vested and non-forfeitable interest in the amount of their voluntary contributions. Upon death, disability or retirement, while employed by the Company, participants become fully vested in their entire account balance. Participants normally vest in the Company matching and core contributions according to the following schedule:

Years of Service	Vesting %	
Less than 2 years	0	%
At least 2 but less than 3 years	25	%
At least 3 but less than 4 years	50	%
At least 4 but less than 5 years	75	%
5 years or more	100	%





#### Forfeited Accounts

Forfeitures are created when participants terminate employment with the Company prior to being fully vested. These forfeited amounts are then used to reduce the Company's future contributions to the Plan. At August 31, 2015 and 2014, unallocated forfeitures were \$266,500 and \$266,900, respectively. Forfeitures used to reduce Company contributions were \$265,400 and \$371,100 for fiscal 2015 and 2014, respectively.

#### Payment of Benefits

At death, disability, retirement or termination, participants or their designated beneficiaries are entitled to receive benefits equal to their vested account balances. Participants may elect to receive vested benefits in the form of a lump-sum distribution, installment payments or a direct transfer to an eligible retirement plan. If a participant's vested account balance is less than \$5,000 it will automatically be distributed in the form of a direct rollover to an individual retirement account (\$1,000 or less in a lump sum payment). In the event of hardship, participants may withdraw a portion of their vested account balances.

#### Participant Notes Receivable

A participant may receive a note from the Plan out of the participant's voluntary contributions, rollover, prior Company contributions and qualified non-elective contributions account in an amount greater than or equal to \$1,000, not to exceed the lesser of 50% of the portion of the participant's vested account balances plus earnings thereon or \$50,000. Notes bear a fixed interest rate of the prime rate at the time of the note plus 1%. Notes and interest thereon are repaid from payroll deductions over a period not to exceed five years, unless the note is used to purchase the principal residence of the participant in which case the term of the note will be a reasonable period not to exceed 20 years, as determined by the plan administrator.

Participants' notes receivable are valued at their unpaid principal balance plus accrued but unpaid interest. No allowance for credit losses has been recorded as of August 31, 2015 or 2014. If a participant ceases to make note repayments and the plan administrator deems the participant note to be in default, the participant note balance is reduced and a benefit payment is recorded.

#### Note 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

##### Basis of Accounting

The financial statements of the Plan are prepared under the accrual method of accounting in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

##### Use of Estimates in Preparation of Financial Statements

The preparation of the accompanying financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that directly affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities and changes therein. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

##### Investment Valuation

The Plan's investments are stated at fair value. Investment contracts held by a defined contribution plan are required to be reported at fair value. However, contract value is the relevant measure attribute for that portion of the net assets available for benefits of a defined contribution plan attributable to fully benefit-responsive investment contracts held by the common collective trust because contract value is the amount participants would receive if they were to initiate permitted transactions under the terms of the plan. The contract value represents contributions and reinvested income, less any withdrawals plus accrued interest. Withdrawals influenced by company-initiated events, such as in connection with the sale of a business, may result in a distribution at other than contract value. The Statement of Net Assets Available for Benefits presents the fair value of the investment contracts as well as the adjustment of the fully benefit-responsive investment contracts from fair value to contract value. The Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits is prepared on a contract value basis.

##### Income Recognition

Purchases and sales of investments are recorded on a trade-date basis. Interest income is recognized when earned. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date. The Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits

includes the net gain (loss) in the fair value of investments, which consists of realized and unrealized gains and losses.  
Risk and Uncertainties

The Plan's investments are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, market and credit risks. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investments it is reasonably possible that changes in the fair value of investments will occur in the near

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term. These changes could materially affect participants' account balances and the amounts reported in the financial statements.

#### Payment of Benefits

Benefits are recorded when paid.

#### New Accounting Pronouncements

In July 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Accounting Standards Update 2015-12, Fully Benefit-Responsive Investment Contracts, which requires investment contracts to be measured, presented and disclosed only at contract value. This guidance is effective for all plan years beginning after December 15, 2015. The adoption of this standard is disclosure only and will not impact the Plan's Statement of Net Assets Available for Benefits or Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits; however, it will affect the presentation.

#### Note 3. Investments

The fair value of investments that represent five percent or more of the Plan's net assets are as follows:

Description	2015	2014
Actuant Corporation Stock Fund	\$ 18,297,111	\$ 29,077,679
Wells Fargo S&P 500 Index Fund	17,407,210	19,230,438
Wells Fargo Stable Return Fund (at contract value)	13,327,623	15,325,147
JP Morgan Large Cap Growth Fund	11,372,929	11,331,767
T. Rowe Price Retirement 2025 Fund	8,705,055	*
T. Rowe Price Retirement 2020 Fund	7,990,901	8,985,766
T. Rowe Price Retirement 2030 Fund	7,521,683	*
Vanguard Mid Cap Index Fund	7,774,255	*

\* Fund was not greater than 5% of the Plan's net assets

The realized and unrealized (losses)/gains in the Plan's investments are as follows:

	2015	2014
Mutual funds	\$ (3,340,874)	\$ 15,334,955
Common collective trust funds	342,905	4,057,695
Actuant Corporation Stock Fund (including money market returns)	(11,049,323)	(684,722)
	\$ (14,047,292)	\$ 18,707,928

#### Note 4. Fair Value Measurements

The Plan assesses the inputs used to measure fair value using a three-tier hierarchy. Level 1 inputs include quoted prices for identical instruments and are the most observable. Level 2 inputs include quoted prices for similar assets and observable inputs. Level 3 inputs are not observable in the market and include management's own judgments about the assumptions market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability. The following valuation methodologies are used for plan assets measured at fair value:

Mutual Funds: Valued at quoted prices from an active market which represents the net asset value ("NAV") of shares held by the Plan at year end.

Actuant Corporation Stock Fund: The Actuant Corporation Stock Fund is a unitized fund. The fund consists of Actuant common stock and short-term cash equivalents which provide liquidity for trading. The Actuant common stock is valued at the quoted market price from an active market and the short-term cash equivalents are valued at cost, which approximates fair value.

Common collective trust: Fair value for these investments is determined by the NAV based on the fair value of the underlying funds. The Statement of Net Assets Available for Benefits presents the fair value of these investment contracts as well as their adjustment from fair value to contract value.

The methods described above may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. Furthermore, while the Plan believes its valuation methods are appropriate and

consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different fair value measurement at the reporting date.

A summary of assets at August 31 measured at fair value on a recurring basis are as follows:

	2015	2014
Level 1 Valuation:		
Mutual funds		
Target date funds	\$ 43,600,843	\$ 46,948,347
Growth fund	16,996,373	18,058,279
Blend funds	7,774,255	12,422,384
Bond funds	6,511,747	6,744,961
Value funds	12,928,174	9,912,692
Other funds	390,857	845,742
International funds	4,812,624	5,553,896
	93,014,873	100,486,301
Level 2 Valuation:		
Actuant Corporation stock fund*	18,297,111	29,077,679
Common collective trusts		
Stable return fund	13,460,899	15,570,350
Index fund	17,407,210	19,230,437
	49,165,220	63,878,466
	\$ 142,180,093	\$ 164,364,767

\* Included 828,509 and 839,257 shares of Actuant Corporation Common Stock as of August 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively

The following table summarizes the Plan's investments in common collective trusts with a reported fair value using NAV per share at August 31:

	2015	2014	Unfunded Commitment	Redemption Frequency	Redemption Notice Period
Wells Fargo S&P 500 Index Fund (a)	\$ 17,407,210	\$ 19,230,437	\$ —	Daily	None
Wells Fargo Stable Return Fund (b)	\$ 13,460,899	\$ 15,570,350	\$ —	Daily	12 months

(a) Includes a common/collective trust fund that is designed to replicate the holdings and weighting of the stock comprising the S&P 500 Index.

(b) Includes a common/collective trust fund that is designed to provide a moderate level of stable income, without principal volatility, while seeking to maintain adequate liquidity and returns. This fund consists of security backed contracts, investment contracts and cash.

#### Note 5. Tax Status

The Internal Revenue Service has determined and informed the Company in a letter dated May 28, 2013, that the Plan was designed in accordance with the applicable sections of the IRC. Although the Plan has been amended since receiving the determination letter, the plan administrator believes that the Plan is designed, and is currently being operated, in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability if the organization has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the Internal Revenue Service. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress. The plan administrator believes it is no longer subject to income tax examinations for years prior to applicable statutory periods.

Note 6. Plan Termination

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

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Note 7. Exempt Party-in-Interest Transactions

Certain plan investments are in shares of mutual funds and common trust funds managed by Wells Fargo Bank, custodian of the Plan, shares of Actuant Corporation Common Stock and participant notes receivable. These transactions qualify as party-in-interest transactions, however, they are not considered prohibited transactions under 29 CFR 408(b) of the ERISA regulations. Fees incurred by the Plan for the investment management services paid through revenue sharing are included in administrative expenses.

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Actuant Corporation 401(k) Plan  
 Schedule H, Line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)  
 EIN:39-0168610 Plan Number:022  
 August 31, 2015

(a)(b) Issuer, borrower, lessor, or similar party	(c) Description of Investment	(d) Cost	(e) Current Value
Registered Investment Co:			
Goldman Sachs Mid Cap Value	Registered Investment Co	(A)	\$3,584,623
Harbour International/Inst Fund	Registered Investment Co	(A)	4,812,624
Invesco Small Cap Growth Fund	Registered Investment Co	(A)	3,355,216
JP Morgan Large Cap Fund	Registered Investment Co	(A)	11,372,929
Northern Small Cap Value Fund	Registered Investment Co	(A)	3,930,449
Nuveen Dividend Value Fund	Registered Investment Co	(A)	5,086,635
Oppenheimer Developing Mkt. Fund	Registered Investment Co	(A)	2,268,228
Pimco Commodity Real Return Strategy Fund	Registered Investment Co	(A)	390,857
T. Rowe Price Retirement 2015 Fund	Registered Investment Co	(A)	3,317,353
T. Rowe Price Retirement 2020 Fund	Registered Investment Co	(A)	7,990,901
T. Rowe Price Retirement 2025 Fund	Registered Investment Co	(A)	8,705,055
T. Rowe Price Retirement 2030 Fund	Registered Investment Co	(A)	7,521,683
T. Rowe Price Retirement 2035 Fund	Registered Investment Co	(A)	5,223,681
T. Rowe Price Retirement 2040 Fund	Registered Investment Co	(A)	5,718,210
T. Rowe Price Retirement 2045 Fund	Registered Investment Co	(A)	2,172,815
T. Rowe Price Retirement 2050 Fund	Registered Investment Co	(A)	656,805
T. Rowe Price Retirement 2055 Fund	Registered Investment Co	(A)	552,027
T. Rowe Price Retirement 2060 Fund	Registered Investment Co	(A)	22,578
T. Rowe Price Retirement Income Fund	Registered Investment Co	(A)	1,719,735
Vanguard Mid Cap Index Fund	Registered Investment Co	(A)	7,774,255
Voya (Ing) MidCap Opportunities Fund	Registered Investment Co	(A)	326,467



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*	Wells Fargo Advantage Total Return Bond Fund	Registered Investment Co	(A)	6,511,747 93,014,873
	Common Collective Trusts			
*	Wells Fargo S&P 500 Index Fund N	Common Collective Trust	(A)	17,407,210
*	Wells Fargo Stable Return Fund		(A)(D)	13,327,623 30,734,833
*	Actuant Corporation Stock Fund	(B)	(A)	18,297,111
*	Participant Notes Receivable	(C)	-	2,229,005 \$144,275,822

\* Party-in-Interest

(A) Cost omitted for participant-directed investments

(B) Includes 828,509 shares of Actuant Corporation Common Stock

(C) Participant notes receivable have interest rates from 4.25% to 9.50%

(D) Stated at contract value

See Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the trustees (or other persons who administer the employee benefit plan) have duly caused this annual report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

ACTUANT CORPORATION 401(k) PLAN

Date: February 2, 2016

/s/ Matthew P. Pauli

Matthew P. Pauli  
Plan Administrative Committee Member

Exhibit Index

Exhibit No. Description

23.1 Consent of WIPFLI LLP, Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

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