

UNITRIN INC
Form 11-K
June 21, 2004
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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 11-K

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

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003

OR

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

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission file number 0-18298

UNITRIN, INC. 401(K) SAVINGS PLAN

A. (Full Title of Plan)

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Unitrin, Inc.

One East Wacker Drive

Chicago, IL 60601

B. (Name and Address of Issuer of Securities Held Pursuant to Plan)

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Required Information

Pursuant to the section of the General Instructions to Form 11-K entitled Required Information, this Annual Report on Form 11-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003, consists of the audited financial statements of the Unitrin, Inc. 401(k) Savings Plan for the year ended December 31, 2003, and the related schedule thereto. The Unitrin, Inc. 401(k) Savings Plan is subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (ERISA), and in accordance with Item 4 of the section of the General Instructions to Form 11-K entitled Required Information, the financial statements and schedule furnished herewith have been prepared in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of ERISA in lieu of the requirements of Items 1-3 of that section of the General Instructions. Schedules I, II and III are not submitted because they are either not applicable, the required information is included in the financial statements or notes thereto, or they are not required under ERISA.

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Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Plan Administrative Committee

Unitrin, Inc. 401(k) Savings Plan:

We have audited the accompanying statements of net assets available for plan benefits of the Unitrin, Inc. 401(k) Savings Plan (the Plan) as of December 31, 2003 and 2002, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for plan benefits for the year ended December 31, 2003. 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 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. 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, such financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for plan benefits of the Plan as of December 31, 2003 and 2002, and the changes in net assets available for plan benefits for the year ended December 31, 2003, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The accompanying supplemental schedule of assets (held at end of year) as of December 31, 2003 is presented for the purpose of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements, but is supplementary information required by the Department of Labor s Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended. This supplemental schedule is the responsibility of the Plan s management. Such schedule has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the basic 2003 financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic 2003 financial statements taken as a whole.

/s/ Deloitte & Touche LLP
Chicago, Illinois
June 18, 2004

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Unitrin, Inc. 401(k) Savings Plan
Statements of Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits
As of December 31, 2003 and 2002
(Dollars in Thousands)

| | <u>2003</u> | <u>2002</u> |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|
| Assets | | |
| Investments (See Note 3) | \$ 206,527 | \$ 163,091 |
| Employer Contributions Receivable | 309 | 276 |
| Participant Contributions Receivable | 1,349 | 1,058 |
| Total Assets | <u>208,185</u> | <u>164,425</u> |
| Other Liabilities | 57 | 194 |
| Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits | <u>\$ 208,128</u> | <u>\$ 164,231</u> |

The Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of these financial statements.

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Unitrin, Inc. 401(k) Savings Plan

Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits

For the Year Ended December 31, 2003

(Dollars in Thousands)

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Additions to Net Assets Attributed to: | |
| Employer Contributions | \$ 4,840 |
| Participant Contributions | 25,451 |
| Net Appreciation in Fair Value of Investments | 29,920 |
| Interest from Participant Loans | 567 |
| Dividends from Common Stock | 746 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total Additions to Net Assets | 61,524 |
| | <hr/> |
| Deductions From Net Assets Attributed to: | |
| Benefits Provided to Participants | 17,266 |
| Investment Expenses | 361 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total Deductions from Net Assets | 17,627 |
| | <hr/> |
| Increase in Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits | 43,897 |
| Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits, Beginning of the Year | 164,231 |
| | <hr/> |
| Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits, End of the Year | \$ 208,128 |
| | <hr/> |

The Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of these financial statements.

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UNITRIN, INC. 401(k) SAVINGS PLAN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2003 and 2002

Note 1 Basis of Presentation

The financial statements of the Unitrin, Inc. 401(k) Savings Plan (the Plan) included herein have been prepared on an accrual basis under accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP).

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and changes therein and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Actual results could differ materially from those estimates. Investment securities, in general, are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, credit, and overall market volatility. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is reasonably possible that changes in values of investment securities will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect the amounts reported in the financial statements.

Significant Accounting Policies

Investments, except for loans to participants, are stated at fair value. Loans to participants are stated at unpaid principal balances. Shares of mutual funds are valued at the net asset value of the shares held by the Plan. Fair values of common stock trusts are estimated using quoted market prices of the underlying common stock.

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

Benefits provided to participants are recorded when incurred.

Note 2 - Plan Description

The following summary description of the Plan is for general information only. A more detailed description of the Plan provisions is found in the formal Plan document and in summary materials distributed to Plan participants.

The Plan is a defined contribution plan, which is available to employees of Unitrin, Inc. (Unitrin or the Company) and certain of its subsidiaries (collectively, the Companies) and is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (ERISA).

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Employees of the Companies generally become eligible to participate in the Plan on the first day of the month following the employee's first full month of employment. Employees of the Companies generally become eligible to receive the Unitrin matching contribution following the employee's first full year of employment.

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Note 2 - Plan Description (continued)

Subject to Internal Revenue Code (the Code) limitations, participants are allowed to defer and contribute between 1% and 60% of their compensation to the Plan. Depending upon a participant's job classification and employer, Unitrin either provides (i) a monthly matching contribution of 50% of the first 6% of compensation contributed by the participant or (ii) an annual matching contribution of 100% of the first \$100 contributed by the participant and 50% of the next \$400 contributed by the participant. In general, participants vest 100% in Company contributions after 3 years of employment.

The Plan provides for 100% vesting of Company contributions in the event of a Change of Control as defined in the Plan. Subject to certain limitations, participants are permitted to invest in (i) certain investment funds sponsored by the Capital Amvescap group of companies, Janus, PIMCO Funds, The Dreyfus Corporation (Dreyfus) and Fidelity Investments, (ii) the Unitrin Common Stock Trust, (iii) the Curtiss-Wright Corporation Common Stock Trust and (iv) the White Mountain Stock Trust. An individual account is maintained by Amvescap Retirement, Inc., the Plan's recordkeeper, for each participant and updated to reflect the participant's contributions, actual investment income, and withdrawals. Each participant may suspend, resume, or change the rate of contribution and withdraw all or a portion of the participant's vested account balance at any time, subject to certain restrictions. In addition, participants may borrow from their accounts, subject to certain limitations, at prevailing interest rates as determined by the Plan administrator.

While the Company has not expressed any intent to terminate the Plan or to discontinue contributions, it is free to do so at any time, subject to the provisions set forth in ERISA. Should the Plan be terminated at some future date, all participants become 100% vested in benefits earned as of the Plan termination date.

On December 30, 2002, the Plan was amended to reflect the provisions of the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001 applicable to the Plan. Additionally, on December 30, 2002, the Plan was amended to provide for the immediate eligibility of all former employees of Kemper Insurance Companies (KIC) who were employed by KIC as of December 31, 2002 and subsequently hired by the Companies. The amendment further provided for recognition of, for vesting and eligibility purposes, a KIC employee's past service with KIC.

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Note 3 - Investments

All investments are directed by participants and held by the Plan's Trustee, Amvescap National Trust Co. Investments that represent 5 percent or more of the Plan's net assets at December 31, 2003 and 2002 were:

(Dollars in Thousands)

| Investment | December 31, | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| | 2003 | 2002 |
| IRT Stable Value | \$ 60,971 | \$ 57,310 |
| Dreyfus Appreciation Fund, Inc. | 24,053 | 19,153 |
| Unitrin Common Stock Trust | 19,268 | 11,817 |
| AIM Premier Equity | 16,824 | 13,546 |
| IRT 500 Index | 13,832 | 9,411 |
| PIMCO Total Return Institutional | 12,919 | 11,540 |
| Invesco Total Return | 12,280 | 9,685 |
| Invesco Dynamics Fund | 10,715 | N/A |

During 2003, the Plan's investments (including gains and losses on investments bought and sold, as well as held during the year, and other fund or investment company distributions) appreciated or depreciated in value as follows:

(Dollars in Thousands)

| Investment | Appreciation (Depreciation) |
|--|--|
| Unitrin Common Stock Trust | \$ 5,840 |
| Dreyfus Appreciation Fund, Inc. | 4,033 |
| AIM Premier Equity | 3,372 |
| IRT 500 Index | 3,023 |
| Invesco Dynamics Fund | 2,686 |
| IRT Stable Value | 2,554 |
| Janus Small Cap Value Fund | 2,449 |
| Invesco Total Return | 1,712 |
| Janus Overseas Fund | 1,593 |
| Fidelity Advisor Growth Opportunities | 1,490 |
| PIMCO Total Return Institutional | 694 |
| Curtiss-Wright Corporation Stock Trust | 489 |
| White Mountain Stock Trust | 56 |
| Berger Small Cap Value | (71) |
| Net Appreciation in Fair Value of Investments | \$ 29,920 |

Additional information concerning the above listed investments is contained in the prospectuses and financial statements of the funds.

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Note 4 - Federal Income Tax Status

The Plan is exempt from income taxes under Section 401(a) of the Code. In October 2002, the Plan obtained a favorable determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service (the IRS). Subsequent to the receipt of the determination letter, the Plan was amended (See Note 2). The Company believes that the Plan is currently designed and operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the Code and the Plan and related trust continue to be exempt from income taxes. Accordingly, no provision for income taxes has been included in the accompanying financial statements.

Under Federal income tax statutes, regulations and interpretations, income taxes on amounts that a participant accumulates in the Plan are deferred and therefore not included in the participant's taxable income until those amounts are actually distributed. Except for certain contributions made prior to April 1, 1993, contributions are considered pre-tax deposits and are not subject to Federal income taxes at the time of contribution. Prior to April 1, 1993, certain contributions were made on an after-tax basis and are not subject to income tax when they are distributed to the participant because they have already been taxed. A participant's account balance, except for after-tax contributions made prior to April 1, 1993, is taxable income and generally is taxed at ordinary income tax rates when distributed. However, favorable tax treatment through special averaging provisions may apply to participants of a certain age. An additional 10 percent Federal income tax penalty may be imposed on all taxable income distributed to a participant unless the distribution meets certain requirements contained within Section 72 of the Code.

Taxable distributions from the Plan generally are subject to a 20% Federal income tax withholding unless directly rolled over into another eligible employer plan or Individual Retirement Account. Distributions of Unitrin common stock, Curtiss-Wright Corporation common stock and White Mountain common stock generally are not subject to the 20% withholding, and special tax rules may apply to the calculation of net unrealized appreciation on such stock.

If the Code and the Plan's requirements concerning loans to participants are satisfied, the amount of the loan will not be treated as a taxable distribution. If, however, the loan requirements are not satisfied and a default occurs, the loan will be treated as a distribution from the Plan for Federal income tax purposes, and the tax consequences discussed above for distributions may apply. Interest paid on the loan is generally not tax deductible.

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Note 5 - Related Parties

Participants are permitted to invest in certain investment funds sponsored by the Capital Amvescap group of companies. The Plan's recordkeeper and custodian are affiliates of the Capital Amvescap group of companies.

One of Unitrin's directors, Mr. Fayez Sarofim, is the Chairman of the Board, President and majority shareholder of Fayez Sarofim & Co. (FS&C), a registered investment advisory firm. FS&C is a sub-investment adviser of the Dreyfus Appreciation Fund, Inc.

Plan assets at December 31, 2003 and 2002 included 465,289 shares and 404,416 shares of Unitrin common stock, respectively, at an aggregate fair value of approximately \$19.3 million and \$11.8 million, respectively. For the year ended December 31, 2003, the Plan recorded dividends of approximately \$0.7 million from participants' investments in the Unitrin Common Stock Trust.

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Unitrin, Inc. 401(k) Savings Plan
Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)
As of December 31, 2003
(Dollars in Thousands)

EIN #: 95-4255452

PLAN #: 003

| Party-in- interest | Identity of Issuer, Borrower, Lessor or Similar Party | Description of Investment | Current Value |
|-------------------------------|--|--|--------------------------|
| * | IRT Stable Value | Collective Trust | \$ 60,971 |
| * | Dreyfus Appreciation Fund, Inc. | Mutual Fund Shares | 24,053 |
| * | Unitrin Common Stock Trust | Common Stock | 19,268 |
| * | AIM Premier Equity | Mutual Fund Shares | 16,824 |
| * | IRT 500 Index | Collective Trust | 13,832 |
| | PIMCO Total Return Institutional | Mutual Fund Shares | 12,919 |
| * | Invesco Total Return | Mutual Fund Shares | 12,280 |
| * | Invesco Dynamics Fund | Mutual Fund Shares | 10,715 |
| | Janus Small Cap Value Fund | Mutual Fund Shares | 9,885 |
| | Fidelity Advisor Growth Opportunities | Mutual Fund Shares | 7,239 |
| | Janus Overseas Fund | Mutual Fund Shares | 6,450 |
| | Curtiss-Wright Corporation Stock Trust | Common Stock | 1,602 |
| | White Mountain Stock Trust | Common Stock | 177 |
| * | Aim Money Market Fund | Mutual Fund Shares | 3 |
| * | Participants | Participant Loans (5.0% - 11.5% Maturing 2003 to 2015) | 10,309 |
| | | | \$ 206,527 |

* This party is known to be a party-in-interest to the Plan.

See Accompanying Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.

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Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Unitrin, Inc., as plan administrator of the Unitrin, Inc. 401(k) Savings Plan, has duly caused this annual report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

UNITRIN, INC. 401(k) SAVINGS PLAN

By: Unitrin, Inc.

/s/ Richard Roeske

Richard Roeske
Vice President

June 18, 2004