



## Information Circular 08-006

**Date:** October 29, 2008

**Re:** StreetTRACKS Gold Shares

BATS Exchange, Inc. ("BATS") commenced operating as a national securities exchange for trading non-BATS listed securities on October 24, 2008. As a result, in the near future the following ETF will be traded by BATS as an exchange on an unlisted trading privileges (UTP) basis for the first time.

<b>Exchange Traded Fund</b>	<b>Symbol</b>	<b>CUSIP</b>
StreetTRACKS Gold Shares	GLD	863307104

### **Background Information on the Funds**

The streetTRACKS Gold Trust (the "Trust") issues streetTRACKS Gold Shares ("Shares") which represent units of fractional undivided beneficial interest in, and ownership of, the Trust. The Trust is an investment trust and is not managed like a corporation or an active investment vehicle. The Trust has no board of directors or officers or persons acting in a similar capacity. The Trust is not an investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940. The purpose of the Trust is to hold gold bullion. The investment objective of the Trust is for the Shares to reflect the performance of the price of gold, less the Trust's expenses.

World Gold Trust Services, LLC, a wholly owned limited liability company of the World Gold Council, is the sponsor of the Trust ("Sponsor"). The Bank of New York is the trustee; HSBC Bank USA, an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of HSBC Holdings plc, is the custodian ("Custodian"); and State Street Global Markets LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of State Street Corporation, is the marketing agent ("Marketing Agent"). As described more fully in the prospectus and the Statement of Additional Information ("SAI") for the Trust, generally, the assets of the Trust (e.g., gold bullion) will be sold to pay Trust expenses and management fees. These expenses and fees will reduce the value of an investor's Shares as gold bullion is sold to pay such costs. Ordinary operating expenses of the Trust include: (a) fees paid to the Sponsor; (b) fees paid to the Trustee; (c) fees paid to the Custodian; (d) fees paid to the Marketing Agent; and (e) various Trust administration fees, including printing and mailing costs, legal and audit fees, registration fees, and listing fees. The Trust's estimated ordinary operating expenses are accrued daily and reflected in the net asset value ("NAV") of the Trust.

The Trust will create Shares on a continuous basis only in aggregations of 100,000 Shares (such aggregation referred to as a "Basket"). Authorized Participants are the only persons that may place orders to create and redeem Baskets by making an in kind deposit of gold together with, if applicable, a specified cash payment. Similarly, the Trust will redeem Shares only in Baskets, principally in exchange for gold and, if applicable, a cash payment. Authorized Participants are Depository Trust Company ("DTC") participants who are registered broker-dealers or other securities market participants, such as a bank or other financial institution not required to register as a broker-dealer to engage in securities transactions. In each case, the Authorized Participant must have executed an agreement with the Trustee with respect to creations and redemptions of Baskets and an agreement with the Custodian establishing an account to be used for gold bullion transactions with the Trust.

The creation and redemption of Baskets requires the delivery to the Trust or the distribution by the Trust of the amount of gold and any cash represented by the Baskets being created or redeemed, the amount of which is based on the combined NAV of the number of Shares included in the Baskets being created or

redeemed. The initial amount of gold required for deposit with the Trust to create Shares for the period from the formation of the Trust to the first day of trading of the Shares on the NYSE was 10,000 ounces per Basket. The number of ounces of gold required to create a Basket or to be delivered upon the redemption of a Basket will gradually decrease over time, due to the accrual of the Trust's expenses and the sale of the Trust's gold to pay the Trust's expenses.

The registration statement for the Trust describes the various fees and expenses for the Shares. For a complete description of the Trust, visit <http://www.streettracksgoldshares.com>.

## **Availability of Information About the Shares**

The global trade in gold consists of over-the-counter transactions in spot, forwards, and options and other derivatives, together with exchange-traded futures and options. The last sale price for the Shares is disseminated over the Consolidated Tape. Gold pricing information based on the spot price for a troy ounce of gold from various financial information service providers, such as Reuters and Bloomberg, is available on a 24-hour basis.

Complete real-time data for gold futures and options prices traded on the COMEX (a division of the NYMEX) is available by subscription from Reuters and Bloomberg. The NYMEX also provides delayed futures and options information on current and past trading sessions and market news on its Web site. The Trust Web site ([www.streettracksgoldshares.com](http://www.streettracksgoldshares.com)), will provide, at no charge, continuously updated bids and offers indicative of the spot price of gold.

The Trust Web site also will provide a calculation of the estimated NAV (also known as the Intraday Indicative Value or "IIV") of a Share as calculated by multiplying the indicative spot price of gold by the quantity of gold backing each Share. Comparing the IIV with the last sale price of the Shares helps an investor to determine whether, and to what extent, Shares may be selling at a premium or a discount to the NAV. Although provided free of charge, the indicative spot price and IIV per Share will be provided on an essentially real-time basis. The Trust Web site provides the NAV of the Trust as calculated each business day by the Sponsor. In addition, the Trust Web site contains the following information, on a per-Share basis, for the Trust: (a) the IIV as of the close of the prior business day and the midpoint of the bid/ask price in relation to such IIV ("Bid/Ask Price"), and a calculation of the premium or discount of such price against such IIV; and (b) data in chart format displaying the frequency distribution of discounts and premiums of the Bid/Ask Price against the IIV, within appropriate ranges, for each of the four previous calendar quarters. The Trust Web site also provides the Trust's prospectus, as well as the two most recent reports to stockholders. The Trust Web site provides the last sale price of the Shares as traded in the U.S. market, subject to a 20-minute delay.

## **Regulatory Oversight**

Purchasers of Shares do not have the protections associated with ownership of shares in an investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 or the protections afforded by the Commodity Exchange Act of 1936, or CEA. The Trust is not registered as an investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940 and is not required to register under such act. Consequently, purchasers of Shares do not have the regulatory protections provided to investors in investment companies. The Trust will not hold or trade in commodity futures contracts regulated by the CEA, as administered by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, or CFTC. Furthermore, the Trust is not a commodity pool for purposes of the CEA, and none of the Sponsor, the Trustee or the Marketing Agent is subject to regulation by the CFTC as a commodity pool operator or a commodity trading advisor in connection with the Shares. Consequently, purchasers of Shares do not have the regulatory protections provided to investors in CEA-regulated instruments or commodity pools.

There is no regulated source of last sale information regarding physical gold, and the Securities and Exchange Commission has no jurisdiction over the trading of gold as a physical commodity.

## **Principal Risks**

An investment in the Shares carries certain risks. The following specific risks are taken from and discussed in more detail in the Trust's prospectus. BATS advises members to read the risk factors set forth in the Trust's prospectus carefully.

- The value of the Shares relates directly to the value of the gold held by the Trust and fluctuations in the price of gold could materially adversely affect an investment in the Shares.
- The Shares may trade at a price which is at, above or below the NAV per Share and any discount or premium in the trading price relative to the NAV per Share may widen as a result of non-concurrent trading hours between the COMEX and BATS.
- The sale of gold by the Trust to pay expenses will reduce the amount of gold represented by each Share on an ongoing basis irrespective of whether the trading price of the Shares rises or falls in response to changes in the price of gold.
- When the fee reduction terminates or expires, the estimated ordinary expenses payable by the Trust may increase, thus reducing the NAV of the Trust more rapidly and adversely affecting an investment in the Shares.
- The sale of the Trust's gold to pay expenses at a time of low gold prices could adversely affect the value of the Shares
- Purchasing activity in the gold market associated with the purchase of Baskets from the Trust may cause a temporary increase in the price of gold. This increase may adversely affect an investment in the Shares.
- As the Sponsor and its management have no prior history of operating an investment vehicle like the Trust, their experience may be inadequate or unsuitable to manage the Trust.
- The value of the Shares could decrease if unanticipated operational or trading problems arise.
- Holders of the Shares will not have the protections associated with ownership of shares in an investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 or the protections afforded by the Commodity Exchange Act.
- The Trust may be required to terminate and liquidate at a time that is disadvantageous to Shareholders.
- The lack of a market for the Shares may limit the ability of Shareholders to sell the Shares.
- The operations of the Trust and the Sponsor depend on support from the World Gold Council. This support may not be available in the future and, if such support is not available, the operations of the Trust may be adversely affected.
- Shareholders will not have the rights enjoyed by investors in certain other vehicles.
  - An investment in the Shares may be adversely affected by competition from other methods of investing in gold.
  - Crises may motivate large-scale sales of gold, which could decrease the price of gold and adversely affect an investment in the Shares.
  - Substantial sales of gold by the official sector could adversely affect an investment in the Shares.

- A widening of interest rate differentials between the cost of money and the cost of gold could negatively affect the price of gold, which in turn, could negatively affect the price of the Shares.
- The Trust's gold may be subject to loss, damage, theft or restriction on access.
- The Trust may not have adequate sources of recovery if its gold is lost, damaged, stolen or destroyed and recovery may be limited, even in the event of fraud, to the market value of the gold at the time the fraud is discovered.
- Gold bullion allocated to the Trust in connection with the creation of a Basket may not meet the London Good Delivery Standards and, if a Basket is issued against such gold, the Trust may suffer a loss.
- Because neither the Trustee nor the Custodian oversees or monitors the activities of subcustodians who may hold the Trust's gold, failure by the subcustodians to exercise due care in the safekeeping of the Trust's gold could result in a loss to the Trust.
- The ability of the Trustee and the Custodian to take legal action against subcustodians may be limited, which increases the possibility that the Trust may suffer a loss if a subcustodian does not use due care in the safekeeping of the Trust's gold.
- Gold held in the Trust unallocated account and any Authorized Participant's unallocated gold account will not be segregated from the Custodian's assets. If the Custodian becomes insolvent, its assets may not be adequate to satisfy a claim by the Trust or any Authorized Participant. In addition, in the event of the Custodian's insolvency, there may be a delay and costs incurred in identifying the bullion held in the Trust's allocated gold account.
- In issuing Baskets, the Trustee will rely on certain information received from the Custodian, which is subject to confirmation after the Trustee has relied on the information. If such information turns out to be incorrect, Baskets may be issued in exchange for an amount of gold, which is more or less than the amount of gold which is required to be deposited with the Trust.
- The Trust's obligation to reimburse the Purchaser, the Marketing Agent and the Authorized Participants for certain liabilities in the event the Sponsor fails to indemnify the Purchaser, the Marketing Agent or the Authorized Participants could adversely affect an investment in the Shares.
- Competing claims over ownership of intellectual property rights related to the Trust could adversely affect the Trust and an investment in the shares.

## **Exchange Rules Applicable to Trading in the Shares**

Trading in the Shares on BATS is subject to BATS equity trading rules.

## **Trading Hours**

The Shares will trade on BATS between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Eastern time.

Members trading the Shares during the pre-opening session are exposed to the risk of the lack of the calculation or dissemination of underlying index value or intraday indicative value ("IIV"). For certain derivative securities products, an updated underlying index value or IIV may not be calculated or publicly disseminated in the pre-opening hours. Since the underlying index value and IIV are not calculated or widely disseminated during pre-opening hours, an investor who is unable to calculate implied values for

certain derivative securities products during pre-opening hours may be at a disadvantage to market professionals.

### **Suitability**

Trading in the Shares on BATS will be subject to applicable suitability rules.

### **Trading Halts**

BATS will halt trading in the Shares of a Fund in accordance with BATS Rule 14.1(c)(4). The grounds for a halt under BATS Rule 14.1(c)(4) include a halt by the primary market because the intraday indicative value of the Fund and/or the value of its underlying index are not being disseminated as required, or a halt for other regulatory reasons. In addition, BATS will stop trading the Shares of a Fund if the primary market de-lists the Fund.

### **Delivery of a Prospectus**

Members should be mindful of applicable prospectus delivery requirements under the federal securities laws with respect to transactions in the Funds. Prospectuses may be obtained through the Funds' website. The prospectus for a Fund does not contain all of the information set forth in the Fund's registration statement (including the exhibits to the registration statement), parts of which have been omitted in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"). For further information about a Fund, please refer to its registration statement.

In the event that the Funds rely upon an order by the SEC exempting the Shares from certain prospectus delivery requirements under Section 24(d) of the 1940 Act and in the future make available a written product description, BATS Rule 14.1(c) requires that Members provide to all purchasers of Shares a written description of the terms and characteristics of the Shares, not later than the time a confirmation of the first transaction in the Shares is delivered to such purchaser. In addition, Members must include such a written description with any sales material relating to the Shares that is provided to customers or the public. Any other written materials provided by a Member to customers or the public making specific reference to the Shares as an investment vehicle must include a statement in substantially the following form: "A circular describing the terms and characteristics of [*the UTP Derivative Securities*] has been prepared by the [*open-ended management investment company name*] and is available from your broker. It is recommended that you obtain and review such circular before purchasing [*the UTP Derivative Securities*]."

A Member carrying an omnibus account for a non-member broker-dealer is required to inform such non-member that execution of an order to purchase Shares for such omnibus account will be deemed to constitute agreement by the non-member to make such written description available to its customers on the same terms as are directly applicable to the Member under this rule.

Upon request of a customer, Members also shall provide a copy of the Prospectus.

### **Exemptive, Interpretive and No-Action Relief Under Federal Securities Regulations**

The SEC has issued exemptive, interpretive or no-action relief from certain provisions of rules under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act") regarding trading in the above mentioned exchange-traded funds.

### **Regulation M Exemptions**

Generally, Rules 101 and 102 of Regulation M prohibit any "distribution participant" and its "affiliated purchasers" from bidding for, purchasing, or attempting to induce any person to bid for or purchase any

security which is the subject of a distribution until after the applicable restricted period, except as specifically permitted in Regulation M. The provisions of the Rules apply to underwriters, prospective underwriters, brokers, dealers, and other persons who have agreed to participate or are participating in a distribution of securities.

The SEC has granted an exemption from Rule 101 under Regulation M to permit persons participating in a distribution of the Shares to engage in secondary market transactions in such Shares during their participation in such a distribution. The SEC has also granted an exemption pursuant to paragraph (e) of Rule 102 under Regulation M to allow the redemption of Basket Aggregations during the continuous offering of shares.

### **Section 11(d)(1); SEC Rules 11d1-1 and 11d1-2**

Section 11(d)(1) of the Act generally prohibits a person who is both a broker and a dealer from effecting any transaction in which the broker-dealer extends credit to a customer on any security which was part of a new issue in the distribution of which he participated as a member of a selling syndicate or group within thirty days prior to such transaction. The SEC has clarified that Section 11(d)(1) does not apply to broker-dealers that are not Authorized Participants (and, therefore, do not create Basket Aggregations) that engage in both proprietary and customer transactions in Shares in the secondary market. This relief is subject to specific conditions, including the condition that such broker-dealer (whether or not an Authorized Participant) does not, directly or indirectly, receive from the fund complex any payment, compensation or other economic incentive to promote or sell the Shares to persons outside the fund complex, other than non-cash compensation permitted under NASD Rule 2830(I)(5)(A), (B) or (C). The SEC also has taken a no-action position under Section 11(d)(1) of the Act that broker-dealers may treat Shares, for purposes of Rule 11d1-2, as "securities issued by a registered openend investment company as defined in the Investment Company Act" and thereby extend credit or maintain or arrange for the extension or maintenance of credit on Shares that have been owned by the persons to whom credit is provided for more than 30 days, in reliance on the exemption contained in the rule.

The SEC has also taken a no-action position under Section 11(d) of the Exchange Act if an Authorized Participant ("AP") extends or maintains or arranges for the extension or maintenance of credit on Shares in reliance on the class exemption granted in the Letter re: Derivative Products Committee of the Securities Industry Association ("SIA") (November 21, 2005), provided (1) that the AP does not receive from the Trust, directly or indirectly, any payment, compensation or other economic incentive to promote or sell the Shares to persons outside the Trust, other than non-cash compensation permitted under NASD Rule 2830(I)(5)(A), (B), or (C); and (2) the AP does not extend, maintain or arrange for the extension or maintenance of credit to or for a customer on Shares before thirty days from the start of trading in the Shares (except as otherwise permitted pursuant to Rule 11d1-1). (See letter from Catherine McGuire, Chief Counsel, SEC Division of Market Regulation, to Securities Industry Association, Derivative Products Committee, dated November 21, 2005.)

**This Information Circular is not a statutory prospectus. Members should visit the Funds' website consult the prospectus for relevant information regarding the Fund.**

Please contact Eric Swanson, 212.378.8523, [eswanson@batstrading.com](mailto:eswanson@batstrading.com), with any inquiries regarding this Information Circular.