



## Information Circular 08-025

**Date:** October 29, 2008

**Re:** SPA ETF Trust

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 SPA ETFs will 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>
SPA MarketGrader 40 Fund	SFV	784678104
SPA MarketGrader 100 Fund	SIH	784678203
SPA MarketGrader 200 Fund	SNB	784678302
SPA MarketGrader Small Cap 100 Fund	SSK	784678401
SPA MarketGrader Mid Cap 100 Fund	SVD	784678500
SPA MarketGrader Large Cap 100 Fund	SZG	784678609

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

The SPDR Series Trust (the "Trust") is a management investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"). The Trust consists of several exchange-traded funds (each, a "Fund" and collectively, the "Funds"). This circular relates only to the Funds listed above. The shares of each of the Funds are referred to herein as "Shares." SPA ETF, Inc. (the "Adviser") serves as the investment adviser for the Funds. BNY Investment Advisors is the investment sub-adviser for the funds (the "Sub-Adviser").

SFV, using a "passive" or "indexing" investment approach, will seek to replicate, before fees and expenses, the performance of the MarketGrader 40 Index. The performance of the MarketGrader 40 Index does not include fees or expenses, but assumes reinvestment of distributions. The MarketGrader 40 Index is an equal weighted index composed of 40 U.S.-traded stocks, including American depository receipts ("ADRs"), rebalanced every quarter and determined by a proprietary system developed by MarketGrader.com Corporation (the "Index Provider", with such system being the "MarketGrader System"). The Index Provider is not affiliated with the Fund, the Investment Adviser or the Sub-Adviser. All components are selected exclusively on the basis of their final short term numerical grade as scored by the MarketGrader System. Please refer to the Trust's prospectus for a detailed description of the MarketGrader indexes and the MarketGrader System.

SIH, using a "passive" or "indexing" investment approach, will seek to replicate, before fees and expenses, the performance of the MarketGrader 100 Index. The performance of the MarketGrader 100 Index does not include fees or expenses, but assumes reinvestment of distributions. The MarketGrader 100 Index is an equal weighted index composed of 100 U.S.-traded stocks, including ADRs, rebalanced semi-annually and determined by a proprietary system developed by the Index Provider. The Index Provider is not affiliated with the Fund, the Investment Adviser or the Sub-Adviser. All components are selected exclusively on the basis of their final short term numerical grade as scored by the MarketGrader System.

SNB, using a "passive" or "indexing" investment approach, will seek to replicate, before fees and expenses, the performance of the MarketGrader 200 Index. The performance of the MarketGrader 200

Index does not include fees or expenses, but assumes reinvestment of distributions. The MarketGrader 200 Index is an equal weighted index composed of 200 U.S.-traded stocks, including ADRs, rebalanced semi-annually and determined by a proprietary system developed by the Index Provider. The Index Provider is not affiliated with the Fund, the Investment Adviser or the Sub-Adviser. All components are selected exclusively on the basis of their final short term numerical grade as scored by the MarketGrader System.

SSK, using a “passive” or “indexing” investment approach, will seek to replicate, before fees and expenses, the performance of the MarketGrader Small Cap 100 Index. The performance of the MarketGrader Small Cap 100 Index does not include fees or expenses, but assumes reinvestment of distributions. The MarketGrader Small Cap 100 Index is an equal weighted index composed of 100 U.S.-traded stocks, including ADRs, rebalanced semi annually and determined by a proprietary system developed by the Index Provider. The Index Provider is not affiliated with the Fund, the Investment Adviser or the Sub-Adviser. All components are selected exclusively on the basis of their final short term numerical grade as scored by the MarketGrader System.

SVD, using a “passive” or “indexing” investment approach, will seek to replicate, before fees and expenses, the performance of the MarketGrader Mid Cap 100 Index. The performance of the MarketGrader Mid Cap 100 Index does not include fees or expenses, but assumes reinvestment of distributions. The MarketGrader Mid Cap 100 Index is an equal weighted index composed of 100 U.S.-traded stocks, including ADRs, rebalanced semi annually and determined by a proprietary system developed by the Index Provider. The Index Provider is not affiliated with the Fund, the Investment Adviser or the Sub-Adviser. All components are selected exclusively on the basis of their final short term numerical grade as scored by the MarketGrader System.

SZG, using a “passive” or “indexing” investment approach, will seek to replicate, before fees and expenses, the performance of the MarketGrader Large Cap 100 Index. The performance of the MarketGrader Large Cap 100 Index does not include fees or expenses, but assumes reinvestment of distributions. The MarketGrader Large Cap 100 Index is an equal weighted index composed of 100 U.S.-traded stocks, including ADRs, rebalanced semi annually and determined by a proprietary system developed by the Index Provider. The Index Provider is not affiliated with the Fund, the Investment Adviser or the Sub-Adviser. All components are selected exclusively on the basis of their final short term numerical grade as scored by the MarketGrader System.

Each Fund will normally invest at least 90% of its total assets in securities that comprise its corresponding index. The Funds have adopted a policy that requires the Funds to provide shareholders with at least 60 days notice prior to any material change in this policy or the indexes. The Board of Trustees of the Trust may change the Funds’ investment strategies and other policies without shareholder approval, except as otherwise indicated.

The Sub-Adviser seeks a correlation over time of 0.95 or better between each Fund’s performance and the performance of the corresponding index. A figure of 1.00 would represent perfect correlation.

The Funds generally will invest in all of the stocks comprising the corresponding indexes in proportion to their weightings in the index. However, under various circumstances, it may not be possible or practicable to purchase all of the stocks in the index in those weightings. In those circumstances, the Funds may purchase a sample of the stocks in the index in proportions expected by the Sub-Adviser to replicate generally the performance of the index as a whole. There may also be instances in which the Sub-Adviser may choose to overweight another stock in the index, purchase (or sell) securities not in the index which the Sub-Adviser believes are appropriate to substitute for one or more index components, or utilize various combinations of other available investment techniques (such as exchange-traded futures contracts, options contracts or swap agreements), in seeking to accurately track the index. In addition, from time to time stocks are added to or removed from the index. The Funds may sell stocks that are represented in the index or purchase stocks that are not yet represented in the index in anticipation of their removal from or addition to the index. The Funds will rebalance their investments on a semi-annual basis in accordance with the rebalancing of the corresponding indexes.

As described more fully in the Trust's prospectus and Statement of Additional Information ("SAI"), the Funds issue and redeem Shares at net asset value ("NAV") only in blocks of 100,000 Shares (each block called a "Creation Unit") or multiples thereof. As a practical matter, only broker-dealers or large institutional investors with creation and redemption agreements and called Authorized Participants can purchase or redeem these Creation Units. Except when aggregated in Creation Units, the Shares may not be redeemed with the Funds.

Income dividends, if any, are distributed to shareholders annually. Net capital gains are distributed at least annually.

Shares are held in book-entry form, which means that no Share certificates are issued. The Depository Trust Company or its nominee is the record owner of all outstanding Shares of the Funds and is recognized as the owner of all Shares for all purposes.

Each Fund's NAV is determined as of the close of trading (normally 4:00 p.m., Eastern Time or "ET") on each day the New York Stock Exchange is open for business. NAV is calculated by taking the market price of each Fund's total assets, including interest or dividends accrued but not yet collected, less all liabilities, and dividing such amount by the total number of Shares outstanding. The result, which is rounded to the nearest cent, is the NAV per Share.

The registration statement for the Funds describes the various fees and expenses for the Funds' Shares. For a more complete description of the Funds and the underlying indexes, visit the Funds' website at [www.spa-etf.com](http://www.spa-etf.com).

### **Purchases and Redemptions in Creation Unit Size**

Members of BATS Exchange, Inc. ("Members") are hereby informed that procedures for purchases and redemptions of Shares in Creation Unit Size are described in the prospectus and SAI for a Fund, and that Shares are not individually redeemable but are redeemable only in Creation Unit Size aggregations or multiples thereof.

### **Principal Risks**

Interested persons are referred to the discussion in the prospectus for the Funds of the principal risks of an investment in the Funds. These include tracking error risk (factors causing a Fund's performance to not match the performance of its underlying index), market trading risk (for example, trading halts, trading above or below net asset value), stock market risk, investment style risk, sector risk, investment approach risk, non-diversification risk, issuer-specific risk, management risk, foreign investment risk, equity risk and small and medium-sized company risk. Please note that trading in the Fund's Shares during the pre-opening session may result in additional trading risks which include: (1) lower liquidity in the pre-opening session may impact pricing, (2) higher volatility in the pre-opening session may impact pricing, (3) wider spreads may occur in the pre-opening session.

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

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

### **Trading Hours**

The values of the indexes underlying the Shares are disseminated to data vendors every 15 seconds. The Shares will trade on BATS between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. ET

## **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**

BATS 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 Investment Company Act of 1940 and in the future make available a written product description, BATS Rule 14.1(c)(3) requires that BATS Members provide to all purchasers of Shares a written description of the terms and characteristics of such securities, in a form prepared by the Trust for the Fund, no later than the time a confirmation of the first transaction in the Shares is delivered to such purchaser. In addition, BATS Members shall 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 BATS 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 BATS 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 BATS member under this rule.

Upon request of a customer, BATS 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 shares of the above-mentioned Funds to engage in secondary market transactions in such shares during their participation in such a distribution. In addition, the SEC has granted relief under Regulation M to permit persons who may be deemed to be participating in the distribution of shares of the above-mentioned Funds (i) to purchase securities for the purpose of purchasing Creation Unit Aggregations of Fund Shares and to (ii) tender securities for redemption in Creation Unit Aggregations. Further, the SEC has clarified that the tender of Fund Shares to the Funds for redemption does not constitute a bid for or purchase of any of the Funds' securities during the restricted period of Rule 101. The SEC has also granted an exemption pursuant to paragraph (e) of Rule 102 under Regulation M to allow the redemption of Fund Shares in Creation Unit Aggregations during the continuous offering of shares.

### **Customer Confirmations for Creation or Redemption of Fund Shares (SEC Rule 10b-10)**

Broker-dealers who handle purchases or redemptions of Fund Shares in Creation Unit size for customers will be permitted to provide such customers with a statement of the number of Creation Unit Aggregations created or redeemed without providing a statement of the identity, number and price of shares of the individual securities tendered to the Fund for purposes of purchasing Creation Unit Aggregations ("Deposit Securities") or the identity, number and price of shares to be delivered by the Trust to the redeeming holder ("Redemption Securities"). The composition of the securities required to be tendered to the Fund for creation purposes and of the securities to be delivered on redemption will be disseminated each business day and will be applicable to requests for creations or redemption, as the case may be, on that day. This exemptive relief under Rule 10b-10 with respect to creations and redemptions is subject to the following conditions:

- (1) Confirmations to customers engaging in creations or redemptions must state that all information required by Rule 10b-10 will be provided upon request;
- (2) Any such request by a customer for information required by Rule 10b-10 will be filed in a timely manner, in accordance with Rule 10b-10(c);
- (3) Except for the identity, number and price of shares of the component securities of the Deposit Securities and Redemption Securities, as described above, confirmations to customers must disclose all other information required by Rule 10b-10(a).

### **SEC Rule 14e-5**

An exemption from Rule 14e-5 has been granted to permit any person acting as a dealer-manager of a tender offer for a component security of the Funds to (1) redeem Fund Shares in Creation Unit Aggregations from the issuer that may include a security subject to such tender offer and (2) to purchase Fund shares during such tender offer. In addition, a no-action position has been taken under Rule 14e-5 if a broker-dealer acting as a dealer-manager of a tender offer for a security of the Fund purchases or arranges to purchase such securities in the secondary market for the purpose of tendering such securities to purchase one or more Creation Unit Aggregations of Shares, if made in conformance with the following:

- (1) such bids or purchases are effected in the ordinary course of business, in connection with a basket of 20 or more securities in which any security that is the subject of a distribution, or any reference security, does not comprise more than 5% of the value of the basket purchased; or

(2) purchases are effected as adjustments to such basket in the ordinary course of business as a result of a change in the composition of the underlying index; and

(3) such bids or purchases are not effected for the purpose of facilitating such tender offer.

### **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 Creation Unit Aggregations) that engage in both proprietary and customer transactions in Shares of the Funds in the secondary market, and for broker-dealer Authorized Participants that engage in creations of Creation Unit Aggregations. 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 of the ETF to persons outside the fund complex, other than non-cash compensation permitted under NASD Rule 2830 (I)(5)(A), (B) or (C). (See letter from Catherine McGuire, Chief Counsel, SEC Division of Market Regulation, to Securities Industry Association, Derivative Products Committee, dated November 21, 2005.) The SEC also has taken a no-action position under Section 11(d)(1) of the Act that broker-dealers may treat Shares of the Funds, for purposes of Rule 11d1-2, as "securities issued by a registered open-end 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.

### **SEC Rule 15c1-5 and 15c1-6**

The SEC has taken a no-action position with respect to Rule 15c1-5 and Rule 15c1-6 as to the required disclosure of control by a broker or dealer with respect to creations and redemptions of Fund Shares and secondary market transactions therein. (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. BATS Members should consult the prospectus for a Fund and the Funds' website at [www.spa-etf.com](http://www.spa-etf.com) for relevant information.**

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