



## Information Circular 08-039

**Date:** October 29, 2008

**Re:** **iShares Funds**

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 certain iShares funds listed on other exchanges will be traded by BATS as an exchange on an unlisted trading privileges (UTP) basis for the first time. **See Appendix A for a listing of select iShares Funds (“Funds”) that will trade on BATS on a UTP basis.**

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

Barclays Global Fund Advisors (“BGFA”) (the “Advisor”) is the investment advisor for the Funds and is registered under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940. The Advisor is a wholly owned subsidiary of Barclays Global Investors, N.A., which is in turn a wholly owned indirect subsidiary of Barclays Bank PLC of the United Kingdom. SEI Investments Distribution Co. (the “Distributor”), a Pennsylvania corporation and broker-dealer registered under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, is the principal underwriter and distributor of Creation Unit Aggregations (as defined below) of iShares Funds. Investors Bank Trust Company (“IBT”) is the administrator, custodian and transfer agent for each Fund.

The investment objective of the Funds is to provide investment results that correspond generally to the price and yield performance of a specified underlying index. The Funds use two basic indexing strategies, “replication” and “representative sampling,” to track the applicable underlying index. A Fund utilizing a replication strategy generally will invest in substantially all of the stocks in the relevant underlying index in approximately the same proportions as in the underlying index. A Fund using a representative sampling strategy generally will hold a basket of the component securities of its underlying index, but it may not hold all of the component securities of its underlying index.

As described more fully in the prospectus and the Statement of Additional Information (“SAI”) for a Fund, the Funds offer and issue shares (“Shares”) at their net asset value (“NAV”) only in large blocks of 50,000 iShares or multiples thereof. These “groups” of shares are called “Creation Unit Aggregations.”

All orders to purchase Shares in Creation Unit Aggregations must be placed through an Authorized Participant. An Authorized Participant must be either a “Participating Party”, *i.e.*, a broker-dealer or other participant in the clearing process through the National Securities Clearing Corporation Continuous Net Settlement System (the “Clearing Process”), a clearing agency that is registered with the SEC, or a Depository Trust Company participant, and in each case, must enter into a Participant Agreement. As detailed in the prospectus for each Fund, the Funds impose a transaction fee in connection with the issuance and redemption of Shares to offset transfer and other transaction costs.

The NAV for the Funds will be calculated and disseminated daily. The Funds’ NAV will be calculated by IBT. IBT will disseminate the information to BGI, SEI and others, including the NYSE. The Funds’ NAV will be published in a number of places, including [www.iShares.com](http://www.iShares.com) and on the Consolidated Tape.

The registration statement for a Fund describes the various fees and expenses for the Fund’s shares.

For a more complete description of the Funds and the underlying indexes, visit [www.iShares.com](http://www.iShares.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 a Fund of the principal risks of an investment in that Fund. These include tracking error risk (factors causing a Fund’s performance to not match the performance of the underlying index), market trading risk (for example, trading halts, trading above or below net asset value), stock market risk, investment style risk, interest rate risk, investment approach risk, concentration risk, non-diversification risk, issuer-specific risk, management risk, lack of market liquidity, lack of governmental insurance or guarantee and fiscal policy 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 Fund’s website at [www.iShares.com](http://www.iShares.com). 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.iShares.com](http://www.iShares.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.

## Appendix A – iShares Funds

Exchange-Traded Fund	Symbol	CUSIP
iShares Nasdaq Biotechnology Index Fund	IBB	464287556
iShares S&P 500 Index Fund	IVV	464287200
iShares S&P 100 Index Fund	OEF	464287101
iShares S&P Midcap 400 Index Fund	IJH	464287507
iShares S&P SmallCap 600 Index Fund	IJR	464287804
iShares S&P 500 Value Index Fund	IVE	464287408
iShares S&P 500 Growth Index Fund	IVW	464287309
iShares S&P MidCap 400 Growth Index Fund	IJK	464287606
iShares S&P MidCap 400 Value Index Fund	IJJ	464287705
iShares S&P SmallCap 600 Growth Index Fund	IJT	464287887
iShares S&P SmallCap 600 Value Index Fund	IJS	464287879
iShares Dow Jones Transportation Index Fund	IYT	464287192
iShares Dow Jones Select Dividend Index Fund	DVY	464287168
iShares Goldman Sachs Natural Resources Index Fund	IGE	464287374
iShares KLD 400 Select Social Index Fund	KLD	464288802
iShares Morningstar Small Core Index Fund	JKJ	464288505
iShares Morningstar Mid Value Index Fund	JKI	464288406
iShares Morningstar Large Value Index Fund	JKF	464288109
iShares Morningstar Mid Growth Index Fund	JKH	464288307
iShares Morningstar Mid Core Index Fund	JKG	464288208
iShares Morningstar Large Growth Index Fund	JKE	464287119
iShares Morningstar Large Core Index Fund	JKD	464287127
iShares Morningstar Small Growth Index Fund	JKK	464288604
iShares Morningstar Small Value Index Fund	JKL	464288703
iShares MSCI EAFE Growth Index Fund	EFG	464288885
iShares MSCI EAFE Value Index Fund	EFV	464288877
iShares NYSE 100 Index Fund	NY	464287135
iShares NYSE Composite Index Fund	NYC	464287143
iShares S&P 1500 Index Fund	ISI	464287150