



## Information Circular 09-012

**Date:** January 28, 2009

**Re:** iShares Trust ETFs

Pursuant to Rule 14.1(c)(2) of the Rules of BATS Exchange, Inc. (the "Exchange"), this Information Circular is being issued to advise you that the following securities have been approved for trading on the Exchange as UTP Derivative Securities pursuant to Chapter XIV of the Exchange's Rules.

<u>Security ("Shares" or "Funds")</u>	<u>Symbol</u>
iShares Barclays Agency Bond Fund	AGZ
iShares S&P Short Term National Municipal Bond Fund	SUB
iShares S&P Target Date Retirement Income Index Fund	TGR
iShares S&P Target Date 2010 Index Fund	TZD
iShares S&P Target Date 2015 Index Fund	TZE
iShares S&P Target Date 2020 Index Fund	TZG
iShares S&P Target Date 2025 Index Fund	TZI
iShares S&P Target Date 2030 Index Fund	TZL
iShares S&P Target Date 2035 Index Fund	TZO
iShares S&P Target Date 2040 Index Fund	TZV

**Commencement of Trading:** January 29, 2009

**Issuer/Trust:** iShares Trust

**Issuer Website:** [www.ishares.com](http://www.ishares.com)

**Primary Listing Exchange:** NYSE Arca

**Primary Exchange Circular:** RB-08-123 (November 6, 2008)

**Issuer Registration Statement:** Nos. 811-09729 and 333-92935

The purpose of this information circular is to outline various rules and policies that will be applicable to trading in these new products pursuant to the Exchange's unlisted trading privileges, as well as to provide certain characteristics and features of the Shares. For a more complete description of the Issuer, the Shares and the underlying market instruments or indexes, visit the Issuer Website, consult the Prospectus available on the Issuer Website, examine the Issuer Registration Statement or review the most current information bulletin issued by the Primary Listing Exchange (which as of the date hereof is

set forth above as the “Primary Exchange Circular”). The Issuer Website, the Prospectus, the Issuer Registration Statement and the Primary Exchange Circular are hereafter collectively referred to as the “Issuer Disclosure Materials.”

The Primary Exchange Circular cited above contains the following information:

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

As more fully explained in the Registration Statement for the Trust, the Trust is an open-end management investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (“1940 Act”), and consists of separate investment portfolios, including the Funds.

iShares Barclays Agency Bond Fund seeks investment results that correspond generally to the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of the agency sector of the U.S. government bond market as defined by the Barclays Capital U.S. Agency Index. The Barclays Capital U.S. Agency Index measures the performance of the agency sector of the U.S. government bond market and is comprised of investment-grade native-currency U.S. dollar denominated debentures issued by government and government-related agencies, including the Federal National Mortgage Association.

iShares S&P Short Term National Municipal Bond Fund seeks investment results that correspond generally to the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of the S&P National 0-5 Year Municipal Bond Index. The S&P National 0-5 Year Municipal Bond Index measures the performance of the short-term investment-grade segment of the U.S. municipal bond market.

iShares S&P Target Date Retirement Income Index Fund seeks investment results that correspond generally to the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of the S&P Target Date Retirement Income Index (the “Retirement Income Underlying Index”). The Retirement Income Underlying Index seeks to represent asset allocations which target an immediate retirement horizon.

iShares S&P Target Date 2010 Index Fund seeks investment results that correspond generally to the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of the S&P Target Date 2010 Index (the “2010 Underlying Index”). The 2010 Underlying Index seeks to represent asset allocations for investors with a target retirement horizon on or around 2010.

iShares S&P Target Date 2015 Index Fund seeks investment results that correspond generally to the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of the S&P Target Date 2015 Index (the “2015 Underlying Index”). The 2015 Underlying Index seeks to represent asset allocations for investors with a target retirement horizon on or around 2015.

iShares S&P Target Date 2020 Index Fund seeks investment results that correspond generally to the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of the S&P Target Date 2020 Index (the “2020 Underlying Index”). The 2020 Underlying Index seeks to represent asset allocations for investors with a target retirement horizon on or around 2020.

iShares S&P Target Date 2025 Index Fund seeks investment results that correspond generally to the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of the S&P Target Date 2025 Index (the “2025 Underlying Index”). The 2025 Underlying Index seeks to represent asset allocations for investors with a target retirement horizon on or around 2025.

iShares S&P Target Date 2030 Index Fund seeks investment results that correspond generally to the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of the S&P Target Date 2030 Index (the “2030 Underlying Index”). The 2030 Underlying Index seeks to represent asset allocations for investors with a target retirement horizon on or around 2030.

iShares S&P Target Date 2035 Index Fund seeks investment results that correspond generally to the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of the S&P Target Date 2035 Index (the “2035

Underlying Index"). The 2035 Underlying Index seeks to represent asset allocations for investors with a target retirement horizon on or around 2035.

iShares S&P Target Date 2040 Index Fund seeks investment results that correspond generally to the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of the S&P Target Date 2040 Index (the "2040 Underlying Index"). The 2040 Underlying Index seeks to represent asset allocations for investors with a target retirement horizon on or around 2040.

Barclays Global Fund Advisors is the investment adviser to the Funds. SEI Investments Distribution Co. is the distributor for the Funds. State Street Bank and Trust Company is the custodian, administrator, and transfer agent for the Funds.

As described more fully in the Trust's prospectus ("Prospectus") and Statement of Additional Information's ("SAI"), the Fund will issue and redeem shares on a continuous basis, at their net asset value ("NAV"), only in large blocks of Shares (each, a "Creation Unit"). Creation Units will be issued and redeemed principally in-kind for securities which constitutes a substantial replication, or a portfolio sampling representation, of the securities involved in the Index. Except when aggregated in Creation Units, the Shares are not redeemable securities of the Fund.

The Depository Trust Company ("DTC") serves as securities depository for the Shares, which may be held only in book-entry form; share certificates will not be issued. DTC, or its nominee, is the record or registered owner of all outstanding Shares.

The NAV of the Fund will be determined once daily at the close of trading (normally, 4:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time ("ET")) on each day that the New York Stock Exchange is open for business (a "Business Day"). NAV is calculated by dividing the current market value of the net assets of the Fund (i.e., the total value of its assets less all liabilities) by the total number of Shares outstanding, generally rounded to the nearest cent. NAV will be available from the Distributor and will also be available to National Securities Clearing Corporation ("NSCC") participants through data made available from NSCC.

The Trust's registration statement describes the various fees and expenses for the Fund's Shares. For a more complete description of the Fund and the Index, visit [www.iShares.com](http://www.iShares.com).

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

Members are hereby informed that procedures for purchases and redemptions of Shares in Creation Units are described in the Trust's Prospectus and Statement of Additional Information and that Shares are not individually redeemable but are redeemable only in Creation Unit aggregations or multiples thereof.

### **Principal Risks**

Interested persons are referred to the Prospectuses for a description of risks associated with an investment in the Shares. These risks include the risk that the Fund's return may not match the return of the Index for a number of reasons including the incursion by the Fund of operating expenses and costs not applicable to the Index. In addition, as noted in the Prospectus, the Shares may trade at market prices that may differ from their NAV. The NAV of the Shares will fluctuate with changes in the market value of the Fund's holdings. The market prices of the Shares will fluctuate in accordance with changes in NAV as well as the supply and demand for the Share.

### **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" or "Commission"). 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 Commission has issued letters granting exemptive, interpretive and no-action relief from certain provisions of rules under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 for exchange-traded funds listed and traded on a registered national securities exchange that meet certain criteria.

**AS WHAT FOLLOWS IS ONLY A SUMMARY OF THE RELIEF OUTLINED IN THE NO-ACTION LETTERS REFERENCED ABOVE, THE EXCHANGE ADVISES INTERESTED PARTIES TO CONSULT THE NO-ACTION LETTERS FOR MORE COMPLETE INFORMATION REGARDING THE MATTERS COVERED THEREIN AND THE APPLICABILITY OF THE RELIEF GRANTED IN RESPECT OF TRADING IN SECURITIES. INTERESTED PARTIES SHOULD ALSO CONSULT THEIR PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS.**

#### **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 Commission issued a No-Action letter by which persons participating in a distribution of shares of a fund may engage in secondary market transactions in such shares during their participation in such a distribution, despite the requirements of from Rule 101 under Regulation M. In addition, the SEC has permitted persons who may be deemed to be participating in the distribution of shares of a fund (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 Commission 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 Commission has issued a No-Action letter to paragraph (e) of Rule 102 under Regulation M which 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 Units 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 affected 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.)

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

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

### **Trading Hours**

The value of the Indexes underlying the Shares will be disseminated to data vendors every 15 seconds during Regular Trading Hours.

The Shares will trade on BATS between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. ET. Please note that trading in the Shares during the Exchange's pre-opening session may result in additional trading risks which include: (1) that the current underlying indicative value may not be updated during the pre-opening session, (2) the indicative value may not be updated during the pre-opening session, (3) lower liquidity in the pre-opening session may impact pricing, (5) higher volatility in the pre-opening session may impact pricing, (6) wider spreads may occur in the pre-opening session, and (7) because the indicative value is not calculated or widely disseminated during the pre-opening session, an investor who is unable to calculate an implied value for the Shares in that session may be at a disadvantage to market professionals.

### **Suitability**

Trading in the Funds on BATS will be subject to the provisions of Exchange Rule 3.7. Members recommending transactions in the Funds to customers should make a determination that the recommendation is suitable for the customer.

### **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.

**This Information Circular is not a statutory prospectus. BATS Members should consult the prospectus for a Fund and the Fund's website for relevant information.**

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