



## Information Circular 10-010

**Date:** February 8, 2010

**Re:** iShares Trust

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

<u>Securities (the "Fund" or "Funds")</u>	<u>Symbol</u>
iShares 10+ Year Credit Bond Fund	CLY
iShares 10+ Year Government Credit Bond Fund	GLJ

**Commencement of Trading:** February 9, 2010

**Issuer/Trust:** iShares Trust

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

**Primary Listing Exchange:** NYSE Arca

**Primary Exchange Circular:** RB-09-193 and 194 (December 9, 2009)

**Registration Statement:** No. 811-09729

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. The Issuer Website, the Prospectus, the Issuer Registration Statement and the Primary Exchange Circular are hereafter collectively referred to as the "Issuer Disclosure Materials."

### Background Information on the Fund

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. This circular refers only to the Funds listed above. The shares of each of the Funds listed above are referred to herein as "Shares." Barclays Global Fund Advisors (the "Adviser" or "BGFA") serves as the investment adviser for the Funds. CLY seeks investment results that correspond generally to the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of the BofA Merrill Lynch 10+ Year US Corporate & Yankees Index (the "Yankees Index"), which includes debt securities issued publicly by U.S. corporations and U.S. dollar-denominated, publicly issued debt of non-U.S. corporations, non-U.S. government debt and supranational debt. The Fund's investment objective and the Yankees Index may be changed without shareholder approval.

The Yankees Index is a broad, market value weighted, total rate of return index designed to measure the performance of the long-term, investment-grade U.S. corporate and Yankee bond markets. Component

securities include debt issued publicly by U.S. corporations and U.S. dollar-denominated, publicly issued debt of non-U.S. corporations, non-U.S. government debt and supranational debt. The securities in the Yankees Index have \$250 million or more of outstanding face value, and have at least ten years remaining to maturity or the first call date in the case of callable perpetual securities. In addition, the securities must be denominated in U.S. dollars, have a fixed coupon schedule (or at least ten years before the last call prior to the date the bond transitions from a fixed to a floating rate security) and be issued by the government of, or an entity whose principal place of business is in, a country that has an investment-grade foreign currency long-term sovereign debt rating. As of June 30, 2009, the Yankees Index consisted of 1,093 USD-denominated issues of supranational and national entities of, and corporate entities whose principal place of business is in, the following countries: Australia, Barbados, Belgium, Bermuda, Brazil, Canada, the Cayman Islands, Chile, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Qatar, Russia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Trinidad/Tobago, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom and the United States.

GLJ seeks investment results that correspond generally to the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of the BofA Merrill Lynch 10+ Year US Corporate & Government Index (the "Corporate Index"), which includes publicly issued U.S. Treasury debt, U.S. government agency debt, debt issued by U.S. and non-U.S. corporations, non-U.S. government debt and supranational debt. The Fund's investment objective and the Corporate Index may be changed without shareholder approval.

The Corporate Index is a broad, market value weighted, total rate of return index designed to measure the performance of the long-term, investment-grade U.S. corporate and government bond markets. Component securities include publicly issued U.S. Treasury debt, U.S. government agency debt, debt issued by U.S. and non-U.S. corporations, non-U.S. government debt and supranational debt. The securities in the Corporate Index have \$250 million or more of outstanding face value (\$1 billion for U.S. Treasuries) and have at least ten years remaining to maturity or the first call date in the case of callable perpetual securities. In addition, the securities must be denominated in U.S. dollars, have a fixed coupon schedule (or at least ten years before the last call prior to the date the bond transitions from a fixed to a floating rate security) and be issued by the government of, or an entity whose principal place of business is in, a country that has an investment-grade foreign currency long-term sovereign debt rating. The Corporate Index is rebalanced on the last calendar day of each month, based on information available up to and including the third business day before the last business day of the month. As of June 30, 2009, the Corporate Index consisted of 1,266 USD-denominated issues of supranational and national entities of, and corporate entities whose principal place of business is in, the following countries: Australia, Barbados, Belgium, Bermuda, Brazil, Canada, the Cayman Islands, Chile, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Qatar, Russia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Trinidad/Tobago, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom and the United States.

BGFA uses a "passive" or indexing approach to try to achieve each Fund's investment objective. Unlike many investment companies, the Fund does not try to "beat" the index it tracks and does not seek temporary defensive positions when markets decline or appear overvalued.

Indexing may eliminate the chance that a Fund will substantially outperform its underlying index but also may reduce some of the risks of active management, such as poor security selection. Indexing seeks to achieve lower costs and better after-tax performance by keeping portfolio turnover low in comparison to actively managed investment companies.

For more information regarding each Fund's investment strategy, please read the prospectus for the Funds.

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 large blocks of 100,000 Shares (each block of Shares called a "Creation Unit") or multiples thereof. As a practical matter, only broker-dealers or large institutional investors with creation and redemption agreements (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.

Dividends from net investment income, if any, are generally declared and paid monthly by the Funds. Distributions of net realized securities gains, if any, generally are declared and paid once a year, but the Trust may make distributions on a more frequent basis for the Funds.

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.

The NAV per Share for each Fund is computed by dividing the value of the net assets of the Fund (i.e., the value of its total assets less total liabilities) by the total number of Shares outstanding. Expenses and fees are accrued daily and taken into account for purposes of determining NAV. The NAV of each Fund is determined each business day after the close of trading (ordinarily 4:00 p.m., Eastern Time or "ET") of the New York Stock Exchange. Any assets or liabilities denominated in currencies other than the U.S. dollar are converted into U.S. dollars at the current market rates on the date of valuation as quoted by one or more sources.

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 Issuer Website.

### **Principal Risks**

Interested persons are referred to the prospectus for a description of risks associated with an investment in the Shares. These risks include the risk that a Fund's return may not match the return of its index for a number of reasons including the incursion by a Fund of operating expenses and costs not applicable to its index. In addition, as noted in the prospectus, the Shares may trade at market prices that 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 Shares on the Exchange.

### **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 Index 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 5:00 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 and After Hours Trading Sessions, (2) the indicative value may not be updated during the pre-opening session, (3) lower liquidity in the pre-opening session may impact pricing, (4) higher volatility in the pre-opening session may impact pricing, (5) wider spreads may occur in the pre-opening session, and (6) 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.

### **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 Fund. Prospectuses may be obtained through the Fund's 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 SEC. For further information about the Fund, please refer to its Registration Statement.

In the event that the Fund relies 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 Issuer of 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.

### **Suitability**

Trading in the securities on BATS will be subject to the provisions of Exchange Rule 3.7. Members recommending transactions in the securities 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 security 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 security 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 security if the primary market de-lists the security.

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

The Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") 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 securities 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, the Fund is exempted from Rule 101 pursuant to paragraph (c)(4) of Rule 101, permitting persons who may be deemed to be participating in a distribution of the Shares to bid for or purchase Shares during their participation in such distribution. The Fund is exempted under Rule 102(d)(4), permitting a Fund to redeem Shares during the continuous offering of Shares.

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

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 for the Fund 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 redemption 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); and
- 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).

## **Rule 10b-17 (Untimely Announcement of Record Dates)**

The SEC has granted an exemption from the requirements of Rule 10b-17 that will cover transactions in the Shares.

## **Section 11(d)(1); Rule 11d1-2 (Customer Margin)**

The SEC has taken a no-action position under Section 11(d)(1) that will permit broker-dealers that do not create Shares but engage in both proprietary and customer transactions in such Shares exclusively in the secondary market to extend or maintain or arrange for the extension or maintenance of credit on the Shares, in connection with such secondary market transactions. For broker-dealers that engage in the creation of Shares, the SEC has also taken a no-action position under Rule 11d1-2 that will cover the extension or maintenance or the arrangement for the extension or maintenance of credit on the Shares that have been owned by the persons to whom credit is provided for more than 30 days.

## **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 Fund (1) to 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 purchase; 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.

**SEC Rule 15c1-5 and 15c1-6 (Disclosure of Control and interest in Distributions)**

The SEC has taken a no-action position under Rule 15c1-5 that will permit a broker-dealer to execute transactions in Shares without disclosing any control relationship with an issuer of a component security. In addition, the SEC has taken a no-action position under Rule 15c1-6 that will permit a broker dealer to execute transactions in the Shares without disclosing its participation or interest in a primary or secondary distribution of a component security.

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

Please contact Eric Swanson, 212.378.8520, [eswanson@batstrading.com](mailto:eswanson@batstrading.com), with any inquiries regarding this Information Circular.