



EDGA Exchange, Inc. & EDGX Exchange, Inc.			
Regulatory Information Circular			
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**Subject:       iShares 2016 Investment Grade Corporate Bond ETF**  
**iShares 2018 Investment Grade Corporate Bond ETF**  
**iShares 2020 Investment Grade Corporate Bond ETF**  
**iShares 2023 Investment Grade Corporate Bond ETF**

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

As more fully explained in the Registration Statement (Nos. 811-09729 and 811-09102) for the iShares Trust (the “Trust”), the Trust is an open-end management investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, consisting of several investment portfolios. This regulatory information circular relates only to the Funds listed above (each, a “Fund” and together, the “Funds”). The shares of the Funds are referred to herein as “Shares.”

BlackRock Fund Advisors (“BFA” or the “Adviser”), serves as investment adviser of each of the Funds. BlackRock Investments, LLC serves as the Distributor for the Funds (the “Distributor”). State Street Bank and Trust Company acts as the administrator, custodian and transfer agent for the Funds.

<b>Ticker</b>	<b>Fund Name</b>	<b>CUSIP</b>
IBCB	iShares 2016 Investment Grade Corporate Bond ETF	46432F792
IBCC	iShares 2018 Investment Grade Corporate Bond ETF	46432F768
IBCD	iShares 2020 Investment Grade Corporate Bond ETF	46432F735
IBCE	iShares 2023 Investment Grade Corporate Bond ETF	46432F793

### **Description of the Funds**

#### *iShares 2016 Investment Grade Corporate Bond ETF*

The iShares 2016 Investment Grade Corporate Bond ETF, doing business as the iSharesBondTM 2016 Corporate ex-Financials Term ETF, (the “Fund”) seeks investment results that correspond generally to the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of the Barclays 2016 Maturity High Quality Corporate Index (the “Underlying Index”).

The Fund is a term fund that will terminate on or about March 31, 2016, at which time it

will distribute its remaining net assets to shareholders. The Underlying Index is composed of U.S. dollar-denominated, taxable, investment-grade corporate bonds, scheduled to mature after March 31, 2015 and before April 1, 2016, and excludes financial issuers. Components primarily include industrials companies and utilities companies. The components of the Underlying Index, and the degree to which the components represent certain industries, may change over time.

The Underlying Index includes U.S. dollar-denominated, investment-grade securities publicly issued by U.S. and non-U.S. corporate issuers, that have \$250 million or more of outstanding face value at the time of inclusion. The Fund's investment in non-U.S. corporate issuers initially will consist primarily of corporate bonds issued by companies domiciled in developed countries. The Fund will invest in non-U.S. issuers to the extent necessary for it to track the Underlying Index. Each bond must be registered with the SEC, have been exempt from registration at issuance, or have been offered pursuant to Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended ("1933 Act") with registration rights. In addition, only securities rated Baa3 or higher by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. ("Moody's") or BBB- or higher by Standard & Poor's Ratings Services or Fitch, Inc. ("Fitch") will be included in the Underlying Index. The lowest rating from Moody's, Standard & Poor's Ratings Services or Fitch is used to determine eligibility. When ratings from only two of these agencies are available, the lower rating is used to determine eligibility. Securities with a rating from only one of the three ratings agencies are excluded from the Underlying Index.

The Underlying Index is constructed with the following methodology. A parent index, the Barclays U.S. Corporate Index, representing U.S. dollar-denominated, taxable, investment-grade corporate bonds, is stripped of financial issuers, stripped of securities maturing outside of the maturity range as defined above, and divided into two subsets by rating. One subset contains Aaa - A3 rated bonds, and the other contains Baa1 - Baa3 rated bonds. Securities are then market-cap weighted within each subset, with a 3% cap on any one issuer, and a pro rata distribution of any excess weight across the remaining issuers in the subset. The two subsets are then combined in a proportion required to achieve an initial weighted average rating of approximately A2. The securities in the Underlying Index are updated on the last calendar day of each month until one year prior to March 31, 2016. During this final one year period, the Underlying Index will no longer be updated or rebalanced, except to remove securities which are downgraded below investment grade by any of the three ratings agencies. Additionally, during this period, existing bond weights will be allowed to float based on changes in market value, and the average weighted rating previously described will not apply. If bond ratings change during this time, weights will not be adjusted, which means that the average credit quality may change over time as bond ratings change and securities are added to and removed from the Underlying Index. During the final two years of the Underlying Index, bonds that are screened from the parent index due to being within one year to maturity will be added back into the Underlying Index until such issues reach maturity.

When a bond that is included in the Underlying Index matures, its maturity value will be represented in the Underlying Index by cash throughout the remaining life of the Underlying Index. As the Fund approaches its termination date, its holdings of money market or similar funds may increase, causing the Fund to incur the fees and expenses of these funds. By March

31, 2016, the Underlying Index value will be represented almost entirely by cash as no securities will remain in the Underlying Index.

The Fund generally invests at least 80% of its assets in the securities of its Underlying Index, except during the last months of the Fund's operations (as described below) the Fund's assets will consist of cash and cash equivalents. The Fund may invest the remainder of its assets in cash and cash equivalents (including money market funds affiliated with BFA), as well as in bonds not included in the Underlying Index, but which BFA believes will help the Fund track its Underlying Index. In the last months of operation, as the bonds held by the Fund mature, the proceeds will not be reinvested by the Fund in bonds but instead will be held in cash and cash equivalents. By March 31, 2016, the Underlying Index is expected to consist almost entirely of cash earned in this manner. Around the same time, the Fund will wind up and terminate, and its net assets will be distributed to then-current shareholders.

For more information, please see the Fund's [Prospectus](#) and [Statement of Additional Information](#) ("SAI").

#### *iShares 2018 Investment Grade Corporate Bond ETF*

The iShares 2018 Investment Grade Corporate Bond ETF, doing business as the iSharesBond 2018 Corporate ex-Financials Term ETF, (the "Fund") seeks investment results that correspond generally to the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of the Barclays 2018 Maturity High Quality Corporate Index (the "Underlying Index"). The Fund does not seek to return any predetermined amount at maturity or in periodic distributions.

The Fund is a term fund that will terminate on or about March 31, 2018, at which time it will distribute its remaining net assets to shareholders. The Underlying Index is composed of U.S. dollar-denominated, taxable, investment-grade corporate bonds, scheduled to mature after March 31, 2017 and before April 1, 2018, and excludes financial issuers. Components primarily include industrials companies and utilities companies. The components of the Underlying Index, and the degree to which the components represent certain industries, may change over time.

The Underlying Index includes U.S. dollar-denominated, investment-grade securities publicly issued by U.S. and non-U.S. corporate issuers, that have \$250 million or more of outstanding face value at the time of inclusion. The Fund's investment in non-U.S. corporate issuers initially will consist primarily of corporate bonds issued by companies domiciled in developed countries. The Fund will invest in non-U.S. issuers to the extent necessary for it to track the Underlying Index. Each bond must be registered with the SEC, have been exempt from registration at issuance, or have been offered pursuant to Rule 144A under the 1933 Act with registration rights. In addition, only securities rated Baa3 or higher by Moody's or BBB- or higher by Standard & Poor's Ratings Services or Fitch will be included in the Underlying Index. The lowest rating from Moody's, Standard & Poor's Ratings Services or Fitch is used to determine eligibility. When ratings from only two of these agencies are available, the lower rating is used to determine eligibility. Securities with a rating from only one of the three ratings agencies are excluded from the Underlying Index.

The Underlying Index is constructed with the following methodology. A parent index, the Barclays U.S. Corporate Index, representing U.S. dollar-denominated, taxable, investment-grade corporate bonds, is stripped of financial issuers, stripped of securities maturing outside of the maturity range as defined above, and divided into two subsets by rating. One subset contains Aaa - A3 rated bonds, and the other contains Baa1 - Baa3 rated bonds. Securities are then market-cap weighted within each subset, with a 3% cap on any one issuer, and a pro rata distribution of any excess weight across the remaining issuers in the subset. The two subsets are then combined in a proportion required to achieve an initial weighted average rating of approximately A2. The securities in the Underlying Index are updated on the last calendar day of each month until one year prior to March 31, 2018. During this final one year period, the Underlying Index will no longer be updated or rebalanced, except to remove securities which are downgraded below investment grade by any of the three ratings agencies. Additionally, during this period existing bond weights will be allowed to float based on changes in market value and the average weighted rating previously described will not apply. If bond ratings change during this time, weights will not be adjusted, which means that the average credit quality may change over time as bond ratings change and securities are added to and removed from the Underlying Index. During the final two years of the Underlying Index, bonds which are screened from the parent index due to being within one year to maturity will be added back into the Underlying Index until such issues reach maturity.

When a bond that is included in the Underlying Index matures, its maturity value will be represented in the Underlying Index by cash throughout the remaining life of the Underlying Index. As the Fund approaches its termination date, its holdings of money market or similar funds may increase, causing the Fund to incur the fees and expenses of these funds. By March 31, 2018, the Underlying Index value will be represented almost entirely by cash as no securities will remain in the Underlying Index.

The Fund generally invests at least 80% of its assets in the securities of its Underlying Index, except during the last months of the Fund's operations, as described below, the Fund's assets will consist of cash and cash equivalents. The Fund may invest the remainder of its assets in cash and cash equivalents (including money market funds affiliated with BFA), as well as in bonds not included in the Underlying Index, but which BFA believes will help the Fund track its Underlying Index. In the last months of operation, as the bonds held by the Fund mature, the proceeds will not be reinvested by the Fund in bonds but instead will be held in cash and cash equivalents. By March 31, 2018, the Underlying Index is expected to consist almost entirely of cash earned in this manner. Around the same time, the Fund will wind up and terminate, and its net assets will be distributed to then-current shareholders.

For more information, please see the Fund's [Prospectus](#) and [SAI](#).

#### *iShares 2020 Investment Grade Corporate Bond ETF*

The iShares 2020 Investment Grade Corporate Bond ETF, doing business as the iSharesBond 2020 Corporate ex-Financials Term ETF, (the "Fund") seeks investment results that correspond generally to the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of the Barclays 2020 Maturity High Quality Corporate Index (the "Underlying Index").

The Fund is a term fund that will terminate on or about March 31, 2020, at which time it will distribute its remaining net assets to shareholders. The Underlying Index is composed of U.S. dollar-denominated, taxable, investment-grade corporate bonds, scheduled to mature after March 31, 2019 and before April 1, 2020, and excludes financial issuers. Components primarily include industrials companies and utilities companies. The components of the Underlying Index, and the degree to which the components represent certain industries, may change over time.

The Underlying Index includes U.S. dollar-denominated, investment-grade securities publicly issued by U.S. and non-U.S. corporate issuers, that have \$250 million or more of outstanding face value at the time of inclusion. The Fund's investment in non-U.S. corporate issuers initially will consist primarily of corporate bonds issued by companies domiciled in developed countries. The Fund will invest in non-U.S. issuers to the extent necessary for it to track the Underlying Index. Each bond must be registered with the SEC, have been exempt from registration at issuance, or have been offered pursuant to Rule 144A under the 1933 Act with registration rights. In addition, only securities rated Baa3 or higher by Moody's or BBB- or higher by Standard & Poor's Ratings Services or Fitch will be included in the Underlying Index. The lowest rating from Moody's, Standard & Poor's Ratings Services or Fitch is used to determine eligibility. When ratings from only two of these agencies are available, the lower rating is used to determine eligibility. Securities with a rating from only one of the three ratings agencies are excluded from the Underlying Index.

The Underlying Index is constructed with the following methodology. A parent index, the Barclays U.S. Corporate Index, representing U.S. dollar-denominated, taxable, investment-grade corporate bonds, is stripped of financial issuers, stripped of securities maturing outside of the maturity range as defined above, and divided into two subsets by rating. One subset contains Aaa - A3 rated bonds, and the other contains Baa1 - Baa3 rated bonds. Securities are then market-cap weighted within each subset, with a 3% cap on any one issuer, and a pro rata distribution of any excess weight across the remaining issuers in the subset. The two subsets are then combined in a proportion required to achieve an initial weighted average rating of approximately A2. The securities in the Underlying Index are updated on the last calendar day of each month until one year prior to March 31, 2020. During this final one year period, the Underlying Index will no longer be updated or rebalanced, except to remove securities which are downgraded below investment grade by any of the three ratings agencies. Additionally, during this period, existing bond weights will be allowed to float based on changes in market value, and the average weighted rating previously described will not apply. If bond ratings change during this time, weights will not be adjusted, which means that the average credit quality may change over time as bond ratings change and securities are added to and removed from the Underlying Index. During the final two years of the Underlying Index, bonds that are screened from the parent index due to being within one year to maturity will be added back into the Underlying Index until such issues reach maturity.

When a bond that is included in the Underlying Index matures, its maturity value will be represented in the Underlying Index by cash throughout the remaining life of the Underlying Index. As the Fund approaches its termination date, its holdings of money market or similar funds may increase, causing the Fund to incur the fees and expenses of these funds. By March

31, 2020, the Underlying Index value will be represented almost entirely by cash as no securities will remain in the Underlying Index.

The Fund generally invests at least 80% of its assets in the securities of its Underlying Index, except during the last months of the Fund's operations (as described below) the Fund's assets will consist of cash and cash equivalents. The Fund may invest the remainder of its assets in cash and cash equivalents (including money market funds affiliated with BFA), as well as in bonds not included in the Underlying Index, but which BFA believes will help the Fund track its Underlying Index. In the last months of operation, as the bonds held by the Fund mature, the proceeds will not be reinvested by the Fund in bonds but instead will be held in cash and cash equivalents. By March 31, 2020, the Underlying Index is expected to consist almost entirely of cash earned in this manner. Around the same time, the Fund will wind up and terminate, and its net assets will be distributed to then-current shareholders.

For more information, please see the Fund's [Prospectus](#) and [SAI](#).

### *iShares 2023 Investment Grade Corporate Bond ETF*

The iShares 2023 Investment Grade Corporate Bond ETF, doing business as the iSharesBond 2023 Corporate ex-Financials Term ETF, (the "Fund") seeks investment results that correspond generally to the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of the Barclays 2023 Maturity High Quality Corporate Index (the "Underlying Index").

The Fund is a term fund that will terminate on or about March 31, 2023, at which time it will distribute its remaining net assets to shareholders. The Underlying Index is composed of U.S. dollar-denominated, taxable, investment-grade corporate bonds, scheduled to mature after March 31, 2022 and before April 1, 2023, and excludes financial issuers. Components primarily include industrials companies and utilities companies. The components of the Underlying Index, and the degree to which the components represent certain industries, may change over time.

The Underlying Index includes U.S. dollar-denominated, investment-grade securities publicly issued by U.S. and non-U.S. corporate issuers, that have \$250 million or more of outstanding face value at the time of inclusion. The Fund's investment in non-U.S. corporate issuers initially will consist primarily of corporate bonds issued by companies domiciled in developed countries. The Fund will invest in non-U.S. issuers to the extent necessary for it to track the Underlying Index. Each bond must be registered with the SEC, have been exempt from registration at issuance, or have been offered pursuant to Rule 144A under the 1933 Act with registration rights. In addition, only securities rated Baa3 or higher by Moody's or BBB- or higher by Standard & Poor's Ratings Services or Fitch will be included in the Underlying Index. The lowest rating from Moody's, Standard & Poor's Ratings Services or Fitch is used to determine eligibility. When ratings from only two of these agencies are available, the lower rating is used to determine eligibility. Securities with a rating from only one of the three ratings agencies are excluded from the Underlying Index.

The Underlying Index is constructed with the following methodology. A parent index, the Barclays U.S. Corporate Index, representing U.S. dollar-denominated, taxable, investment-

grade corporate bonds, is stripped of financial issuers, stripped of securities maturing outside of the maturity range as defined above, and divided into two subsets by rating. One subset contains Aaa - A3 rated bonds, and the other contains Baa1 - Baa3 rated bonds. Securities are then market-cap weighted within each subset, with a 3% cap on any one issuer, and a pro rata distribution of any excess weight across the remaining issuers in the subset. The two subsets are then combined in a proportion required to achieve an initial weighted average rating of approximately A2. The securities in the Underlying Index are updated on the last calendar day of each month until one year prior to March 31, 2023. During this final one year period, the Underlying Index will no longer be updated or rebalanced, except to remove securities which are downgraded below investment grade by any of the three ratings agencies. Additionally, during this period, existing bond weights will be allowed to float based on changes in market value and the average weighted rating previously described will not apply. If bond ratings change during this time, weights will not be adjusted, which means that the average credit quality may change over time as bond ratings change and securities are added to and removed from the Underlying Index. During the final two years of the Underlying Index, bonds that are screened from the parent index due to being within one year to maturity will be added back into the Underlying Index until such issues reach maturity.

When a bond that is included in the Underlying Index matures, its maturity value will be represented in the Underlying Index by cash throughout the remaining life of the Underlying Index. As the Fund approaches its termination date, its holdings of money market or similar funds may increase, causing the Fund to incur the fees and expenses of these funds. By March 31, 2023, the Underlying Index value will be represented almost entirely by cash as no securities will remain in the Underlying Index.

The Fund generally invests at least 80% of its assets in the securities of its Underlying Index, except during the last months of the Fund's operations (as described below) the Fund's assets will consist of cash and cash equivalents. The Fund may invest the remainder of its assets in cash and cash equivalents (including money market funds affiliated with BFA), as well as in bonds not included in the Underlying Index, but which BFA believes will help the Fund track its Underlying Index. In the last months of operation, as the bonds held by the Fund mature, the proceeds will not be reinvested by the Fund in bonds but instead will be held in cash and cash equivalents. By March 31, 2023, the Underlying Index is expected to consist almost entirely of cash earned in this manner. Around the same time, the Fund will wind up and terminate, and its net assets will be distributed to then-current shareholders.

For more information, please see the Fund's [Prospectus](#) and [SAI](#).

#### *Information pertaining to all of the above Funds*

BFA uses a "passive" or indexing approach to try to achieve the Funds' investment objectives. Unlike many investment companies, the Funds do not try to "beat" the indices they track and do not seek temporary defensive positions when markets decline or appear overvalued.

Indexing may eliminate the chance that the Funds will substantially outperform the Underlying Indices 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.

BFA uses a representative sampling indexing strategy to manage the Funds. “Representative sampling” is an indexing strategy that involves investing in a representative sample of securities that collectively has an investment profile similar to the Underlying Indices. The securities selected are expected to have, in the aggregate, investment characteristics (based on factors such as market capitalization and industry weightings), fundamental characteristics (such as return variability, duration, maturity or credit ratings and yield) and liquidity measures similar to those of the Underlying Indices. The Funds may or may not hold all of the securities in the Underlying Indices.

The Underlying Indices are sponsored by an organization (the “Index Provider”) that is independent of the Funds and BFA. The Index Provider determines the composition and relative weightings of the securities in the Underlying Indices and publishes information regarding the market value of the Underlying Indices. The Funds’ Index Provider is Barclays Capital Inc. (“Barclays Capital”).

Each Fund will concentrate its investments (i.e., hold 25% or more of its total assets) in a particular industry or group of industries to approximately the same extent that its Underlying Index is concentrated. For purposes of this limitation, securities of the U.S. government (including its agencies and instrumentalities), repurchase agreements collateralized by U.S. government securities, and securities of state or municipal governments and their political subdivisions are not considered to be issued by members of any industry.

Individual shares of the Funds may only be purchased and sold on an exchange at market prices. Individual shares are not redeemable directly to the Funds. Because fund shares trade at market prices rather than net asset value (“NAV”), shares may trade at a price that is equal to NAV, greater than NAV (premium) or less than NAV (discount).

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

Dividends from net investment income, if any, generally are declared and paid semi-annually 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. The Trust reserves the right to declare special distributions if, in its reasonable discretion, such action is necessary or advisable to preserve its status as a regulated investment company or to avoid imposition of income or excise taxes on undistributed income or realized gains.

Dividends and other distributions on shares of the Funds are distributed on a *pro rata* basis to beneficial owners of such shares. Dividend payments are made through DTC participants and indirect participants to beneficial owners then of record with proceeds received from the Funds.

As described more fully in the Prospectuses and SAIs, all the Funds will issue and redeem Shares on a continuous basis at their NAV only in large blocks of 50,000 Shares (each, a "Creation Unit"). Creation Units will be issued and redeemed principally in-kind for securities included in the underlying index. Except when aggregated in Creation Units, the Shares may not be redeemed with the Fund.

The NAV per Share for the 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) of the New York Stock Exchange.

For a more complete description of the Funds and the Underlying Indices, please visit the website at [www.ishares.com](http://www.ishares.com).

### **Principal Risks**

Interested persons are referred to the Funds' Prospectuses for a description of risks associated with an investment in the Funds. These risks include Asset Class Risk; Call Risk; Concentration Risk; Credit Risk; Custody Risk; Declining Yield Risk; Fluctuation of Yield and Liquidation Amount Risk; Income Risk; Index-Related Risk; Industrials Sector Risk; Issuer Risk; Liquidity Risk; Management Risk; Market Risk; Market Trading Risk; Non-Diversification Risk; Non-U.S. Issuers Risk; North American Economic Risk; Passive Investment Risk; Privately-Issued Securities Risk; Reliance on Trading Partners Risk; Securities Lending Risk; Tracking Error Risk; U.S. Economic Risk; Utilities Sector Risk; and Valuation Risk. In addition, as noted in the applicable Prospectuses, 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 Funds' 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.

Further information about the risks of investing in the Funds is available at [www.ishares.com](http://www.ishares.com).

### **Trading Hours**

Trading in the Shares on EDGA Exchange, Inc. and EDGX Exchange, Inc. (together, the "Exchanges") is on a UTP basis and is subject to the Exchanges equity trading rules. The Shares will trade from 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. ET. Members trading the Shares during the Extended Market Sessions (Pre-opening and Post-closing sessions) are exposed to the risk of the lack of the calculation or dissemination of Index value or intraday indicative value ("IIV"). For certain derivative securities products, an updated Index value or IIV may not be calculated or publicly disseminated in the Extended Market hours. Since the Index value and IIV are not calculated or widely disseminated during Extended Market hours, an investor who is unable to calculate implied values for certain derivative securities products during Extended Market hours may be at a disadvantage to market professionals.

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

The Shares are considered equity securities, thus rendering trading in the Shares subject to the Exchange's existing rules governing the trading of equity securities.

### **Suitability**

Trading in the Shares on the Exchanges will be subject to the provisions of EDGA and EDGX Exchange Rules 3.7. Members recommending transactions in the Shares to customers should make a determination that the recommendation is suitable for the customer. In addition, Members must possess sufficient information to satisfy the “know your customer” obligation that is embedded in Exchange Rules 3.7.

Members also should review FINRA Notice to Members 03-71 for guidance on trading these products. The Notice reminds Members of their obligations to: (1) conduct adequate due diligence to understand the features of the product; (2) perform a reasonable-basis suitability analysis; (3) perform customer-specific suitability analysis in connection with any recommended transactions; (4) provide a balanced disclosure of both the risks and rewards associated with the particular product, especially when selling to retail investors; (5) implement appropriate internal controls; and (6) train registered persons regarding the features, risk and suitability of these products.

### **Trading Halts**

The Exchanges will halt trading in the Shares in accordance with Exchange Rules 14.1(c)(4). The grounds for a halt under this Rule include a halt by the primary market because it stops trading the Shares and/or a halt because dissemination of the IIV or applicable currency spot price has ceased, or a halt for other regulatory reasons. In addition, the Exchanges will stop trading the Shares if the primary market de-lists the Shares.

### **Delivery of a Prospectus**

Pursuant to federal securities laws, investors purchasing Shares must receive a prospectus prior to or concurrently with the confirmation of a transaction. Investors purchasing Shares directly from the Fund (by delivery of the Deposit Amount) must also receive a prospectus.

Prospectuses may be obtained through the Distributor or on the Funds' [website](#). The Prospectuses do not contain all of the information set forth in each Fund's the 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 Funds, please refer to the Trusts' Registration Statement.

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

The Commission has issued letters (together, the “No- Action Letters”) dated June 27, 2007, April 9, 2007, October 24, 2006, and November 21, 2005 granting exemptive, interpretive and no-action relief from certain provisions of and 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. Members should refer to the No Action Letters, available at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov), for additional information.

### **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 (ii) to tender securities for redemption in Creation Unit Aggregations. Further, the Commission has clarified that the tender of fund shares to the Fund 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 relating 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 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**

The Commission has permitted any person acting as a dealer-manager of a tender offer for a component security of 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 has been issued under Rule 14e-5 states that 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, it must be 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 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 Commission 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 a fund 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 a fund to persons outside the fund complex, other than non-cash compensation permitted under NASD Rule 2830 (I)(5)(A), (B) or (C). See letter dated November 22, 2005 from Brian A Bussey, Assistant Chief Counsel, SEC Division of Market Regulation, to Barclays Global Investors, N.A., dated November 22, 2005. The Commission has issued a No-Action Letter under Section 11(d)(1) of the Act stating that broker-dealers may treat shares of a fund, 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 Commission has issued a No-Action letter 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.

**This Regulatory Information Circular is not a statutory Prospectus. Members should consult the Trusts' Registration Statements, SAIs, Prospectuses and the Funds' [website](#) for relevant information.**