

#### **Information Circular 09-015**

Date: February 4, 2009

Re: SPDR® Index Shares Funds ETF

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 security has been approved for trading on the Exchange as a UTP Derivative Security pursuant to Chapter XIV of the Exchange's Rules.

# Security ("Shares" or "Funds")

**Symbol** 

SPDR® DB International Government Inflation-Protected Bond ETF WIP

Commencement of Trading on the Exchange: February 5, 2009

Issuer/Trust: SPDR® Index Shares Funds

Issuer Website: www.SPDRETFS.com

Primary Listing Exchange: NYSE Arca

Primary Exchange Circular: RB-08-21 (March 19, 2008)

Issuer Registration Statement: Nos. 811-08839 and 333-57793

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 "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."

## **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 currently consists of 48 investment series, including the Fund.

The Fund's investment objective is to provide investment results that, before fees and expenses, correspond generally to the price and yield performance of the DB Global Government ex-US Inflation-Linked Bond Capped Index. The Index measures the performance of the inflation linked government bond markets of developed and emerging market countries outside of the United States. Inflation protected public obligations of the inflation-linked government bond markets of developed and emerging market countries, commonly known in the United States as Treasury Inflation-Protected Securities or TIPS, are securities issued by such governments that are designed to provide inflation protection to investors.

The Fund, in seeking its investment objective, will use quantitative analysis to select securities which represent a sample of securities in its index and have a similar investment profile as the index in terms of

key risk factors, performance attributes and other characteristics. The Fund generally expects to hold less than the total number of securities in its Index, but reserves the right to hold as many securities as necessary to achieve a its investment objective.

SSgA Funds Management, Inc. is the investment adviser to the Fund. State Street Global Markets, LLC is the distributor for the Fund ("Distributor"). State Street Bank and Trust Company is the custodian, administrator, fund accounting agent and transfer agent for the Fund.

As described more fully in the Trust's prospectus ("Prospectus") and Statement of Additional Information ("SAI"), the Fund will issue and redeem Shares on a continuous basis, at its net asset value ("NAV"), only in large blocks of 200,000 Shares (each, a "Creation Unit"). Creation Units will be issued and redeemed generally in exchange for cash or in kind securities, as the case may be. Except when aggregated in Creation Units, the Shares are not redeemable securities of a Fund.

Dividends from net investment income, if any, will be declared and paid monthly. Net realized capital gains, if any, will be distributed to shareholders at least annually. Distributions may be declared and paid more frequently.

The Depository Trust Company ("DTC") serves 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.

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

The Trusts registration statement describes the various fees and expenses for the Fund's Shares. For a more complete description of the Fund and the underlying index, visit www.SPDRETFS.com.

## **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 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 Shares.

## 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 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, 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 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); 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).

## 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:

(i) 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

- (ii) 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
- (iii) 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 states 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.

## **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, (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.

## **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 Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission"). 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.

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, 212.378.8523, <a href="mailto:eswanson@batstrading.com">eswanson@batstrading.com</a>, with any inquiries regarding this Information Circular.