



## Information Circular: streetTRACKS Index Share Funds

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**To:** Head Traders, Technical Contacts, Compliance Officers, Heads of ETF Trading, Structured Products Traders

**From:** BX Listing Qualifications Department

**DATE:** January 15, 2009

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### Exchange-Traded Funds

	Symbol	CUSIP
SPDR S&P World ex-US ETF	GWL	863308854
SPDR S&P International Small Cap ETF	GWX	863308847

### Background Information on the Funds

The streetTRACKS Index Shares Funds (the "Trust") is an open-end management investment company, registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended ("1940 Act"). The Trust offers several separate exchange-traded "index funds," including the two funds listed above (the "Funds"). The shares of each Fund are referred to herein as "Shares." The Trust and the offering of each Fund's shares are registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. The investment objective of each Fund is to provide investment results that, before fees and expenses, correspond generally to the total return performance, or the price and yield performance, of a specified market index (each, an "Index").

SSgA Funds Management, Inc. is the investment adviser ("Adviser") for each Fund. State Street Global Markets, LLC is the principal underwriter for each Fund's shares. The Adviser seeks a correlation of 0.95 or better between each Fund's performance and the performance of its Index; however, a number of factors may affect a Fund's ability to achieve a high correlation with its Index, and there can be no guarantee that a Fund will achieve a high degree of correlation. A correlation of 1.00 would represent perfect correlation.

Each Fund utilizes a sampling methodology. Sampling means that the Adviser uses quantitative analysis to select stocks that represent a sample of securities in its Index that have a similar investment profile as its Index in terms of key risk factors, performance attributes and other characteristics. These include industry weightings, market capitalization and other financial characteristics of stocks. The quantity of holdings in each Fund will be based on a number of factors, including asset size of each Fund. The Adviser generally expects each Fund to hold less than the total number of stocks in its Index but reserves the right to hold as many stocks as it believes necessary to achieve each Fund's investment objective.

In addition, from time to time, stocks are added to or removed from an Index, and consequently, the countries represented by an Index may change. A Fund may sell stocks that are represented in its Index or purchase stocks that are not yet represented in its

Index in anticipation of their removal from or addition to the Index. Further, the Adviser may choose to overweight stocks in an Index, purchase or sell securities not in an Index or utilize various combinations of other available investment techniques in seeking to track an Index.

Each Fund will normally invest at least 90% of its assets in the securities of companies in its Index. Such investments by the Funds may also include American Depositary Receipts ("ADRs") or Global Depositary Receipts ("GDRs") based on the securities in its Index. Each Fund will concentrate its investments in a particular industry or sector to approximately the same extent that its Index is so concentrated.

The SPDR S&P World ex-US ETF is designed to track the total return performance of the S&P/Citigroup BMI World Ex-US Index ("World Index"). The World Index is a market capitalization-weighted index that defines and measures the investable universe of publicly traded companies domiciled in developed countries outside the U.S. As of February 28, 2007, the Index consisted of companies from Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, Australia, Hong Kong, Japan, New Zealand, Singapore, South Korea and Canada. The World Index is "float adjusted," meaning that only those shares publicly available to investors are included in the Index calculation. As of February 2007, the Index was comprised of 5,524 securities.

The SPDR S&P International Small Cap ETF is designed to track the total return performance of the S&P/Citigroup World Ex-US Cap Range < 2 billion USD Index ("World Small Cap Index"). The World Small Cap Index is a market capitalization weighted index that defines and measures the investable universe of publicly traded companies domiciled in developed countries outside the U. S. As of February 28, 2007, the Index consisted of small-cap companies from Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, Australia, Hong Kong, Japan, New Zealand, Singapore, South Korea and Canada. The World Small Cap Index is "float adjusted," meaning that only those shares publicly available to investors are included in the Index calculation. As of February 2007, the Index was comprised of 3,998 securities.

As described more fully in the prospectus and the Statement of Additional Information ("SAI") for the Funds, each Fund offers and issues Shares at their net asset value only in aggregations of a specified number of shares (each, a "Creation Unit"). Each Fund offers and issues Creation Units generally in exchange for a basket of equity securities included in its Index together with the deposit of a specified cash payment. Shares are listed on the American Stock Exchange and trade at market prices. These prices may differ from the net asset values of the Shares. Shares are also redeemable only in Creation Unit aggregations (except upon termination of a Fund) and generally in exchange for portfolio securities and a specified cash payment. A Creation Unit of each Fund consists of 200,000 Shares or other aggregation thereof as set forth in each Fund's prospectus.

Net asset value per Share for each Fund is computed by dividing the value of the net assets of a Fund (i.e., the value of its total assets less total liabilities) by its total number of Shares outstanding. Expenses and fees, including the management fees, are accrued daily and taken into account for purposes of determining net asset value. The net asset value of each Fund is calculated by the Funds' custodian each business day, normally at the close of regular trading of the New York Stock Exchange (ordinarily 4:00 p.m., Eastern Time (ET)). 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 each Fund's Shares.

For a more complete description of the Funds and the underlying indexes, visit the [www.spdretfs.com](http://www.spdretfs.com).

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

BX members are hereby informed that procedures for purchases and redemptions of Shares in Creation Unit Size are described in the Trusts' prospectus and SAI and that Shares are not individually redeemable but are redeemable only in Creation Unit Size aggregations or multiples thereof.

## **Principal Risks**

Interested persons are referred to the discussion in the prospectus for the Funds of the principal risks of an investment in a Fund. These include, but are not limited to, tracking error risk (factors causing a Fund's performance to not match the performance of the underlying index), market trading risk (for example, trading halts, trading above or below net asset value), stock market risk, investment style risk, non-diversification risk, large cap risk, mid cap risk, small cap risk, micro cap risk, management risk, lack of market liquidity, foreign securities risk, geographic risk, lack of governmental insurance or guarantee and fiscal policy risk.

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

Trading in the Shares on BX is on a UTP basis and is subject to BX equity trading rules.

## **Trading Hours**

The values of the Index underlying the Shares are disseminated to data vendors every 15 seconds. The Shares will trade on BX between 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., ET, unless otherwise indicated. For trading during BX's Pre-Market and Post-Market Sessions, market participants should note that additional risks may exist with respect to trading the Funds during these sessions, when the underlying index's values may not be disseminated.

## **Suitability**

Trading in the Shares on BX will be subject to the provisions of BX Rule 2310. 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 the BX Conduct Rules.

Members also should review NASD Notice to Members 03-71 or 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**

BX will halt trading in the Shares of a Fund in accordance with BX Rule 4120. The grounds for a halt under BX Rule 4120 include a halt by the primary market because the intraday indicative value of a Fund and/or the value of its underlying index are not being disseminated as required, or a halt for other regulatory reasons. In addition, BX will also stop trading the Shares of a Fund if the primary market de-lists the Fund.

## **Delivery of a Prospectus**

BX 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 Funds' website. The prospectus for the Funds does not contain all of the information set forth in the Funds' registration statement (including the exhibits to the registration statement), parts of which have been omitted in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"). For further information about the Funds, please refer to the 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 1940 Act and in the future make available a written product description, BX Rule 4420(j)(2) requires that BX 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 Funds, no later than the time a confirmation of the first transaction in the Shares is delivered to such purchaser. In addition, BX 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 BX 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 Shares of the Fund has been prepared by the Trust and is available from your broker. It is recommended that you obtain and review such circular before purchasing Shares of the Fund. In addition, upon request you may obtain from your broker a prospectus for Shares of the Fund."

A BX 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 BX member under this rule.

Upon request of a customer, BX members also shall provide a copy of the Prospectus.

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

The SEC has issued exemptive, interpretive or no-action relief from certain provisions of rules under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act") regarding trading in the above mentioned exchange-traded funds.

## **Regulation M Exemptions**

Generally, Rules 101 and 102 of Regulation M prohibit any "distribution participant" and its "affiliated purchasers" from bidding for, purchasing or attempting to induce any person to

bid for or purchase any security which is the subject of a distribution until after the applicable restricted period, except as specifically permitted in Regulation M. The provisions of the Rules apply to underwriters, prospective underwriters, brokers, dealers and other persons who have agreed to participate or are participating in a distribution of securities. The SEC has granted an exemption from Rule 101 under Regulation M to permit persons participating in a distribution of shares of the above-mentioned Funds to engage in secondary market transactions in such shares during their participation in such a distribution. In addition, the SEC has granted relief under Regulation M to permit persons who may be deemed to be participating in the distribution of shares of the above-mentioned Funds (i) to purchase securities for the purpose of purchasing Creation Unit Aggregations of Fund Shares and (ii) to tender securities for redemption in Creation Unit Aggregations. Further, the SEC has clarified that the tender of Fund Shares to the Funds for redemption does not constitute a bid for or purchase of any of the Funds' securities during the restricted period of Rule 101. The SEC has also granted an exemption pursuant to paragraph (e) of Rule 102 under Regulation M to allow the redemption of Fund Shares in Creation Unit Aggregations during the continuous offering of shares.

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

Broker-dealers who handle purchases or redemptions of Fund Shares in Creation Unit size for customers will be permitted to provide such customers with a statement of the number of Creation Unit Aggregations created or redeemed without providing a statement of the identity, number and price of shares of the individual securities tendered to the Fund for purposes of purchasing Creation Unit Aggregations ("Deposit Securities") or the identity, number and price of shares to be delivered by the Trust 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 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 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 (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 purchased; or

- 2) purchases are effected as adjustments to such basket in the ordinary course of business as a result of a change in the composition of the underlying index; and
- 3) such bids or purchases are not effected for the purpose of facilitating such tender offer.

### **Section 11(d)(1); SEC Rules 11d1-1 and 11d1-2**

Section 11(d)(1) of the Act generally prohibits a person who is both a broker and a dealer from effecting any transaction in which the broker-dealer extends credit to a customer on any security which was part of a new issue in the distribution of which he participated as a member of a selling syndicate or group within thirty days prior to such transaction. The SEC has clarified that Section 11(d)(1) does not apply to broker-dealers that are not Authorized Participants (and, therefore, do not create Creation Unit Aggregations) that engage in both proprietary and customer transactions in Shares of the Funds in the secondary market and for broker-dealer Authorized Participants that engage in creations of Creation Unit Aggregations. This relief is subject to specific conditions, including the condition that such broker-dealer (whether or not an Authorized Participant) does not, directly or indirectly, receive from the fund complex any payment, compensation or other economic incentive to promote or sell the Shares of the Funds to persons outside the fund complex, other than non-cash compensation permitted under NASD Rule 2830(I)(5)(A), (B) or (C). (See [letter](#) from Catherine McGuire, Chief Counsel, SEC Division of Market Regulation, to Securities Industry Association, Derivative Products Committee, dated November 21, 2005.) The SEC also has taken a no-action position under Section 11(d)(1) of the Act that broker-dealers may treat Shares of the Funds, for purposes of Rule 11d1-2, as "securities issued by a registered open-end investment company as defined in the Investment Company Act" and thereby extend credit or maintain or arrange for the extension or maintenance of credit on Shares that have been owned by the persons to whom credit is provided for more than 30 days, in reliance on the exemption contained in the rule.

### **SEC Rule 15c1-5 and 15c1-6**

The SEC has taken a no-action position with respect to Rule 15c1-5 and Rule 15c1-6 as to the required disclosure of control by a broker or dealer with respect to creations and redemptions of Fund Shares and secondary market transactions therein. (See [letter](#) from Catherine McGuire, Chief Counsel, SEC Division of Market Regulation, to Securities Industry Association, Derivative Products Committee, dated November 21, 2005.)

**This Information Circular is not a statutory prospectus. BX members should consult the Funds' prospectus and/or the Funds' website at [www.spdretfs.com](http://www.spdretfs.com) for relevant information.**

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Inquiries regarding this Information Circular should be directed to:

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