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## INFORMATION CIRCULAR: INDEXIQ ETF TRUST

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

**FROM:** NASDAQ / BX / PHLX Listing Qualifications Department

**DATE:** March 24, 2015

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### EXCHANGE-TRADED FUND

	SYMBOL	CUSIP #
IQ Hedge Event-Driven Tracker ETF	QED	45409B404
IQ Hedge Long-Short Tracker ETF	QLS	45409B305

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE FUNDS

The IndexIQ ETF Trust (the “Trust”) is a management investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “1940 Act”), consisting of several investment portfolios. This circular relates only to the Funds listed above (each, a “Fund” and together, the “Funds”). The shares of the Fund are referred to herein as “Shares.”

The IQ Hedge Event-Driven Tracker ETF seeks investment results that correspond (before fees and expenses) generally to the price and yield performance of its underlying index, the IQ Hedge Event-Driven Index (the “Underlying Index”).

The Fund is a “fund of funds” which means it invests, under normal circumstances, at least 80% of its net assets, plus the amount of any borrowings for investment purposes, in the investments included in its Underlying Index, which includes underlying funds. The Underlying Index consists of a number of components (“Underlying Index Components”) selected in accordance with IndexIQ’s rules-based methodology of such Underlying Index. Such Underlying Index Components will include primarily ETFs and/or other exchange-traded vehicles issuing equity securities organized in the U.S., such as exchange-traded commodity pools (“ETVs”), and may include exchange-traded notes (“ETNs”) (such ETFs, ETVs and ETNs are referred to collectively as “exchange-traded products” or “ETPs”). The Fund may also invest in one or more financial instruments, including but not limited to futures contracts and swap agreements (collectively, Financial Instruments”).

The Fund employs a “passive management” — or indexing — investment approach designed to track the performance of the Underlying Index, which was developed by Financial Development Holdco LLC (“IndexIQ”), the parent company of IndexIQ Advisors LLC, the Fund’s investment advisor (the “Advisor”). The Underlying Index seeks to track the “beta” portion of the returns (i.e., that portion of the returns of hedge funds that are non-idiosyncratic, or unrelated to manager skill) of hedge funds

pursuing an event-driven strategy (the “Strategy”). Event-Driven hedge funds typically invest in a combination of credit opportunities and event-driven equities. Within the credit-oriented portion, sub-strategies include long/short high yield credit (below investment grade corporate bonds or “junk” bonds), leveraged loans (bank debt, mezzanine, or self-oriented loans), capital structure arbitrage (debt vs. debt or debt vs. equity), and reorganization equity. Within the equity portion, sub-strategies include risk (or merger) arbitrage, holding company arbitrage, special situations and value equities where a change in management, significant product launch, or some other economic catalyst is expected to unlock shareholder wealth. Event-Driven managers invest across multiple asset classes and may also seek to exploit shifts in economic cycles. The Fund does not invest in hedge funds, and the Underlying Index does not include hedge funds as Underlying Index Components. The Fund is not a fund of hedge funds.

The Underlying Index may include both long and short positions in securities, including, primarily, ETPs. As opposed to taking long positions in which an investor seeks to profit from increases in the price of a security, short selling (or “selling short”) is a technique used by the Fund to try and profit from the falling price of a security. Short selling involves selling a security that has been borrowed from a third party with the intention of buying the identical security back at a later date to return to that third party. The basic principle of short selling is that one can profit by selling a security now at a high price and later buying it back at a lower price. The short seller hopes to profit from a decline in the price of the security between the sale and the repurchase, as the seller will pay less to buy the security than it received on selling the security.

The Underlying Index generally is based on the premise that hedge fund returns, when aggregated among hedge funds with similar investment styles, display over time significant exposures to a set of common investment strategies and asset classes. By creating an index that has similar exposures to the same investment strategies and asset classes as hedge funds generally, IndexIQ seeks to replicate the beta return characteristics of hedge funds.

The Underlying Index Components of this Strategy generally provide exposures to:

- U.S. large-capitalization equity;
- Emerging market equity;
- U.S. government short- and intermediate-term maturity obligations;
- U.S. mortgage-backed debt;
- U.S. investment grade debt; and
- U.S. convertible debt.

The Underlying Index is unlike traditional market-oriented indexes like the Standard & Poor’s 500 Composite Stock Total Return Index (the “S&P 500 Index”). Instead of tracking the performance of publicly-traded issuers representing a market or industry sector, the Underlying Index seeks to track the returns of distinct hedge fund investment styles.

The IQ Hedge Long-Short Tracker ETF seeks investment results that correspond (before fees and expenses) generally to the price and yield performance of its underlying index, the IQ Hedge Long/Short Index (the “Long/Short Index”).

The Fund is a “fund of funds” which means it invests, under normal circumstances, at least 80% of its net assets, plus the amount of any borrowings for investment purposes, in the investments included in the Long/Short Index, which includes underlying funds. The Long/Short Index consists of a number of components (“Underlying Index Components”) selected in accordance with IndexIQ’s rules-based methodology of the Long/Short Index. Such Underlying Index Components will include primarily ETFs and/or other exchange-traded vehicles issuing equity securities organized in the U.S., such as exchange-traded commodity pools (“ETVs”), and may include exchange-traded notes (“ETNs”) (such ETFs, ETVs and ETNs are referred to collectively as “exchange-traded products” or “ETPs”). The Fund may also invest in one or more financial instruments, including but not limited to futures contracts and swap agreements (collectively, “Financial Instruments”).

The Fund employs a “passive management” – or indexing – investment approach designed to track the performance of the Long/Short Index, which was developed by Financial Development Holdco LLC (“IndexIQ”), the parent company of the Advisor). The Long/Short Index seeks to track the “beta” portion of the returns (i.e., that portion of the returns of hedge funds that are non-idiosyncratic, or unrelated to manager skill) of hedge funds pursuing a long/short strategy (the “Strategy”). Long/short hedge funds typically diversify their risks by limiting the net exposure to particular regions, industries, sectors and market capitalization bands, allowing them to focus on company-specific anomalies. At the same time, long/short managers often hedge against un-diversifiable risk, such as market risk (i.e., the returns of the overall market). Certain long/short managers focus on specific sectors, regions or industries, on particular investment styles, such as value or growth, or certain types of stocks, such as small or large. The Fund does not invest in hedge funds, and the Long/Short Index does not include hedge funds as Underlying Index Components. The Fund is not a fund of hedge funds.

The Long/Short Index may include both long and short positions in securities, including, primarily, ETPs. As opposed to taking long positions in which an investor seeks to profit from increases in the price of a security, short selling (or “selling short”) is a technique used by the Fund to try and profit from the falling price of a security. Short selling involves selling a security that has been borrowed from a third party with the intention of buying the identical security back at a later date to return to that third party. The basic principle of short selling is that one can profit by selling a security now at a high price and later buying it back at a lower price. The short seller hopes to profit from a decline in the price of the security between the sale and the repurchase, as the seller will pay less to buy the security than it received on selling the security.

The Long/Short Index generally is based on the premise that hedge fund returns, when aggregated among hedge funds with similar investment styles, display over time significant exposures to a set of common investment strategies and asset classes. By creating an index that has similar exposures to the same investment strategies and asset classes as hedge funds generally, IndexIQ seeks to replicate the beta return characteristics of hedge funds.

The Underlying Index Components of this Strategy generally provide exposures to:

- U.S. large-capitalization equity;
- U.S. small-capitalization equity;
- Emerging market equity;
- Foreign equity (Europe, Australasia & Far East);
- U.S. investment grade debt; and

- U.S. floating rate bank loans.

The Long/Short Index is unlike traditional market-oriented indexes like the Standard & Poor's 500 Composite Stock Total Return Index (the "S&P 500 Index"). Instead of tracking the performance of publicly-traded issuers representing a market or industry sector, the Long/Short Index seeks to track the returns of distinct hedge fund investment styles.

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 50,000 Shares (each block of Shares called a "Creation Unit"). 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.

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 Funds' website at [www.indexiq.com](http://www.indexiq.com).

#### **PURCHASES AND REDEMPTIONS IN CREATION UNIT SIZE**

NASDAQ members, BX members and PHLX members and member organizations are hereby informed that procedures for purchases and redemptions of Shares in Creation Unit Size are described in the Trust's prospectus and Statement of Additional Information and that Shares are not individually redeemable but are redeemable only in Creation Unit 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 the Funds. These include tracking error risk (factors causing a Fund's performance to not match the performance of its underlying index), market trading risk (for example, trading halts, trading above or below net asset value), investment style risk, sector risk, investment approach risk, non-diversification risk, issuer-specific risk, management risk, fund of funds risk, short sales risk and exchange traded products risk.

## EXCHANGE RULES APPLICABLE TO TRADING IN THE SHARES

Trading in the Shares on NASDAQ is on a UTP basis and is subject to NASDAQ equity trading rules. Trading of the Shares on BX is on a UTP basis and is subject to BX equity trading rules. Trading of the Shares on PHLX's PSX system is on a UTP basis and is subject to PHLX rules.

## TRADING HOURS

The values of each index underlying the Shares are disseminated to data vendors every 15 seconds. The Shares will trade on NASDAQ between 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. ET. The Shares will trade on BX between 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. ET. The Shares will trade on PSX between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. ET. For trading during each market'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, intraday indicative value, or similar value may not be disseminated or calculated.

## DISSEMINATION OF FUND DATA

The Consolidated Tape Association will disseminate real time trade and quote information for the Funds to Tape B.

Fund Name	Listing Market	Trading Symbol	IOPV Symbol	NAV Symbol
IQ Hedge Event-Driven Tracker ETF	NYSE Arca	QED	QED.IV	QED.NV
IQ Hedge Long/Short Tracker ETF	NYSE Arca	QLS	QLS.IV	QLS.NV

## SUITABILITY

Trading in the Shares on NASDAQ will be subject to the provisions of NASDAQ Rule 2310. Trading in the Shares on BX will be subject to the provisions of BX Equity Rule 2310. Shares trading on PSX will be subject to the provisions of PHLX Rule 763. Members and member organizations 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 both the NASDAQ Conduct Rules and the BX Conduct Rules.

NASDAQ members, BX members and PHLX members and member organizations should also review NASD 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

NASDAQ will halt trading in the Shares of a Fund in accordance with NASDAQ Rule 4120. BX will halt trading in the Shares of a Fund in accordance with BX Equity Rule 4120. PHLX will halt trading in the Shares of a Fund in accordance with PHLX Rule 3100. The grounds for a halt under these rules include a halt by the primary market because the intraday indicative value of the Fund, the value of its underlying index, or a similar value are not being disseminated as required, or a halt for other regulatory reasons. In addition, NASDAQ, BX and PHLX will also stop trading the Shares of a Fund if the primary market delists the Fund.

## DELIVERY OF A PROSPECTUS

NASDAQ members, BX members and PHLX members and member organizations should be mindful of applicable prospectus delivery requirements under the federal securities laws with respect to transactions in the Funds.

Prospectuses may be obtained through the Funds' website. The prospectus for 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, NASDAQ Rules 5705 and 5740, BX Equity Rules 4420 and 4421, and PHLX Rule 803 require that members and member organizations, respectively, 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, members and member organizations 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 members or member organizations 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."

Any NASDAQ, BX or PHLX member or member organization 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 NASDAQ members, BX members and PHLX members or member organizations under this rule.

Upon request of a customer, NASDAQ members, BX members and PHLX members or member organizations 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 a 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 customers must disclose all other information required by Rule 10b-10(a).

#### **SEC RULE 14E-5**

An exemption from Rule 14e-5 has been granted to permit any person acting as a dealer-manager of a tender offer for a component security of a 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 a 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 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(l)(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 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 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. NASDAQ members, BX members and PHLX members and member organizations should consult the Funds' prospectus and/or the Funds' website for relevant information.**

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Inquiries regarding this Information Circular should be directed to:

- Will Slattery, Listing Qualifications, at 301.978.8088
- NASDAQ / BX / PSX Market Sales, at 800.846.0477