facilities are in compliance with NRC requirements.

The NRC encourages all interested parties to comment on the draft Strategic Plan, particularly on the plan’s goals, objectives, and strategies. Stakeholder feedback will be valuable in helping the Commission develop a final Strategic Plan that has the benefit of the many views of the public and the regulated civilian nuclear industry. The NRC will consider the comments submitted and may use them, as appropriate, in the preparation of the final Strategic Plan; however, the NRC does not anticipate responding to individual comments.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 27th day of February, 2014.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
Annette L. Vietti-Cook, Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2014–04778 Filed 3–4–14; 8:45 am]

BILTING CODE 7590–01–P

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POSTAL SERVICE

Product Change—Priority Mail Negotiated Service Agreement

AGENCY: Postal Service™.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Postal Service gives notice of filing a request with the Postal Regulatory Commission to add a domestic shipping services contract to the list of Negotiated Service Agreements in the Mail Classification Schedule’s Competitive Products List.

DATES: Effective date: March 5, 2014.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Elizabeth A. Reed, 202–268–3179.


Stanley F. Mires, Attorney, Legal Policy & Legislative Advice. 

[FR Doc. 2014–04781 Filed 3–4–14; 8:45 am]

BILTING CODE 7710–12–P

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Investment Company Act Release No. 30969; File No. 812–14282]

Hatteras Alternative Mutual Funds Trust, et al., Notice of Application

February 27, 2014.

AGENCY: Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”).

ACTION: Notice of an application under section 6(c) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 ("Act") for an exemption from section 15(a) of the Act and rule 18f-2 under the Act, as well as from certain disclosure requirements.

SUMMARY OF APPLICATION: Applicants request an order that would permit them to enter into and materially amend sub-advisory agreements with Wholly-Owned Sub-Advisers (as defined below) and Non-Affiliated Sub-Advisers (as defined below) without shareholder approval and would grant relief from certain disclosure requirements. The order would supersede a prior order that granted relief with respect to non-affiliated sub-advisers and from certain disclosure requirements (“Prior Order”)

APPLICANTS: Hatteras Alternative Mutual Funds Trust ("HAMFT") (f/k/a/AIP Alternative Strategies Funds).

Underlying Funds Trust (“UFT”) (HAMFT and UFT, each, a “Trust” and, together, the “Trusts”), and Scotland Acquisition, LLC, d/b/a Hatteras Funds, LLC (“Adviser”).

DATES: Filing Dates: The application was filed on February 21, 2014.

HEARING OR NOTIFICATION OF HEARING: An order granting the application will be issued unless the Commission orders a hearing. Interested persons may request a hearing by writing to the Commission’s Secretary and serving applicants with a copy of the request, personally or by mail. Hearing requests should be received by the Commission by 5:30 p.m. on March 24, 2014, and should be accompanied by proof of service on applicants, in the form of an affidavit or, for lawyers, a certificate of service. Hearing requests should state the nature of the writer’s interest, the reason for the request, and the issues contested. Persons who wish to be notified of a hearing may request notification by writing to the Commission’s Secretary.


FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Laura J. Riegel, Senior Counsel, at (202) 551–6873, or Mary Kay Frech, Branch Chief, at (202) 551–6821 (Division of Investment Management, Chief Counsel’s Office).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following is a summary of the application. The complete application may be obtained via the Commission’s Web site by searching for the file number or an applicant using the Company name box, at http://www.sec.gov/search/search.htm or by calling (202) 551–8090.

Applicants’ Representations

1. Each Trust is organized as a Delaware statutory trust and is registered under the Act as an open-end management investment company. Each Trust currently is comprised of five separate series of shares (each, a “Series”), each with its own distinct investment objective, strategies, policies and restrictions. The Series of HAMFT pursue their respective investment objectives by investing substantially all of their assets in one or more of the Series of UFT pursuant to section 12(d)(1)(G) of the Act. The Adviser, a Delaware limited liability company, is a wholly-owned subsidiary of RCS Advisory Services, LLC, which is an operating subsidiary of RCS Capital
Corporation. The Adviser is registered as an investment adviser under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (“Advisers Act”). Any future Adviser will also be registered as an investment adviser under the Advisers Act.

2. The Adviser will serve as the investment adviser to each Series pursuant to an investment advisory agreement with the applicable Trust (“Investment Advisory Agreement”). The Investment Advisory Agreement has been approved, or will be approved, by the board of trustees of the applicable Trust (“Board”). Including a majority of the members of the Board who are not “interested persons,” as defined in section 2(a)(19) of the Act, of the applicable Trust, of a Series or the Adviser (“Independent Trustees”) and by the shareholders of the relevant Series as required by sections 15(a) and 15(c) of the Act and rule 18f–2 thereunder. The terms of the Investment Advisory Agreement comply with section 15(a) of the Act.

3. Under the terms of the Investment Advisory Agreement, the Adviser, subject to the supervision of the Board, will provide continuous investment management of the assets of each Series. The Adviser will periodically review each Series’ investment objective, policies and strategies, and based on the need of a Series may recommend changes to the investment objective, policies and strategies of the Series for consideration by the Board. For its services to each Series under the Investment Advisory Agreement, the Adviser will receive an advisory fee from that Series based on the average daily net assets of that Series. The Investment Advisory Agreement provides that the Adviser may, subject to the approval of the Board, including a majority of the Independent Trustees, and the shareholders of the applicable Series (if required), delegate portfolio management responsibilities of all or a portion of the assets of a Series to a Sub-Adviser.

4. Applicants request an order to permit the Adviser, subject to the approval of the Board, including a majority of the Independent Trustees, to, without obtaining shareholder approval: (i) Select Sub-Advisers to manage all or a portion of the assets of a Series and enter into Sub-Advisory Agreements (as defined below) with the Sub-Advisers; and (ii) materially amend Sub-Advisory Agreements with the Sub-Advisers. The requested relief will not extend to any sub-adviser, other than a Wholly-Owned Sub-Adviser, who is an affiliated person, as defined in section 2(a)(3) of the Act, of the Sub-Advised Series, of the Trust, or of the Adviser, other than by reason of serving as a sub-adviser to one or more of the Sub-Advised Series (“Affiliated Sub-Adviser”).

5. Pursuant to the terms of the Investment Advisory Agreement, the Adviser will have overall responsibility for the management and investment of each Series’ assets. These responsibilities include recommending the removal or replacement of Sub-Advisers, determining the portion of that Sub-Advised Series’ assets to be managed by any given Sub-Adviser and reallocating those assets as necessary from time to time.

6. The Adviser will enter into sub-advisory agreements with various Sub-Advisers (“Sub-Advisory Agreements”) to provide investment management services to the Sub-Advised Series. The terms of the Sub-Advisory Agreements will comply with the requirements of section 15(a) of the Act and will be approved by the Board, including a majority of the Independent Trustees, in accordance with sections 15(a) and 15(c) of the Act and rule 18f–2 thereunder. The specific day-to-day investment decisions for each applicable Series will be made by that Series’ Sub-Adviser, which has discretionary authority to invest the assets or a portion of the assets of that Series subject to the general supervision of the Adviser and the Board. The Adviser will compensate each Sub-Adviser out of the advisory fees paid to the Adviser under the Investment Advisory Agreement; in the future, Sub-Advised Series may directly pay advisory fees to Sub-Advisers.

7. Sub-Advised Series will inform shareholders of the hiring of a new Sub-Adviser pursuant to the following procedures (“Notice and Access Procedures”): (a) Within 90 days after a new Sub-Adviser is hired for any Sub-Advised Series, that Sub-Advised Series will send its shareholders either a Multi-Manager Notice or a Multi-Manager Information Statement; and (b) the Sub-Advised Series will make the Multi-Manager Information Statement available on the Web site identified in the Multi-Manager Information Statement to the extent that an affiliation arises solely because the Sub-Adviser is a Sub-Adviser to a Series; (c) if the Multi-Manager Information Statement is on the Web site, the Multi-Manager Notice will remain available on that Web site; (d) provide the Web site address; (e) the Sub-Advised Series will make the Multi-Manager Information Statement available on the Web site identified in the Multi-Manager Information Statement for at least 120 days; and (f) the Multi-Manager Information Statement will remain available on the Web site for at least 120 days.

8. As used herein, a “Sub-Adviser” for a Series is: (a) An indirect or direct “wholly-owned subsidiary” (as such term is defined in the Act) of the Adviser for that Series; (b) a tenant company of the Adviser for that Series that is an indirect or direct “wholly-owned subsidiary” (as such term is defined in the Act) of the same entity that, indirectly or directly, wholly owns the Adviser (each of (a) and (b), a “Wholly-Owned Sub-Adviser”); (c) an investment sub-adviser for that Series that is not an “affiliated person” (as such term is defined in section 2(a)(3) of the Act) of the applicable Sub-Advised Series, of the Adviser, except to the extent that an affiliation arises solely because the Sub-Advised Series is a sub-adviser to a Series (each, a “Non-Affiliated Sub-Adviser”).

Shareholder approval will continue to be required for any other sub-adviser change (not otherwise permitted by rule or other action of the Commission or staff and material amendments to an existing sub-advisory agreement with any sub-adviser other than a Non-Affiliated Sub-Adviser or a Wholly-Owned Sub-Adviser (all such changes referred to as “Ineligible Sub-Adviser Changes”).
the Multi-Manager Notice no later than when the Multi-Manager Notice (or Multi-Manager Notice and Multi-Manager Information Statement) is first sent to shareholders, and will maintain it on that Web site for at least 90 days thereafter. In the circumstances described in the application, a proxy solicitation to approve the appointment of new Sub-Advisers provides no more meaningful information to shareholders than the proposed Multi-Manager Information Statement. Applicants state that each Board would comply with the requirements of sections 15(a) and 15(c) of the Act before entering into or amending a Sub-Advisory Agreement.

8. Applicants also request an order exempting the Sub-Advised Series from certain disclosure obligations that may require each Sub-Advised Series to disclose fees paid by the Adviser to each Sub-Adviser. Applicants seek relief to permit each Sub-Advised Series to disclose (as a dollar amount and a percentage of the Sub-Advised Series’ net assets): (a) The aggregate fees paid to the Adviser and any Wholly-Owned Sub-Advisers; (b) the aggregate fees paid to Non-Affiliated Sub-Advisers; and (c) the fee paid to each Affiliated Sub-Adviser (collectively, the “Aggregate Fee Disclosure”).

**Applicants’ Legal Analysis**

1. Section 15(a) of the Act states, in part, that it is unlawful for any person to act as an investment adviser to a registered investment company “except pursuant to a written contract, which contract, whether with such registered company or with an investment adviser of such registered company, has been approved by the vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of such registered company.” Rule 18f-2 under the Act provides that each series or class of stock in a series investment company affected by a matter must approve that matter if the Act requires shareholder approval.

2. Form N–1A is the registration statement used by open-end investment companies. Item 19(a)(3) of Form N–1A requires a registered investment company to disclose in its statement of additional information the method of computing the “advisory fee payable” by the investment company, including the total dollar amounts that the investment company “paid to the adviser (aggregated with amounts paid to affiliated advisers, if any), and any advisers who are not affiliated persons of the adviser, under the investment advisory contract for the last three fiscal years.”

3. Rule 20a–1 under the Act requires proxies solicited with respect to a registered investment company to comply with Schedule 14A under the Exchange Act. Items 22(c)(1)(ii), 22(c)(1)(iii), 22(c)(8) and 22(c)(9) of Schedule 14A, taken together, require a proxy statement for a shareholder meeting at which the advisory contract will be voted upon to include the “rate of compensation of the investment adviser,” the “aggregate amount of the investment adviser’s fee,” a description of the “terms of the contract to be acted upon,” and, if a change in the advisory fee is proposed, the existing and proposed fees and the difference between the two fees.

4. Regulation S–X sets forth the requirements for financial statements required to be included as part of a registered investment company’s registration statement and shareholder reports filed with the Commission. Sections 6–07(2)(a), (b), and (c) of Regulation S–X require a registered investment company to include in its financial statement information about the investment advisory fees.

5. Section 6(e) of the Act provides that the Commission by order upon application may conditionally or unconditionally exempt any person, security, or transaction or any class or classes of persons, securities, or transactions from any provisions of the Act, or from any rule thereunder, if such exemption is necessary or appropriate in the public interest and consistent with the protection of investors and the purposes fairly intended by the policy and provisions of the Act. Applicants state that their requested relief meets this standard for the reasons discussed below.

6. Applicants assert that the shareholders expect the Adviser, subject to the review and approval of the Board, to select the Sub-Advisers that are suited to achieve the Series’ investment objective. Applicants assert that, from the perspective of the shareholder, the role of the Sub-Adviser is substantially equivalent to the role of the individual portfolio managers employed by an investment adviser to a traditional investment company. Applicants believe that permitting the Adviser to perform the duties for which the shareholders of the Sub-Advised Series are paying the Adviser—the selection, supervision and evaluation of the Sub-Adviser—without incurring unnecessary delays or expenses is appropriate in the interest of the Series’ shareholders and will allow the Series to operate more efficiently. Applicants state that the Investment Advisory Agreement will be fully subject to section 15(a) of the Act and rule 18f–2 under the Act and approved by the Board, including a majority of the Independent Trustees, in the manner required by sections 15(a) and 15(c) of the Act. Applicants are not seeking an exemption with respect to the Investment Advisory Agreement.

7. Applicants assert that disclosure of the individual fees that the Adviser or Sub-Advised Series would pay to the Sub-Advisers would not serve any meaningful purpose. Applicants contend that the primary reasons for requiring disclosure of individual fees paid to Sub-Advisers are to inform shareholders of expenses to be charged by a particular Sub-Advised Series and to enable shareholders to compare the fees to those of other comparable investment companies. Applicants believe that the requested relief satisfies these objectives because the advisory fee paid to the Adviser, or the Aggregate Fee Disclosure, in the case of a Sub-Advised Series that directly compensates a Sub-Adviser, will be fully disclosed and, therefore, shareholders will know what the Sub-Advised Series’ fees and expenses are and will be able to compare the advisory fees a Sub-Advised Series is charged to those of other investment companies. Applicants assert that the requested disclosure relief would benefit shareholders of the Sub-Advised Series because it would improve the Adviser’s ability to negotiate the fees paid to Sub-Advisers. Applicants state that the Adviser may be able to negotiate rates that are below a Sub-Adviser’s “posted” amounts if the Adviser is not required to disclose the Sub-Advisers’ fees to the public. Applicants submit that the relief requested to use Aggregate Fee Disclosure will encourage Sub-Advisers to negotiate lower sub-advisory fees with the Adviser if the lower fees are not required to be made public.

8. For the reasons discussed above, applicants submit that the requested relief meets the standards for relief under section 6(c) of the Act. Applicants state that the operation of the Sub-Advised Series in the manner described in the application must be approved by shareholders of a Sub-Advised Series before that Sub-Advised Series may rely on the requested relief. In addition, applicants state that the proposed conditions to the requested relief are designed to address any potential conflicts of interest, including any posed by the use of Wholly-Owned Sub-Advisers, and provide that shareholders are informed when new Sub-Advisers are hired. Applicants assert that conditions 6, 7, 9, 10 and 11 are designed to provide the Board with sufficient independence and the resources and information it needs to
Changes without the approval of the shareholders of the applicable Sub-Advised Series.

5. A Sub-Advised Series will inform shareholders of the hiring of a new Sub-Adviser within 90 days after the hiring of the new Sub-Adviser pursuant to the Notice and Access Procedures.

6. At all times, at least a majority of the Board will be Independent Trustees, and the selection and nomination of new or additional Independent Trustees will be placed within the discretion of the then-existing Independent Trustees.

7. Independent Legal Counsel, as defined in rule 0–1(a)(6) under the Act, will continue to be engaged to represent the Independent Trustees. The selection of such counsel will be within the discretion of the then-existing Independent Trustees.

8. The Adviser will provide the Board, no less frequently than quarterly, with information about the profitability of the Adviser on a per Sub-Advised Series basis. The information will reflect the impact on profitability of the hiring or termination of any sub-adviser during the applicable quarter.

9. Whenever a sub-adviser is hired or terminated, the Adviser will provide the Board with information showing the expected impact on the profitability of the Adviser.

10. Whenever a sub-adviser change is proposed for a Sub-Advised Series with an Affiliated Sub-Adviser or a Wholly-Owned Sub-Adviser, the Board, including a majority of the Independent Trustees, will make a separate finding, reflected in the applicable Trust’s Board minutes, that such change is in the best interests of the Sub-Advised Series and its shareholders and does not involve a conflict of interest from which the Adviser or the Affiliated Sub-Adviser or Wholly-Owned Sub-Adviser derives an inappropriate advantage.

11. No trustee or officer of the Trusts or of a Sub-Advised Series or any partner, director, manager or officer of the Adviser will own directly or indirectly (other than through a pooled investment vehicle that is not controlled by such person) any interest in a Sub-Adviser except for: (a) Ownership of interests in the Adviser or any entity, other than a Wholly-Owned Sub-Adviser, that controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with the Adviser; or (b) ownership of less than 1% of the outstanding securities of any class of equity or debt of a publicly traded company that is either a Sub-Adviser or an entity that controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with a Sub-Adviser.

12. Each Sub-Advised Series will disclose the Aggregate Fee Disclosure in its registration statement.

13. In the event the Commission adopts a rule under the Act providing substantially similar relief to that in the order requested in the application, the requested order will expire on the effective date of that rule.

14. For Sub-Advised Series that pay fees to a Sub-Adviser directly from fund assets, any changes to a Sub-Advisory Agreement that would result in an increase in the total management and advisory fees payable by a Sub-Advised Series will be required to be approved by the shareholders of the Sub-Advised Series.

For the Commission, by the Division of Investment Management, under delegated authority.

Kevin M. O’Neill,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2014–04800 Filed 3–4–14; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Self-Regulatory Organizations; NASDAQ OMX BX, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Relating to the Establishment of Fees for New Optional Means for Clients To Receive BX TotalView ITCH Market Data

February 27, 2014.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”),1 and Rule 19b–4 thereunder,2 notice is hereby given that on February 14, 2014, NASDAQ OMX BX, Inc. (“BX” or “Exchange”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC” or “Commission”) the proposed rule change as described in Items I and II below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

The Exchange proposes to establish fees for new optional means for clients to receive BX TotalView ITCH market data. Specifically, BX proposes to offer remote Multi-cast ITCH Wave Ports for clients co-located at third party data centers, through which BX TotalView