

Commission's Web site. They can be accessed at <http://www.prc.gov>. Information on how to obtain access to non-public material is available at 39 CFR part 3007.

The Commission appoints Kenneth R. Moeller to serve as Public Representative in this proceeding.

IV. Ordering Paragraphs

It is ordered:

1. The Commission establishes Docket No. R2014-4 to consider matters raised by the Notice of United States Postal Service of Type 2 Rate Adjustment, and Notice of Filing Functionally Equivalent Agreement, filed December 24, 2013.

2. Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505, Kenneth R. Moeller is appointed to serve as an officer of the Commission (Public Representative) to represent the interests of the general public in this proceeding.

3. Comments by interested persons are due no later than January 10, 2014.

4. The Secretary shall arrange for publication of this order in the **Federal Register**.

By the Commission.

Shoshana M. Grove,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2013-31360 Filed 12-31-13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7710-FW-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-71186; File No. SR-NYSEArca-2013-138]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; NYSE Arca, Inc.; Notice of Filing of Proposed Rule Change Relating to Listing and Trading of Shares of iShares Enhanced International Large-Cap ETF and iShares Enhanced International Small-Cap ETF Under NYSE Arca Equities Rule 8.600

December 26, 2013.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1)¹ of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act")² and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,³ notice is hereby given that, on December 13, 2013, NYSE Arca, Inc. (the "Exchange" or "NYSE Arca") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I and II below, which Items have been prepared by the self-regulatory organization. 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 list and trade shares of the following under NYSE Arca Equities Rule 8.600 ("Managed Fund Shares"): iShares Enhanced International Large-Cap ETF and iShares Enhanced International Small-Cap ETF. The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Web site at www.nyse.com, at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

II. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, the self-regulatory organization included statements concerning the purpose of, and basis for, the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of those statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant parts of such statements.

A. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and the Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to list and trade shares ("Shares") of the following under NYSE Arca Equities Rule 8.600, which governs the listing and trading of Managed Fund Shares⁴: iShares Enhanced International Large-Cap ETF ("Large-Cap Fund") and iShares Enhanced International Small-Cap ETF ("Small-Cap Fund", each a "Fund" and, collectively, the "Funds"). The Shares of the Funds will be offered by iShares U.S. ETF Trust (the "Trust") [sic]⁵ The

⁴ A Managed Fund Share is a security that represents an interest in an investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-1) ("1940 Act") organized as an open-end investment company or similar entity that invests in a portfolio of securities selected by its investment adviser consistent with its investment objectives and policies. In contrast, an open-end investment company that issues Investment Company Units, listed and traded on the Exchange under NYSE Arca Equities Rule 5.2(j)(3), seeks to provide investment results that correspond generally to the price and yield performance of a specific foreign or domestic stock index, fixed income securities index or combination thereof.

⁵ The Commission has previously approved listing and trading on the Exchange of a number of

Trust is registered with the Commission as an open-end management investment company.⁶ BlackRock Fund Advisors ("BFA") will serve as the investment adviser to the Funds (the "Adviser"). BFA is an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of BlackRock, Inc. BlackRock Investments, LLC (the "Distributor") will be the principal underwriter and distributor of the Funds' Shares. State Street Bank and Trust Company (the "Administrator", "Custodian" or "Transfer Agent") will serve as administrator, custodian and transfer agent for the Funds.

Commentary .06 to Rule 8.600 provides that, if the investment adviser to the investment company issuing Managed Fund Shares is affiliated with a broker-dealer, such investment adviser shall erect a "fire wall" between the investment adviser and the broker-dealer with respect to access to information concerning the composition and/or changes to such investment company portfolio. Commentary .06 further requires that personnel who make decisions on the open-end fund's portfolio composition must be subject to procedures designed to prevent the use and dissemination of material nonpublic information regarding the open-end fund's portfolio.⁷ Commentary

actively managed funds under Rule 8.600. *See, e.g.*, Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 57801 (May 8, 2008), 73 FR 27878 (May 14, 2008) (SR-NYSEArca-2008-31) (order approving Exchange listing and trading of twelve actively-managed funds of the WisdomTree Trust); 60460 (August 7, 2009), 74 FR 41468 (August 17, 2009) (SR-NYSEArca-2009-55) (order approving listing and trading of Dent Tactical ETF); 63076 (October 12, 2010), 75 FR 63874 (October 18, 2010) (SR-NYSEArca-2010-79) (order approving listing and trading of Cambria Global Tactical ETF).

⁶ The Trust is registered under the 1940 Act. *See* Post-Effective Amendment No. 22 (with respect to the Large-Cap Fund, the "Large-Cap Registration Statement") and Post-Effective Amendment No. 23 (with respect to the Small-Cap Fund, the "Small-Cap Registration Statement") to the Trust's registration statement filed with the Commission on Form N-1A under the Securities Act of 1933 (15 U.S.C. 77a), and under the 1940 Act, each dated October 4, 2013 (File Nos. 333-179904 and 811-22649) (collectively, the "Registration Statements"). The description of the operation of the Trust and the Funds herein is based, in part, on the Registration Statements. In addition, the Commission has issued an order granting certain exemptive relief to the Trust under the 1940 Act. *See* Investment Company Act Release No. 29571 (File No. 812-13601) ("Exemptive Order").

⁷ An investment adviser to an open-end fund is required to be registered under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (the "Advisers Act"). As a result, the Adviser and its related personnel are subject to the provisions of Rule 204A-1 under the Advisers Act relating to codes of ethics. This Rule requires investment advisers to adopt a code of ethics that reflects the fiduciary nature of the relationship to clients as well as compliance with other applicable securities laws. Accordingly, procedures designed to prevent the communication and misuse of non-public information by an investment adviser must be consistent with Rule

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 15 U.S.C. 78a.

³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

.06 to Rule 8.600 is similar to Commentary .03(a)(i) and (iii) to NYSE Arca Equities Rule 5.2(j)(3); however, Commentary .06 in connection with the establishment of a “fire wall” between the investment adviser and the broker-dealer reflects the applicable open-end fund’s portfolio, not an underlying benchmark index, as is the case with index-based funds. The Adviser is not registered as a broker-dealer but is affiliated with multiple broker-dealers and has implemented a “fire wall” with respect to such broker-dealers regarding access to information concerning the composition and/or changes to a Fund’s portfolio.

In the event (a) the Adviser or any sub-adviser registers as a broker-dealer or becomes newly affiliated with a broker-dealer, or (b) any new adviser or sub-adviser is a registered broker-dealer, or becomes affiliated with a broker-dealer, it will implement a fire wall with respect to its relevant personnel or its broker-dealer affiliate regarding access to information concerning the composition and/or changes to a portfolio, and will be subject to procedures designed to prevent the use and dissemination of material non-public information regarding such portfolio.

iShares Enhanced International Large-Cap Fund

According to the Large-Cap Registration Statement, the Fund will seek long-term capital appreciation. The Fund will seek to achieve its investment objective by investing, under normal circumstances⁸, at least 80% of its net assets in equity securities of international large-capitalization issuers. The Fund will seek to maintain strategic exposure to international large-

204A–1 under the Advisers Act. In addition, Rule 206(4)–7 under the Advisers Act makes it unlawful for an investment adviser to provide investment advice to clients unless such investment adviser has (i) adopted and implemented written policies and procedures reasonably designed to prevent violation, by the investment adviser and its supervised persons, of the Advisers Act and the Commission rules adopted thereunder; (ii) implemented, at a minimum, an annual review regarding the adequacy of the policies and procedures established pursuant to subparagraph (i) above and the effectiveness of their implementation; and (iii) designated an individual (who is a supervised person) responsible for administering the policies and procedures adopted under subparagraph (i) above.

⁸ The term “under normal circumstances” includes, but is not limited to, the absence of extreme volatility or trading halts in the equity markets or the financial markets generally; operational issues causing dissemination of inaccurate market information; or force majeure type events such as systems failure, natural or man-made disaster, act of God, armed conflict, act of terrorism, riot or labor disruption or any similar intervening circumstance.

capitalization stocks with targeted investment characteristics. BFA will utilize a proprietary investment process to assemble an investment portfolio from a defined group of international large-capitalization stocks based on certain quantitative investment characteristics.

The Fund’s proprietary investment process will begin with securities representing a defined investable universe of stocks of international large-capitalization issuers. The universe will then be subjected to rules-based screens designed to exclude securities with very low trading volume or very low prices. The stocks will then be scored based on quantitative metrics, including, but not limited to, cash earnings, earnings variability, leverage, price-to-book ratio and market capitalization. BFA will assemble a portfolio emphasizing those stocks with higher cash earnings, lower earnings variability, lower leverage, lower price-to-book ratio, and smaller market capitalization relative to other stocks in the investable universe. BFA will seek to ensure that the Fund avoids unnecessary turnover and minimizes sources of risk by taking into account volatilities of certain factors and by placing constraints on the weighting of sectors, industries, and issuers.

The Fund will purchase publicly-traded exchange-listed common stocks of non-U.S. issuers. The Fund’s investment in such stocks may be in the form of American Depositary Receipts (“ADRs”), Global Depositary Receipts (“GDRs”) and European Depositary Receipts (“EDRs”) (collectively, “Depositary Receipts”).⁹ With respect to its investments in exchange-listed common stocks and Depositary Receipts of non-U.S. issuers, the Fund will invest at least 90% of its assets invested in such securities in exchange-listed common stocks and Depositary Receipts that trade in markets that are members of the Intermarket Surveillance Group (“ISG”) or are parties to a

⁹ Depositary Receipts are receipts, typically issued by a bank or trust issuer, which evidence ownership of underlying securities issued by a non-U.S. issuer. For ADRs, the depository is typically a U.S. financial institution and the underlying securities are issued by a non-U.S. issuer. For other forms of Depositary Receipts, the depository may be a non-U.S. or a U.S. entity, and the underlying securities may be issued by a non-U.S. or a U.S. issuer. Depositary Receipts are not necessarily denominated in the same currency as their underlying securities. Generally, ADRs, issued in registered form, are designed for use in the U.S. securities markets, and EDRs, issued in bearer form, are designed for use in European securities markets. GDRs are tradable both in the United States and in Europe and are designed for use throughout the world.

comprehensive surveillance sharing agreement with the Exchange.¹⁰

The Fund will generally invest in sponsored Depositary Receipts that are listed on ISG member exchanges and that BFA deems as liquid at time of purchase. In certain limited circumstances, the Fund may invest in unlisted or unsponsored Depositary Receipts, Depositary Receipts listed on non-ISG member exchanges, or Depositary Receipts that BFA deems illiquid at the time of purchase or for which pricing information is not readily available.¹¹ The issuers of unlisted or unsponsored Depositary Receipts are not obligated to disclose material information in the United States. Therefore, there may be less information available regarding such issuers and there may be no correlation between available information and the market value of the Depositary Receipts.

iShares Enhanced International Small-Cap Fund

According to the Small-Cap Registration Statement, the Fund will seek long-term capital appreciation. The Fund will seek to achieve its investment objective by investing, under normal circumstances,¹² at least 80% of its net assets in equity securities of international small-capitalization issuers. The Fund will seek to maintain strategic exposure to international small-capitalization stocks with targeted investment characteristics. BFA will utilize a proprietary investment process to assemble an investment portfolio from a defined group of international small-capitalization stocks based on certain quantitative investment characteristics.

The Fund’s proprietary investment process will begin with securities representing a defined investable universe of stocks of international small-capitalization issuers. The universe will then be subjected to rules-based screens designed to exclude securities with very low trading volume or very low prices. The stocks will then be scored based on quantitative metrics, including, but not limited to, cash earnings, earnings variability, leverage, price-to-book ratio and market capitalization. BFA will assemble a

¹⁰ See note 32 and accompanying text, *infra*.

¹¹ Not more than 10% of the net assets of each Fund, in the aggregate, will be invested in (1) unlisted or unsponsored Depositary Receipts; (2) Depositary Receipts not listed on an exchange that is a member of the ISG or a party to a comprehensive surveillance sharing agreement with the Exchange; or (3) unlisted common stocks or common stocks not listed on an exchange that is a member of the ISG or a party to a comprehensive surveillance sharing agreement with the Exchange.

¹² See note 8, *supra*.

portfolio emphasizing those stocks with higher cash earnings, lower earnings variability, lower leverage, lower price-to-book ratio, and smaller market capitalization relative to other stocks in the investable universe. BFA will seek to ensure that the Fund avoids unnecessary turnover and minimizes sources of risk by taking into account volatilities of certain factors and by placing constraints on the weighting of sectors, industries, and issuers.

The Fund will purchase publicly-traded exchange-listed common stocks of non-U.S. issuers. To the extent the Fund invests in stocks of non-U.S. issuers, the Fund's investment in such stocks may be in the form of Depositary Receipts.¹³ With respect to its investments in exchange-listed common stocks and Depositary Receipts of non-U.S. issuers, the Fund will invest at least 90% of its assets invested in such securities in exchange-listed common stocks and Depositary Receipts that trade in markets that are members of the ISG or are parties to a comprehensive surveillance sharing agreement with the Exchange.¹⁴

The Fund will generally invest in sponsored Depositary Receipts that are listed on ISG member exchanges and that BFA deems as liquid at time of purchase. In certain limited circumstances, the Fund may invest in unlisted or unsponsored Depositary Receipts, Depositary Receipts listed on non-ISG member exchanges, or Depositary Receipts that BFA deems illiquid at the time of purchase or for which pricing information is not readily available.¹⁵ The issuers of unlisted or unsponsored Depositary Receipts are not obligated to disclose material information in the United States. Therefore, there may be less information available regarding such issuers and there may be no correlation between available information and the market value of the Depositary Receipts.

Other Investments

While each Fund, under normal circumstances, will invest at least 80% of its net assets in its investments as described above, a Fund may directly invest in certain other investments, as described below. A Fund may temporarily depart from its normal investment process,¹⁶ provided that the

alternative, in the opinion of BFA, is consistent with a Fund's investment objective and is in the best interest of a Fund. However, BFA will not seek to actively time market movements.

A Fund may hold up to an aggregate amount of 15% of its net assets in illiquid securities (calculated at the time of investment), including Rule 144A securities deemed illiquid by the Adviser, consistent with Commission guidance.¹⁷ Each Fund will monitor its portfolio liquidity on an ongoing basis to determine whether, in light of current circumstances, an adequate level of liquidity is being maintained, and will consider taking appropriate steps in order to maintain adequate liquidity if, through a change in values, net assets, or other circumstances, more than 15% of a Fund's net assets are held in illiquid securities. Illiquid securities include securities subject to contractual or other restrictions on resale and other instruments that lack readily available markets as determined in accordance with Commission staff guidance.¹⁸

Each Fund may invest in repurchase and reverse repurchase agreements. A repurchase agreement is an instrument under which the purchaser (*i.e.*, a Fund) acquires the security and the seller agrees, at the time of the sale, to repurchase the security at a mutually agreed upon time and price, thereby determining the yield during the purchaser's holding period. Reverse repurchase agreements involve the sale of securities with an agreement to

information; or force majeure type events such as systems failure, natural or man-made disaster, act of God, armed conflict, act of terrorism, riot or labor disruption or any similar intervening circumstance.

¹⁷ In reaching liquidity decisions, the Adviser may consider the following factors: The frequency of trades and quotes for the security; the number of dealers wishing to purchase or sell the security and the number of other potential purchasers; dealer undertakings to make a market in the security; and the nature of the security and the nature of the marketplace in which it trades (*e.g.*, the time needed to dispose of the security, the method of soliciting offers and the mechanics of transfer).

¹⁸ The Commission has stated that long-standing Commission guidelines have required open-end funds to hold no more than 15% of their net assets in illiquid securities and other illiquid assets. *See* Investment Company Act Release No. 28193 (March 11, 2008), 73 FR 14618 (March 18, 2008), footnote 34. *See also*, Investment Company Act Release No. 5847 (October 21, 1969), 35 FR 19989 (December 31, 1970) (Statement Regarding "Restricted Securities"); Investment Company Act Release No. 18612 (March 12, 1992), 57 FR 9828 (March 20, 1992) (Revisions of Guidelines to Form N-1A). A fund's portfolio security is illiquid if it cannot be disposed of in the ordinary course of business within seven days at approximately the value ascribed to it by the fund. *See* Investment Company Act Release No. 14983 (March 12, 1986), 51 FR 9773 (March 21, 1986) (adopting amendments to Rule 2a-7 under the 1940 Act); Investment Company Act Release No. 17452 (April 23, 1990), 55 FR 17933 (April 30, 1990) (adopting Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933).

repurchase the securities at an agreed-upon price, date and interest payment and have the characteristics of borrowing.

Each Fund may invest in other short-term instruments, including money market instruments, on an ongoing basis to provide liquidity or for other reasons. Money market instruments are generally short-term investments that may include but are not limited to: (i) Shares of money market funds (including those advised by BFA or otherwise affiliated with BFA); (ii) obligations issued or guaranteed by the U.S. government, its agencies or instrumentalities (including government-sponsored enterprises); (iii) negotiable certificates of deposit ("CDs"), bankers' acceptances, fixed-time deposits and other obligations of U.S. and non-U.S. banks (including non-U.S. branches) and similar institutions; (iv) commercial paper rated, at the date of purchase, "Prime-1" by Moody's Investors Service, Inc., "F-1" by Fitch Inc., or "A-1" by Standard & Poor's ("S&P"), or if unrated, of comparable quality as determined by BFA; (v) non-convertible corporate debt securities (*e.g.*, bonds and debentures) with remaining maturities at the date of purchase of not more than 397 days and that satisfy the rating requirements set forth in Rule 2a-7 under the 1940 Act; and (vi) short-term U.S. dollar-denominated obligations of non-U.S. banks (including U.S. branches) that, in the opinion of BFA, are of comparable quality to obligations of U.S. banks which may be purchased by a Fund. Any of these instruments may be purchased on a current or forward-settled basis. Time deposits are non-negotiable deposits maintained in banking institutions for specified periods of time at stated interest rates.

Each Fund may enter into currency forward contracts for hedging and trade settlement purposes.¹⁹ Each Fund may invest in total return swaps on single securities in limited circumstances, including as a means to gain exposure to securities that trade on exchanges that are not members of ISG. The credit risk of counterparties to swaps and forward contracts will be assessed and monitored in accordance with policies and procedures adopted by the Adviser and such contracts will be collateralized.²⁰ Each Fund also may

¹⁹ A forward currency contract is an obligation to purchase or sell a specific currency at a future date, which may be any fixed number of days from the date of the contract agreed upon by the parties, at a price set at the time of the contract.

²⁰ The Adviser has implemented policies and procedures to assess the creditworthiness of prospective and existing derivatives counterparties. Derivatives transactions are conducted only with

¹³ See note 9, *supra*.

¹⁴ See note 32 and accompanying text, *infra*.

¹⁵ See note 11, *supra*.

¹⁶ Circumstances under which a Fund may temporarily depart from their normal investment process include, but are not limited to, extreme volatility or trading halts in the equity markets or the financial markets generally; operational issues causing dissemination of inaccurate market

invest in futures contracts based on currencies, stock indexes and single stocks. The Funds will not invest in options.

Each Fund may invest a small portion of its assets in exchange-listed tracking stocks. A tracking stock is a separate class of common stock whose value is linked to a specific business unit or operating division within a larger company and is designed to “track” the performance of such business unit or division. The tracking stock may pay dividends to shareholders independent of the parent company. The parent company, rather than the business unit or division, generally is the issuer of tracking stock. However, holders of the tracking stock may not have the same rights as holders of the company’s common stock.

Each Fund will be classified as a “diversified” investment company under the 1940 Act.²¹

Each Fund will not purchase the securities of issuers conducting their principal business activity in the same industry if, immediately after the purchase and as a result thereof, the value of a Fund’s investments in that industry would equal or exceed 25% of the current value of a Fund’s total assets, provided that this restriction does not limit a Fund’s: (i) investments in securities of other investment companies, (ii) investments in securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. government, its agencies or instrumentalities, or (iii) investments in repurchase agreements collateralized by U.S. government securities.²²

Each Fund intends to qualify for and to elect treatment as a separate regulated investment company (“RIC”) under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code.²³

Each Fund’s investments will be consistent with its investment objective and will not be used to enhance leverage.

Creation and Redemption of Shares

According to the Registration Statements, each Fund will issue and redeem Shares on a continuous basis at

approved counterparties with whom appropriate documentation is executed. Exposure to counterparties is independently and actively monitored. Where appropriate, collateral is posted and actively managed to reduce counterparty credit exposure.

²¹ The diversification standard is set forth in Section 5(b)(1) of the 1940 Act.

²² See Form N-1A, Item 9. The Commission has taken the position that a fund is concentrated if it invests more than 25% of the value of its total assets in any one industry. See, e.g., Investment Company Act Release No. 9011 (October 30, 1975), 40 FR 54241 (November 21, 1975).

²³ 26 U.S.C. 851 *et seq.*

net asset value (“NAV”) only in large specified numbers of Shares called a “Creation Unit.”

The consideration for purchase of Creation Units of each Fund generally will consist of the in-kind deposit of a designated portfolio of securities (including any portion of such securities for which cash may be substituted) (*i.e.*, the Deposit Securities) and the Cash Component computed as described below. Together, the Deposit Securities and the Cash Component constitute the “Fund Deposit,” which will be applicable (subject to possible amendment or correction) to creation requests received in proper form. The Fund Deposit represents the minimum initial and subsequent investment amount for a Creation Unit of a Fund.

The Cash Component will be an amount equal to the difference between the NAV of the Shares (per Creation Unit) and the “Deposit Amount,” which is an amount equal to the market value of the Deposit Securities, and serve to compensate for any differences between the NAV per Creation Unit and the Deposit Amount.

BFA will make available through the National Securities Clearing Corporation (“NSCC”) on each business day, prior to the opening of business on the Exchange, the list of names and the required number or par value of each Deposit Security and the amount of the Cash Component to be included in the current Fund Deposit (based on information as of the end of the previous business day) for the applicable Fund. Such Fund Deposit will be applicable, subject to any adjustments as described below, in order to effect purchases of Creation Units of Shares of a Fund until such time as the next-announced Fund Deposit is made available.

The identity and number or par value of the Deposit Securities may change pursuant to changes in the composition of a Fund’s portfolio and as rebalancing adjustments and corporate action events occur from time to time. The composition of the Deposit Securities may also change in response to adjustments to the weighting or composition of the component securities constituting a Fund’s portfolio.

The portfolio of securities required for purchase of a Creation Unit may not be identical to the portfolio of securities a Fund will deliver upon redemption of Fund Shares. The Deposit Securities and Fund Securities (as defined below), as the case may be, in connection with a purchase or redemption of a Creation Unit, generally will correspond *pro rata* to the securities held by such Fund.

Each Fund reserves the right to permit or require the substitution of a “cash in lieu” amount to be added to the Cash Component to replace any Deposit Security that may not be available in sufficient quantity for delivery or that may not be eligible for transfer through the Depository Trust Company (“DTC”). Each Fund also reserves the right to permit or require a “cash in lieu” amount in certain other circumstances, including circumstances in which (i) the delivery of the Deposit Security by the authorized participant would be restricted under applicable securities laws or (ii) the delivery of the Deposit Security to the authorized participant would result in the disposition of the Deposit Security by the authorized participant becoming restricted under applicable securities laws, or in certain other situations.

Creation Units may be purchased only by or through a DTC participant that has entered into an authorized participant agreement (as described in the Registration Statements) with the Distributor. Except as noted below, all creation orders must be placed for one or more Creation Units and must be received by the Distributor in proper form no later than the closing time of the regular trading session of the Exchange (normally 4:00 p.m., Eastern time) in each case on the date such order is placed in order for creation of Creation Units to be effected based on the NAV of Shares of a Fund as next determined on such date after receipt of the order in proper form. Orders requesting substitution of a “cash in lieu” amount generally must be received by the Distributor no later than 2:00 p.m., Eastern time. On days when the Exchange or other markets close earlier than normal, a Fund may require orders to create Creation Units to be placed earlier in the day. A standard creation transaction fee will be imposed to offset the transfer and other transaction costs associated with the issuance of Creation Units.

Shares of a Fund may be redeemed only in Creation Units at their NAV next determined after receipt of a redemption request in proper form by the Distributor and only on a business day. BFA will make available through the NSCC, prior to the opening of business on the Exchange on each business day, the designated portfolio of securities (including any portion of such securities for which cash may be substituted) that will be applicable (subject to possible amendment or correction) to redemption requests received in proper form on that day (“Fund Securities”). Fund Securities received on redemption may not be identical to Deposit

Securities that are applicable to creations of Creation Units.

Unless cash redemptions are available or specified for a Fund, the redemption proceeds for a Creation Unit generally will consist of a specified amount of cash, Fund Securities, plus additional cash in an amount equal to the difference between the NAV of the Shares being redeemed, as next determined after the receipt of a request in proper form, and the value of the specified amount of cash and Fund Securities, less a redemption transaction fee. Each Fund currently will redeem Shares for Fund Securities, but each Fund reserves the right to utilize a "cash" option for redemption of Shares.

A standard redemption transaction fee will be imposed to offset transfer and other transaction costs that may be incurred by a Fund.

Redemption requests for Creation Units of a Fund must be submitted to the Distributor by or through an authorized participant no later than 4:00 p.m. Eastern time on any business day, in order to receive that day's NAV. The authorized participant must transmit the request for redemption in the form required by a Fund to the Distributor in accordance with procedures set forth in the authorized participant agreement.

Determination of Net Asset Value

According to the Registration Statements, the NAV of each Fund normally will be determined once each business day, generally as of the regularly scheduled close of business of the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") (normally 4:00 p.m., Eastern time) on each day that the NYSE is open for trading, based on prices at the time of closing provided that (a) any Fund assets or liabilities denominated in currencies other than the U.S. dollar will be translated into U.S. dollars at the prevailing market rates on the date of valuation as quoted by one or more data service providers, and (b) U.S. fixed-income assets may be valued as of the announced closing time for trading in fixed-income assets in a particular market or exchange. The NAV per Share of each Fund will be calculated by dividing the value of the net assets of each Fund (*i.e.*, the value of its total assets less total liabilities) by the total number of outstanding Shares of a Fund, generally rounded to the nearest cent.

The value of the securities and other assets held by each Fund, and its liabilities, will be determined pursuant to valuation policies and procedures approved by the Trust's Board of Directors/Trustees ("Board"). Each Fund's assets and liabilities will be

valued primarily on the basis of market quotations.

Equity investments, including common stocks, tracking stocks, and sponsored and unsponsored Depository Receipts, and investments in futures, including currency, stock index and single stock futures, will be valued at market value, which is generally determined using the last reported official closing price or last trading price on the exchange or other market on which the security or futures contract is primarily traded at the time of valuation. Swaps and currency forward contracts generally will be valued based on quotations from market makers or by a pricing service in accordance with valuation procedures approved by the Board. Repurchase agreements and reverse repurchase agreements are generally valued at par. Other short-term instruments will generally be valued at the last available bid price received from independent pricing services. In determining the value of a fixed income investment, pricing services may use certain information with respect to transactions in such investments, quotations from dealers, pricing matrixes, market transactions in comparable investments, various relationships observed in the market between investments, and calculated yield measures. In certain circumstances, short-term instruments may be valued on the basis of amortized cost.

Generally, trading in non-U.S. securities, U.S. government securities, money market instruments, certain fixed-income securities and certain derivatives will be substantially completed each day at various times prior to the close of business on the NYSE. The values of such securities used in computing the NAV of a Fund will be determined as of such times.

When market quotations are not readily available or are believed by BFA to be unreliable, a Fund's investments will be valued at fair value. Fair value determinations are made by BFA in accordance with policies and procedures approved by the Trust's Board and in accordance with the 1940 Act. BFA may conclude that a market quotation is not readily available or is unreliable if a security or other asset or liability does not have a price source due to its lack of liquidity, if a market quotation differs significantly from recent price quotations or otherwise no longer appears to reflect fair value, where the security or other asset or liability is thinly traded, or where there is a significant event subsequent to the most recent market quotation. A "significant event" is an event that, in

the judgment of BFA, is likely to cause a material change to the closing market price of the asset or liability held by a Fund. Non-U.S. securities whose values are affected by volatility that occurs in U.S. markets on a trading day after the close of foreign securities markets may be fair valued.²⁴

Availability of Information

The Funds' Web site (www.ishares.com), which will be publicly available prior to the public offering of Shares, will include a form of the prospectus for a Fund that may be downloaded. The Funds' Web site will include additional quantitative information updated on a daily basis, including, for the Funds, (1) the prior business day's reported closing price, NAV and mid-point of the bid/ask spread at the time of calculation of such NAV (the "Bid/Ask Price"),²⁵ and a calculation of the premium and discount of the Bid/Ask Price against the NAV, and (2) data in chart format displaying the frequency distribution of discounts and premiums of the daily Bid/Ask Price against the NAV, within appropriate ranges, for each of the four previous calendar quarters. On each business day, before commencement of trading in Shares in the Core Trading Session on the Exchange, each Fund will disclose on its Web site the Disclosed Portfolio that will form the basis for such Fund's calculation of NAV at the end of the business day.²⁶

On a daily basis, each Fund will disclose for each portfolio security and other financial instrument of each Fund the following information on the Funds' Web site: Ticker symbol (if applicable), name of security and financial instrument, number of shares and dollar value of securities and financial instruments held in the portfolio, and

²⁴ According to the Registration Statements, fair value represents a good faith approximation of the value of an asset or liability. The fair value of an asset or liability held by a Fund is the amount a Fund might reasonably expect to receive from the current sale of that asset or the cost to extinguish that liability in an arm's-length transaction. Valuing a Fund's investments using fair value pricing will result in prices that may differ from current market valuations and that may not be the price at which those investments could have been sold during the period in which the particular fair values were used.

²⁵ The Bid/Ask Price of each Fund will be determined using the mid-point of the highest bid and the lowest offer on the Exchange as of the time of calculation of a Fund's NAV. The records relating to Bid/Ask Prices will be retained by the Funds and their service providers.

²⁶ Under accounting procedures followed by the Funds, trades made on the prior business day ("T") will be booked and reflected in NAV on the current business day ("T+1"). Accordingly, the Funds will be able to disclose at the beginning of the business day the portfolio that will form the basis for the NAV calculation at the end of the business day.

percentage weighting of the security and financial instrument in the portfolio. The Web site information will be publicly available at no charge.

In addition, a basket composition file, which includes the security names and share quantities required to be delivered in exchange for each Fund's Shares, together with estimates and actual cash components, will be publicly disseminated daily prior to the opening of the NYSE via NSCC. The basket represents one Creation Unit of a Fund.

Investors can also obtain the Trust's Statement of Additional Information ("SAI"), each Fund's Shareholder Reports, and the Trust's Form N-CSR and Form N-SAR, filed twice a year. The Trust's SAI and Shareholder Reports are available free upon request from the Trust, and those documents and the Form N-CSR and Form N-SAR may be viewed on-screen or downloaded from the Commission's Web site at www.sec.gov. Information regarding market price and trading volume of the Shares will be continually available on a real-time basis throughout the day on brokers' computer screens and other electronic services. Information regarding the previous day's closing price and trading volume information for the Shares will be published daily in the financial section of newspapers. Quotation and last sale information for the Shares of each Fund will be available via the Consolidated Tape Association ("CTA") high-speed line. In addition, the Indicative Optimized Portfolio Value ("IOPV"),²⁷ which is the Portfolio Indicative Value as defined in NYSE Arca Equities Rule 8.600(c)(3), will be widely disseminated at least every 15 seconds during the Core Trading Session by one or more major market data vendors.²⁸ The dissemination of the IOPV, together with the Disclosed Portfolio, will allow

²⁷ According to the Registration Statements, the IOPV will be based on the current value of the securities and/or cash required to be deposited in exchange for a Creation Unit using market data converted into U.S. dollars at the current currency rates. The IOPV price will be based on quotes and closing prices from the securities' local market and may not reflect events that occur subsequent to the local market's close. Premiums and discounts between the IOPV and the market price may occur. The IOPV will not necessarily reflect the precise composition of the current portfolio of securities held by a Fund at a particular point in time or the best possible valuation of the current portfolio. Therefore, the IOPV should not be viewed as a "real-time" update of a Fund's NAV, which will be calculated only once a day. The quotations of certain Fund holdings may not be updated during U.S. trading hours if such holdings do not trade in the United States.

²⁸ Currently, it is the Exchange's understanding that several major market data vendors display and/or make widely available IOPVs taken from CTA or other data feeds.

investors to determine the value of the underlying portfolio of each Fund on a daily basis and to provide a close estimate of that value throughout the trading day. The intra-day, closing and settlement prices of equity securities, including common stocks, tracking stocks, and sponsored and unsponsored Depository Receipts, will be readily available from the securities exchanges trading such securities, automated quotation systems, published or other public sources, or on-line information services such as Bloomberg or Reuters. Price information regarding currency, stock index and single stock futures is available from the exchange on which such futures trade as well as from major market data vendors. Price information regarding un-sponsored Depository Receipts; swaps; currency forward contracts; and short-term instruments will be available from major market data vendors.

Additional information regarding the Trust and the Shares, including investment strategies, risks, creation and redemption procedures, fees, portfolio holdings disclosure policies, distributions and taxes is included in the Registration Statements. All terms relating to the Funds that are referred to, but not defined in, this proposed rule change are defined in the Registration Statements.

Trading Halts

With respect to trading halts, the Exchange may consider all relevant factors in exercising its discretion to halt or suspend trading in the Shares of the Funds.²⁹ Trading in Shares of a Fund will be halted if the circuit breaker parameters in NYSE Arca Equities Rule 7.12 have been reached. Trading also may be halted because of market conditions or for reasons that, in the view of the Exchange, make trading in the Shares inadvisable. These may include: (1) The extent to which trading is not occurring in the securities and/or the financial instruments comprising the Disclosed Portfolio of a Fund; or (2) whether other unusual conditions or circumstances detrimental to the maintenance of a fair and orderly market are present. Trading in the Shares will be subject to NYSE Arca Equities Rule 8.600(d)(2)(D), which sets forth circumstances under which Shares of a Fund may be halted.

Trading Rules

The Exchange deems the Shares to be equity securities, thus rendering trading in the Shares subject to the Exchange's existing rules governing the trading of

equity securities. Shares will trade on the NYSE Arca Marketplace from 4:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern time in accordance with NYSE Arca Equities Rule 7.34 (Opening, Core, and Late Trading Sessions). The Exchange has appropriate rules to facilitate transactions in the Shares during all trading sessions. As provided in NYSE Arca Equities Rule 7.6, Commentary .03, the minimum price variation ("MPV") for quoting and entry of orders in equity securities traded on the NYSE Arca Marketplace is \$0.01, with the exception of securities that are priced less than \$1.00 for which the MPV for order entry is \$0.0001.

The Shares will conform to the initial and continued listing criteria under NYSE Arca Equities Rule 8.600. The Exchange represents that, for initial and/or continued listing, the Trust will be in compliance with Rule 10A-3³⁰ under the Act, as provided by NYSE Arca Equities Rule 5.3. A minimum of 100,000 Shares for each Fund will be outstanding at the commencement of trading on the Exchange. The Exchange will obtain a representation from the issuer of the Shares that the NAV per Share of each Fund will be calculated daily and that the NAV and the Disclosed Portfolio as defined in NYSE Arca Equities Rule 8.600(c)(2) will be made available to all market participants at the same time.

Surveillance

The Exchange represents that trading in the Shares will be subject to the existing surveillance procedures administered by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA") on behalf of the Exchange, which are designed to detect violations of Exchange rules and applicable federal securities laws.³¹ The Exchange represents that these procedures are adequate to properly monitor Exchange trading of the Shares in all trading sessions and to deter and detect violations of Exchange rules and applicable federal securities laws.

The Exchange's current trading surveillance focuses on detecting securities trading outside their normal patterns. When such situations are detected, surveillance analysis follows and investigations are opened, where appropriate, to review the behavior of all relevant parties for all relevant trading violations.

FINRA, on behalf of the Exchange, will communicate as needed regarding

³⁰ 17 CFR 240.10A-3.

³¹ FINRA surveils trading on the Exchange pursuant to a regulatory services agreement. The Exchange is responsible for FINRA's performance under this regulatory services agreement.

²⁹ See NYSE Arca Equities Rule 7.12.

trading in the Shares of the Funds, as well as underlying equity securities (including exchange-listed Depositary Receipts and tracking stocks) and futures with other markets and other entities that are members of the ISG, and FINRA, on behalf of the Exchange, may obtain trading information regarding trading in the Shares of the Funds as well as underlying equity securities and futures from such markets and other entities. The Exchange may obtain information regarding trading in the Shares of the Funds as well as underlying equity securities (including exchange-listed Depositary Receipts and tracking stocks) and futures from ISG member markets or markets with which the Exchange has in place a comprehensive surveillance sharing agreement.³²

To the extent that a Fund invests in futures, not more than 10% of the weight of such futures contracts held by a Fund in the aggregate would consist of components whose principal trading market is not a member of ISG or is a market with which the Exchange does not have a comprehensive surveillance sharing agreement.

Not more than 10% of the net assets of each Fund, in the aggregate, will be invested in (1) unlisted or unsponsored Depositary Receipts; (2) Depositary Receipts not listed on an exchange that is a member of the ISG or a party to a comprehensive surveillance sharing agreement with the Exchange; or (3) unlisted common stocks or common stocks not listed on an exchange that is a member of the ISG or a party to a comprehensive surveillance sharing agreement with the Exchange.

In addition, the Exchange also has a general policy prohibiting the distribution of material, non-public information by its employees.

Information Bulletin

Prior to the commencement of trading, the Exchange will inform its Equity Trading Permit (“ETP”) Holders in an Information Bulletin (“Bulletin”) of the special characteristics and risks associated with trading the Shares. Specifically, the Bulletin will discuss the following: (1) The procedures for purchases and redemptions of Shares in Creation Unit aggregations (and that Shares are not individually redeemable); (2) NYSE Arca Equities Rule 9.2(a), which imposes a duty of due diligence on its ETP Holders to learn the essential

facts relating to every customer prior to trading the Shares; (3) the risks involved in trading the Shares during the Opening and Late Trading Sessions when an updated IOPV will not be calculated or publicly disseminated; (4) how information regarding the IOPV is disseminated; (5) the requirement that ETP Holders deliver a prospectus to investors purchasing newly issued Shares prior to or concurrently with the confirmation of a transaction; and (6) trading information.

In addition, the Bulletin will reference that each Fund is subject to various fees and expenses described in the Registration Statements. The Bulletin will discuss any exemptive, no-action, and interpretive relief granted by the Commission from any rules under the Act. The Bulletin will also disclose that the NAV for the Shares will be calculated after 4:00 p.m. Eastern time each trading day.

2. Statutory Basis

The basis under the Act for this proposed rule change is the requirement under Section 6(b)(5)³³ that an exchange have rules that are designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to, and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices in that the Shares will be listed and traded on the Exchange pursuant to the initial and continued listing criteria in NYSE Arca Equities Rule 8.600. The Exchange has in place surveillance procedures that are adequate to properly monitor trading in the Shares in all trading sessions and to deter and detect violations of Exchange rules and applicable federal securities laws. The Adviser has implemented a “fire wall” with respect to its affiliated broker-dealers regarding access to information concerning the composition and/or changes to a Fund’s portfolios. FINRA, on behalf of the Exchange, will communicate as needed regarding trading in the Shares of the Funds, as well as underlying equity securities (including exchange-listed Depositary Receipts and tracking stocks) and futures with other markets and other entities that are members of the ISG, and FINRA, on behalf of the Exchange, may obtain trading information regarding trading in the Shares of the Funds as well as underlying equity securities and

futures from such markets and other entities. The Exchange may obtain information regarding trading in the Shares of the Funds as well as underlying equity securities (including exchange-listed Depositary Receipts and tracking stocks) and futures from ISG member markets or markets with which the Exchange has in place a comprehensive surveillance sharing agreement. The Funds will not invest in options. To the extent that a Fund invests in futures, not more than 10% of the weight of such futures contracts held by a Fund in the aggregate would consist of components whose principal trading market is not a member of ISG or is a market with which the Exchange does not have a comprehensive surveillance sharing agreement. Not more than 10% of the net assets of each Fund, in the aggregate, will be invested in (1) unlisted or unsponsored Depositary Receipts; (2) Depositary Receipts not listed on an exchange that is a member of the ISG or a party to a comprehensive surveillance sharing agreement with the Exchange; or (3) unlisted common stocks or common stocks not listed on an exchange that is a member of the ISG or a party to a comprehensive surveillance sharing agreement with the Exchange.

The Adviser has implemented policies and procedures to assess the creditworthiness of prospective and existing derivatives counterparties. Derivatives transactions are conducted only with approved counterparties with whom appropriate documentation is executed. Exposure to counterparties is independently and actively monitored. Where appropriate, collateral is posted and actively managed to reduce counterparty credit exposure. A Fund may hold up to an aggregate amount of 15% of its net assets in illiquid securities (calculated at the time of investment), including Rule 144A securities deemed illiquid by the Adviser, consistent with Commission guidance.

The proposed rule change is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade and to protect investors and the public interest in that the Exchange will obtain a representation from the issuer of the Shares that the NAV per Share of each Fund will be calculated daily and that the NAV and the Disclosed Portfolio for each Fund will be made available to all market participants at the same time. In addition, a large amount of information is publicly available regarding the Funds and the Shares, thereby promoting market transparency. Moreover, the IOPV will be widely disseminated by one or more major market data vendors at least every

³² For a list of the current members of ISG, see www.isgportal.org. The Exchange notes that not all components of the Disclosed Portfolio for a Fund may trade on markets that are members of ISG or with which the Exchange has in place a comprehensive surveillance sharing agreement.

³³ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

15 seconds during the Exchange's Core Trading Session. On each business day, before commencement of trading in Shares in the Core Trading Session on the Exchange, the Funds will disclose on their Web site the Disclosed Portfolio that will form the basis for a Fund's calculation of NAV at the end of the business day. Information regarding market price and trading volume of the Shares will be continually available on a real-time basis throughout the day on brokers' computer screens and other electronic services, and quotation and last sale information will be available via the CTA high-speed line. The Web site for the Funds will include a form of the prospectus for the Funds and additional data relating to NAV and other applicable quantitative information. Moreover, prior to the commencement of trading, the Exchange will inform its ETP Holders in an Information Bulletin of the special characteristics and risks associated with trading the Shares. Trading in Shares of a Fund will be halted if the circuit breaker parameters in NYSE Arca Equities Rule 7.12 have been reached or because of market conditions or for reasons that, in the view of the Exchange, make trading in the Shares inadvisable, and trading in the Shares will be subject to NYSE Arca Equities Rule 8.600(d)(2)(D), which sets forth circumstances under which Shares of a Fund may be halted. In addition, as noted above, investors will have ready access to information regarding a Fund's holdings, the IOPV, the Disclosed Portfolio, and quotation and last sale information for the Shares.

The proposed rule change is designed to perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest in that it will facilitate the listing and trading of additional types of actively-managed exchange-traded products that will enhance competition among market participants, to the benefit of investors and the marketplace. As noted above, FINRA, on behalf of the Exchange, will communicate as needed regarding trading in the Shares of the Funds, as well as underlying equity securities (including exchange-listed Depositary Receipts and tracking stocks) and futures with other markets and other entities that are members of the ISG, and FINRA, on behalf of the Exchange, may obtain trading information regarding trading in the Shares of the Funds as well as underlying equity securities and futures from such markets and other entities. The Exchange may obtain information regarding trading in the Shares of the Funds as well as

underlying equity securities (including exchange-listed Depositary Receipts and tracking stocks) and futures from ISG member markets or markets with which the Exchange has in place a comprehensive surveillance sharing agreement. In addition, as noted above, investors will have ready access to information regarding a Fund's holdings, the IOPV, the Disclosed Portfolio, and quotation and last sale information for the Shares. The proposed rule change would benefit investors by providing them with additional choice of transparent and tradeable products.

B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purpose of the Act. The Exchange notes that the proposed rule change will facilitate the listing and trading of other actively-managed exchange-traded products that hold equity securities and will enhance competition among market participants, to the benefit of investors and the marketplace.

C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants, or Others

No written comments were solicited or received with respect to the proposed rule change.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

Within 45 days of the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** or within such longer period up to 90 days after publication (i) as the Commission may designate if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or (ii) as to which the self-regulatory organization consents, the Commission will:

- (A) By order approve or disapprove the proposed rule change, or
- (B) institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic Comments

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or
- Send an email to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR-NYSEArca-2013-138 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Elizabeth M. Murphy, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE., Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-NYSEArca-2013-138. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet Web site (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for Web site viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street NE., Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-NYSEArca-2013-138 and should be submitted on or before January 23, 2014.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.³⁴

Lynn Powalski,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2013-31372 Filed 12-31-13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

³⁴ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).