

## Information Circular: 50/150 Nikkei 225 Index Notes

To: Head Traders, Technical Contacts, Compliance Officers, Head of ETF

Trading, Structured Products Traders

**From:** BX Listing Qualifications Department

**DATE:** January 15, 2009

Index-Linked Notes Symbol CUSIP Number

50/150 Nikkei 225 NKW 59021V581

http://www.amex.com/amextrader/dailylist/data/relFiles/icNKW\_030306.pdf

Index Notes, due October 7, 2009

The "relevant link" above is to an information circular regarding the Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. 50/150 Nikkei 225 Index Notes ("Notes") prepared by their listing market, The American Stock Exchange. BX members should consult this information circular, which contains important information about the characteristics of the Notes and the principal risks of an investment in the Notes.

Trading in the Notes on BX is subject to BX equity trading rules. The Notes will trade from 8:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. For trading during BX's Pre-Market and Post-Market Sessions, market participants should note that additional risks may exist with respect to trading the Notes during these sessions, when the underlying index's values may not be disseminated.

Trading of the Notes on BX is subject to the provisions of BX Rule 2310. Members recommending transactions in the Notes to customers should make a determination that the recommendation is suitable for the customer. In addition, members must possess sufficient information to satisfy the "know your customer" obligation that is embedded in the BX Conduct Rules.

Members also should review NASD Notice to Members 03-71 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.

This Information Circular is not a statutory prospectus. BX members should consult the registration statement or prospectus for the Notes for additional information.

Inquiries regarding this Information Circular should be directed to:

- Will Slattery, BX Listing Qualifications, at 301.978.8088
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