

Information Circular: WisdomTree Trust

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

Trading, Structured Products Traders

From: NASDAQ / BX / PHLX Listing Qualifications Department

**Date:** July 14, 2011

#### **Exchange-Traded Fund**

Symbol CUSIP #

WisdomTree Global Real Return Fund

RRF 97717X883

## Background Information on the Fund

The WisdomTree 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 WisdomTree Global Real Return Fund (the "Fund"). The shares of the Fund are referred to herein as "Shares." WisdomTree Asset Management, Inc. (the "Adviser") serves as the investment adviser to the Fund. Mellon Capital Management Corporation ("Mellon Capital") serves as subadviser to the Fund.

The Fund seeks total returns (capital appreciation plus income) that exceed the rate of inflation over long-term investment horizons.

The Fund seeks to provide protection against inflation and to generate income. "Inflation" is defined as an increase in the general price level of goods and services over time. The Fund invests in a combination of inflation-linked securities and debt instruments from issuers in the United States, developed markets and emerging markets throughout the world. The Fund has targeted exposure to commodities, such as gold, and employs commodity strategies structured to provide returns that exceed inflation rates. The Fund is actively managed using a structured investment approach that considers, among other things, country and currency exposure, sector allocation, investment exposure and risk.

As noted above, the Fund invests in fixed income securities and other instruments linked to inflation rates in the U.S. and in developed and emerging market countries throughout the world. The Fund's U.S. investments are focused on inflation-protected securities, such as U.S. Treasury Inflation Protected Securities ("TIPS"), and floating-rate securities. Outside the United States, the Fund seeks broad-based exposure to both developed and emerging economies. The Fund focuses its investments outside the U.S. in countries that are leading exporters of commodities, such as Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Mexico, and South Africa. In order to provide broad-based exposure across developed and emerging markets, the Fund also invests in issuers from countries such as France, Germany, Italy, Israel, Korea, Poland, Sweden, Turkey and the United Kingdom. This list may change from time to time based on market and other conditions. Country, sector

and issuer exposure and risk are reviewed on an ongoing basis and the Fund's portfolio is rebalanced quarterly. The Fund's exposure to any single non-U.S. currency generally is limited to 10% of the Fund's assets.

Inflation-linked bonds are structured to provide protection against inflation by preserving purchasing power. In a typical inflation-linked bond, the principal amount of the bond and the cash flow generated by the bond (i.e., interest) are adjusted upward in response to increases in inflation rates. The U.S. Consumer Price index, or CPI, is a commonly used measure of U.S. inflation rates. Bonds tied to inflation rates outside the U.S. generally are linked to regional or country measures comparable to the CPI that measure inflation rates in non-U.S. markets. As inflation rises, upward adjustments to the principal amount or income paid on the bond increase the value of the bond and help preserve purchasing power in response to inflation. Conversely, some types of inflation-linked bonds may be adjusted downward in response to deflation (i.e., a decrease in the prices of goods and services over time).

The Fund invests in floating- and variable-rate bonds. Floating- and variable-rate bonds are bonds that have a variable payment feature tied to a reference rate, such as the federal funds rate or the London Interbank Offering Rate ("LIBOR"). Floating- and variable-rate bonds generally are less sensitive to interest rate increases because when market rates rise, the payments made by such bonds increase. Conversely, a decrease in market interest rates will adversely affect the income received from such securities and may cause the value of such bonds to decrease.

The Fund may invest in derivatives such as swaps, forward currency contracts, and futures contracts designed to provide protection from changes in inflation rates. A total return swap is an agreement between two parties to exchange payments at a future date based on the return of a reference asset, such as a bond or equity index. An inflation-linked swap is an agreement between two parties to exchange payments at a future date based on the difference between a fixed payment and a payment linked to an inflation rate or value at a future date. An interest rate swap is a transaction in which two parties typically exchange payments based on the difference between a floating interest rate payment and a fixed interest rate payment. A cross-currency swap is an agreement to exchange one currency for another at a future date. A forward currency contract is an agreement to buy or sell a specific currency at a future date at a price set at the time of the contract. A futures contract is a financial instrument in which a party agrees to pay a fixed price at a specified future date for an asset, such as a U.S. Treasury security.

The average duration of the fixed income portion of the Fund's portfolio will vary based on economic fundamentals and market conditions. During most scenarios, fixed income portfolio duration will not exceed 10 years. Duration is an important indication of the Fund's sensitivity to changes in interest rates. Funds with higher durations generally are subject to greater interest rate risk. While the Fund intends to invest primarily in "investment grade" securities, the Fund also may invest in "non-investment grade" securities. Securities rated investment grade generally are considered to be of higher credit quality and subject to lower default risk. Although securities rated below investment grade may offer the potential for higher yields, they generally are subject to higher potential risk of loss.

While inflation-linked securities offer protection against inflation, they are sensitive to changes in "real interest rates." Real interest rates are interest rates that have been adjusted to remove the cost of inflation. Protracted increases in real interest rates would likely have a negative impact on the value of inflation-linked securities and the value of

the Fund. The Fund may purchase futures contracts on U.S. Treasury securities or other U.S. government or non-U.S. government obligations to help minimize this risk.

The Fund may invest a portion of its assets in fixed income securities that are not linked to inflation, such as U.S. government obligations. The Fund also may invest in money market instruments (including repurchase agreements) with remaining maturities of one year or less, as well as cash and cash equivalents. A repurchase agreement is a transaction where a party purchases securities and simultaneously commits to resell them at an agreed-upon date at a price reflecting a market rate of interest unrelated to the coupon rate or maturity of the securities.

The Fund intends to have targeted exposure to commodities and commodity strategies. The commodity exposure is diversified across a number of sectors (such as gold and other precious metals, industrial materials, energy, livestock, and agriculture) utilizing systematic, rules-based strategies. Within these strategies, the Fund may take or gain exposure to "long" or "short" positions in commodities and related instruments. To be "long" means to hold or be exposed to a commodity or instrument with the expectation that its value will increase over time. To be "short" means to sell or be exposed to a commodity or instrument with the expectation that it will fall in value. The Fund will benefit if it has a long position in a commodity or instrument that increases in value or a short position in a commodity or instrument that decreases in value. Conversely, the Fund will be adversely impacted if it holds a long position in a commodity or instrument that declines in value and a short position in a commodity or instrument that increases in value.

The Fund seeks to gain exposure to commodity markets, in whole or in part, through investments in a subsidiary organized in the Cayman Islands (the "WisdomTree Subsidiary"). The WisdomTree Subsidiary is wholly owned and controlled by the Fund. The Fund's investment in the WisdomTree Subsidiary may not exceed 25% of the Fund's total assets at the end of each tax year quarter. The Fund's investment in the WisdomTree Subsidiary is expected to provide the Fund with exposure to commodity returns within the limits of the federal tax requirements applicable to investment companies, such as the Fund. Unlike the Fund, the WisdomTree Subsidiary may invest without limitation in commodity-linked derivatives. The WisdomTree Subsidiary intends to achieve exposure to commodities through investment in a combination of listed commodity futures, commodity index swaps and structured notes that provide commodity returns. A listed commodity future is a financial instrument in which a party agrees to pay a fixed price for a designated commodity at a specified future date. Listed commodity futures are traded at market prices on exchanges pursuant to terms common to all market participants. A commodity index swap is an agreement between two parties to exchange cash flows or returns (or differences in return) on a commodity index. A structured note is a debt instrument the return on which is tied to a reference asset or rate, such as a commodity or commodity index.

Except as noted, references to the investment strategies and risks of the Fund include the investment strategies and risks of the WisdomTree Subsidiary.

Please see the Fund's prospectus for more information regarding the Fund and its investment objective.

As described more fully in the Trust's prospectus and Statement of Additional Information, the Fund will issue and redeem Shares on a continuous basis at their net asset value ("NAV") only in large blocks of 100,000 Shares (each, a "Creation Unit").

Creation Units will be issued and redeemed principally in-kind for securities included in the underlying index. Except when aggregated in Creation Units, the Shares may not be redeemed with the Fund.

The Fund intends to pay out dividends, if any, on a quarterly basis. The Fund intends to distribute its net realized capital gains, if any, to investors annually.

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 the 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 Fund describes the various fees and expenses for the Fund's Shares. For a more complete description of the Fund and the underlying Index, visit the Fund's website at <a href="https://www.wisdomtree.com">www.wisdomtree.com</a>.

#### 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 Fund of the principal risks of an investment in the Fund. These include tracking error risk (factors causing the Fund's performance to not match the performance of the underlying index), market trading risk (for example, trading halts, trading above or below net asset value), investment style risk, sector risk, investment approach risk, non-diversification risk, commodity risk, debt risk and active management 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 Fund 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	Trading	I OPV	NAV
	Market	Symbol	Symbol	Symbol
WisdomTree Global Real Return Fund	NYSE Arca	RRF	RRF.IV	RRF.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 Fund.

Prospectuses may be obtained through the Fund's website. The prospectus for the Funds does not contain all of the information set forth in the Fund's 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 Fund, please refer to the registration statement.

In the event that the Fund relies 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 Fund, 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 Fund.

#### **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 Fund 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 Fund (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 Fund for redemption does not constitute a bid for or purchase of any of the Fund's 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.

## <u>Customer Confirmations for Creation or Redemption of Fund Shares (SEC Rule 10b-10)</u>

Broker-dealers who handle purchases or redemptions of Fund Shares in Creation Unit size for customers will be permitted to provide such customers with a statement of the number of Creation Unit Aggregations created or redeemed without providing a statement of the identity, number and price of shares of the individual securities tendered to the Fund for purposes of purchasing Creation Unit Aggregations ("Deposit Securities") or the identity, number and price of shares to be delivered by the Trust for the Fund to the redeeming holder ("Redemption Securities"). The composition of the securities required to be tendered to the Fund for creation purposes and of the securities to be delivered on redemption will be disseminated each business day and will be applicable to requests for creations or redemption, as the case may be, on that day. This exemptive relief under Rule 10b-10 with respect to creations and redemptions is subject to the following conditions:

- 1) Confirmations to customers engaging in creations or redemptions must state that all information required by Rule 10b-10 will be provided upon request;
- 2) Any such request by a customer for information required by Rule 10b-10 will be filed in a timely manner, in accordance with Rule 10b-10(c);
- 3) Except for the identity, number and price of shares of the component securities of the Deposit Securities and Redemption Securities, as described above, confirmations to 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 the 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 the Fund purchases or arranges to purchase such securities in the secondary market for the purpose of tendering such securities to purchase one or more Creation Unit Aggregations of Shares, if made in conformance with the following:

- 1) such bids or purchases are effected in the ordinary course of business, in connection with a basket of 20 or more securities in which any security that is the subject of a distribution, or any reference security, does not comprise more than 5% of the value of the basket purchased; or
- 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 the Fund to persons outside the fund complex, other than non-cash compensation permitted under NASD Rule 2830(I)(5)(A), (B) or (C). (See letter from Catherine McGuire, Chief Counsel, SEC Division of Market Regulation, to Securities Industry Association, Derivative Products Committee, dated November 21, 2005.) The SEC also has taken a no-action position under Section 11(d)(1) of the Act that broker-dealers may treat Shares of the 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 <u>letter</u> 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 Fund's prospectus and/or the Fund's website for relevant information.

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