

## Investors Exchange Product Information Circular 2022 - 0260

Date: September 8, 2022

Re: Emerge ETF Trust

This Information Circular is being issued to advise you that the following securities have been approved for trading pursuant to unlisted trading privileges ("UTP") on the Investors Exchange ("IEX" or the "Exchange") as UTP Derivative Securities pursuant to IEX Rule 16.160. Compliance and supervisory personnel should note that, among other things, this Information Circular discusses the need to deliver a prospectus to customers purchasing shares of the exchange-traded funds. Please forward this Information Circular to interested persons within your organization.

### **Exchange-Traded Fund / Symbol**

Emerge EMPWR Unified Sustainable Equity ETF	EMPW
Emerge EMPWR Sustainable Select Growth Equity ETF	EMGC

Issuer/Trust: Emerge ETF Trust

Issuer/Trust Website: [www.emergecm.com](http://www.emergecm.com)

Primary Listing Exchange: Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc.

The purpose of this information circular is to outline various rules and policies that will be applicable to trading in these new products pursuant to the Exchange's unlisted trading privileges, as well as to provide certain characteristics and features of the products. For a more complete description of the Issuer, the securities and the underlying market instruments or indexes, visit the Issuer Website, consult the Prospectus available on the Issuer Website or examine the Issuer Registration Statement or review the most current information bulletin issued by the Primary Listing Exchange.

### **Background Information on the Funds**

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

**Emerge EMPWR Unified Sustainable Equity ETF (EMPW)** - The investment objective of Emerge EMPWR Unified Sustainable Equity ETF (the Fund) is to seek long-term growth of capital.

Under normal market conditions, the Fund invests at least 80% of its net assets, plus borrowings for investment purposes, if any, in equity securities that, at the time of investment, meet the environmental, social, and governance (ESG) criteria established by Emerge Capital Management Inc. (Emerge or the Advisor).

Equity securities include common stock (including real estate investment trusts), preferred stock, securities convertible into common stock, depositary receipts, or securities or other instruments whose price is linked to the value of common stock.

The Fund's investments may include securities of U.S. and non-U.S. issuers, including issuers located in emerging markets countries.

The Fund may invest in the securities of issuers of all capitalization sizes.

The Fund is non-diversified, which means it can invest a greater percentage of its assets in a small group of issuers or any one issuer than a diversified fund can.

The Fund is structured as a multi-manager fund (meaning the Fund's assets are managed by multiple sub-advisors) and the Fund's investment manager, Emerge, has overall responsibility for the Fund's investments. The Fund's multi-manager structure combines a select set of Emerge's EMPWR equity investment managers to produce a portfolio consisting of the securities of the following individual strategies employed by each sub-advisor: dividend yield, equity growth, global core, and emerging markets.

The Advisor is responsible for allocating and re-allocating the Fund's assets among the sub-advisors and/or any investment funds in which the Fund may invest and for cash management, and for monitoring and assessing the performance of each sub-advisor. The Advisor uses asset allocation and macro-economic factors to determine the optimal combination of strategies. Each sub-advisor acts independently from the others and uses its own distinct investment style and investment process in recommending securities to buy and sell.

Emerge considers ESG factors within its securities selection process for each equity security for the Fund. Emerge assesses whether a company meets the Fund's ESG standards based on its proprietary ESG framework. Emerge uses ESG research, ratings, and analytics from independent third-party data providers to screen investments based on ESG criteria determined by Emerge. The Fund may hold securities of issuers for which third-party data is not available. Where an issuer has not been assigned a rating by the third-party data provider, Emerge's ESG analysis incorporates publicly available data. Emerge has the right to change the third-party data providers that support its ESG framework at any time. In determining whether an issuer meets Emerge's ESG investment criteria, Emerge considers: (i) negative screening criteria to eliminate certain types of issuers in light of social and environmental considerations; and (ii) governance-related risk ratings published by third party data providers, including Sustainalytics, designed to measure the degree to which a company's economic value is at risk driven by the magnitude of a company's unmanaged ESG risks. As of the date of this Prospectus, Emerge applies a negative screen to exclude companies for investment that derive 20% or more of their revenues from biological and chemical weapons, thermal coal extraction, gambling, adult entertainment, tobacco production, and recreational cannabis. Emerge may modify the above list of negative screens at any time, without prior shareholder approval or notice. ESG risk ratings data compiled by third-party data providers forms the basis for Emerge's governance-related risk assessment and screening. Emerge may consider excluding, reducing or eliminating exposure to issuers with high ESG risk ratings, as determined by one or more third-party data providers.

In attempting to meet its investment objective, the Fund may engage in active and frequent trading of portfolio securities.

The Fund is an actively managed exchange-traded fund (ETF) that does not seek to replicate the performance of a specified index.

**Emerge EMPWR Sustainable Select Growth Equity ETF (EMGC)** - The Fund's investment objective is to seek long-term growth of capital. The Fund's investment objective is non-fundamental, which means it may be changed by the board of trustees without shareholder approval. Shareholders will be given at least 60 days' advance notice of any change to the Fund's investment objective.

Under normal market conditions, the Fund invests at least 80% of its net assets, plus borrowings for investment purposes, if any, in equity securities that, at the time of investment, meet the ESG criteria established by Emerge Capital Management Inc. (Emerge or the Advisor). Shareholders will be given at least 60 days' advance notice of any change to the Fund's 80% policy.

The Fund invests predominantly in equity securities. An equity security, or stock, represents a proportionate share, or the right to acquire a proportionate share, of the ownership of a company; an equity security's value is based on the success of the company's business and the value of its assets, as well as general market conditions. Equity securities include common stock (including real estate investment trusts), preferred stock, securities convertible into common stock, American Depositary Receipts, or securities or other instruments whose price is linked to the value of common stock. Depositary receipts are certificates typically issued by a bank or trust company that give their holders the right to receive securities issued by a foreign or domestic company. The Fund may invest in the securities of issuers of all capitalization sizes.

The Fund is non-diversified, which means it can invest a greater percentage of its assets in a small group of issuers or any one issuer than a diversified fund can.

In selecting companies, Grace Capital (the Sub-Advisor) seeks to invest in equity securities that the Sub-Advisor believes have the potential for earnings or revenue growth, including companies the Sub-Advisor believes has an ability to pay high dividends. The Sub-Advisor employs a "bottom-up" investment approach that seeks to identify companies that the Sub-Advisor believes have long-term positive fundamentals trading at a discount to fair value based on the Sub-Advisor's proprietary discounted cash flow valuation models. The Sub-Advisor's strategy primarily focuses on identifying issuers that they believe have histories of steady revenue growth, consistent cash flow profitability, and earnings quality. The Sub-Advisor may recommend selling securities for several reasons, including when the Sub-Advisor believes the security is overvalued.

Emerge considers ESG factors within its securities selection process for each equity security for the Fund. Emerge assesses whether a company meets the Fund's ESG standards based on its proprietary ESG framework. Emerge uses ESG research, ratings, and analytics from independent third-party data providers to screen investments based on ESG criteria determined by Emerge. The Fund may hold securities of issuers for which third-party data is not available. Where an issuer has not been assigned a rating by the third-party data provider, Emerge's ESG analysis incorporates publicly available data. Emerge has the right to change the third-party data providers that support its ESG framework at any time. In determining whether an issuer meets Emerge's ESG investment criteria, Emerge considers: (i) negative screening criteria to eliminate certain types of issuers in light of social and environmental considerations; and (ii) governance-related risk ratings published by third party data providers, including Sustainalytics, designed to measure the degree to which a company's economic value is at risk driven by the magnitude of a

company's unmanaged ESG risks. As of the date of this Prospectus, Emerge applies a negative screen to exclude companies for investment that derive 20% or more of their revenues from biological and chemical weapons, thermal coal extraction, gambling, adult entertainment, tobacco production, and recreational cannabis. Emerge may modify the above list of negative screens at any time, without prior shareholder approval or notice. ESG risk ratings data compiled by third-party data providers forms the basis for Emerge's governance-related risk assessment and screening. Emerge may consider excluding, reducing or eliminating exposure to issuers with high ESG risk ratings, as determined by one or more third-party data providers.

The Fund is an actively managed exchange-traded fund (ETF) that does not seek to replicate the performance of a specified index. Accordingly, the Advisor has discretion on a daily basis to manage the Fund's portfolio in accordance with the Fund's investment goal.

When the Advisor or Sub-Advisor believes market or economic conditions are unfavorable for investors, the Advisor may invest up to 100% of the Fund's assets in a temporary defensive manner by holding all or a substantial portion of its assets in cash, cash equivalents or other high quality short-term investments. Temporary defensive investments generally may include short-term U.S. government securities, high grade commercial paper, bank obligations, repurchase agreements, money market fund shares (including shares of an affiliated money market fund), and other money market instruments. The Fund also may invest in these types of securities or hold cash while looking for suitable investment opportunities, to maintain liquidity. In these circumstances, the Fund may be unable to achieve its investment goal.

The Fund may invest securities of other investment companies, including ETFs.

The Fund's investments in the types of securities and other investments described in this prospectus vary from time to time, and, at any time, the Fund may not be invested in all of the types of securities and other investments described in this prospectus. The Fund may also invest in securities and other investments not described in this prospectus. More detailed information about the Fund and its policies and risks can be found in the Fund's SAI.

For more information regarding the Funds' investment strategies, please read the prospectus for the Fund.

As described more fully in the Prospectus and Statement of Additional Information, each Fund will issue and redeem Shares on a continuous basis at their net asset value ("NAV") only in large blocks of 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 Funds.

Shares are held in book-entry form, which means that no Share certificates are issued. The Depository Trust Company or its nominee is the record owner of all outstanding Shares of the Funds and is recognized as the owner of all Shares for all purposes.

The NAV per Share for each Fund is computed by dividing the value of the net assets of the Fund (i.e., the value of its total assets less total liabilities) by the total number of Shares outstanding. Expenses and fees are accrued daily and taken into account for purposes of determining NAV. The NAV of each Fund is determined each business day after the close of trading (ordinarily 4:00 p.m., Eastern Time or "ET") of the New York Stock Exchange. Any assets or liabilities denominated in currencies other than the U.S. dollar are converted into U.S. dollars at the current market rates on the date of valuation as quoted by one or more sources.

The registration statement for the Funds describes the various fees and expenses for the Funds' Shares.

For a more complete description of the Funds visit the Issuer Website.

### **Purchases and Redemptions in Creation Unit Size**

IEX Members are hereby informed that procedures for purchases and redemptions of Shares in Creation Units are described in the Trust's Prospectus and SAI and that Shares are not individually redeemable but are redeemable only in Creation Unit aggregations or multiples thereof.

### **Principal Risks**

As with any investment, you could lose all or part of your investment in the Funds, and the Funds' performance could trail that of other investments. These Funds are subject to the principal risks noted below, any of which may adversely affect the Funds' net asset value per share ("NAV"), trading price, yield, total return and ability to meet its investment objective. Interested persons are referred to the discussion in the prospectus for the Funds of the principal risks of an investment in the Funds. These include but are not limited to Market Risk, Foreign Securities Risk, Emerging Markets Securities Risk, China Investing Risk, Thematic Investing Risk, Small- and Mid-Capitalization Companies Risk, Geographic Focus Risk, Sector Focus Risk, Depository Receipts Risk, ESG Risk, Management Risk, Market Trading Risk, International Closed Market Trading Risk, Authorized Participant Concentration Risk, New Fund Risk and Small Fund Risk.

### **Exchange Rules Applicable to Trading in the Shares**

Trading in the Shares on IEX is subject to IEX trading rules.

### **Trading Hours**

The value of the Index underlying the Shares will be disseminated to data vendors every 15 seconds during the Regular Trading Session. The Shares will trade on IEX between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Please note that trading in the Shares during the Exchange's Pre-Market and Post-Market Sessions ("Extended Market Sessions") may result in additional trading risks which include: (1) that the current underlying indicative value may not be updated during the Extended Market Sessions, (2) lower liquidity in the Extended Market Sessions may impact pricing, (3) higher volatility in the Extended Market Sessions may impact pricing, (4) wider spreads may occur in the Extended Markets Sessions, and (5) because the indicative value is not calculated or widely disseminated during the Extended Market Sessions, an investor who is unable to calculate an implied value for the Shares in those sessions may be at a disadvantage to market professionals.

### **Delivery of a Prospectus**

Exchange Members 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 Fund does not contain all of the information set forth in the Funds Registration Statement (including the exhibits to the Registration

Statement), parts of which have been omitted in accordance with the rules and regulations of the SEC. For further information about the Fund, please refer to its 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, Exchange Rules require that Exchange Members provide to all purchasers of Shares a written description of the terms and characteristics of such securities, in a form prepared by the Issuer of the Fund, no later than the time a confirmation of the first transaction in the Shares is delivered to such purchaser. In addition, Exchange Members 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 an IEX member 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 UTP Derivative Securities] has been prepared by the [open-ended management investment company name] and is available from your broker. It is recommended that you obtain and review such circular before purchasing [the UTP Derivative Securities]."

An Exchange member 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 such Exchange member under this rule. Upon request of a customer, Exchange Members also shall provide a copy of the Prospectus.

### **Suitability**

Trading in the securities on the Exchange will be subject to the provisions of IEX Rule 3.170 and other applicable suitability rules. Members recommending transactions in the securities to customers should make a determination that the recommendation is suitable for the customer.

### **Trading Halts**

The Exchange will halt trading in the Shares of a security in accordance with the Exchange's Rules. The grounds for a halt include a halt because the intraday indicative value of the security and/or the value of its underlying index are not being disseminated as required, a halt for other regulatory reasons or due to other conditions or circumstances deemed to be detrimental to the maintenance of a free and orderly market.

### **Exemptive, Interpretive and No-Action Relief Under Federal Securities Regulations**

The Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") has issued letters granting exemptive, interpretive and no-action relief from certain provisions of rules under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 for exchange-traded securities listed and traded on a registered national securities exchange that meet certain criteria.

AS WHAT FOLLOWS IS ONLY A SUMMARY OF THE RELIEF OUTLINED IN THE NO-ACTION LETTERS REFERENCED ABOVE, THE EXCHANGE ADVISES INTERESTED PARTIES TO CONSULT THE NO-ACTION LETTERS FOR MORE COMPLETE INFORMATION REGARDING THE MATTERS COVERED THEREIN AND THE APPLICABILITY OF THE RELIEF GRANTED IN RESPECT OF TRADING IN SECURITIES. INTERESTED PARTIES SHOULD ALSO CONSULT THEIR PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS.

**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 Funds’ securities during the restricted period of Rule 101. The SEC has also granted an exemption pursuant to paragraph (e) of Rule 102 under Regulation M to allow the redemption of Fund Shares in Creation Unit Aggregations during the continuous offering of Shares.

**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 purchase; or
2. purchases are effected as adjustments to such basket in the ordinary course of business as a result of a change in the composition of the underlying index; and
3. such bids or purchases are not effected for the purpose of facilitating such tender offer.

**SEC Rule 15c1-5 and 15c1-6**

The SEC has taken a no-action position with respect to Rule 15c1-5 and Rule 15c1-6 as to the required disclosure of control by a broker or dealer with respect to creations and redemptions of Fund Shares and secondary market transactions therein. (See letter from Catherine McGuire, Chief Counsel, SEC Division of Market Regulation, to Securities Industry Association, Derivative Products Committee, dated November 21, 2005.)



This Information Circular is not a statutory prospectus. Members should consult the Prospectus for a security and the security's website for relevant information.

Please contact IEX Regulation at 646-343-2000 with any inquiries regarding this Information Circular.