



## Information Circular 10-252

Date: March 16, 2010

To: ETP Holders

From: James C. Yong  
Chief Regulatory Officer

Re: FIRST TRUST EXCHANGE-TRADED FUND II FUNDS TO BEGIN TRADING ON NSX

Pursuant to Regulatory Circular 08-005, we are issuing this Information Circular to advise you that the following securities of the exchange-traded funds discussed herein (the "Funds") have been approved for trading on the National Stock Exchange, Inc. ("NSX" or the "Exchange") as UTP Derivative Securities products pursuant to NSX Rule 15.9:

**Security:** (the "Shares")

**Symbol:**

First Trust ISE Global Copper Index Fund  
First Trust ISE Global Platinum Index Fund

**CU**  
**PLTM**

**Commencement of Trading:** March 17, 2010

**Issuer:** First Trust Exchange-Traded Fund II

**Issuer Website:** [www.ftportfolios.com](http://www.ftportfolios.com)

**Primary Listing Exchange:** Nasdaq GM

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 Shares. For a more complete description of the Issuer, the Shares and the underlying market instruments or indexes, visit the Issuer Website, consult the prospectus or prospectuses available on the Issuer Website (the "Prospectus") or review the most current information bulletin issued by the Primary Listing Exchange (which as of the date hereof is set forth above as the "Primary Exchange Circular"). The Issuer Website, the Prospectus, and the Primary Exchange Circular are hereafter collectively referred to as the "Issuer Disclosure Materials."

The Primary Exchange Circular cited above contains the following information:

### **Background Information on each Fund**

The First Trust Exchange-Traded Fund II (the "Trust") is a management investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"). The Trust consists of separate exchange-traded funds (each, a "Fund" and collectively, the

“Funds”). This circular refers only to the Funds listed above. The shares of each Fund are referred to herein as “Shares.” First Trust Advisors L.P. (the “Adviser”) serves as the investment adviser for the Funds.

CU seeks investment results that correspond generally to the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of the ISE Global Copper Index (the “CU Index”). CU’s investment objective and the CU Index may be changed without shareholder approval. The CU Index uses a modified linear weighted methodology adjusted by revenue exposure to copper production, where component stocks are grouped into linearly weighted quartiles and then equally weighted within each quartile.

PLTM seeks investment results that correspond generally to the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of the ISE Global Platinum Index (the “PLTM Index”). PLTM’s investment objective and the PLTM Index may be changed without shareholder approval. The PLTM Index uses a modified linear weighted methodology adjusted by revenue exposure to PGM production, where component stocks are grouped into linearly weighted quartiles and then equally weighted within each quartile.

For more information regarding each Fund’s investment strategy, please read the prospectus for the Funds.

As described more fully in the Trust’s prospectus and Statement of Additional Information (“SAI”), each Fund issues and redeems Shares at net asset value (“NAV”) only in large blocks of shares, respectively, (each block of Shares called a “Creation Unit”) or multiples thereof. Each Creation Unit consists of 50,000 shares. As a practical matter, only broker-dealers or large institutional investors with creation and redemption agreements (called Authorized Participants) can purchase or redeem these Creation Units. Except when aggregated in Creation Units, the Shares may not be redeemed with each Fund.

Dividends from net investment income, if any, are declared and at least paid semi-annually by each Fund. Each Fund distributes its net realized capital gains, if any, to shareholders 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 each Fund and is recognized as the owner of all Shares for all purposes.

Each Fund’s NAV is determined as of the close of trading (normally 4:00 p.m., Eastern time) on each day the New York Stock Exchange is open for business. NAV is calculated for a Fund by taking the market price of the Fund’s total assets, including interest or dividends accrued but not yet collected, less all liabilities, and dividing such amount by the total number of Shares outstanding. The result, rounded to the nearest cent, is the NAV per Share.

The registration statement for the Funds describes the various fees and expenses for each Fund’s Shares. For a more complete description of each Fund and the underlying indexes, visit the Funds’ website at [www.ftportfolios.com](http://www.ftportfolios.com).

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

Procedures for purchases and redemptions of Shares in Creation Unit Size are described in the Trust's prospectus and SAI. Shares are not individually redeemable but are redeemable only in Creation Unit Size aggregations or multiples thereof.

## **Continuous Offering**

The method by which Creation Unit Aggregations of shares are created and traded may raise certain issues under applicable securities laws. Because new Creation Unit Aggregations of shares are issued and sold by the each Fund on an ongoing basis, at any point a "distribution," as such term is used in the Securities Act, may occur. Broker-dealers and other persons are cautioned that some activities on their part may, depending on the circumstances, result in their being deemed participants in a distribution in a manner which could render them statutory underwriters and subject them to the prospectus delivery requirement and liability provisions of the Securities Act.

For example, a broker-dealer firm or its client may be deemed a statutory underwriter if it takes Creation Unit Aggregations after placing an order with the Distributor, breaks them down into constituent shares, and sells such shares directly to customers, or if it chooses to couple the creation of a supply of new shares with an active selling effort involving solicitation of secondary market demand for shares. A determination of whether one is an underwriter for purposes of the Securities Act must take into account all the facts and circumstances pertaining to the activities of the broker-dealer or its client in the particular case, and the examples mentioned above should not be considered a complete description of all the activities that could lead to a categorization as an underwriter.

Broker-dealer firms should also note that dealers who are not "underwriters" but are effecting transactions in shares, whether or not participating in the distribution of shares, generally are required to deliver a prospectus. This is because the prospectus delivery exemption in Section 4(3) of the Securities Act is not available in respect of such transactions as a result of Section 24(d) of the 1940 Act. Firms that incur a prospectus delivery obligation with respect to shares of each Fund are reminded that, pursuant to Rule 153 under the Securities Act, a prospectus delivery obligation under Section 5(b)(2) of the Securities Act owed to an exchange member in connection with a sale on the Listing Exchange is satisfied by the fact that the prospectus is available at the Listing Exchange upon request. The prospectus delivery mechanism provided in Rule 153 is only available with respect to transactions on an exchange.

## **Principal Risks**

Interested persons are referred to the discussion in the prospectus for each Fund of the principal risks of an investment in each Fund. These include: market risk, non-correlation risk, replication management risk, non-diversification risk, copper mining company risk, materials risk, copper risk, Canada risk, United Kingdom risk, non-U.S. securities and emerging markets risk, currency risk, PGM mining company risk, Russia risk, South Africa risk, PGM risk, index tracking risk, issuer specific changes risk, passive investment risk, smaller company risk and intellectual property risk.

### **Delivery of a Prospectus**

ETP Holders should be mindful of applicable prospectus delivery requirements under the federal securities laws with respect to transactions in the Funds.

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

Upon request of a customer, ETP Holders also 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 funds.

**BECAUSE WHAT FOLLOWS IS ONLY A SUMMARY OF THE RELIEF OUTLINED IN THE NO-ACTION LETTER(S) REFERENCED ABOVE, THE EXCHANGE ADVISES INTERESTED PARTIES TO CONSULT THE NO-ACTION LETTER(S) FOR MORE COMPLETE INFORMATION REGARDING THE MATTERS COVERED THEREIN AND THE APPLICABILITY OF THE RELIEF GRANTED IN RESPECT OF TRADING IN THE SHARES. 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 Funds 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 Funds (i) to purchase securities for the purpose of purchasing Creation Unit Aggregations of each Fund's Shares and (ii) to tender securities for redemption in Creation Unit Aggregations. Further, the SEC has clarified that the tender of each Fund's 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 each Fund's Shares in Creation Unit Aggregations during the continuous offering of Shares.

### **Customer Confirmations for Creation or Redemption of Fund Shares (SEC Rule 10b-10)**

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 a 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 a 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 a 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 a Fund’s 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
- 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.

### **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 a 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 a fund to persons outside the fund complex, other than non-cash compensation permitted under NASD Rule 2830(l)(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 a 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 letter from Catherine McGuire, Chief Counsel, SEC Division of Market Regulation, to Securities Industry Association, Derivative Products Committee, dated November 21, 2005.)

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

The Shares are considered equity securities, thus rendering trading in the Shares subject to the Exchange's existing rules governing the trading of equity securities. The Shares are also a UTP Derivative Securities product as specified in NSX Rule 15.9, and as such are subject to the additional provisions specific to that NSX Rule. In particular, ETP Holders are reminded of their obligations under the following NSX Rules:

1. Trading Hours: This product will trade during the regular trading hours of the Exchange (between 9:30 am to 4:00 pm ET), during pre-market hours (8:00 am to 9:29:59 am ET) and during post-market hours (4:00:01 pm to 6:30 pm ET). Please note that trading in the Shares during the Exchange's pre-market and post-market hours may result in additional trading risks which include: (1) lower liquidity in the Opening or Late Trading Sessions may impact pricing, (2) higher volatility in the Opening or Late Trading Sessions may impact pricing, (3) wider spreads may occur in the Opening or Late Trading Sessions. The minimum trading increment is \$.01.

2. Recommendations To Customers: NSX Rule 3.7 provides that the ETP Holder

shall use due diligence to learn the essential facts relative to every customer prior to trading the Shares or recommending a transaction in the Shares that an investment in the Shares is suitable for the customer.

3. Product Description: In the event that a Fund relies upon an order by the Securities and Exchange Commission exempting the Shares from certain prospectus delivery requirements under Section 24(d) of the 1940 Act and makes available a written product description, NSX Rule 15.9B(3)(c) requires that ETP Holders shall provide all purchasers of a series of exchange-traded funds (“ETFs”) a written description of the terms and characteristics of those securities, in a form approved by the Exchange or prepared by the open-ended management company issuing such securities, not later than the time a confirmation of the first transaction in such series is delivered to such purchaser. In addition, the ETP Holders shall include a written description with any sales material relating to a series of ETFs that is provided to customers or the public. Any other written materials provided by an ETP Holder to customers or the public making specific reference to the series of ETFs as an investment vehicle must include a statement substantially in the following form:

“A circular describing the terms and characteristics of [*the series of ETFs*] 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 series of ETFs*].”

An ETP Holder carrying an omnibus account for a non-ETP Holder is required to inform such non-ETP Holder that execution of an order to purchase a series of ETFs for such omnibus account will be deemed to constitute an agreement by the non-ETP Holder to make such written description available to its customers on the same terms as are directly applicable to the ETP Holder under this Rule.

4. Customer Requests for a Prospectus: NSX Rule 15.9B(3)(d) provides that, upon request of a customer, an ETP Holder shall provide a prospectus for the particular series of UTP Derivative Securities.

5. Trading Halts: NSX Rule 15.9B(4) provides that, in addition to the Exchange’s authority to suspend or halt trading under NSX Rules 11.20 (Trading Halts Due To Extraordinary Market Volatility), 12.11 (Trading Suspensions) and 15.7 (Suspension and/or Delisting By Exchange), if a temporary interruption occurs in the calculation or wide dissemination of the intraday indicative value (or similar value) or the value of the underlying index or instrument and the listing market halts trading in the product, the Exchange, upon notification by the listing market of such halt due to such temporary interruption, also shall immediately halt trading in that product on the Exchange. The Shares will be traded following a trading halt in accordance with Interpretations and Policy .03 of NSX Rule 11.20.

In addition, for a UTP Derivative Securities product where a net asset value is disseminated, if the primary listing exchange notifies the Exchange that the net asset value is not being disseminated to all market participants at the same time, the Exchange will immediately halt trading in such security. The Exchange may resume trading in the UTP Derivative Security only when the net asset value is disseminated to all market participants at the same time or trading in the UTP Derivative Security resumes on the listing market.

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**THIS INFORMATION CIRCULAR IS NOT A STATUTORY PROSPECTUS. ETP HOLDERS SHOULD CONSULT THE ISSUER DISCLOSURE MATERIALS (AS DEFINED ABOVE) FOR ALL RELEVANT INFORMATION RESPECTING THE SHARES.**

Inquiries regarding this Information Circular should be directed to James C. Yong, Chief Regulatory Officer, at (312) 786-8893.