

Investors Exchange Product Information Circular 2022 - 0181

Date: May 17, 2022

Re: Acruence Active Hedge U.S. Equity ETF

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

Acruence Active Hedge U.S. Equity ETF

XVOL

Issuer/Trust: Tidal ETF Trust

Issuer/Trust Website: <http://www.acruenceetfs.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

Tidal 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”.

The Acruence Active Hedge U.S. Equity ETF (the “Fund”) seeks capital appreciation with reduced volatility as compared to the S&P 500 Index (the “S&P 500”).

The Fund is an actively-managed exchange-traded fund (“ETF”) that seeks to achieve its objective by investing nearly all of the Fund’s assets in a portfolio replicating the constituents and weights of the S&P 500, while seeking to reduce volatility by purchasing options contracts on the CBOE Volatility Index (the “VIX Index”). The VIX Index is a calculation designed to produce a measure of constant, 30-day expected volatility of the U.S. stock market, derived from real-time, mid-quote prices of call and put options on the S&P 500. The Fund may allocate up to 20% of its total assets in its wholly-owned subsidiary (the “Subsidiary”), which is organized under the laws of the Cayman Islands, is advised by the Adviser (as defined herein), and will comply with the Fund’s investment objective and investment policies.

The equity component of the Fund's portfolio is invested in securities comprising the S&P 500, which is a market-capitalization-weighted index of the 500 largest U.S. publicly-traded companies, representing approximately 80% of the U.S. equity market capitalization. Acrucence Capital, LLC, the Fund's investment sub-adviser ("Acrucence" or the "Sub-Adviser"), will generally use a "replication" strategy, meaning the portion of the Fund invested in the S&P 500 will generally reflect all of the component securities of the S&P 500 in approximately the same weights as in the S&P 500. However, the Fund may use a "representative sampling" strategy, meaning the Fund may invest in a sample of the securities in the S&P 500 whose return the Sub-Adviser expects to approximate that of the S&P 500 as a whole. Under normal circumstances, the Fund will invest at least 80% its net assets (plus any borrowing made for investment purposes) in U.S. equity securities comprising the S&P 500.

The Sub-Adviser seeks to reduce the Fund's volatility primarily by purchasing option contracts on the VIX Index ("VIX Options"). The Sub-Adviser uses its algorithmic model as a metric, and purchases options when either the time premium has been reduced because it is close to expiration or volatility has subsided, making current and forward months inexpensive relative to historic metrics. Should volatility return and equity prices decline, the premium associated with the options will rise, offsetting declines in equity pricing. The Sub-Adviser will utilize a proprietary, volatility-based algorithm to determine the number of VIX Options contracts to purchase, as well as the strike price and expiration date (each described below) of the options. The VIX Options purchased by the Fund are generally expected to have a time to maturity of less than six months and duration on a monthly basis in which multiple months forward can be held at any single point in time. However, if conditions warrant, the VIX Options purchased by the Fund may have a weekly duration. The amount of the Fund's investment in and exposure to such VIX options is reevaluated each month based on the level of forward expected volatility in the S&P 500, taking into consideration the level of the VIX Index and the price of VIX Options. The "level of forward expected volatility" is the current price level of the VIX Index and the premium associated with purchasing options contracts for the upcoming month and further out. Depending upon this forward expected volatility, the Sub-Adviser will determine the target percentage for the Fund to invest that month in VIX Options. Such amount is generally expected to be roughly 1/12 of an annual allocation of 2% to 5% of the Fund's assets purchased, although the actual amount may be higher or lower than such range from time to time. The Fund's options will primarily consist of call options (described below) on the VIX Index, although the Fund may also purchase put options on the VIX Index. The Sub-Adviser expects the Fund to hold all VIX Options to maturity.

The VIX Index estimates the expected level of volatility in the U.S. stock market, as reflected by the S&P 500, forward-looking over 30 days. The Chicago Board Options Exchange (the "CBOE") calculates the VIX Index using a formula that averages the prices of designated options on the S&P 500. These prices have tended to increase during periods of heightened U.S. stock market uncertainty and decrease during periods of greater market stability, which, in turn, have resulted in increases or decreases, respectively, in the level of the VIX Index. Historically, the VIX Index has had a negative correlation with the S&P 500 (i.e., the level of the VIX Index rises as the level of the S&P 500 falls). VIX Options are exchange-traded derivative contracts based upon the expected value of the VIX Index at the expiration of the contract, rather than the current, or "spot" value of that index.

An option gives the purchaser of the option, in exchange for the premium paid, the right to purchase (for a call option) or sell (for a put option) the underlying index at a specified price (“strike price”) on a specified date (“expiration date”). In the event the underlying index declines in value, the value of a put option will generally increase and the value of a call option will generally decrease and may end up worthless. In the event the underlying index appreciates in value, the value of a put option will generally decrease and may end up worthless and the value of a call option will generally increase.

The Fund intends to gain exposure to VIX Options through its investments in the Subsidiary and may invest up to 20% of its total assets in the Subsidiary. The Subsidiary will only invest in VIX Options which do not generate good income under the source of income test required to qualify as a regulated investment company (“RIC”) under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”). Unlike the Fund, the Subsidiary may invest without limitation in VIX Options; however, the Subsidiary will comply with the same 1940 Act asset coverage requirements that are applicable to the Fund’s transactions in derivatives. In addition, the Subsidiary will be subject to the same fundamental investment restrictions and will follow the same compliance policies and procedures as the Fund. Unlike the Fund, the Subsidiary will not seek to qualify as a RIC under the Code. The Fund is the sole investor in the Subsidiary and does not expect shares of the Subsidiary to be offered or sold to other investors.

The Fund is deemed to be non-diversified under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “1940 Act”), which means that it may invest a greater percentage of its assets in the securities of a single issuer or a smaller number of issuers than if it was a diversified fund.

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

As described more fully in the 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 50,000 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.

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 Fund describes the various fees and expenses for the Fund’s Shares.

For a more complete description of the Fund 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 associated risks of VIX Options, Cayman subsidiary risk, equity market risk, ETF risk, general market risk, high portfolio turnover risk, management risk, market capitalization risk, models and data risk, new fund risk, non-diversification risk, options risk, recent market events risk and tax 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.