

VanEck Vectors ETF Trust  
Form 497  
March 10, 2017

PROSPECTUS  
FEBRUARY 1, 2017  
(as amended and restated on March 10, 2017)

VANECK VECTORS™  
Global Spin-Off ETF                      SPUN®  
Morningstar International Moat ETF    MOTI®  
Morningstar Wide Moat ETF            MOAT®

Principal U.S. Listing Exchange for each Fund: NYSE Arca, Inc.

The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission has not approved or disapproved these securities or passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this Prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

800.826.2333 [vaneck.com](http://vaneck.com)

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**VANECK VECTORS™ GLOBAL SPIN-OFF ETF\*****SUMMARY INFORMATION****INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE**

VanEck Vectors™ Global Spin-Off ETF (the Fund) seeks to replicate as closely as possible, before fees and expenses, the price and yield performance of the Horizon Kinetics Global Spin-Off Index (the Spin-Off Index).

**FUND FEES AND EXPENSES**

The following tables describe the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy and hold shares of the Fund (Shares).

**Shareholder Fees** (*fees paid directly from your investment*) None  
**Annual Fund Operating Expenses**  
*(expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)*

|                |       |
|----------------|-------|
| Management Fee | 0.50% |
| Other Expenses | 4.57% |

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses <sup>(a)</sup>  | 5.07%  |
| Fee Waivers and Expense Reimbursement <sup>(a)</sup> | -4.52% |

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waiver and Expense Reimbursement <sup>(a)</sup> | 0.55% |
|--|-------|

<sup>(a)</sup> Van Eck Associates Corporation (the Adviser) has agreed to waive fees and/or pay Fund expenses to the extent necessary to prevent the operating expenses of the Fund (excluding acquired fund fees and expenses, interest expense, trading expenses, taxes and extraordinary expenses) from exceeding 0.55% of the Fund's average daily net assets per year until at least February 1, 2018. During such time, the expense limitation is expected to continue until the Fund's Board of Trustees acts to discontinue all or a portion of such expense limitation.

**EXPENSE EXAMPLE**

This example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other funds. This example does not take into account brokerage commissions that you pay when purchasing or selling Shares of the Fund.

The example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your Shares at the end of those periods. The example also assumes that your investment has a 5% annual return and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same (except that the example incorporates the fee waiver and/or expense reimbursement arrangement for only the first year). Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions, your costs would be:

**YEAR EXPENSES**

|    |    |       |
|----|----|-------|
| 1  | \$ | 56    |
| 3  | \$ | 1,115 |
| 5  | \$ | 2,172 |
| 10 | \$ | 4,807 |

**PORTFOLIO TURNOVER**

The Fund will pay transaction costs, such as commissions, when it purchases and sells securities (or turns over its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover will cause the Fund to incur additional transaction costs and may result in higher taxes when Fund Shares are held in a taxable account. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the example, may affect the Fund's performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Fund's portfolio turnover rate was 58% of the average value of its portfolio.

**PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES**

The Fund normally invests at least 80% of its total assets in securities that comprise the Fund's benchmark index. The Spin-Off Index is comprised of securities of companies that have been spun-off from a parent company and are domiciled and listed in the U.S. or developed markets of Western Europe and Asia. To be considered a spin-off company, the initial distribution of a component security must have been distributed to shareholders of the distributing company (the

\* Prior to  
May 1,  
2016, the  
Fund's  
name  
was  
Market  
Vectors  
Global  
Spin-Off  
ETF.

## VANECK VECTORS™ GLOBAL SPIN-OFF ETF (continued)

parent company ) without any action having to be taken by the parent company shareholders. Additionally, the parent company must have distributed at least 80% of the component security to shareholders of the parent company, and shares of the component security must not have been publicly traded prior to the distribution. Such companies may include small- and medium-capitalization companies, foreign issuers and real estate investment trusts ( REITs ). As of December 31, 2016, the Spin-Off Index included 95 securities of companies with a market capitalization range of approximately \$485 million to \$102 billion and a weighted average market capitalization of \$5.3 billion. These amounts are subject to change. The Fund's 80% investment policy is non-fundamental and may be changed without shareholder approval upon 60 days' prior written notice to shareholders.

The Fund, using a passive or indexing investment approach, attempts to approximate the investment performance of the Index by investing in a portfolio of securities that generally replicates the Spin-Off Index. Unlike many investment companies that try to beat the performance of a benchmark index, the Fund does not try to beat the Spin-Off Index and does not seek temporary defensive positions when markets decline or appear overvalued. Indexing may eliminate the chance that the Fund will substantially outperform the Spin-Off Index but also may reduce some of the risks of active management, such as poor security selection. Indexing seeks to achieve lower costs and better after-tax performance by keeping portfolio turnover low in comparison to actively managed investment companies.

The Fund is classified as a non-diversified fund and, therefore, may invest a greater percentage of its assets in a particular issuer. The Fund may concentrate its investments in a particular industry or group of industries to the extent that the Spin-Off Index concentrates in an industry or group of industries. As of September 30, 2016, each of the consumer discretionary, real estate, information technology and industrials sectors represented a significant portion of the Spin-Off Index.

### PRINCIPAL RISKS OF INVESTING IN THE FUND

**Investors in the Fund should be willing to accept a high degree of volatility in the price of the Fund's Shares and the possibility of significant losses. An investment in the Fund involves a substantial degree of risk. An investment in the Fund is not a deposit with a bank and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency. Therefore, you should consider carefully the following risks before investing in the Fund, each of which could significantly and adversely affect the value of an investment in the Fund.**

**Risk of Investing in Spun-Off Companies.** Companies may be spun-off from a parent company for any number of reasons, including that they possess one or several unattractive characteristics in the view of the parent company, such as low growth prospects, high capital requirements or an unfavorable capitalization structure. Investments in spun-off companies are subject to the risk that any of these characteristics will adversely affect the value of investments in the spun-off companies. There can be no assurance that a spun-off company will be financially independent or profitable, especially where the company represented a non-core or non-competitive business line of the parent company at the time of the spin-off. The Fund may invest in spun-off companies that have operated for less than three years ( unseasoned companies ). Investments in unseasoned companies are more speculative and entail greater risk than investments in companies with a more established operating record because, among other things, unseasoned companies tend to have a greater degree of change in earnings and business prospects, high levels of debt and limited product lines, markets and financial or managerial resources. The securities of unseasoned companies may have limited liquidity, which can result in their being priced higher or lower than might otherwise be the case. Certain spun-off companies with significant operating history may nonetheless share some of the characteristics of

unseasoned companies.

**Equity Securities Risk.** The value of the equity securities held by the Fund may fall due to general market and economic conditions, perceptions regarding the markets in which the issuers of securities held by the Fund participate, or factors relating to specific issuers in which the Fund invests. Equity securities are subordinated to preferred securities and debt in a company's capital structure with respect to priority in right to a share of corporate income, and therefore will be subject to greater dividend risk than preferred securities or debt instruments. In addition, while broad market measures of equity securities have historically generated higher average returns than fixed income securities, equity securities have generally also experienced significantly more volatility in those returns, although under certain market conditions fixed income securities may have comparable or greater price volatility.

**Risk of Investing in Foreign Securities.** The Fund invests in securities of issuers located in countries whose economies are heavily dependent upon trading with key partners. Any reduction in this trading may have an adverse impact on the Fund's investments. Investments in the securities of foreign issuers involve risks beyond those associated with investments in U.S. securities. These additional risks include greater market volatility, the availability of less reliable financial information, higher transactional and custody costs, taxation by foreign governments, decreased market liquidity and political instability. Because certain foreign securities markets may be limited in size, the activity of large traders may have an undue influence on the prices of securities that trade in such markets. Because the Fund may invest in securities denominated in foreign currencies

and some of the income received by the Fund may be in foreign currencies, changes in currency exchange rates may negatively impact the Fund's return. The risks of investing in emerging market countries are greater than risks associated with investments in foreign developed countries.

**Foreign Currency Risk.** Because the Fund's assets may be invested in securities denominated in foreign currencies, the income received by the Fund from these investments will generally be in foreign currencies. The Fund's exposure to foreign currencies and changes in the value of foreign currencies versus the U.S. dollar may result in reduced returns for the Fund. Moreover, the Fund may incur costs in connection with conversions between U.S. dollars and foreign currencies. The value of certain foreign countries' currencies may be subject to a high degree of fluctuation. This fluctuation may be due to changes in interest rates, investors' expectations concerning inflation and interest rates, the country's debt levels and trade deficit, the effects of monetary policies issued by the United States, foreign governments, central banks or supranational entities, the imposition of currency controls or other national or global political or economic developments. The economies of certain emerging market countries can be significantly affected by currency devaluations. Certain emerging market countries may also have managed currencies which are maintained at artificial levels relative to the U.S. dollar rather than at levels determined by the market. This type of system could lead to sudden and large adjustments in the currency, which in turn, can have a negative effect on the Fund and its investments.

**Special Risk Considerations of Investing in European Issuers.** The Fund may invest in securities issued by European issuers and, accordingly, may be subject to the risk of investing in such issuers. Investment in securities of issuers in Europe involves risks and special considerations not typically associated with investment in the U.S. securities markets. The Economic and Monetary Union of the European Union (EU) requires member countries to comply with restrictions on inflation rates, deficits, interest rates, debt levels and fiscal and monetary controls, each of which may significantly affect every country in Europe. Decreasing imports or exports, changes in governmental or EU regulations on trade, changes in the exchange rate of the euro, the default or threat of default by an EU member country on its sovereign debt, and/or an economic recession in an EU member country may have a significant adverse effect on the economies of EU member countries and on major trading partners outside Europe. The European financial markets have recently experienced volatility and have been adversely affected by concerns about economic downturns, credit rating downgrades, rising government debt levels and possible default on or restructuring of government debt in several European countries, including Greece, Ireland, Italy, Portugal and Spain. These events have adversely affected the value and exchange rate of the euro and may continue to significantly affect the economies of every country in Europe, including EU member countries that do not use the euro and non-EU member countries. In addition, in a referendum held on June 23, 2016, voters in the United Kingdom voted to leave the EU, creating economic and political uncertainty in its wake. Significant uncertainty exists regarding the timing of the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the EU and the effects such withdrawal will have on the euro, European economies and global markets.

**Special Risk Considerations of Investing in Asian Issuers.** The Fund may invest in securities issued by Asian issuers and, accordingly, may be subject to the risk of investing in such issuers. Investment in securities of issuers in Asia involves risks and special considerations not typically associated with investment in the U.S. securities markets. Certain Asian economies have experienced over-extension of credit, currency devaluations and restrictions, high unemployment, high inflation, decreased exports and economic recessions. Economic events in any one Asian country can have a significant effect on the entire Asian region as well as on major trading partners outside Asia, and any adverse effect on some or all of the Asian countries and regions in which the Fund invests. The securities markets in some Asian economies are relatively underdeveloped and may subject the Fund to higher action costs or greater uncertainty than investments in more developed securities markets. Such risks may adversely affect the value of the Fund's investments.

**Risk of Investing in Depositary Receipts.** The Fund may invest in depositary receipts which involve similar risks to those associated with investments in foreign securities. Depositary receipts are receipts listed on U.S. or foreign exchanges issued by banks or trust companies that entitle the holder to all dividends and capital gains that are paid out on the underlying foreign shares. Investments in depositary receipts may be less liquid than the underlying shares in their primary trading market and, if not included in the Spin-Off Index, may negatively affect the Fund's ability to replicate the performance of the Spin-Off Index.

**Risk of Investing in the Information Technology Sector.** To the extent that the information technology sector continues to represent a significant portion of the Fund, the Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance may depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the information technology sector. Information technology companies face intense competition, both domestically and internationally, which may have an adverse effect on profit margins. Information technology companies may have limited product lines, markets, financial resources or personnel. The products of information technology companies may face product obsolescence due to rapid technological developments and frequent new product introduction, unpredictable changes in growth rates and competition for the services of qualified personnel. Companies in the information



**VANECK VECTORS™ GLOBAL SPIN-OFF ETF (continued)**

technology sector are heavily dependent on patent protection and the expiration of patents may adversely affect the profitability of these companies.

**Risk of Investing in the Real Estate Industry.** To the extent that the real estate industry continues to represent a significant portion of the Fund, the Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance may depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the real estate industry. Real estate is highly sensitive to general and local economic conditions and developments, and characterized by intense competition and periodic overbuilding. Adverse economic, business or political developments affecting real estate could have a major effect on the value of the Fund's investments.

**Risk of Investing in REITs.** Investing in REITs exposes investors to the risks of owning real estate directly, as well as to risks that relate specifically to the way in which REITs are organized and operated. Operating REITs requires specialized management skills and the Fund indirectly bears management expenses along with the direct expenses of the Fund. REITs are also subject to certain provisions under federal tax law and the failure of a company to qualify as a REIT could have adverse consequences for the Fund.

**Risk of Investing in the Consumer Discretionary Sector.** To the extent that the consumer discretionary sector continues to represent a significant portion of the Fund, the Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance may depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the consumer discretionary sector. Companies engaged in the consumer discretionary sector are subject to fluctuations in supply and demand. These companies may also be adversely affected by changes in consumer spending as a result of world events, political and economic conditions, commodity price volatility, changes in exchange rates, imposition of import controls, increased competition, depletion of resources and labor relations.

**Risk of Investing in the Industrials Sector.** To the extent that the industrials sector continues to represent a significant portion of the Fund, the Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance may depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the industrials sector. Companies in the industrials sector may be adversely affected by changes in government regulation, world events and economic conditions. In addition, companies in the industrials sector may be adversely affected by environmental damages, product liability claims and exchange rates.

**Risk of Investing in Small- and Medium-Capitalization Companies.** Small- and medium-capitalization companies may be more volatile and more likely than large-capitalization companies to have narrower product lines, fewer financial resources, less management depth and experience and less competitive strength. In addition, these companies often have greater price volatility, lower trading volume and less liquidity than larger, more established companies. Returns on investments in securities of small-capitalization and medium-capitalization companies could trail the returns on investments in securities of large-capitalization companies.

**Market Risk.** The prices of the securities in the Fund are subject to the risks associated with investing in the securities market, including general economic conditions and sudden and unpredictable drops in value. An investment in the Fund may lose money.

**Operational Risk.** The Fund is exposed to operational risk arising from a number of factors, including, but not limited to, human error, processing and communication errors, errors of the Fund's service providers, counterparties or other third-parties, failed or inadequate processes and technology or system failures. The Fund seeks to reduce these operational risks through controls and procedures. However, these measures do not address every possible risk and

may be inadequate for those risks that they are intended to address.

**Index Tracking Risk.** The Fund's return may not match the return of the Spin-Off Index for a number of reasons. For example, the Fund incurs a number of operating expenses not applicable to the Spin-Off Index and incurs costs associated with buying and selling securities, especially when rebalancing the Fund's securities holdings to reflect changes in the composition of the Spin-Off Index, which are not factored into the return of the Spin-Off Index. Transaction costs, including brokerage costs, will decrease the Fund's net asset value ( NAV ) to the extent not offset by the transaction fee payable by an Authorized Participant ( AP ). Market disruptions and regulatory restrictions could have an adverse effect on the Fund's ability to adjust its exposure to the required levels in order to track the Spin-Off Index. Errors in the Spin-Off Index data, the Spin-Off Index computations and/or the construction of the Spin-Off Index in accordance with its methodology may occur from time to time and may not be identified and corrected by the Spin-Off Index provider for a period of time or at all, which may have an adverse impact on the Fund and its shareholders. In addition, the Fund may not be able to invest in certain securities included in the Spin-Off Index, or invest in them in the exact proportions in which they are represented in the Spin-Off Index, due to legal restrictions or limitations imposed by the governments of certain countries, a lack of liquidity on stock exchanges in which such securities trade, potential adverse tax consequences or other regulatory reasons. The Fund is expected to value certain of its investments based on fair value prices. To the extent the Fund calculates its NAV based on fair value prices and the value of the Spin-Off Index is based on securities' closing prices on local foreign markets (*i.e.*, the value of the Spin-Off Index is not based on fair value prices), the Fund's ability to track the Spin-Off Index may be adversely

affected. In addition, any issues the Fund encounters with regard to currency convertibility (including the cost of borrowing funds, if any) and repatriation may also increase Spin-Off Index tracking risk. For tax efficiency purposes, the Fund may sell certain securities to realize losses causing it to deviate from the performance of the Spin-Off Index. In light of the factors discussed above, the Fund's return may deviate significantly from the return of the Spin-Off Index.

**Authorized Participant Concentration Risk.** The Fund may have a limited number of financial institutions that act as APs, none of which are obligated to engage in creation or redemption transactions. To the extent that those APs exit the business, or are unable to or choose not to process creation and/or redemption orders, and no other AP is able to step forward to create and redeem, there may be a significantly diminished trading market for Shares or Shares may trade like closed-end funds at a discount (or premium) to NAV and possibly face trading halts and/or de-listing. The AP concentration risk may be heightened in scenarios where APs have limited or diminished access to the capital required to post collateral.

**No Guarantee of Active Trading Market.** While Shares are listed on NYSE Arca, Inc. ( NYSE Arca ), there can be no assurance that an active trading market for the Shares will be maintained. Further, secondary markets may be subject to irregular trading activity, wide bid/ask spreads and extended trade settlement periods in times of market stress because market makers and APs may step away from making a market in the Shares and in executing creation and redemption orders, which could cause a material deviation in the Fund's market price from its NAV.

**Trading Issues.** Trading in Shares on NYSE Arca may be halted due to market conditions or for reasons that, in the view of NYSE Arca, make trading in Shares inadvisable. In addition, trading in Shares on NYSE Arca is subject to trading halts caused by extraordinary market volatility pursuant to NYSE Arca's circuit breaker rules. There can be no assurance that the requirements of NYSE Arca necessary to maintain the listing of the Fund will continue to be met or will remain unchanged.

**Replication Management Risk.** An investment in the Fund involves risks similar to those of investing in any fund of equity securities traded on an exchange, such as market fluctuations caused by such factors as economic and political developments, changes in interest rates and perceived trends in security prices. However, because the Fund is not actively managed, unless a specific security is removed from the Spin-Off Index, the Fund generally would not sell a security because the security's issuer was in financial trouble. Therefore, the Fund's performance could be lower than funds that may actively shift their portfolio assets to take advantage of market opportunities or to lessen the impact of a market decline or a decline in the value of one or more issuers.

**Fund Shares Trading, Premium/Discount Risk and Liquidity of Fund Shares.** The market prices of the Shares may fluctuate in response to the Fund's NAV, the intraday value of the Fund's holdings and supply and demand for Shares. The Adviser cannot predict whether Shares will trade above, below, or at their most recent NAV. Disruptions to creations and redemptions, the existence of market volatility or potential lack of an active trading market for Shares (including through a trading halt), as well as other factors, may result in Shares trading at a significant premium or discount to NAV or to the intraday value of the Fund's holdings. If a shareholder purchases Shares at a time when the market price is at a premium to the NAV or sells Shares at a time when the market price is at a discount to the NAV, the shareholder may sustain losses. The securities held by the Fund may be traded in markets that close at a different time than NYSE Arca. Liquidity in those securities may be reduced after the applicable closing times. Accordingly, during the time when NYSE Arca is open but after the applicable market closing, fixing or settlement times, bid-ask spreads on NYSE Arca and the resulting premium or discount to the Shares' NAV may widen. Additionally, in stressed market conditions, the market for the Fund's Shares may become less liquid in response to deteriorating liquidity in the markets for the Fund's underlying portfolio holdings.

**Non-Diversified Risk.** The Fund is classified as a non-diversified fund under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the 1940 Act ). Therefore, the Fund may invest a relatively high percentage of its assets in a smaller number of issuers or may invest a larger proportion of its assets in obligations of a single issuer. As a result, the gains and losses on a single investment may have a greater impact on the Fund's NAV and may make the Fund more volatile than more diversified funds.

**Concentration Risk.** The Fund's assets may be concentrated in a particular sector or sectors or industry or group of industries to the extent the Spin-Off Index concentrates in a particular sector or sectors or industry or group of industries. To the extent that the Fund is concentrated in a particular sector or sectors or industry or group of industries, the Fund will be subject to the risk that economic, political or other conditions that have a negative effect on that sector or sectors or industry or group of industries will negatively impact the Fund to a greater extent than if the Fund's assets were invested in a wider variety of sectors or industries.

## PERFORMANCE

The bar chart that follows shows how the Fund performed for the calendar year shown. The table below the bar chart shows the Fund's average annual returns (before and after taxes). The bar chart and table provide an indication of the risks of investing in the Fund by showing the Fund's performance and by showing how the Fund's average annual returns for the one

**VANECK VECTORS™ GLOBAL SPIN-OFF ETF (continued)**

year and since inception periods compared with the Fund's benchmark index and a broad measure of market performance. All returns assume reinvestment of dividends and distributions. The Fund's past performance (before and after taxes) is not necessarily indicative of how the Fund will perform in the future. Updated performance information is available online at [www.vaneck.com](http://www.vaneck.com).

**Annual Total Returns (%) Calendar Year**

**Best Quarter:** 11.71% 3Q 16

**Worst Quarter:** 2.59% 1Q 16

**Average Annual Total Returns for the Periods Ended December 31, 2016**

The after-tax returns presented in the table below are calculated using the highest historical individual federal marginal income tax rates and do not reflect the impact of state and local taxes. Your actual after-tax returns will depend on your specific tax situation and may differ from those shown below. After-tax returns are not relevant to investors who hold Shares of the Fund through tax-deferred arrangements, such as 401(k) plans or individual retirement accounts.

|  | <b>Past One<br/>Year</b> | <b>Since<br/>Inception<br/>(6/9/2015)</b> |
|--|--------------------------|---|
| VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF (return before taxes)   | 22.98%                   | 5.48%                                     |
| VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF (return after taxes on distributions)                         | 22.18%                   | 4.93%                                     |
| VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF (return after taxes on distributions and sale of Fund Shares) | 13.01%                   | 3.97%                                     |
| Horizon Kinetics Global Spin-Off Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)       | 23.55%                   | 6.05%                                     |
| S&P 500® Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)                               | 11.96%                   | 7.12%                                     |

**PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT**

**Investment Adviser.** Van Eck Associates Corporation.

**Portfolio Managers.** The following individuals are primarily and jointly responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio:

| <b>Name</b>           | <b>Title with Adviser</b> | <b>Date Began Managing<br/>the Fund</b> |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Hao-Hung (Peter) Liao | Portfolio Manager         | June 2015                               |
| George Chao           | Portfolio Manager         | June 2015                               |

**PURCHASE AND SALE OF FUND SHARES**

For important information about the purchase and sale of Fund Shares, tax information and payments to broker-dealers and other financial intermediaries, please turn to Summary Information About Purchases and Sales of Fund Shares, Taxes and Payments to Broker-Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries on page 20 of this Prospectus.

**VANECK VECTORS™ MORNINGSTAR INTERNATIONAL MOAT ETF\*****SUMMARY INFORMATION****INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE**

VanEck Vectors™ Morningstar International Moat ETF (the Fund) seeks to replicate as closely as possible, before fees and expenses, the price and yield performance of the Morningstar® Global ex-US Moat Focus Index<sup>SM</sup> (the ex-US Moat Focus Index).

**FUND FEES AND EXPENSES**

The following tables describe the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy and hold shares of the Fund (Shares).

**Shareholder Fees** (*fees paid directly from your investment*) None

**Annual Fund Operating Expenses**

(*expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment*)

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| Management Fee                                       | 0.50%  |
| Other Expenses                                       | 1.12%  |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses <sup>(a)</sup>  | 1.62%  |
| Fee Waivers and Expense Reimbursement <sup>(a)</sup> | -1.06% |

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waiver and Expense Reimbursement <sup>(a)</sup> | 0.56% |
|--|-------|

<sup>(a)</sup> Van Eck Associates Corporation (the Adviser) has agreed to waive fees and/or pay Fund expenses to the extent necessary to prevent the operating expenses of the Fund (excluding acquired fund fees and expenses, interest expense, trading expenses, taxes and extraordinary expenses) from exceeding 0.56% of the Fund's average daily net assets per year until at least February 1, 2018. During such time, the expense limitation is expected to continue until the Fund's Board of Trustees acts to discontinue all or a portion of such expense limitation.

**EXPENSE EXAMPLE**

This example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other funds. This example does not take into account brokerage commissions that you pay when purchasing or selling Shares of the Fund.

The example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your Shares at the end of those periods. The example also assumes that your investment has a 5% annual return and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same (except that the example incorporates the fee waiver and/or expense reimbursement arrangement for only the first year). Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these

assumptions, your costs would be:

**YEAR EXPENSES**

|    |    |       |
|----|----|-------|
| 1  | \$ | 57    |
| 3  | \$ | 407   |
| 5  | \$ | 781   |
| 10 | \$ | 1,832 |

**PORTFOLIO TURNOVER**

The Fund will pay transaction costs, such as commissions, when it purchases and sells securities (or turns over its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover will cause the Fund to incur additional transaction costs and may result in higher taxes when Fund Shares are held in a taxable account. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the example, may affect the Fund's performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Fund's portfolio turnover rate was 168% of the average value of its portfolio.

**PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES**

The Fund normally invests at least 80% of its total assets in securities that comprise the Fund's benchmark index. The ex-US Moat Focus Index is comprised of securities issued by companies that Morningstar, Inc. ( Morningstar ) determines have sustainable competitive advantages based on a proprietary methodology that considers quantitative and qualitative factors

\* Prior to  
 May 1, 2016,  
 the Fund's  
 name was  
 Market  
 Vectors  
 Morningstar  
 International  
 Moat ETF.



## VANECK VECTORS<sup>TM</sup> MORNINGSTAR INTERNATIONAL MOAT ETF (continued)

( wide and narrow moat companies ). Wide moat companies are those that Morningstar believes will maintain its competitive advantage(s) for at least 20 years. Narrow moat companies are those that Morningstar believes will maintain its competitive advantage(s) for at least 10 years. Wide and narrow moat companies are selected from the universe of companies represented in the Morningstar<sup>®</sup> Global Markets ex-US Index<sup>SM</sup> (the Parent Index ), a broad market index representing 97% of developed ex-US and emerging markets market capitalization. The ex-US Moat Focus Index targets a select group of equity securities of wide and narrow moat companies, which are those companies that, according to Morningstar's equity research team, are attractively priced as of each ex-US Moat Focus Index review. Morningstar utilizes a momentum screen, in which momentum represents a security's 12-month price change. A momentum signal is used to exclude 20% of the wide and narrow moat stocks in the Parent Index with the worst 12-month momentum based on a 12-month price change of each stock. Out of the companies in the Parent Index that Morningstar determines are wide or narrow moat companies and display 12-month momentum in the top 80%, Morningstar selects companies to be included in the ex-US Moat Focus Index as determined by the ratio of the issuer's common stock price to Morningstar's estimate of fair value. Morningstar's fair value estimates are calculated using standardized, proprietary valuation models. Wide and narrow moat companies may include medium-capitalization companies. The Fund's 80% investment policy is non-fundamental and may be changed without shareholder approval upon 60 days' prior written notice to shareholders.

As of December 31, 2016, the ex-US Moat Focus Index included 79 securities of companies with a market capitalization range of between approximately \$1.28 billion and \$231.87 billion and a weighted average market capitalization of \$29.38 billion. These amounts are subject to change.

The Fund, using a passive or indexing investment approach, attempts to approximate the investment performance of the ex-US Moat Focus Index by investing in a portfolio of securities that generally replicates the ex-US Moat Focus Index. Unlike many investment companies that try to beat the performance of a benchmark index, the Fund does not try to beat the ex-US Moat Focus Index and does not seek temporary defensive positions when markets decline or appear overvalued. Indexing may eliminate the chance that the Fund will substantially outperform the ex-US Moat Focus Index but also may reduce some of the risks of active management, such as poor security selection. Indexing seeks to achieve lower costs and better after-tax performance by keeping portfolio turnover low in comparison to actively managed investment companies.

The Fund is classified as a non-diversified fund and, therefore, may invest a greater percentage of its assets in a particular issuer. The Fund may concentrate its investments in a particular industry or group of industries to the extent that the ex-US Moat Focus Index concentrates in an industry or group of industries. As of September 30, 2016, the ex-US Moat Focus Index was concentrated in the financial services sector, and the consumer discretionary sector represented a significant portion of the ex-US Moat Focus Index.

### PRINCIPAL RISKS OF INVESTING IN THE FUND

**Investors in the Fund should be willing to accept a high degree of volatility in the price of the Fund's Shares and the possibility of significant losses. An investment in the Fund involves a substantial degree of risk. An investment in the Fund is not a deposit with a bank and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency. Therefore, you should consider carefully the following risks before investing in the Fund, each of which could significantly and adversely affect the value of an investment in the Fund.**

**Equity Securities Risk.** The value of the equity securities held by the Fund may fall due to general market and economic conditions, perceptions regarding the markets in which the issuers of securities held by the Fund participate, or factors relating to specific issuers in which the Fund invests. Equity securities are subordinated to preferred securities and debt in a company's capital structure with respect to priority in right to a share of corporate income, and therefore will be subject to greater dividend risk than preferred securities or debt instruments. In addition, while broad market measures of equity securities have historically generated higher average returns than fixed income securities, equity securities have generally also experienced significantly more volatility in those returns, although under certain market conditions fixed income securities may have comparable or greater price volatility. Morningstar may be incorrect in its assessment of the competitive advantages of the companies selected for inclusion in the ex-US Moat Focus Index, and the securities issued by such companies may underperform Morningstar's expectations and have an adverse effect on the Fund's overall performance. There can also be no assurance that wide or narrow moat companies will have sustainable competitive advantages for any period of time. Competitive advantages for wide and narrow moat companies may erode in a relatively short period of time due to, among other reasons, changes in laws and regulations, intellectual property rights, economic and political conditions and technological developments.

**Risk of Investing in the Financial Services Sector.** To the extent that the Fund continues to be concentrated in the financial services sector, the Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance will depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the financial services sector. Companies in the financial services sector may be subject to extensive government

regulation that affects the scope of their activities, the prices they can charge and the amount of capital they must maintain. The profitability of companies in the financial services sector may be adversely affected by increases in interest rates, by loan losses, which usually increase in economic downturns, and by credit rating downgrades. In addition, the financial services sector is undergoing numerous changes, including continuing consolidations, development of new products and structures and changes to its regulatory framework. Furthermore, some companies in the financial services sector perceived as benefitting from government intervention in the past may be subject to future government-imposed restrictions on their businesses or face increased government involvement in their operations. Increased government involvement in the financial services sector, including measures such as taking ownership positions in financial institutions, could result in a dilution of the Fund's investments in financial institutions. Recent developments in the credit markets may cause companies operating in the financial services sector to incur large losses, experience declines in the value of their assets and even cease operations.

**Risk of Investing in the Consumer Discretionary Sector.** To the extent that the consumer discretionary sector continues to represent a significant portion of the Fund, the Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance may depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the consumer discretionary sector. Companies engaged in the consumer discretionary sector are subject to fluctuations in supply and demand. These companies may also be adversely affected by changes in consumer spending as a result of world events, political and economic conditions, commodity price volatility, changes in exchange rates, imposition of import controls, increased competition, depletion of resources and labor relations.

**Risk of Investing in Medium-Capitalization Companies.** Medium-capitalization companies may be more volatile and more likely than large-capitalization companies to have narrower product lines, fewer financial resources, less management depth and experience and less competitive strength. In addition, these companies often have greater price volatility, lower trading volume and less liquidity than larger, more established companies. Returns on investments in securities of medium-capitalization companies could trail the returns on investments in securities of large-capitalization companies.

**Risk of Investing in Foreign Securities.** The Fund invests in securities of issuers located in countries whose economies are heavily dependent upon trading with key partners. Any reduction in this trading may have an adverse impact on the Fund's investments. Investments in the securities of foreign issuers involve risks beyond those associated with investments in U.S. securities. These additional risks include greater market volatility, the availability of less reliable financial information, higher transactional and custody costs, taxation by foreign governments, decreased market liquidity and political instability. Because certain foreign securities markets may be limited in size, the activity of large traders may have an undue influence on the prices of securities that trade in such markets. Because the Fund may invest in securities denominated in foreign currencies and some of the income received by the Fund may be in foreign currencies, changes in currency exchange rates may negatively impact the Fund's return. The risks of investing in emerging market countries are greater than risks associated with investments in foreign developed countries.

**Foreign Currency Risk.** Because the Fund's assets may be invested in securities denominated in foreign currencies, the income received by the Fund from these investments will generally be in foreign currencies. The Fund's exposure to foreign currencies and changes in the value of foreign currencies versus the U.S. dollar may result in reduced returns for the Fund. Moreover, the Fund may incur costs in connection with conversions between U.S. dollars and foreign currencies. The value of certain foreign countries' currencies may be subject to a high degree of fluctuation. This fluctuation may be due to changes in interest rates, investors' expectations concerning inflation and interest rates, the country's debt levels and trade deficit, the effects of monetary policies issued by the United States, foreign governments, central banks or supranational entities, the imposition of currency controls or other national or global political or economic developments. The economies of certain emerging market countries can be significantly affected

by currency devaluations. Certain emerging market countries may also have managed currencies which are maintained at artificial levels relative to the U.S. dollar rather than at levels determined by the market. This type of system could lead to sudden and large adjustments in the currency, which in turn, can have a negative effect on the Fund and its investments.

**Risk of Investing in Emerging Market Issuers.** Investments in securities of emerging market issuers are exposed to a number of risks that may make these investments volatile in price or difficult to trade. Emerging markets are more likely than developed markets to experience problems with the clearing and settling of trades, as well as the holding of securities by local banks, agents and depositories. Political risks may include unstable governments, nationalization, restrictions on foreign ownership, laws that prevent investors from getting their money out of a country and legal systems that do not protect property rights as well as the laws of the United States. Market risks may include economies that concentrate in only a few industries, securities issues that are held by only a few investors, liquidity issues and limited trading capacity in local exchanges and the possibility that markets or issues may be manipulated by foreign nationals who have inside information.

**Special Risk Considerations of Investing in European Issuers.** The Fund may invest in securities issued by European issuers and, accordingly, may be subject to the risk of investing in such issuers. Investment in securities of issuers in Europe involves risks and special considerations not typically associated with investment in the U.S. securities markets. The Economic

**VANECK VECTORS™ MORNINGSTAR INTERNATIONAL MOAT ETF (continued)**

and Monetary Union of the European Union ( EU ) requires member countries to comply with restrictions on inflation rates, deficits, interest rates, debt levels and fiscal and monetary controls, each of which may significantly affect every country in Europe. Decreasing imports or exports, changes in governmental or EU regulations on trade, changes in the exchange rate of the euro, the default or threat of default by an EU member country on its sovereign debt, and/or an economic recession in an EU member country may have a significant adverse effect on the economies of EU member countries and on major trading partners outside Europe. The European financial markets have recently experienced volatility and have been adversely affected by concerns about economic downturns, credit rating downgrades, rising government debt levels and possible default on or restructuring of government debt in several European countries, including Greece, Ireland, Italy, Portugal and Spain. These events have adversely affected the value and exchange rate of the euro and may continue to significantly affect the economies of every country in Europe, including EU member countries that do not use the euro and non-EU member countries. In addition, in a referendum held on June 23, 2016, voters in the United Kingdom voted to leave the EU, creating economic and political uncertainty in its wake. Significant uncertainty exists regarding the timing of the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the EU and the effects such withdrawal will have on the euro, European economies and global markets.

**Special Risk Considerations of Investing in Asian Issuers.** The Fund may invest in securities issued by Asian issuers and, accordingly, may be subject to the risk of investing in such issuers. Investment in securities of issuers in Asia involves risks and special considerations not typically associated with investment in the U.S. securities markets. Certain Asian economies have experienced over-extension of credit, currency devaluations and restrictions, high unemployment, high inflation, decreased exports and economic recessions. Economic events in any one Asian country can have a significant effect on the entire Asian region as well as on major trading partners outside Asia, and any adverse effect on some or all of the Asian countries and regions in which the Fund invests. The securities markets in some Asian economies are relatively underdeveloped and may subject the Fund to higher action costs or greater uncertainty than investments in more developed securities markets. Such risks may adversely affect the value of the Fund's investments.

**Special Risk Considerations of Investing in Australian Issuers.** Investments in Australian issuers may subject the Fund to regulatory, political, currency, security, and economic risk specific to Australia. The Australian economy is heavily dependent on exports from the agricultural and mining sectors. This makes the Australian economy susceptible to fluctuations in the commodity markets. Australia is also dependent on trading with key trading partners.

**Risk of Investing in Depositary Receipts.** The Fund may invest in depositary receipts which involve similar risks to those associated with investments in foreign securities. Depositary receipts are receipts listed on U.S. or foreign exchanges issued by banks or trust companies that entitle the holder to all dividends and capital gains that are paid out on the underlying foreign shares. Investments in depositary receipts may be less liquid than the underlying shares in their primary trading market and, if not included in the Index, may negatively affect the Fund's ability to replicate the performance of the Index.

**Risk of Cash Transactions.** Unlike other exchange-traded funds ( ETFs ), the Fund expects to effect its creations and redemptions partially for cash, rather than in-kind securities. Therefore, it may be required to sell portfolio securities and subsequently recognize gains on such sales that the Fund might not have recognized if it were to distribute portfolio securities in kind. As such, investments in Shares may be less tax-efficient than an investment in a conventional ETF.

**Market Risk.** The prices of the securities in the Fund are subject to the risks associated with investing in the securities market, including general economic conditions and sudden and unpredictable drops in value. An investment in the Fund may lose money.

**Operational Risk.** The Fund is exposed to operational risk arising from a number of factors, including, but not limited to, human error, processing and communication errors, errors of the Fund's service providers, counterparties or other third-parties, failed or inadequate processes and technology or system failures. The Fund seeks to reduce these operational risks through controls and procedures. However, these measures do not address every possible risk and may be inadequate for those risks that they are intended to address.

**High Portfolio Turnover Risk.** The Fund may engage in active and frequent trading of its portfolio securities. High portfolio turnover may result in increased transaction costs to the Fund, including brokerage commissions, dealer mark-ups and other transaction costs on the sale of the securities and on reinvestment in other securities.

**Index Tracking Risk.** The Fund's return may not match the return of the ex-US Moat Focus Index for a number of reasons. For example, the Fund incurs a number of operating expenses not applicable to the ex-US Moat Focus Index and incurs costs associated with buying and selling securities, especially when rebalancing the Fund's securities holdings to reflect changes in the composition of the ex-US Moat Focus Index, which are not factored into the return of the ex-US Moat Focus Index. Transaction costs, including brokerage costs, will decrease the Fund's net asset value (NAV) to the extent not offset by the transaction fee payable by an Authorized Participant (AP). Market disruptions and regulatory restrictions could have an adverse effect on the Fund's ability to adjust its exposure to the required levels in order to track the ex-US Moat Focus

Index. Errors in the ex-US Moat Focus Index data, the ex-US Moat Focus Index computations and/or the construction of the ex-US Moat Focus Index in accordance with its methodology may occur from time to time and may not be identified and corrected by the ex-US Moat Focus Index provider for a period of time or at all, which may have an adverse impact on the Fund and its shareholders. In addition, the Fund may not be able to invest in certain securities included in the ex-US Moat Focus Index, or invest in them in the exact proportions in which they are represented in the ex-US Moat Focus Index, due to legal restrictions or limitations imposed by the governments of certain countries, a lack of liquidity on stock exchanges in which such securities trade, potential adverse tax consequences or other regulatory reasons. The Fund is expected to value certain of its investments based on fair value prices. To the extent the Fund calculates its NAV based on fair value prices and the value of the ex-US Moat Focus Index is based on securities closing prices on local foreign markets (*i.e.*, the value of the ex-US Moat Focus Index is not based on fair value prices), the Fund's ability to track the ex-US Moat Focus Index may be adversely affected. In addition, any issues the Fund encounters with regard to currency convertibility (including the cost of borrowing funds, if any) and repatriation may also increase ex-US Moat Focus Index tracking risk. The Fund may also need to rely on borrowings to meet redemptions, which may lead to increased expenses. For tax efficiency purposes, the Fund may sell certain securities to realize losses, causing it to deviate from the performance of the ex-US Moat Focus Index. In light of the factors discussed above, the Fund's return may deviate significantly from the return of the ex-US Moat Focus Index.

**Authorized Participant Concentration Risk.** The Fund may have a limited number of financial institutions that act as APs, none of which are obligated to engage in creation or redemption transactions. To the extent that those APs exit the business, or are unable to or choose not to process creation and/or redemption orders, and no other AP is able to step forward to create and redeem, there may be a significantly diminished trading market for Shares or Shares may trade like closed-end funds at a discount (or premium) to NAV and possibly face trading halts and/or de-listing. The AP concentration risk may be heightened in scenarios where APs have limited or diminished access to the capital required to post collateral.

**No Guarantee of Active Trading Market.** While Shares are listed on NYSE Arca, Inc. ( NYSE Arca ), there can be no assurance that an active trading market for the Shares will be maintained. Further, secondary markets may be subject to irregular trading activity, wide bid/ask spreads and extended trade settlement periods in times of market stress because market makers and APs may step away from making a market in the Shares and in executing creation and redemption orders, which could cause a material deviation in the Fund's market price from its NAV.

**Trading Issues.** Trading in Shares on NYSE Arca may be halted due to market conditions or for reasons that, in the view of NYSE Arca, make trading in Shares inadvisable. In addition, trading in Shares on NYSE Arca is subject to trading halts caused by extraordinary market volatility pursuant to NYSE Arca's circuit breaker rules. There can be no assurance that the requirements of NYSE Arca necessary to maintain the listing of the Fund will continue to be met or will remain unchanged.

**Replication Management Risk.** An investment in the Fund involves risks similar to those of investing in any fund of equity securities traded on an exchange, such as market fluctuations caused by such factors as economic and political developments, changes in interest rates and perceived trends in security prices. However, because the Fund is not actively managed, unless a specific security is removed from the ex-US Moat Focus Index, the Fund generally would not sell a security because the security's issuer was in financial trouble. Therefore, the Fund's performance could be lower than funds that may actively shift their portfolio assets to take advantage of market opportunities or to lessen the impact of a market decline or a decline in the value of one or more issuers.

**Fund Shares Trading, Premium/Discount Risk and Liquidity of Fund Shares.** The market prices of the Shares may fluctuate in response to the Fund's NAV, the intraday value of the Fund's holdings and supply and demand for

Shares. The Adviser cannot predict whether Shares will trade above, below, or at their most recent NAV. Disruptions to creations and redemptions, the existence of market volatility or potential lack of an active trading market for Shares (including through a trading halt), as well as other factors, may result in Shares trading at a significant premium or discount to NAV or to the intraday value of the Fund's holdings. If a shareholder purchases Shares at a time when the market price is at a premium to the NAV or sells Shares at a time when the market price is at a discount to the NAV, the shareholder may sustain losses. The securities held by the Fund may be traded in markets that close at a different time than NYSE Arca. Liquidity in those securities may be reduced after the applicable closing times. Accordingly, during the time when NYSE Arca is open but after the applicable market closing, fixing or settlement times, bid-ask spreads on NYSE Arca and the resulting premium or discount to the Shares' NAV may widen. Additionally, in stressed market conditions, the market for the Fund's Shares may become less liquid in response to deteriorating liquidity in the markets for the Fund's underlying portfolio holdings.

**Non-Diversified Risk.** The Fund is classified as a non-diversified fund under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the 1940 Act). Therefore, the Fund may invest a relatively high percentage of its assets in a smaller number of issuers or may invest a larger proportion of its assets in a single issuer. As a result, the gains and losses on a single investment may have a greater impact on the Fund's NAV and may make the Fund more volatile than more diversified funds.



**VANECK VECTORS™ MORNINGSTAR INTERNATIONAL MOAT ETF (continued)**

**Concentration Risk.** The Fund's assets may be concentrated in a particular sector or sectors or industry or group of industries to the extent the ex-US Moat Focus Index concentrates in a particular sector or sectors or industry or group of industries. To the extent that the Fund continues to be concentrated in the financial services sector, the Fund will be subject to the risk that economic, political or other conditions that have a negative effect on that sector will negatively impact the Fund to a greater extent than if the Fund's assets were invested in a wider variety of sectors or industries.

**PERFORMANCE**

The bar chart that follows shows how the Fund performed for the calendar year shown. The table below the bar chart shows the Fund's average annual returns (before and after taxes). The bar chart and table provide an indication of the risks of investing in the Fund by showing the Fund's performance and by showing how the Fund's average annual returns for the one year and since inception periods compared with the Fund's benchmark index and a broad measure of market performance. All returns assume reinvestment of dividends and distributions. The Fund's past performance (before and after taxes) is not necessarily indicative of how the Fund will perform in the future. Updated performance information is available online at [www.vaneck.com](http://www.vaneck.com).

**Annual Total Returns (%) Calendar Year**

**Best Quarter:** 8.04% 3Q 16

**Worst Quarter:** -4.86% 2Q 16

**Average Annual Total Returns for the Periods Ended December 31, 2016**

The after-tax returns presented in the table below are calculated using the highest historical individual federal marginal income tax rates and do not reflect the impact of state and local taxes. Your actual after-tax returns will depend on your specific tax situation and may differ from those shown below. After-tax returns are not relevant to investors who hold Shares of the Fund through tax-deferred arrangements, such as 401(k) plans or individual retirement accounts.

|   | <b>Past One<br/>Year</b> | <b>Since<br/>Inception<br/>(7/13/2015)</b> |
|---|--------------------------|--|
| VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF (return before taxes)   | 5.12%                    | -3.90%                                     |
| VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF (return after taxes on distributions)                         | 4.51%                    | -4.43%                                     |
| VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF (return after taxes on distributions and sale of Fund Shares) | 2.89%                    | -3.17%                                     |
| Morningstar® Global ex-US Moat Focus Index <sup>SM</sup> (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)    | 5.77%                    | -2.80%                                     |
| S&P 500® Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)  | 11.96%                   | 6.78%                                      |



## PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT

**Investment Adviser.** Van Eck Associates Corporation.

**Portfolio Managers.** The following individuals are primarily and jointly responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio:

| <b>Name</b>           | <b>Title with Adviser</b> | <b>Date Began Managing the Fund</b> |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Hao-Hung (Peter) Liao | Portfolio Manager         | July 2015                           |
| George Chao           | Portfolio Manager         | July 2015                           |

## PURCHASE AND SALE OF FUND SHARES

For important information about the purchase and sale of Fund Shares, tax information and payments to broker-dealers and other financial intermediaries, please turn to Summary Information About Purchases and Sales of Fund Shares, Taxes and Payments to Broker-Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries on page 20 of this Prospectus.

**VANECK VECTORS™ MORNINGSTAR WIDE MOAT ETF\*****SUMMARY INFORMATION****INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE**

VanEck Vectors™ Morningstar Wide Moat ETF (the Fund) seeks to replicate as closely as possible, before fees and expenses, the price and yield performance of the Morningstar® Wide Moat Focus Index<sup>SM</sup> (the Wide Moat Focus Index).

**FUND FEES AND EXPENSES**

The following tables describe the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy and hold shares of the Fund (Shares).

**Shareholder Fees** (*fees paid directly from your investment*) None

**Annual Fund Operating Expenses**

(*expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment*)

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| Management Fee                                       | 0.45%  |
| Other Expenses                                       | 0.05%  |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses <sup>(a)</sup>  | 0.50%  |
| Fee Waivers and Expense Reimbursement <sup>(a)</sup> | -0.01% |

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waiver and Expense Reimbursement <sup>(a)</sup> | 0.49% |
|--|-------|

<sup>(a)</sup> Van Eck Associates Corporation (the Adviser) has agreed to waive fees and/or pay Fund expenses to the extent necessary to prevent the operating expenses of the Fund (excluding acquired fund fees and expenses, interest expense, trading expenses, taxes and extraordinary expenses) from exceeding 0.49% of the Fund's average daily net assets per year until at least February 1, 2018. During such time, the expense limitation is expected to continue until the Fund's Board of Trustees acts to discontinue all or a portion of such expense limitation.

**EXPENSE EXAMPLE**

This example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other funds. This example does not take into account brokerage commissions that you pay when purchasing or selling Shares of the Fund.

The example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your Shares at the end of those periods. The example also assumes that your investment has a 5% annual return and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same (except that the example incorporates the fee waiver and/or expense reimbursement arrangement for only the first year). Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these

assumptions, your costs would be:

**YEAR EXPENSES**

|    |    |     |
|----|----|-----|
| 1  | \$ | 50  |
| 3  | \$ | 159 |
| 5  | \$ | 279 |
| 10 | \$ | 627 |

**PORTFOLIO TURNOVER**

The Fund will pay transaction costs, such as commissions, when it purchases and sells securities (or turns over its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover will cause the Fund to incur additional transaction costs and may result in higher taxes when Fund Shares are held in a taxable account. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the example, may affect the Fund's performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Fund's portfolio turnover rate was 178% of the average value of its portfolio.

**PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES**

The Fund normally invests at least 80% of its total assets in securities that comprise the Fund's benchmark index. The Wide Moat Focus Index is comprised of securities issued by companies that Morningstar, Inc. ( Morningstar ) determines to have sustainable competitive advantages based on a proprietary methodology that considers quantitative and qualitative factors ( wide moat companies ). Wide moat companies are selected from the universe of companies represented in the

\* Prior to  
 May 1,  
 2016, the  
 Fund's name  
 was Market  
 Vectors  
 Morningstar  
 Wide Moat  
 ETF.

Morningstar® US Market Index<sup>SM</sup>, a broad market index representing 97% of U.S. market capitalization. The Wide Moat Focus Index targets a select group of wide moat companies: those that according to Morningstar's equity research team are attractively priced as of each Wide Moat Focus Index review. Out of the companies in the Morningstar US Market Index that Morningstar determines are wide moat companies, Morningstar selects companies to be included in the Wide Moat Focus Index as determined by the ratio of Morningstar's estimate of fair value of the issuer's common stock to the price. Morningstar's equity research fair value estimates are calculated using a standardized, proprietary valuation model. Wide moat companies may include medium-capitalization companies. The Fund's 80% investment policy is non-fundamental and may be changed without shareholder approval upon 60 days prior written notice to shareholders.

As of December 31, 2016, the Wide Moat Focus Index included 50 securities of companies with a market capitalization range of between approximately \$2.64 billion to \$483.16 billion and a weighted average market capitalization of \$82.10 billion. These amounts are subject to change.

The Fund, using a passive or indexing investment approach, attempts to approximate the investment performance of the Wide Moat Focus Index by investing in a portfolio of securities that generally replicates the Wide Moat Focus Index. Unlike many investment companies that try to beat the performance of a benchmark index, the Fund does not try to beat the Wide Moat Focus Index and does not seek temporary defensive positions when markets decline or appear overvalued. Indexing may eliminate the chance that the Fund will substantially outperform the Wide Moat Focus Index but also may reduce some of the risks of active management, such as poor security selection. Indexing seeks to achieve lower costs and better after-tax performance by keeping portfolio turnover low in comparison to actively managed investment companies.

The Fund is classified as a non-diversified fund and, therefore, may invest a greater percentage of its assets in a particular issuer. The Fund may concentrate its investments in a particular industry or group of industries to the extent that the Wide Moat Focus Index concentrates in an industry or group of industries. As of September 30, 2016, the Wide Moat Focus Index was concentrated in the health care sector and each of consumer discretionary, industrials, information technology and financial services sectors represented a significant portion of the Wide Moat Focus Index.

## **PRINCIPAL RISKS OF INVESTING IN THE FUND**

**Investors in the Fund should be willing to accept a high degree of volatility in the price of the Fund's Shares and the possibility of significant losses. An investment in the Fund involves a substantial degree of risk. An investment in the Fund is not a deposit with a bank and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency. Therefore, you should consider carefully the following risks before investing in the Fund, each of which could significantly and adversely affect the value of an investment in the Fund.**

**Risk of Investing in the Health Care Sector.** To the extent that the Fund continues to be concentrated in the health care sector, the Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance will depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the health care sector. Companies in the health care sector may be affected by extensive government regulation, restrictions on government reimbursement for medical expenses, rising costs of medical products and services, pricing pressure, an increased emphasis on outpatient services, limited number of products, industry innovation, changes in technologies and other market developments. Many health care companies are heavily dependent on patent protection. The expiration of patents may adversely affect the profitability of these companies. Many health care companies are subject to extensive litigation based on product liability and similar claims. Health care companies are subject to competitive forces that may make it difficult to raise prices and, in fact, may result in

price discounting. Many new products in the health care sector may be subject to regulatory approvals. The process of obtaining such approvals may be long and costly. Companies in the health care sector may be thinly capitalized and may be susceptible to product obsolescence.

**Risk of Investing in the Consumer Discretionary Sector.** To the extent that the consumer discretionary sector continues to represent a significant portion of the Fund, the Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance may depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the consumer discretionary sector. Companies engaged in the consumer discretionary sector are subject to fluctuations in supply and demand. These companies may also be adversely affected by changes in consumer spending as a result of world events, political and economic conditions, commodity price volatility, changes in exchange rates, imposition of import controls, increased competition, depletion of resources and labor relations.

**Risk of Investing in the Industrials Sector.** To the extent that the industrial sector continues to represent a significant portion of the Fund, the Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance may depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the industrials sector. Companies in the industrials sector may be adversely affected by changes in government regulation, world events and economic conditions. In addition, companies in the industrials sector may be adversely affected by environmental damages, product liability claims and exchange rates. The stock prices of companies in the industrials sector are affected by supply and demand both for their specific product or service and for industrial sector products in general. The products of manufacturing companies may face product obsolescence due to rapid technological

**VANECK VECTORS™ MORNINGSTAR WIDE MOAT ETF (continued)**

developments and frequent new product introduction. In addition, the industrials sector may also be adversely affected by changes or trends in commodity prices, which may be influenced or characterized by unpredictable factors.

**Risk of Investing in the Information Technology Sector.** To the extent that the information technology sector continues to represent a significant portion of the Fund, the Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance may depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the information technology sector. Information technology companies face intense competition, both domestically and internationally, which may have an adverse effect on profit margins. Information technology companies may have limited product lines, markets, financial resources or personnel. The products of information technology companies may face product obsolescence due to rapid technological developments and frequent new product introduction, unpredictable changes in growth rates and competition for the services of qualified personnel. Companies in the information technology sector are heavily dependent on patent protection and the expiration of patents may adversely affect the profitability of these companies.

**Risk of Investing in the Financial Services Sector.** To the extent that the financial services sector continues to represent a significant portion of the Fund, the Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance may depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the financial services sector. Companies in the financial services sector may be subject to extensive government regulation that affects the scope of their activities, the prices they can charge and the amount of capital they must maintain. The profitability of companies in the financial services sector may be adversely affected by increases in interest rates, by loan losses, which usually increase in economic downturns, and by credit rating downgrades. In addition, the financial services sector is undergoing numerous changes, including continuing consolidations, development of new products and structures and changes to its regulatory framework. Furthermore, some companies in the financial services sector perceived as benefitting from government intervention in the past may be subject to future government-imposed restrictions on their businesses or face increased government involvement in their operations. Increased government involvement in the financial services sector, including measures such as taking ownership positions in financial institutions, could result in a dilution of the Fund's investments in financial institutions. Recent developments in the credit markets may cause companies operating in the financial services sector to incur large losses, experience declines in the value of their assets and even cease operations.

**Risk of Investing in Medium-Capitalization Companies.** Medium-capitalization companies may be more volatile and more likely than large-capitalization companies to have narrower product lines, fewer financial resources, less management depth and experience and less competitive strength. In addition, these companies often have greater price volatility, lower trading volume and less liquidity than larger more established companies. Returns on investments in securities of medium-capitalization companies could trail the returns on investments in securities of large-capitalization companies

**Equity Securities Risk.** The value of the equity securities held by the Fund may fall due to general market and economic conditions, perceptions regarding the markets in which the issuers of securities held by the Fund participate, or factors relating to specific issuers in which the Fund invests. Equity securities are subordinated to preferred securities and debt in a company's capital structure with respect to priority in right to a share of corporate income, and therefore will be subject to greater dividend risk than preferred securities or debt instruments. In addition, while broad market measures of equity securities have historically generated higher average returns than fixed income securities, equity securities have generally also experienced significantly more volatility in those returns, although under certain market conditions fixed income securities may have comparable or greater price volatility. Morningstar may be incorrect in its assessment of the competitive advantages of the companies selected for inclusion in the Wide Moat



Focus Index, and the securities issued by such companies may underperform Morningstar's expectations and have an adverse effect on the Fund's overall performance. There can also be no assurance that wide moat companies will have sustainable competitive advantages for any period of time. Competitive advantages for wide moat companies may erode in a relatively short period of time due to, among other reasons, changes in laws and regulations, intellectual property rights, economic and political conditions and technological developments.

**Market Risk.** The prices of the securities in the Fund are subject to the risks associated with investing in the securities market, including general economic conditions and sudden and unpredictable drops in value. An investment in the Fund may lose money.

**Operational Risk.** The Fund is exposed to operational risk arising from a number of factors, including, but not limited to, human error, processing and communication errors, errors of the Fund's service providers, counterparties or other third-parties, failed or inadequate processes and technology or system failures. The Fund seeks to reduce these operational risks through controls and procedures. However, these measures do not address every possible risk and may be inadequate for those risks that they are intended to address.

**High Portfolio Turnover Risk.** The Fund may engage in active and frequent trading of its portfolio securities. High portfolio turnover may result in increased transaction costs to the Fund, including brokerage commissions, dealer mark-ups and other transaction costs on the sale of the securities and on reinvestment in other securities.

**Index Tracking Risk.** The Fund's return may not match the return of the Wide Moat Focus Index for a number of reasons. For example, the Fund incurs a number of operating expenses not applicable to the Wide Moat Focus Index and incurs costs associated with buying and selling securities, especially when rebalancing the Fund's securities holdings to reflect changes in the composition of the Wide Moat Focus Index, which are not factored into the return of the Wide Moat Focus Index. Transaction costs, including brokerage costs, will decrease the Fund's net asset value (NAV) to the extent not offset by the transaction fee payable by an Authorized Participant (AP). Market disruptions and regulatory restrictions could have an adverse effect on the Fund's ability to adjust its exposure to the required levels in order to track the Wide Moat Focus Index. Errors in the Wide Moat Focus Index data, the Wide Moat Focus Index computations and/or the construction of the Wide Moat Focus Index in accordance with its methodology may occur from time to time and may not be identified and corrected by the Wide Moat Focus Index provider for a period of time or at all, which may have an adverse impact on the Fund and its shareholders. In addition, the Fund may not be able to invest in certain securities included in the Wide Moat Focus Index, or invest in them in the exact proportions in which they are represented in the Wide Moat Focus Index, due to legal restrictions or limitations imposed by the governments of certain countries, a lack of liquidity on stock exchanges in which such securities trade, potential adverse tax consequences or other regulatory reasons. To the extent the Fund calculates its NAV based on fair value prices and the value of the Wide Moat Focus Index is based on securities' closing prices (*i.e.*, the value of the Wide Moat Focus Index is not based on fair value prices), the Fund's ability to track the Wide Moat Focus Index may be adversely affected. For tax efficiency purposes, the Fund may sell certain securities, and such sale may cause the Fund to realize a loss and deviate from the performance of Wide Moat Focus Index. In light of the factors discussed above, the Fund's return may deviate significantly from the return of the Wide Moat Focus Index.

**Authorized Participant Concentration Risk.** The Fund may have a limited number of financial institutions that act as APs, none of which are obligated to engage in creation or redemption transactions. To the extent that those APs exit the business, or are unable to or choose not to process creation and/or redemption orders, and no other AP is able to step forward to create and redeem, there may be a significantly diminished trading market for Shares or Shares may trade like closed-end funds at a discount (or premium) to NAV and possibly face trading halts and/or de-listing. The AP concentration risk may be heightened in scenarios where APs have limited or diminished access to the capital required to post collateral.

**No Guarantee of Active Trading Market.** While Shares are listed on NYSE Arca, Inc. (NYSE Arca), there can be no assurance that an active trading market for the Shares will be maintained. Further, secondary markets may be subject to irregular trading activity, wide bid/ask spreads and extended trade settlement periods in times of market stress because market makers and APs may step away from making a market in the Shares and in executing creation and redemption orders, which could cause a material deviation in the Fund's market price from its NAV.

**Trading Issues.** Trading in Shares on NYSE Arca may be halted due to market conditions or for reasons that, in the view of NYSE Arca, make trading in Shares inadvisable. In addition, trading in Shares on NYSE Arca is subject to trading halts caused by extraordinary market volatility pursuant to NYSE Arca's circuit breaker rules. There can be no assurance that the requirements of NYSE Arca necessary to maintain the listing of the Fund will continue to be met or will remain unchanged.

**Replication Management Risk.** An investment in the Fund involves risks similar to those of investing in any fund of equity securities traded on an exchange, such as market fluctuations caused by such factors as economic and political

developments, changes in interest rates and perceived trends in security prices. However, because the Fund is not actively managed, unless a specific security is removed from the Wide Moat Focus Index, the Fund generally would not sell a security because the security's issuer was in financial trouble. Therefore, the Fund's performance could be lower than funds that may actively shift their portfolio assets to take advantage of market opportunities or to lessen the impact of a market decline or a decline in the value of one or more issuers.

**Fund Shares Trading, Premium/Discount Risk and Liquidity of Fund Shares.** The market prices of the Shares may fluctuate in response to the Fund's NAV, the intraday value of the Fund's holdings and supply and demand for Shares. The Adviser cannot predict whether Shares will trade above, below, or at their most recent NAV. Disruptions to creations and redemptions, the existence of market volatility or potential lack of an active trading market for Shares (including through a trading halt), as well as other factors, may result in Shares trading at a significant premium or discount to NAV or to the intraday value of the Fund's holdings. If a shareholder purchases Shares at a time when the market price is at a premium to the NAV or sells Shares at a time when the market price is at a discount to the NAV, the shareholder may sustain losses. The securities held by the Fund may be traded in markets that close at a different time than NYSE Arca. Liquidity in those securities may be reduced after the applicable closing times. Accordingly, during the time when NYSE Arca is open but after the applicable market closing, fixing or settlement times, bid-ask spreads on NYSE Arca and the resulting premium or

**VANECK VECTORS™ MORNINGSTAR WIDE MOAT ETF (continued)**

discount to the Shares' NAV may widen. Additionally, in stressed market conditions, the market for the Fund's Shares may become less liquid in response to deteriorating liquidity in the markets for the Fund's underlying portfolio holdings.

**Non-Diversified Risk.** The Fund is classified as a non-diversified fund under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the 1940 Act). Therefore, the Fund may invest a relatively high percentage of its assets in a smaller number of issuers or may invest a larger proportion of its assets in a single issuer. As a result, the gains and losses on a single investment may have a greater impact on the Fund's NAV and may make the Fund more volatile than more diversified funds.

**Concentration Risk.** The Fund's assets may be concentrated in a particular sector or sectors or industry or group of industries to the extent the Wide Moat Focus Index concentrates in a particular sector or sectors or industry or group of industries. To the extent that the Fund continues to be concentrated in the health care sector, the Fund will be subject to the risk that economic, political or other conditions that have a negative effect on this sector will negatively impact the Fund to a greater extent than if the Fund's assets were invested in a wider variety of sectors or industries.

**PERFORMANCE**

The bar chart that follows shows how the Fund performed for the calendar years shown. The table below the bar chart shows the Fund's average annual returns (before and after taxes). The bar chart and table provide an indication of the risks of investing in the Fund by showing the Fund's performance from year to year and by showing how the Fund's average annual returns for the one year and since inception periods compared with the Fund's benchmark index and a broad measure of market performance. All returns assume reinvestment of dividends and distributions. The Fund's past performance (before and after taxes) is not necessarily indicative of how the Fund will perform in the future. Updated performance information is available online at [www.vaneck.com](http://www.vaneck.com).

**Annual Total Returns (%) Calendar Years**

**Best Quarter:** 10.93 3Q 13

**Worst Quarter:** -8.81 3Q 15

**Average Annual Total Returns for the Periods Ended December 31, 2016**

The after-tax returns presented in the table below are calculated using the highest historical individual federal marginal income tax rates and do not reflect the impact of state and local taxes. Your actual after-tax returns will depend on your specific tax situation and may differ from those shown below. After-tax returns are not relevant to investors who hold Shares of the Fund through tax-deferred arrangements, such as 401(k) plans or individual retirement accounts.

|                          | Since<br>Inception<br>(4/24/2012) |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Past One<br/>Year</b> |                                   |

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|  |        |        |
|--|--------|--------|
| VanEck Vectors Morningstar Wide Moat ETF (return before taxes)   | 21.73% | 13.81% |
| VanEck Vectors Morningstar Wide Moat ETF (return after taxes on distributions)                         | 21.12% | 13.41% |
| VanEck Vectors Morningstar Wide Moat ETF (return after taxes on distributions and sale of Fund Shares) | 12.30% | 10.96% |
| Morningstar® Wide Moat Focus Index <sup>SM</sup> (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)   | 22.37% | 14.38% |
| S&P 500® Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)                                     | 11.96% | 13.43% |

## PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT

**Investment Adviser.** Van Eck Associates Corporation.

**Portfolio Managers.** The following individuals are jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio:

| <b>Name</b>           | <b>Title with Adviser</b> | <b>Date Began Managing the Fund</b> |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Hao-Hung (Peter) Liao | Portfolio Manager         | April 2012                          |
| George Chao           | Portfolio Manager         | April 2012                          |

## PURCHASE AND SALE OF FUND SHARES

For important information about the purchase and sale of Fund Shares, tax information and payments to broker-dealers and other financial intermediaries, please turn to Summary Information About Purchases and Sales of Fund Shares, Taxes and Payments to Broker-Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries on page 20 of this Prospectus.

**SUMMARY INFORMATION ABOUT PURCHASES AND SALES OF FUND SHARES, TAXES AND PAYMENTS TO BROKER-DEALERS AND OTHER FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES**

**PURCHASE AND SALE OF FUND SHARES**

The Funds issue and redeem Shares at NAV only in a large specified number of Shares each called a Creation Unit, or multiples thereof. A Creation Unit consists of 50,000 Shares.

Individual Shares of a Fund may only be purchased and sold in secondary market transactions through brokers. Shares of the Funds are listed on NYSE Arca, Inc. ( NYSE Arca ) and because Shares trade at market prices rather than NAV, Shares of the Funds may trade at a price greater than or less than NAV.

**TAX INFORMATION**

Each Fund's distributions are taxable and will generally be taxed as ordinary income or capital gains.

**PAYMENTS TO BROKER-DEALERS AND OTHER FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES**

The Adviser and its related companies may pay broker-dealers or other financial intermediaries (such as a bank) for the sale of the Fund Shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing your broker-dealer or other intermediary or its employees or associated persons to recommend the Fund over another investment. Ask your financial adviser or visit your financial intermediary's website for more information.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE FUNDS INVESTMENT STRATEGIES AND RISKS

### PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES

The Adviser anticipates that, generally, each Fund will hold all of the securities that comprise its Index in proportion to their weightings in such Index. However, under various circumstances, it may not be possible or practicable to purchase all of those securities in those weightings. In these circumstances, a Fund may purchase a sample of securities in its Index. There also may be instances in which the Adviser may choose to underweight or overweight a security in a Fund's Index, purchase securities not in the Fund's Index that the Adviser believes are appropriate to substitute for certain securities in such Index or utilize various combinations of other available investment techniques in seeking to replicate as closely as possible, before fees and expenses, the price and yield performance of the Fund's Index. Each Fund may sell securities that are represented in its Index in anticipation of their removal from its Index or purchase securities not represented in its Index in anticipation of their addition to such Index. Each Fund may also, in order to comply with the tax diversification requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Internal Revenue Code), temporarily invest in securities not included in its Index that are expected to be highly correlated with the securities included in its Index.

### FUNDAMENTAL AND NON-FUNDAMENTAL POLICIES

Each Fund's investment objective and each of its other investment policies are non-fundamental policies that may be changed by the Board of Trustees without shareholder approval, except as noted in this Prospectus or the Statement of Additional Information (SAI) under the section entitled Investment Policies and Restrictions Investment Restrictions.

### RISKS OF INVESTING IN THE FUNDS

The following section provides additional information regarding certain of the principal risks identified under Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund in each Fund's Summary Information section along with additional risk information. The risks listed below are applicable to each Fund unless otherwise noted.

**Investors in the Funds should be willing to accept a high degree of volatility in the price of the Funds' Shares and the possibility of significant losses. An investment in the Funds involves a substantial degree of risk. An investment in the Funds is not a deposit with a bank and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency. Therefore, you should consider carefully the following risks before investing in the Funds, each of which could significantly and adversely affect the value of an investment in a Fund.**

**Risk of Investing in the Health Care Sector.** (VanEck Vectors Morningstar Wide Moat ETF only.) To the extent that the health care sector continues to represent at least a significant portion of the Fund, the Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance may depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the health care sector. Companies in the health care sector may be affected by extensive government regulation, restrictions on government reimbursement for medical expenses, rising costs of medical products and services, pricing pressure, an increased emphasis on outpatient services, limited number of products, industry innovation, changes in technologies and other market developments. Many health care companies are heavily dependent on patent protection. The expiration of patents may adversely affect the profitability of these companies. Many health care companies are subject to extensive litigation based on product liability and similar claims. Health care companies are subject to competitive forces that may make it difficult to raise prices and, in fact, may result in price discounting. Many new products in the health care sector may be subject to regulatory approvals. The process of obtaining such approvals may be long and costly.



Companies in the health care sector may be thinly capitalized and may be susceptible to product obsolescence.

**Risk of Investing in the Information Technology Sector.** (VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF and VanEck Vectors Morningstar Wide Moat ETF only.) To the extent that the information technology sector continues to represent at least a significant portion of a Fund, the Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance may depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the information technology sector. Information technology companies face intense competition, both domestically and internationally, which may have an adverse effect on profit margins. Information technology companies may have limited product lines, markets, financial resources or personnel. The products of information technology companies may face product obsolescence due to rapid technological developments and frequent new product introduction, unpredictable changes in growth rates and competition for the services of qualified personnel. Companies in the information technology sector are heavily dependent on patent protection and the expiration of patents may adversely affect the profitability of these companies.

**Risk of Investing in the Consumer Discretionary Sector.** To the extent that the consumer discretionary sector continues to represent at least a significant portion of a Fund, the Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance may depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the consumer discretionary sector. Companies engaged in the consumer discretionary sector are subject to fluctuations in supply and demand. These companies may also be adversely affected by changes in consumer spending as a result of world events, political and economic conditions, commodity price volatility, changes in exchange rates, imposition of import controls, increased competition, depletion of resources and labor relations.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE FUNDS INVESTMENT STRATEGIES AND RISKS**  
**(continued)**

**Risk of Investing in the Financial Services Sector.** (VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF and VanEck Vectors Morningstar Wide Moat ETF only.) To the extent that the financial services sector continues to represent at least a significant portion of a Fund, the Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance may depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the financial services sector. Companies in the financial services sector may be subject to extensive government regulation that affects the scope of their activities, the prices they can charge and the amount of capital they must maintain. The profitability of companies in the financial services sector may be adversely affected by increases in interest rates, by loan losses, which usually increase in economic downturns, and by credit rating downgrades. In addition, the financial services sector is undergoing numerous changes, including continuing consolidations, development of new products and structures and changes to its regulatory framework. Furthermore, some companies in the financial services sector perceived as benefitting from government intervention in the past may be subject to future government-imposed restrictions on their businesses or face increased government involvement in their operations. Increased government involvement in the financial services sector, including measures such as taking ownership positions in financial institutions, could result in a dilution of each Fund's investments in financial institutions. Recent developments in the credit markets may cause companies operating in the financial services sector to incur large losses, experience declines in the value of their assets and even cease operations.

**Risk of Investing in the Industrials Sector.** (VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF and VanEck Vectors Morningstar Wide Moat ETF only.) To the extent that the industrials sector continues to represent at least a significant portion of a Fund, the Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance may depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the industrials sector. Companies in the industrials sector may be adversely affected by changes in government regulation, world events and economic conditions. In addition, companies in the industrials sector may be adversely affected by environmental damages, product liability claims and exchange rates. The stock prices of companies in the industrials sector are affected by supply and demand both for their specific product or service and for industrial sector products in general. The products of manufacturing companies may face product obsolescence due to rapid technological developments and frequent new product introduction. In addition, the industrials sector may also be adversely affected by changes or trends in commodity prices, which may be influenced or characterized by unpredictable factors.

**Risk of Investing in Foreign Securities.** (VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF and VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF only.) Each Fund invests in securities of issuers located in countries whose economies are heavily dependent upon trading with key partners. Any reduction in this trading may have an adverse impact on a Fund's investments. Investments in the securities of foreign issuers involve risks beyond those associated with investments in U.S. securities. These additional risks include greater market volatility, the availability of less reliable financial information, higher transactional and custody costs, taxation by foreign governments, decreased market liquidity and political instability. Because many foreign securities markets may be limited in size, the activity of large traders may have an undue influence on the prices of securities that trade in such markets. Certain foreign markets that have historically been considered relatively stable may become volatile in response to changed conditions or new developments. Increased interconnectivity of world economies and financial markets increases the possibility that adverse developments and conditions in one country or region will affect the stability of economies and financial markets in other countries or regions. Because each Fund may invest in securities denominated in foreign currencies and some of the income received by each Fund may be in foreign currency, changes in currency exchange rates may negatively impact each Fund's return. The risks of investing in emerging market countries are greater than risks associated with investments in foreign developed countries.

Foreign issuers are often subject to less stringent requirements regarding accounting, auditing, financial reporting and record keeping than are U.S. issuers, and therefore, not all material information may be available or reliable. Securities exchanges or foreign governments may adopt rules or regulations that may negatively impact a Fund's ability to invest in foreign securities or may prevent each Fund from repatriating its investments. In addition, each Fund may not receive shareholder communications or be permitted to vote the securities that it holds, as the issuers may be under no legal obligation to distribute shareholder communications.

Certain foreign markets may rely heavily on particular industries or foreign capital and are more vulnerable to diplomatic developments, the imposition of economic sanctions against a particular country or countries, organizations, entities and/or individuals, changes in international trade patterns, trade barriers, and other protectionist or retaliatory measures. Economic sanctions could, among other things, effectively restrict or eliminate each Fund's ability to purchase or sell securities or groups of securities for a substantial period of time, and may make each Fund's investments in such securities harder to value. The imposition of such sanctions could impair the market value of the securities of such foreign issuers or otherwise adversely affect each Fund's operations.

Also, certain issuers located in foreign countries in which each Fund invests may operate in, or have dealings with, countries subject to sanctions and/or embargoes imposed by the U.S. Government and the United Nations and/or countries identified

by the U.S. Government as state sponsors of terrorism. As a result, an issuer may sustain damage to its reputation if it is identified as an issuer which operates in, or has dealings with, such countries. Each Fund, as an investor in such issuers, will be indirectly subject to those risks.

Because each Fund may invest in securities denominated in foreign currencies and some of the income received by the Fund from these investments may be in foreign currencies, changes in currency exchange rates may negatively impact the Fund's return. The values of the currencies of the countries in which the Fund may invest may be subject to a high degree of fluctuation due to changes in interest rates, the effects of monetary policies issued by the United States, foreign governments, central banks or supranational entities, the imposition of currency controls or other national or global political or economic developments. Therefore, the Fund's exposure to foreign currencies may result in reduced returns to the Fund. Moreover, the Fund may incur costs in connection with conversions between U.S. dollars and foreign currencies. The Fund may, but is not obligated to, invest in derivative instruments to lock in certain currency exchange rates from time to time.

**Risk of Investing in Spun-Off Companies.** (VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF only.) Companies may be spun-off from a parent company for any number of reasons, including that they possess one or several unattractive characteristics in the view of the parent company, such as low growth prospects, high capital requirements or an unfavorable capitalization structure. Investments in spun-off companies are subject to the risk that any of these characteristics will adversely affect the value of investments in the spun-off companies. There can be no assurance that a spun-off company will be financially independent or profitable, especially where the company represented a non-core or non-competitive business line of the parent company at the time of the spin-off. The Fund may invest in spun-off companies that are unseasoned companies. Investments in unseasoned companies are more speculative and entail greater risk than investments in companies with a more established operating record because, among other things, unseasoned companies tend to have a greater degree of change in earnings and business prospects, high levels of debt and limited product lines, markets and financial or managerial resources. The securities of unseasoned companies may have limited liquidity, which can result in their being priced higher or lower than might otherwise be the case. Certain spun-off companies with significant operating history may nonetheless share some of the characteristics of unseasoned companies.

**Special Risk Considerations of Investing in European Issuers.** (VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF and VanEck Morningstar International Moat ETF only.) Each Fund may invest in securities issued by European issuers and, accordingly, may be subject to the risk of investing in such issuers. Investment in securities of issuers in Europe involves risks and special considerations not typically associated with investment in the U.S. securities markets. The European Union ( EU ) requires member countries to comply with restrictions on inflation rates, deficits, interest rates, debt levels and fiscal and monetary controls, each of which may significantly affect every country in Europe. Decreasing imports or exports, changes in governmental or EU regulations on trade, changes in the exchange rate of the euro, the default or threat of default by an EU member country on its sovereign debt, and/or an economic recession in an EU member country may have a significant adverse effect on the economies of EU member countries and on major trading partners outside Europe. The European financial markets have recently experienced volatility and have been adversely affected by concerns about economic downturns, credit rating downgrades, rising government debt levels and possible default on or restructuring of government debt in several European countries, including Greece, Ireland, Italy, Portugal and Spain. A default or debt restructuring by any European country would adversely impact holders of that country's debt, and sellers of credit default swaps linked to that country's creditworthiness (which may be located in countries other than those listed in the previous sentence). These events have adversely affected the value and exchange rate of the euro and may continue to significantly affect the economies of every country in Europe, including EU member countries that do not use the euro and non-EU member countries. In addition, in a referendum held on June 23, 2016, voters in the United Kingdom recently voted to leave the EU, creating economic

and political uncertainty in its wake. Significant uncertainty exists regarding the timing of the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the EU and the effects such withdrawal will have on the euro, European economies and the global markets.

Responses to the financial problems by European governments, central banks and others, including austerity measures and reforms, may not work, may result in social unrest and may limit future growth and economic recovery or have other unintended consequences. Further defaults or restructurings by governments and other entities of their debt could have additional adverse effects on economies, financial markets and asset valuations around the world. In addition, one or more countries may abandon the euro and/or withdraw from the EU. The impact of these actions, especially if they occur in a disorderly fashion, is not clear but could be significant and far-reaching.

**Special Risk Considerations of Investing in Asian Issuers.** (VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF and VanEck Morningstar International Moat ETF only.) Each Fund may invest in securities issued by Asian issuers and, accordingly, may be subject to the risk of investing in such issuers. Investment in securities of issuers in Asia involves risks and special considerations not typically associated with investment in the U.S. securities markets. Certain Asian economies have experienced over-extension of credit, currency devaluations and restrictions, high unemployment, high inflation, decreased exports and economic

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE FUNDS INVESTMENT STRATEGIES AND RISKS (continued)

recessions. Economic events in any one Asian country can have a significant effect on the entire Asian region as well as on major trading partners outside Asia, and any adverse effect on some or all of the Asian countries and regions in which the Fund invests. The securities markets in some Asian economies are relatively underdeveloped and may subject a Fund to higher action costs or greater uncertainty than investments in more developed securities markets. Such risks may adversely affect the value of a Fund's investments. Governments of many Asian countries have implemented significant economic reforms in order to liberalize trade policy, promote foreign investment in their economies, reduce government control of the economy and develop market mechanisms. There can be no assurance these reforms will continue or that they will be effective. Despite recent reform and privatizations, significant regulation of investment and industry is still pervasive in many Asian countries and may restrict foreign ownership of domestic corporations and repatriation of assets, which may adversely affect a Fund's investments. Governments in some Asian countries are authoritarian in nature, have been installed or removed as a result of military coups or have periodically used force to suppress civil dissent. Disparities of wealth, the pace and success of democratization, and ethnic, religious and racial disaffection have led to social turmoil, violence and labor unrest in some countries. Unanticipated or sudden political or social developments may result in sudden and significant investment losses. Investing in certain Asian countries involves risk of loss due to expropriation, nationalization, or confiscation of assets and property or the imposition of restrictions on foreign investments and on repatriation of capital invested.

**Special Risk Considerations of Investing in Australian Issuers** (VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF only.) Investment in Australian issuers may subject the Fund to regulatory, political, currency, security, and economic risk specific to Australia. The Australian economy is heavily dependent on exports from the agricultural and mining sectors. As a result, the Australian economy is susceptible to fluctuations in the commodity markets. The Australian economy is also becoming increasingly dependent on its growing services industry. The Australian economy is dependent on trading with key trading partners, including the United States, China, Japan, Singapore and certain European countries. Reduction in spending on Australian products and services, or changes in any of the economies, may cause an adverse impact on the Australian economy.

Additionally, Australia is located in a part of the world that has historically been prone to natural disasters, such as hurricanes and droughts, and is economically sensitive to environmental events. Any such event may adversely impact the Australian economy, causing an adverse impact on the value of the Fund.

**Risk of Commodity Exposure.** The agricultural and mining sectors of Australia's economy account for the majority of its exports. Australia is susceptible to fluctuations in the commodity markets and, in particular, in the price and demand for agricultural products and natural resources. Any negative changes in these sectors could have an adverse impact on the Australian economy.

**Risk of Investing in the Real Estate Industry.** (VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF only.) Companies in the real estate industry include companies that invest in real estate, such as REITs and real estate management and development companies. To the extent the real estate industry continues to represent at least a significant portion of the Fund, the Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance may depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the real estate industry. Companies that invest in real estate are subject to the risks of owning real estate directly as well as to risks that relate specifically to the way that such companies operate, including management risk (such companies are dependent upon the management skills of a few key individuals and may have limited financial resources). Adverse economic, business or political developments affecting real estate could have a major effect on the values of the Fund's investments. Investing in real estate is subject to such risks as decreases in real estate values,

overbuilding, increased competition and other risks related to local or general economic conditions, increases in operating costs and property taxes, changes in zoning laws, casualty or condemnation losses, possible environmental liabilities, regulatory limitations on rent, possible lack of availability of mortgage financing, market saturation, fluctuations in rental income and the value of underlying properties and extended vacancies of properties. Certain real estate securities have a relatively small market capitalization, which may tend to increase the volatility of the market price of these securities. Real estate securities have limited diversification and are, therefore, subject to risks inherent in operating and financing a limited number of projects. Real estate securities are also subject to heavy cash flow dependency and defaults by borrowers or tenants.

**Risk of Investing in REITs.** (VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF only.) Investing in REITs exposes investors to the risks of owning real estate directly, as well as to risks that relate specifically to the way in which REITs are organized and operated. REITs generally invest directly in real estate, in mortgages or in some combination of the two. Operating REITS requires specialized management skills and the Fund indirectly bears management expenses along with the direct expenses of the Fund. Individual REITs may own a limited number of properties and may concentrate in a particular region or property type. Individual REITs may also be subject to heavy cash flow dependency, default by borrowers or tenants and self-liquidation. REITs also must satisfy specific requirements of the Internal Revenue Code, in order to qualify for tax-free pass-through income. The failure of a company to qualify as a REIT could have adverse consequences for the Fund, including significantly

reducing the return to the Fund on its investment in such company. In addition, REITs, like ETFs, have expenses, including management and administration fees, that are paid by their shareholders. As a result, shareholders will absorb their proportionate share of duplicate levels of fees when the Fund invests in REITs.

**Risk of Investing in Emerging Market Issuers.** (VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF only.) The Fund may invest its assets in securities of emerging market issuers. Investment in securities of emerging market issuers involves risks not typically associated with investments in securities of issuers in more developed countries that may negatively affect the value of your investment in the Fund. Such heightened risks may include, among others, expropriation and/or nationalization of assets, restrictions on and government intervention in international trade, confiscatory taxation, political instability, including authoritarian and/or military involvement in governmental decision making, armed conflict, the impact on the economy as a result of civil war, crime (including drug violence) and social instability as a result of religious, ethnic and/or socioeconomic unrest. Issuers in certain emerging market countries are subject to less stringent requirements regarding accounting, auditing, financial reporting and record keeping than are issuers in more developed markets, and therefore, all material information may not be available or reliable. Emerging markets are also more likely than developed markets to experience problems with the clearing and settling of trades, as well as the holding of securities by local banks, agents and depositories. Low trading volumes and volatile prices in less developed markets may make trades harder to complete and settle, and governments or trade groups may compel local agents to hold securities in designated depositories that may not be subject to independent evaluation. Local agents are held only to the standards of care of their local markets. In general, the less developed a country's securities markets are, the greater the likelihood of custody problems. Additionally, each of the factors described below could have a negative impact on the Fund's performance and increase the volatility of the Fund.

**Securities Markets.** Securities markets in emerging market countries are underdeveloped and are often considered to be less correlated to global economic cycles than those markets located in more developed countries. Securities markets in emerging market countries are subject to greater risks associated with market volatility, lower market capitalization, lower trading volume, illiquidity, inflation, greater price fluctuations, uncertainty regarding the existence of trading markets, governmental control and heavy regulation of labor and industry. These factors, coupled with restrictions on foreign investment and other factors, limit the supply of securities available for investment by the Fund. This will affect the rate at which the Fund is able to invest in emerging market countries, the purchase and sale prices for such securities and the timing of purchases and sales. Emerging markets can experience high rates of inflation, deflation and currency devaluation. The prices of certain securities listed on securities markets in emerging market countries have been subject to sharp fluctuations and sudden declines, and no assurance can be given as to the future performance of listed securities in general. Volatility of prices may be greater than in more developed securities markets. Moreover, securities markets in emerging market countries may be closed for extended periods of time or trading on securities markets may be suspended altogether due to political or civil unrest. Market volatility may also be heightened by the actions of a small number of investors. Brokerage firms in emerging market countries may be fewer in number and less established than brokerage firms in more developed markets. Since the Fund may need to effect securities transactions through these brokerage firms, the Fund is subject to the risk that these brokerage firms will not be able to fulfill their obligations to the Fund. This risk is magnified to the extent the Fund effects securities transactions through a single brokerage firm or a small number of brokerage firms. In addition, the infrastructure for the safe custody of securities and for purchasing and selling securities, settling trades, collecting dividends, initiating corporate actions, and following corporate activity is not as well developed in emerging market countries as is the case in certain more developed markets.

**Political and Economic Risk.** Certain emerging market countries have historically been subject to political instability and their prospects are tied to the continuation of economic and political liberalization in the region. Instability may result from factors such as government or military intervention in decision making, terrorism, civil unrest, extremism



or hostilities between neighboring countries. Any of these factors, including an outbreak of hostilities could negatively impact the Fund's returns. Limited political and democratic freedoms in emerging market countries might cause significant social unrest. These factors may have a significant adverse effect on an emerging market country's economy.

Many emerging market countries may be heavily dependent upon international trade and, consequently, may continue to be negatively affected by trade barriers, exchange controls, managed adjustments in relative currency values and other protectionist measures imposed or negotiated by the countries with which it trades. They also have been, and may continue to be, adversely affected by economic conditions in the countries with which they trade.

In addition, commodities (such as oil, gas and minerals) represent a significant percentage of certain emerging market countries' exports and these economies are particularly sensitive to fluctuations in commodity prices. Adverse economic events in one country may have a significant adverse effect on other countries of this region. In addition, most emerging market countries have experienced, at one time or another, severe and persistent levels of inflation, including,

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE FUNDS INVESTMENT STRATEGIES AND RISKS**  
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in some cases, hyperinflation. This has, in turn, led to high interest rates, extreme measures by governments to keep inflation in check, and a generally debilitating effect on economic growth.

Although inflation in many countries has lessened, there is no guarantee it will remain at lower levels. The political history of certain emerging market countries has been characterized by political uncertainty, intervention by the military in civilian and economic spheres, and political corruption. Such events could reverse favorable trends toward market and economic reform, privatization, and removal of trade barriers, and result in significant disruption in securities markets in the region.

Also, from time to time, certain issuers located in emerging market countries in which the Fund invests may operate in, or have dealings with, countries subject to sanctions and/or embargoes imposed by the U.S. Government and the United Nations and/or countries identified by the U.S. Government as state sponsors of terrorism. As a result, an issuer may sustain damage to its reputation if it is identified as an issuer which operates in, or has dealings with, such countries. The Fund, as an investor in such issuers, will be indirectly subject to those risks.

The economies of one or more countries in which the Fund may invest may be in various states of transition from a planned economy to a more market oriented economy. The economies of such countries differ from the economies of most developed countries in many respects, including levels of government involvement, states of development, growth rates, control of foreign exchange and allocation of resources. Economic growth in these economies may be uneven both geographically and among various sectors of their economies and may also be accompanied by periods of high inflation. Political changes, social instability and adverse diplomatic developments in these countries could result in the imposition of additional government restrictions, including expropriation of assets, confiscatory taxes or nationalization of some or all of the property held by the underlying issuers of securities included in the ex-US Moat Focus Index. There is no guarantee that the governments of these countries will not revert back to some form of planned or non-market oriented economy, and such governments continue to be active participants in many economic sectors through ownership positions and regulation. The allocation of resources in such countries is subject to a high level of government control. Such countries' governments may strictly regulate the payment of foreign currency denominated obligations and set monetary policy. Through their policies, these governments may provide preferential treatment to particular industries or companies. The policies set by the government of one of these countries could have a substantial effect on that country's economy.

**Investment and Repatriation Restrictions.** The government in an emerging or frontier market country may restrict or control to varying degrees the ability of foreign investors to invest in securities of issuers located or operating in such emerging market countries. These restrictions and/or controls may at times limit or prevent foreign investment in securities of issuers located or operating in emerging market countries and may inhibit the Fund's ability to track its Index. In addition, the Fund may not be able to buy or sell securities or receive full value for such securities. Moreover, certain emerging market countries may require governmental approval or special licenses prior to investments by foreign investors and may limit the amount of investments by foreign investors in a particular industry and/or issuer; may limit such foreign investment to a certain class of securities of an issuer that may have less advantageous rights than the classes available for purchase by domiciliaries of such emerging market countries; and/or may impose additional taxes on foreign investors. A delay in obtaining a required government approval or a license would delay investments in those emerging market countries, and, as a result, the Fund may not be able to invest in certain securities while approval is pending. The government of certain emerging market countries may also withdraw or decline to renew a license that enables the Fund to invest in such country. These factors make investing in issuers

located or operating in emerging market countries significantly riskier than investing in issuers located or operating in more developed countries, and any one of them could cause a decline in the value of the Fund's Shares.

Additionally, investments in issuers located in certain emerging market countries may be subject to a greater degree of risk associated with governmental approval in connection with the repatriation of investment income, capital or the proceeds of sales of securities by foreign investors. Moreover, there is the risk that if the balance of payments in an emerging or frontier market country declines, the government of such country may impose temporary restrictions on foreign capital remittances. Consequently, the Fund could be adversely affected by delays in, or a refusal to grant, required governmental approval for repatriation of capital, as well as by the application to the Fund of any restrictions on investments. Furthermore, investments in emerging market countries may require the Fund to adopt special procedures, seek local government approvals or take other actions, each of which may involve additional costs to the Fund.

**Available Disclosure About Emerging Market Issuers.** Issuers located or operating in emerging market countries are not subject to the same rules and regulations as issuers located or operating in more developed countries. Therefore, there may be less financial and other information publicly available with regard to issuers located or operating in

emerging market countries and such issuers are not subject to the uniform accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards applicable to issuers located or operating in more developed countries.

**Foreign Currency Considerations.** The Fund's assets that are invested in equity securities of issuers in emerging market countries will generally be denominated in foreign currencies, and the income received by the Fund from these investments will be principally in foreign currencies. The value of an emerging or frontier market country's currency may be subject to a high degree of fluctuation. This fluctuation may be due to changes in interest rates, the effects of monetary policies issued by the United States, foreign governments, central banks or supranational entities, the imposition of currency controls or other national or global political or economic developments. The economies of certain emerging market countries can be significantly affected by currency devaluations. Certain emerging market countries may also have managed currencies which are maintained at artificial levels relative to the U.S. dollar rather than at levels determined by the market. This type of system can lead to sudden and large adjustments in the currency which, in turn, can have a disruptive and negative effect on foreign investors.

The Fund's exposure to an emerging market country's currency and changes in value of such foreign currencies versus the U.S. dollar may reduce the Fund's investment performance and the value of your investment in the Fund. Meanwhile, the Fund will compute and expects to distribute its income in U.S. dollars, and the computation of income will be made on the date that the income is earned by the Fund at the foreign exchange rate in effect on that date. Therefore, if the value of the respective emerging or frontier market country's currency falls relative to the U.S. dollar between the earning of the income and the time at which the Fund converts the relevant emerging or frontier market country's currency to U.S. dollars, the Fund may be required to liquidate certain positions in order to make distributions if the Fund has insufficient cash in U.S. dollars to meet distribution requirements under the Internal Revenue Code. The liquidation of investments, if required, could be at disadvantageous prices or otherwise have an adverse impact on the Fund's performance.

Certain emerging market countries also restrict the free conversion of their currency into foreign currencies, including the U.S. dollar. There is no significant foreign exchange market for many such currencies and it would, as a result, be difficult for the Fund to engage in foreign currency transactions designed to protect the value of the Fund's interests in securities denominated in such currencies. Furthermore, if permitted, the Fund may incur costs in connection with conversions between U.S. dollars and an emerging or frontier market country's currency. Foreign exchange dealers realize a profit based on the difference between the prices at which they are buying and selling various currencies. Thus, a dealer normally will offer to sell a foreign currency to the Funds at one rate, while offering a lesser rate of exchange should the Fund desire immediately to resell that currency to the dealer. The Fund will conduct its foreign currency exchange transactions either on a spot (*i.e.*, cash) basis at the spot rate prevailing in the foreign currency exchange market, or through entering into forward, futures or options contracts to purchase or sell foreign currencies.

**Operational and Settlement Risk.** In addition to having less developed securities markets, emerging market countries have less developed custody and settlement practices than certain developed countries. Rules adopted under the 1940 Act permit the Fund to maintain its foreign securities and cash in the custody of certain eligible non-U.S. banks and securities depositories. Banks in emerging market countries that are eligible foreign sub-custodians may be recently organized or otherwise lack extensive operating experience. In addition, in certain emerging market countries there may be legal restrictions or limitations on the ability of the Fund to recover assets held in custody by a foreign sub-custodian in the event of the bankruptcy of the sub-custodian. Because settlement systems in emerging market countries may be less organized than in other developed markets, there may be a risk that settlement may be delayed and that cash or securities of the Fund may be in jeopardy because of failures of or defects in the systems. Under the laws in many emerging market countries, the Fund may be required to release local shares before receiving cash payment or may be required to make cash payment prior to receiving local shares, creating a risk that the Fund may

surrender cash or securities without ever receiving securities or cash from the other party. Settlement systems in emerging market countries also have a higher risk of failed trades and back to back settlements may not be possible.

The Fund may not be able to convert a foreign currency to U.S. dollars in time for the settlement of redemption requests. In the event of a redemption request from an Authorized Participant ( AP ), the Fund will be required to deliver U.S. dollars to the AP on the settlement date. In the event that the Fund is not able to convert the foreign currency to U.S. dollars in time for settlement, which may occur as a result of the delays described above, the Fund may be required to liquidate certain investments and/or borrow money in order to fund such redemption. The liquidation of investments, if required, could be at disadvantageous prices or otherwise have an adverse impact on the Fund's performance (*e.g.*, by causing the Fund to overweight foreign currency denominated holdings and underweight other holdings which were sold to fund redemptions). In addition, the Fund will incur interest expense on any borrowings and the borrowings will cause the Fund to be leveraged, which may magnify gains and losses on its investments.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE FUNDS INVESTMENT STRATEGIES AND RISKS**  
(continued)

In certain frontier and emerging market countries, the marketability of quoted shares may be limited due to the restricted opening hours of stock exchanges, and a narrow range of investors and a relatively high proportion of market value may be concentrated in the hands of a relatively small number of shareholders. In addition, because certain frontier and emerging market countries' stock exchanges on which the Fund's portfolio securities may trade are open when the NYSE Arca is closed, the Fund may be subject to heightened risk associated with market movements. Trading volume may be lower on certain frontier and emerging market countries' stock exchanges than on more developed securities markets and equities may be generally less liquid. The infrastructure for clearing, settlement and registration on the primary and secondary markets of certain frontier and emerging market countries are less developed than in certain other markets and under certain circumstances this may result in the Fund experiencing delays in settling and/or registering transactions in the markets in which it invests, particularly if the growth of foreign and domestic investment in certain frontier and emerging market countries places an undue burden on such investment infrastructure. Such delays could affect the speed with which the Fund can transmit redemption proceeds and may inhibit the initiation and realization of investment opportunities at optimum times.

Certain issuers in emerging market countries may utilize share blocking schemes. Share blocking refers to a practice, in certain foreign markets, where voting rights related to an issuer's securities are predicated on these securities being blocked from trading at the custodian or sub-custodian level for a period of time around a shareholder meeting. These restrictions have the effect of barring the purchase and sale of certain voting securities within a specified number of days before and, in certain instances, after a shareholder meeting where a vote of shareholders will be taken. Share blocking may prevent the Fund from buying or selling securities for a period of time. During the time that shares are blocked, trades in such securities will not settle. The blocking period can last up to several weeks. The process for having a blocking restriction lifted can be quite onerous with the particular requirements varying widely by country. In addition, in certain countries, the block cannot be removed. As a result of the ramifications of voting ballots in markets that allow share blocking, the Adviser, on behalf of the Fund, reserves the right to abstain from voting proxies in those markets.

**Corporate and Securities Laws.** Securities laws in emerging market countries are relatively new and unsettled and, consequently, there is a risk of rapid and unpredictable change in laws regarding foreign investment, securities regulation, title to securities and shareholder rights. Accordingly, foreign investors may be adversely affected by new or amended laws and regulations. In addition, the systems of corporate governance to which emerging market issuers are subject may be less advanced than those systems to which issuers located in more developed countries are subject, and therefore, shareholders of issuers located in emerging market countries may not receive many of the protections available to shareholders of issuers located in more developed countries. In circumstances where adequate laws and shareholder rights exist, it may not be possible to obtain swift and equitable enforcement of the law. In addition, the enforcement of systems of taxation at federal, regional and local levels in emerging market countries may be inconsistent and subject to sudden change.

**Participation Notes.** (VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF only.) Participation notes ( P-Notes ) are issued by banks or broker-dealers and are designed to offer a return linked to the performance of a particular underlying equity security or market. P-Notes can have the characteristics or take the form of various instruments, including, but not limited to, certificates or warrants. The holder of a P-Note that is linked to a particular underlying security is entitled to receive any dividends paid in connection with the underlying security. However, the holder of a P-Note generally does not receive voting rights as it would if it directly owned the underlying security. P-Notes constitute direct, general and unsecured contractual obligations of the banks or broker-dealers that issue them, which

therefore subject the Fund to counterparty risk, as discussed below.

Investments in P-Notes involve certain risks in addition to those associated with a direct investment in the underlying foreign securities or foreign securities markets whose return they seek to replicate. For instance, there can be no assurance that the trading price of a P-Note will equal the value of the underlying foreign security or foreign securities market that it seeks to replicate. As the purchaser of a P-Note, the Fund is relying on the creditworthiness of the counterparty issuing the P-Note and has no rights under a P-Note against the issuer of the underlying security. Therefore, if such counterparty were to become insolvent, the Fund would lose its investment. The risk that the Fund may lose its investments due to the insolvency of a single counterparty may be amplified to the extent the Fund purchases P-Notes issued by one issuer or a small number of issuers. P-Notes also include transaction costs in addition to those applicable to a direct investment in securities. In addition, the Fund's use of P-Notes may cause the Fund's performance to deviate from the performance of the portion of the Index to which the Fund is gaining exposure through the use of P-Notes.

Due to liquidity and transfer restrictions, the secondary markets on which P-Notes are traded may be less liquid than the markets for other securities, which may lead to the absence of readily available market quotations for securities in the Fund's

portfolio and may cause the value of the P-Notes to decline. The ability of the Fund to value its securities becomes more difficult and the Adviser's judgment in the application of fair value procedures may play a greater role in the valuation of the Fund's securities due to reduced availability of reliable objective pricing data. Consequently, while such determinations will be made in good faith, it may nevertheless be more difficult for the Fund to accurately assign a daily value to such securities.

**Risk of Investing in Depositary Receipts** (VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF and VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF only.) A Fund may invest in depositary receipts (including ADRs) which involve similar risks to those associated with investments in foreign securities. Depositary receipts are receipts listed on U.S. or foreign exchanges issued by banks or trust companies that entitle the holder to all dividends and capital gains that are paid out on the underlying foreign shares. The issuers of certain depositary receipts are under no obligation to distribute shareholder communications to the holders of such receipts, or to pass through to them any voting rights with respect to the deposited securities. Investments in depositary receipts may be less liquid than the underlying shares in their primary trading market and, if not included in a Fund's Index, may negatively affect a Fund's ability to replicate the performance of its Index. In addition, investments in depositary receipts that are not included in a Fund's Index may increase tracking error.

**Risk of Investing in Small- and Medium-Capitalization Companies.** (VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF only.) The Fund may invest in small- and medium-capitalization companies and, therefore, will be subject to certain risks associated with small- and medium-capitalization companies. These companies are often subject to less analyst coverage and may be in early and less predictable periods of their corporate existences, with little or no record of profitability. In addition, these companies often have greater price volatility, lower trading volume and less liquidity than larger more established companies. These companies tend to have smaller revenues, narrower product lines, less management depth and experience, smaller shares of their product or service markets, fewer financial resources and less competitive strength than large-capitalization companies. Returns on investments in securities of small- and medium-capitalization companies could trail the returns on investments in securities of larger companies.

**Risk of Investing in Medium-Capitalization Companies.** (VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF and VanEck Vectors Morningstar Wide Moat ETF only.) A Fund may invest in medium-capitalization companies and, therefore, will be subject to certain risks associated with medium-capitalization companies. These companies are often subject to less analyst coverage and may be in early and less predictable periods of their corporate existences, with little or no record of profitability. In addition, these companies often have greater price volatility, lower trading volume and less liquidity than larger more established companies. These companies tend to have smaller revenues, narrower product lines, less management depth and experience, smaller shares of their product or service markets, fewer financial resources and less competitive strength than large-capitalization companies. Returns on investments in securities of medium-capitalization companies could trail the returns on investments in securities of large-capitalization companies.

**Risk of Cash Transactions.** (VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF only.) Unlike other ETFs, VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF effects its creations and redemptions partially for cash, rather than in-kind securities. As a result, an investment in the Fund may be less tax-efficient than an investment in a more conventional ETF. Other ETFs generally are able to make in-kind redemptions and avoid realizing gains in connection with transactions designed to raise cash to meet redemption requests. Because the Fund currently intends to effect a portion of redemptions for cash, rather than in-kind distributions, it may be required to sell portfolio securities in order to obtain the cash needed to distribute redemption proceeds, which involves transaction costs. If the Fund recognizes gain on these sales, this generally will cause the Fund to recognize gain it might not otherwise have recognized if it were to distribute portfolio securities in-kind, or to recognize such gain sooner than would otherwise be required. The



Fund generally intends to distribute these gains to shareholders to avoid being taxed on this gain at the Fund level and otherwise comply with the special tax rules that apply to it. This strategy may cause shareholders to be subject to tax on gains they would not otherwise be subject to, or at an earlier date than, if they had made an investment in a different ETF.

**Equity Securities Risk.** The value of the equity securities held by a Fund may fall due to general market and economic conditions, perceptions regarding the markets in which the issuers of securities held by a Fund participate, or factors relating to specific issuers in which a Fund invests. For example, an adverse event, such as an unfavorable earnings report, may result in a decline in the value of equity securities of an issuer held by a Fund; the price of the equity securities of an issuer may be particularly sensitive to general movements in the securities markets; or a drop in the securities markets may depress the price of most or all of the equities securities held by a Fund. In addition, the equity securities of an issuer in a Fund's portfolio may decline in price if the issuer fails to make anticipated dividend payments. Equity securities are subordinated to preferred securities and debt in a company's capital structure with respect to priority in right to a share of corporate income, and therefore will be subject to greater dividend risk than preferred securities or debt instruments. In addition, while broad market measures of equity securities have historically generated higher average returns than fixed income securities, equity securities have generally also experienced significantly more volatility in those returns, although under certain market

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conditions fixed income securities may have comparable or greater price volatility. A change in the financial condition, market perception or the credit rating of an issuer of securities included in a Fund's index may cause the value of its securities to decline.

With respect to VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF and VanEck Vectors Morningstar Wide Moat ETF, Morningstar may be incorrect in its assessment of the competitive advantages of the companies selected for inclusion in the ex-US Moat Focus Index and/or Wide Moat Focus Index, and the securities issued by such companies may underperform Morningstar's expectations and have an adverse effect on a Fund's overall performance. There can also be no assurance that wide or narrow moat companies will have sustainable competitive advantages for any period of time. Competitive advantages for wide and narrow moat companies may erode in a relatively short period of time due to, among other reasons, changes in laws and regulations, intellectual property rights, economic and political conditions and technological developments.

**Market Risk.** The prices of the securities in each Fund are subject to the risks associated with investing in the securities market, including general economic conditions and sudden and unpredictable drops in value. Overall securities values could decline generally or could underperform other investments. An investment in a Fund may lose money.

**Operational Risk.** Each Fund is exposed to operational risk arising from a number of factors, including, but not limited to, human error, processing and communication errors, errors of a Fund's service providers, counterparties or other third-parties, failed or inadequate processes and technology or system failures. Each Fund seeks to reduce these operational risks through controls and procedures. However, these measures do not address every possible risk and may be inadequate for those risks that they are intended to address.

**High Portfolio Turnover Risk.** (VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF and VanEck Vectors Morningstar Wide Moat ETF only.) The Fund may engage in active and frequent trading of its portfolio securities. High portfolio turnover may result in increased transaction costs to the Fund, including brokerage commissions, dealer mark-ups and other transaction costs on the sale of the securities and on reinvestment in other securities.

**Index Tracking Risk.** Each Fund's return may not match the return of its Index for a number of reasons. For example, each Fund incurs a number of operating expenses not applicable to its Index and incurs costs associated with buying and selling securities, especially when rebalancing the Fund's securities holdings to reflect changes in the composition of its Index, which are not factored into the return of its Index. Transaction costs, including brokerage costs, will decrease a Fund's net asset value (NAV) to the extent not offset by the transaction fee payable by an AP. Market disruptions and regulatory restrictions could have an adverse effect on a Fund's ability to adjust its exposure to the required levels in order to track its Index. There is no assurance that an Index Provider or any agents that may act on their behalf will compile an Index accurately, or that an Index will be determined, composed or calculated accurately. Errors in respect of the quality, accuracy and completeness of the data used to compile an Index may occur from time to time and may not be identified and corrected by the Index Providers for a period of time or at all, particularly where the indices are less commonly used as benchmarks by funds or managers. Therefore, gains, losses or costs associated with errors of an Index Provider or its agents will generally be borne by a Fund and its shareholders. For example, during a period where a Fund's Index contains incorrect constituents, a Fund would have market exposure to such constituents and would be underexposed to a Index's other constituents. Such errors may negatively or positively impact a Fund and its shareholders. Any gains due to an Index Provider's or others' errors will be kept by a Fund and its

shareholders and any losses resulting from an Index Provider's or others' errors will be borne by a Fund and its shareholders. In addition, a Fund may not be able to invest in certain securities included in its Index, or invest in them in the exact proportions in which they are represented in its Index, due to legal restrictions or limitations imposed by the governments of certain countries, a lack of liquidity in stock exchanges on which such securities trade, potential adverse tax consequences or other regulatory reasons. Moreover, a Fund may be delayed in purchasing or selling securities included in its Index. In addition, any issues a Fund encounters with regard to currency convertibility (including the cost of borrowing funds, if any) and repatriation may also increase the index tracking risk. VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF may also need to rely on borrowings to meet redemptions, which may lead to increased expenses. For tax efficiency purposes, a Fund may sell certain securities to realize a loss and deviate from the performance of its Index.

VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF and VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF are expected to fair value certain of the foreign securities or other assets they hold. To the extent a Fund calculates its NAV based on fair value prices and the value of its Index is based on securities' closing prices on local foreign markets (*i.e.*, the value of its Index is not based on fair value prices) or if a Fund otherwise calculates its NAV based on prices that differ from those used in calculating its Index, a Fund's ability to track its Index may be adversely affected. The need to comply with the tax diversification and other requirements of the Internal Revenue Code may also impact a Fund's ability to replicate the performance of its Index. In addition, if a Fund utilizes depositary receipts and other derivative instruments that are not included in its Index, its return may not correlate as well with the returns of its Index as would be the case if a Fund purchased all the securities in its Index.

directly. Actions taken in response to proposed corporate actions could result in increased tracking error. In light of the factors discussed above, a Fund's return may deviate significantly from the return of its Index.

Index tracking risk may be heightened during times of increased market volatility or other unusual market conditions. Errors in the construction or calculation of a Fund's Index may occur from time to time. Any such errors may not be identified or corrected by a Fund's Provider for some period of time, which may have an adverse effect on a Fund and its shareholders.

**Replication Management Risk.** Unlike many investment companies, the Funds are not actively managed. Therefore, unless a specific security is removed from its Index, a Fund generally would not sell a security because the security's issuer is in financial trouble. If a specific security is removed from a Fund's Index, the Fund may be forced to sell such security at an inopportune time or for prices other than at current market values. An investment in a Fund involves risks similar to those of investing in any fund of equity securities traded on an exchange, such as market fluctuations caused by such factors as economic and political developments, changes in interest rates and perceived trends in security prices. Each Fund's Index may not contain the appropriate or a diversified mix of securities for any particular economic cycle. The timing of changes in the securities of a Fund's portfolio in seeking to replicate its Index could have a negative effect on the Fund. Unlike with an actively managed fund, the Adviser does not use techniques or defensive strategies designed to lessen the effects of market volatility or to reduce the impact of periods of market decline. This means that, based on market and economic conditions, a Fund's performance could be lower than funds that may actively shift their portfolio assets to take advantage of market opportunities or to lessen the impact of a market decline or a decline in the value of one or more issuers.

**Authorized Participant Concentration Risk.** A Fund may have a limited number of financial institutions that act as APs, none of which are obligated to engage in creation or redemption transactions. To the extent that those APs exit the business, or are unable to or choose not to process creation and/or redemption orders, and no other AP is able to step forward to create and redeem, there may be a significantly diminished trading market for Shares or Shares may trade like closed-end funds at a discount (or premium) to NAV and possibly face trading halts and/or de-listing. The AP concentration risk may be heightened in scenarios where APs have limited or diminished access to the capital required to post collateral.

**No Guarantee of Active Trading Market.** While Shares are listed on NYSE Arca, there can be no assurance that an active trading market for the Shares will be maintained. Further, secondary markets may be subject to irregular trading activity, wide bid/ask spreads and extended trade settlement periods in times of market stress because market makers and APs may step away from making a market in the Shares and in executing creation and redemption orders, which could cause a material deviation in a Fund's market price from its NAV. Van Eck Securities Corporation, the distributor of the Shares (the Distributor), does not maintain a secondary market in the Shares. Investors purchasing and selling shares in the secondary market may not experience investment results consistent with those experienced by those APs creating and redeeming directly with a Fund.

Decisions by market makers or APs to reduce their role or step away from these activities in times of market stress could inhibit the effectiveness of the arbitrage process in maintaining the relationship between the underlying value of a Fund's portfolio securities and the Fund's market price. This reduced effectiveness could result in Fund Shares trading at a discount to its NAV and also in greater than normal intraday bid/ask spreads for Fund Shares.

**Trading Issues.** Trading in Shares on an Exchange may be halted due to market conditions or for reasons that, in the view of the Exchange, make trading in Shares inadvisable. In addition, trading in Shares on an Exchange is subject to trading halts caused by extraordinary market volatility pursuant to the relevant Exchange's circuit breaker rules. There

can be no assurance that the requirements of an Exchange necessary to maintain the listing of a Fund will continue to be met or will remain unchanged.

**Fund Shares Trading, Premium/Discount Risk and Liquidity of Fund Shares.** Disruptions to creations and redemptions, the existence of market volatility or potential lack of an active trading market for Shares (including through a trading halt), as well as other factors, may result in Shares trading at a significant premium or discount to NAV or to the intraday value of a Fund's holdings. The NAV of the Shares will fluctuate with changes in the market value of a Fund's securities holdings. The market prices of Shares will fluctuate, in some cases materially, in accordance with changes in NAV and the intraday value of a Fund's holdings, as well as supply and demand on the NYSE Arca. The Adviser cannot predict whether Shares will trade below, at or above their NAV. Given the fact that Shares can be created and redeemed by APs in Creation Units, the Adviser believes that large discounts or premiums to the NAV of Shares should not be sustained in the long-term. While the creation/redemption feature is designed to make it likely that Shares normally will trade close to the value of a Fund's holdings, market prices are not expected to correlate exactly to the Fund's NAV due to timing reasons, supply and demand imbalances and other factors. The price differences may be due, in large part, to the fact that supply and demand forces at work in the secondary trading market for Shares may be closely related to, but not necessarily identical to, the same forces influencing the prices of the securities of a Fund's portfolio of investments trading individually or in the aggregate at any point

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE FUNDS INVESTMENT STRATEGIES AND RISKS (continued)**

in time. If a shareholder purchases Shares at a time when the market price is at a premium to the NAV or sells Shares at a time when the market price is at a discount to the NAV, the shareholder may sustain losses or receive significantly less than the underlying value of the Shares that were bought or sold. Any of these factors, discussed above and further below, may lead to the Shares trading at a premium or discount to a Fund's NAV. In addition, because certain of a Fund's underlying securities trade on exchanges that are closed when the NYSE Arca (*i.e.*, the exchange that Shares of the Fund trade on) is open, there are likely to be deviations between the expected value of an underlying security and the closing security's price (*i.e.*, the last quote from its closed foreign market) resulting in premiums or discounts to NAV that may be greater than those experienced by other ETFs. In addition, the securities held by a Fund may be traded in markets that close at a different time than NYSE Arca. Liquidity in those securities may be reduced after the applicable closing times. Accordingly, during the time when NYSE Arca is open but after the applicable market closing, fixing or settlement times, bid/ask spreads and the resulting premium or discount to the Shares' NAV may widen. Additionally, in stressed market conditions, the market for a Fund's Shares may become less liquid in response to deteriorating liquidity in the markets for the Fund's underlying portfolio holdings.

When you buy or sell Shares of a Fund through a broker, you will likely incur a brokerage commission or other charges imposed by brokers. In addition, the market price of Shares, like the price of any exchange-traded security, includes a bid/ask spread charged by the market makers or other participants that trade the particular security. The spread of a Fund's Shares varies over time based on the Fund's trading volume and market liquidity and may increase if the Fund's trading volume, the spread of the Fund's underlying securities, or market liquidity decrease. In times of severe market disruption, including when trading of a Fund's holdings may be halted, the bid/ask spread may increase significantly. This means that Shares may trade at a discount to the Fund's NAV, and the discount is likely to be greatest during significant market volatility.

**Non-Diversified Risk.** Each Fund is a separate investment portfolio of VanEck Vectors ETF Trust (the Trust), which is an open-end investment company registered under the 1940 Act. Each Fund is classified as a non-diversified fund under the 1940 Act. As a result, each Fund is subject to the risk that it will be more volatile than a diversified fund because the Fund may invest its assets in a smaller number of issuers or may invest a larger proportion of its assets in a single issuer. Moreover, the gains and losses on a single investment may have a greater impact on a Fund's NAV and may make the Fund more volatile than more diversified funds.

**Concentration Risk.** A Fund's assets will be concentrated in a particular sector or sectors or industry or group of industries to the extent that its Index concentrates in a particular sector or sectors or industry or group of industries. The securities of many or all of the companies in the same sector or industry may decline in value due to developments adversely affecting such sector or industry. By concentrating its assets in a particular sector or sectors or industry or group of industries, a Fund is subject to the risk that economic, political or other conditions that have a negative effect on that sector or sectors or industry or group of industries will negatively impact a Fund to a greater extent than if the Fund's assets were invested in a wider variety of sectors or industries.

## **ADDITIONAL NON-PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES**

Each Fund may invest in securities not included in its respective Index, money market instruments, including repurchase agreements or other funds which invest exclusively in money market instruments, convertible securities, structured notes (notes on which the amount of principal repayment and interest payments are based on the movement of one or more specified factors, such as the movement of a particular stock or stock index) and certain derivatives.

Depository receipts not included in a Fund's Index may be used by a Fund in seeking performance that corresponds to its respective Index and in managing cash flows, and may count towards compliance with the Fund's 80% policy. Each Fund may also invest, to the extent permitted by the 1940 Act, in other affiliated and unaffiliated funds, such as open-end or closed-end management investment companies, including other exchange-traded funds (ETFs). None of the Funds employs a temporary defensive strategy, and none of the Funds invests as part of a temporary defensive strategy to protect against potential stock market declines.

### **BORROWING MONEY**

Each Fund may borrow money from a bank up to a limit of one-third of the market value of its assets. Each Fund has entered into a credit facility to borrow money for temporary, emergency or other purposes, including the funding of shareholder redemption requests, trade settlements and as necessary to distribute to shareholders any income required to maintain such Fund's status as a regulated investment company. To the extent that a Fund borrows money, it will be leveraged; at such times, the Fund will appreciate or depreciate in value more rapidly than its Index. Leverage generally has the effect of increasing the amount of loss or gain a Fund might realize, and may increase volatility in the value of a Fund's investments.

## LENDING PORTFOLIO SECURITIES

Each Fund may lend its portfolio securities to brokers, dealers and other financial institutions desiring to borrow securities to complete transactions and for other purposes. In connection with such loans, a Fund receives liquid collateral equal to at least 102% of the value of the portfolio securities being loaned. This collateral is marked-to-market on a daily basis. Although a Fund will receive collateral in connection with all loans of its securities holdings, the Fund would be exposed to a risk of loss should a borrower fail to return the borrowed securities (*e.g.*, the Fund would have to buy replacement securities and the loaned securities may have appreciated beyond the value of the collateral held by the Fund) or become insolvent. A Fund may pay fees to the party arranging the loan of securities. In addition, a Fund will bear the risk of loss of any cash collateral that it invests.

## ADDITIONAL NON-PRINCIPAL RISKS

**Risk of Investing in Other Funds.** (VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF only.) The Fund may invest in shares of other funds, including ETFs that track the Spin-Off Index. As a result, the Fund will indirectly be exposed to the risks of an investment in the underlying funds. Shares of other funds have many of the same risks as direct investments in common stocks or bonds. In addition, the market value of the Fund's shares is expected to rise and fall as the value of the underlying index or bond rises and falls. The market value of such funds' shares may differ from the net asset value of the particular fund. As a shareholder in a fund (as with ETFs), the Fund would bear its ratable share of that entity's expenses. At the same time, the Fund would continue to pay its own investment management fees and other expenses. As a result, the Fund and its shareholders will be absorbing duplicate levels of fees with respect to investments in other funds, including ETFs. Such fees will not, however, be counted towards the Fund's expense cap.

**Risk of Investing in Derivatives.** Derivatives are financial instruments whose values are based on the value of one or more reference assets or indicators, such as a security, currency, interest rate, or index. Certain Funds' use of derivatives involves risks different from, and possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in securities and other more traditional investments. Moreover, although the value of a derivative is based on an underlying asset or indicator, a derivative typically does not carry the same rights as would be the case if a Fund invested directly in the underlying securities, currencies or other assets.

Derivatives are subject to a number of risks, such as potential changes in value in response to market developments or, in the case of over-the-counter derivatives, as a result of a counterparty's credit quality and the risk that a derivative transaction may not have the effect the Adviser anticipated. Derivatives also involve the risk of mispricing or improper valuation and the risk that changes in the value of a derivative may not achieve the desired correlation with the underlying asset or indicator. Derivative transactions can create investment leverage, may be highly volatile, and a Fund could lose more than the amount it invests. The use of derivatives may increase the amount and affect the timing and character of taxes payable by shareholders of a Fund.

Many derivative transactions are entered into over-the-counter without a central clearinghouse; as a result, the value of such a derivative transaction will depend on, among other factors, the ability and the willingness of a Fund's counterparty to perform its obligations under the transaction. If a counterparty were to default on its obligations, a Fund's contractual remedies against such counterparty may be subject to bankruptcy and insolvency laws, which could affect the Fund's rights as a creditor (*e.g.*, the Fund may not receive the net amount of payments that it is contractually entitled to receive). A liquid secondary market may not always exist for a Fund's derivative positions at any time.

**Leverage Risk.** To the extent that a Fund borrows money or utilizes certain derivatives, it may be leveraged. Leveraging generally exaggerates the effect on NAV of any increase or decrease in the market value of a Fund's



portfolio securities.

## **TAX ADVANTAGED PRODUCT STRUCTURE**

Unlike many conventional mutual funds which are only bought and sold at closing NAVs, the Shares of the Funds have been designed to be tradable in a secondary market on an intra-day basis and to be created and redeemed principally in-kind, except for VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF whose shares are created and redeemed partially for cash, in Creation Units at each day's market close. These in-kind arrangements are designed to mitigate the adverse effects on a Fund's portfolio that could arise from frequent cash purchase and redemption transactions that affect the NAV of the Fund. Moreover, in contrast to conventional mutual funds, where frequent redemptions can have an adverse tax impact on taxable shareholders because of the need to sell portfolio securities which, in turn, may generate taxable gain, the in-kind redemption

## TAX ADVANTAGED PRODUCT STRUCTURE (continued)

mechanism of the Funds, to the extent used, generally is not expected to lead to a tax event for shareholders whose Shares are not being redeemed.

## PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS

A description of each Fund's policies and procedures with respect to the disclosure of the Fund's portfolio securities is available in the Fund's SAI.

## MANAGEMENT OF THE FUNDS

**Board of Trustees.** The Board of Trustees of the Trust has responsibility for the general oversight of the management of the Funds, including general supervision of the Adviser and other service providers, but is not involved in the day-to-day management of the Trust. A list of the Trustees and the Trust officers, and their present positions and principal occupations, is provided in the Funds' SAI.

**Investment Adviser.** Under the terms of an Investment Management Agreement between the Trust and Van Eck Associates Corporation with respect to each Fund (the "Investment Management Agreement"), Van Eck Associates Corporation serves as the adviser to each Fund and, subject to the supervision of the Board of Trustees, is responsible for the day-to-day investment management of the Funds. As of December 31, 2016, the Adviser managed approximately \$37.97 billion in assets. The Adviser has been an investment adviser since 1955 and also acts as adviser or sub-adviser to mutual funds, other exchange-traded funds, other pooled investment vehicles and separate accounts. The Adviser's principal business address is 666 Third Avenue, 9th Floor, New York, New York 10017. A discussion regarding the Board of Trustees' approval of the Investment Management Agreement is available in the Trust's annual report for the period ended September 30, 2016.

For the services provided to each Fund under the Investment Management Agreement, each Fund pays the Adviser monthly fees based on a percentage of each Fund's average daily net assets at the annual rate of 0.45% (with respect to VanEck Vectors Morningstar Wide Moat ETF) and 0.50% (with respect to VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF and VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF). From time to time, the Adviser may waive all or a portion of its fee. Until at least February 1, 2018, the Adviser has agreed to waive fees and/or pay Fund expenses to the extent necessary to prevent the operating expenses of each Fund (excluding acquired fund fees and expenses, interest expense, trading expenses, taxes and extraordinary expenses) from exceeding 0.49% (with respect to VanEck Vectors Morningstar Wide Moat ETF), 0.55% (with respect to VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF) and 0.56% (with respect to VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF), of its average daily net assets per year.

Each Fund is responsible for all of its expenses, including the investment advisory fees, costs of transfer agency, custody, legal, audit and other services, interest, taxes, any distribution fees or expenses, offering fees or expenses and extraordinary expenses.

**Manager of Managers Structure.** With respect to VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF and VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF, the Adviser and the Trust may rely on an exemptive order (the "Order") from the

SEC that permits the Adviser to enter into investment sub-advisory agreements with unaffiliated sub-advisers without obtaining shareholder approval. The Adviser, subject to the review and approval of the Board of Trustees, may select one or more sub-advisers for the Fund and supervise, monitor and evaluate the performance of each sub-adviser.

The Order also permits the Adviser, subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees, to replace sub-advisers and amend investment sub-advisory agreements, including applicable fee arrangements, without shareholder approval whenever the Adviser and the Board of Trustees believe such action will benefit the Fund and its shareholders. The Adviser thus would have the responsibility (subject to the oversight of the Board of Trustees) to recommend the hiring and replacement of sub-advisers as well as the discretion to terminate any sub-adviser and reallocate the Fund's assets for management among any other sub-adviser(s) and itself. This means that the Adviser would be able to reduce the sub-advisory fees and retain a larger portion of the management fee, or increase the sub-advisory fees and retain a smaller portion of the management fee. The Adviser would compensate each sub-adviser out of its management fee.

**Administrator, Custodian and Transfer Agent.** Van Eck Associates Corporation is the administrator for the Funds (the Administrator), and The Bank of New York Mellon is the custodian of the Funds' assets and provides transfer agency and

fund accounting services to the Funds. The Administrator is responsible for certain clerical, recordkeeping and/or bookkeeping services which are provided pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement.

**Distributor.** Van Eck Securities Corporation is the distributor of the Shares. The Distributor will not distribute Shares in less than Creation Units, and does not maintain a secondary market in the Shares. The Shares are traded in the secondary market.

## PORTFOLIO MANAGERS

The portfolio managers who currently share joint responsibility for the day-to-day management of each Fund's portfolio are Hao Hung (Peter) Liao and George Chao. Mr. Liao has been employed by the Adviser since the summer of 2004. Mr. Chao has been employed by the Adviser since December 2007. Prior to joining the Adviser, he served as Controller of Operations Administrations Division and Corporate Safety (September 2006 to December 2007) for United Airlines. Messrs. Liao and Chao also serve as portfolio managers for certain other investment companies and pooled investment vehicles advised by the Adviser. See the Funds' SAI for additional information about the portfolio managers' compensation, other accounts managed by the portfolio managers and their respective ownership of Shares of each Fund.

## SHAREHOLDER INFORMATION

### DETERMINATION OF NAV

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, including the management fee, are accrued daily and taken into account for purposes of determining NAV. The NAV of each Fund is determined each business day as of the close of trading (ordinarily 4:00 p.m., Eastern time) on the New York Stock Exchange.

The values of each Fund's portfolio securities are based on the securities' closing prices on the markets on which the securities trade, when available. Due to the time differences between the United States and certain countries in which certain Funds invest, securities on these exchanges may not trade at times when Shares of the Fund will trade. In the absence of a last reported sales price, or if no sales were reported, and for other assets for which market quotes are not readily available, values may be based on quotes obtained from a quotation reporting system, established market makers or by an outside independent pricing service. Debt instruments with remaining maturities of more than 60 days are valued at the evaluated mean price provided by an outside independent pricing service. If an outside independent pricing service is unable to provide a valuation, the instrument is valued at the mean of the highest bid and the lowest asked quotes obtained from one or more brokers or dealers selected by the Adviser. Prices obtained by an outside independent pricing service may use information provided by market makers or estimates of market values obtained from yield data related to investments or securities with similar characteristics and may use a computerized grid matrix of securities and its evaluations in determining what it believes is the fair value of the portfolio securities. Short-term debt instruments having a maturity of 60 days or less are valued at amortized cost. 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. If a market quotation for a security or other asset is not readily available or the Adviser believes it does not otherwise accurately reflect the market value of the security or asset at the time a Fund calculates its NAV, the security or asset will be fair valued by the Adviser in accordance with the Trust's valuation policies and procedures approved by the Board of Trustees. Each Fund may also use fair value pricing in a variety of circumstances, including but not limited to, situations when the value of a security in the Fund's portfolio has been materially affected by events occurring after the close of the market on which the security is principally traded (such as a corporate action or other news that may materially affect the price of a security) or trading in a security has been suspended or halted. In addition, each Fund that holds foreign equity securities currently expects that it will fair value certain of the foreign equity securities held by the Fund each day the Fund calculates its NAV, except those securities principally traded on exchanges that close at the same time the Fund calculates its NAV.

Accordingly, a Fund's NAV is expected to reflect certain portfolio securities' fair values rather than their market prices at the time the exchanges on which they principally trade close. Fair value pricing involves subjective judgments and it is possible that a fair value determination for a security or other asset is materially different than the value that could be realized upon the sale of such security or asset. In addition, fair value pricing could result in a difference between the prices used to calculate a Fund's NAV and the prices used by such Fund's Index. This may adversely affect a Fund's ability to track its Index. With respect to securities that are principally traded on foreign exchanges, the value of a Fund's portfolio securities may change on days when you will not be able to purchase or sell your Shares.

### INTRADAY VALUE

The trading prices of the Funds' Shares in the secondary market generally differ from the Funds' daily NAV and are affected by market forces such as the supply of and demand for Fund Shares and underlying securities held by each

Fund, economic conditions and other factors. Information regarding the intraday value of the Funds' Shares ( IIV ) is disseminated every 15 seconds throughout each trading day by NYSE Arca or by market data vendors or other information providers. The IIV is based on the current market value of the securities and/or cash required to be deposited in exchange for a Creation Unit. The IIV does not necessarily reflect the precise composition of the current portfolio of securities held by each Fund at a particular point in time or the best possible valuation of the current portfolio. Therefore, the IIV should not be viewed as a real-time update of the Funds' NAV, which is computed only once a day. The IIV is generally determined by using current market quotations and/or price quotations obtained from broker-dealers and other market intermediaries that may trade in the portfolio securities held by each Fund and valuations based on current market rates. The quotations and/or valuations of certain Fund holdings may not be updated during U.S. trading hours if such holdings do not trade in the United States. Each Fund is not involved in, or responsible for, the calculation or dissemination of the IIV and makes no warranty as to its accuracy.

#### **RULE 144A AND OTHER UNREGISTERED SECURITIES**

An AP (*i.e.*, a person eligible to place orders with the Distributor to create or redeem Creation Units of a Fund) that is not a qualified institutional buyer, as such term is defined under Rule 144A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended ( Securities Act ), will not be able to receive, as part of a redemption, restricted securities eligible for resale under Rule 144A or other unregistered securities.

## BUYING AND SELLING EXCHANGE-TRADED SHARES

The Shares of the Funds are listed on NYSE Arca. If you buy or sell Shares in the secondary market, you will incur customary brokerage commissions and charges and may pay some or all of the spread, which is any difference between the bid price and the ask price. The spread varies over time for a Fund's Shares based on a Fund's trading volume and market liquidity, and is generally lower if the Funds have high trading volume and market liquidity, and generally higher if the Funds have little trading volume and market liquidity (which is often the case for funds that are newly launched or small in size). In times of severe market disruption or low trading volume in a Fund's Shares, this spread can increase significantly. It is anticipated that the Shares will trade in the secondary market at prices that may differ to varying degrees from the NAV of the Shares. During periods of disruptions to creations and redemptions or the existence of extreme market volatility, the market prices of Shares are more likely to differ significantly from the Shares' NAV.

The Depository Trust Company ( DTC ) serves as securities depository for the Shares. (The Shares may be held only in book-entry form; stock certificates will not be issued.) DTC, or its nominee, is the record or registered owner of all outstanding Shares. Beneficial ownership of Shares will be shown on the records of DTC or its participants (described below). Beneficial owners of Shares are not entitled to have Shares registered in their names, will not receive or be entitled to receive physical delivery of certificates in definitive form and are not considered the registered holder thereof. Accordingly, to exercise any rights of a holder of Shares, each beneficial owner must rely on the procedures of: (i) DTC; (ii) DTC Participants, *i.e.*, securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and certain other organizations, some of whom (and/or their representatives) own DTC; and (iii) Indirect Participants, *i.e.*, brokers, dealers, banks and trust companies that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a DTC Participant, either directly or indirectly, through which such beneficial owner holds its interests. The Trust understands that under existing industry practice, in the event the Trust requests any action of holders of Shares, or a beneficial owner desires to take any action that DTC, as the record owner of all outstanding Shares, is entitled to take, DTC would authorize the DTC Participants to take such action and that the DTC Participants would authorize the Indirect Participants and beneficial owners acting through such DTC Participants to take such action and would otherwise act upon the instructions of beneficial owners owning through them. As described above, the Trust recognizes DTC or its nominee as the owner of all Shares for all purposes. For more information, see the section entitled "Book Entry Only System" in the Funds' SAI.

The NYSE Arca is open for trading Monday through Friday and is closed on weekends and the following holidays: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Presidents' Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. Because non-U.S. exchanges may be open on days when a Fund does not price its Shares, the value of the securities in the Fund's portfolio may change on days when shareholders will not be able to purchase or sell a Fund's Shares.

The right of redemption may be suspended or the date of payment postponed (1) for any period during which the NYSE Arca is closed (other than customary weekend and holiday closings); (2) for any period during which trading on the NYSE Arca is suspended or restricted; (3) for any period during which an emergency exists as a result of which disposal of the Shares of a Fund or determination of its NAV is not reasonably practicable; or (4) in such other circumstance as is permitted by the SEC.

**Market Timing and Related Matters.** The Funds impose no restrictions on the frequency of purchases and redemptions. Frequent purchases and redemptions of Fund Shares may attempt to take advantage of a potential arbitrage opportunity presented by a lag between a change in the value of a Fund's portfolio securities after the close of the primary markets for a Fund's portfolio securities and the reflection of that change in a Fund's NAV ( "market timing" ).

The Board of Trustees considered the nature of each Fund (*i.e.*, a fund whose shares are expected to trade intraday), that the Adviser monitors the trading activity of APs for patterns of abusive trading, that the Funds reserve the right to reject orders that may be disruptive to the management of or otherwise not in the Funds' best interests, and that each Fund may fair value certain of its securities. Given this structure, the Board of Trustees determined that it is not necessary to impose restrictions on the frequency of purchases and redemptions for the Funds at the present time.

## **DISTRIBUTIONS**

**Net Investment Income and Capital Gains.** As a shareholder of a Fund, you are entitled to your share of such Fund's distributions of net investment income and net realized capital gains on its investments. Each Fund pays out substantially all of its net earnings to its shareholders as distributions.

Each Fund typically earns income dividends from stocks and interest from debt securities. These amounts, net of expenses, are typically passed along to Fund shareholders as dividends from net investment income. The Fund realizes capital gains or losses whenever it sells securities. Net capital gains are distributed to shareholders as capital gain distributions.

Net investment income, if any, is typically distributed to shareholders at least annually and net realized capital gains, if any, are also typically distributed to shareholders at least annually. Dividends may be declared and paid more frequently to



## SHAREHOLDER INFORMATION (continued)

improve index tracking or to comply with the distribution requirements of the Internal Revenue Code. In addition, in situations where a Fund acquires investment securities after the beginning of a dividend period, a Fund may elect to distribute at least annually amounts representing the full dividend yield net of expenses on the underlying investment securities, as if the Fund owned the underlying investment securities for the entire dividend period. If the Fund so elects, some portion of each distribution may result in a return of capital, which, for tax purposes, is treated as a return of your investment in Shares. Record shareholders will be notified regarding the portion of the distribution which represents a return of capital.

Distributions in cash may be reinvested automatically in additional Shares of a Fund only if the broker through which you purchased Shares makes such option available.

## TAX INFORMATION

As with any investment, you should consider how your Fund investment will be taxed. The tax information in this Prospectus is provided as general information. You should consult your own tax professional about the tax consequences of an investment in a Fund, including the possible application of foreign, state and local taxes. Unless your investment in a Fund is through a tax-exempt entity or tax-deferred retirement account, such as a 401(k) plan, you need to be aware of the possible tax consequences when: (i) the Fund makes distributions, (ii) you sell Shares in the secondary market or (iii) you create or redeem Creation Units.

**Taxes on Distributions.** As noted above, each Fund expects to distribute net investment income, if any, at least annually and any net realized long-term or short-term capital gains, if any, annually. Each Fund may also pay a special distribution at any time to comply with U.S. federal tax requirements.

In general, your distributions are subject to U.S. federal income tax when they are paid, whether you take them in cash or reinvest them in the Fund. Distributions of net investment income, including any net short-term gains, if any, are generally taxable as ordinary income. Whether distributions of capital gains represent long-term or short-term capital gains is determined by how long the Fund owned the investments that generated them, rather than how long you have owned your Shares. Distributions of net short-term capital gains in excess of net long term capital losses, if any, are generally taxable as ordinary income. Distributions of net long-term capital gains in excess of net short-term capital losses, if any, that are properly reported as capital gain dividends are generally taxable as long-term capital gains. Long-term capital gains of a non-corporate shareholder are generally taxable at a maximum rate of 15% or 20%, depending on whether the shareholder's income exceeds certain threshold amounts.

The Funds may receive dividends, the distribution of which a Fund may report as qualified dividends. In the event that a Fund receives such a dividend and designates the distribution of such dividend as a qualified dividend, the dividend may be taxed at the maximum capital gains rates of 15% or 20%, provided holding period and other requirements are met at both the shareholder and the Fund level. There can be no assurance that any significant portion of a Fund's distributions will be eligible for qualified dividend treatment.

Distributions in excess of a Fund's current and accumulated earnings and profits are treated as a tax-free return of your investment to the extent of your basis in the Shares, and generally as capital gain thereafter. A return of capital, which for tax purposes is treated as a return of your investment, reduces your basis in Shares, thus reducing any loss or increasing any gain on a subsequent taxable disposition of Shares. A distribution will reduce a Fund's NAV per Share and may be taxable to you as ordinary income or capital gain even though, from an economic standpoint, the

distribution may constitute a return of capital.

Dividends, interest and gains from non-U.S. investments of a Fund may give rise to withholding and other taxes imposed by foreign countries. Tax conventions between certain countries and the United States may, in some cases, reduce or eliminate such taxes.

If more than 50% of a Fund's total assets at the end of its taxable year consist of foreign securities, the Fund may elect to pass through to its investors certain foreign income taxes paid by the Fund, with the result that each investor will (i) include in gross income, even though not actually received, the investor's pro rata share of the Fund's foreign income taxes, and (ii) either deduct (in calculating U.S. taxable income) or credit (in calculating U.S. federal income), subject to certain holding period and other limitations, the investor's pro rata share of the Fund's foreign income taxes. It is expected that more than 50% of VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF's assets will consist of foreign securities.

**Backup Withholding.** Each Fund may be required to withhold a percentage of your distributions and proceeds if you have not provided a taxpayer identification number or social security number or otherwise established a basis for exemption from backup withholding. The backup withholding rate for individuals is currently 28%. This is not an additional tax and may be refunded, or credited against your U.S. federal income tax liability, provided certain required information is furnished to the Internal Revenue Service ( IRS ).

**Taxes on the Sale or Cash Redemption of Exchange Listed Shares.** Currently, any capital gain or loss realized upon a sale of Shares is generally treated as long-term capital gain or loss if the Shares have been held for more than one year and as a short-term capital gain or loss if held for one year or less. However, any capital loss on a sale of Shares held for six months or less is treated as long-term capital loss to the extent that capital gain dividends were paid with respect to such Shares. The ability to deduct capital losses may be limited. To the extent that a Fund shareholder's Shares are redeemed for cash, this is normally treated as a sale for tax purposes.

**Taxes on Creations and Redemptions of Creation Units.** A person who exchanges securities for Creation Units generally will recognize a gain or loss. The gain or loss will be equal to the difference between the market value of the Creation Units at the time of exchange and the sum of the exchanger's aggregate basis in the securities surrendered and the amount of any cash paid for such Creation Units. A person who exchanges Creation Units for securities will generally recognize a gain or loss equal to the difference between the exchanger's basis in the Creation Units and the sum of the aggregate market value of the securities received. The IRS, however, may assert that a loss realized upon an exchange of primarily securities for Creation Units cannot be deducted currently under the rules governing wash sales, or on the basis that there has been no significant change in economic position. Persons exchanging securities for Creation Units or redeeming Creation Units should consult their own tax adviser with respect to whether wash sale rules apply and when a loss might be deductible and the tax treatment of any creation or redemption transaction.

Under current U.S. federal income tax laws, any capital gain or loss realized upon a redemption (or creation) of Creation Units is generally treated as long-term capital gain or loss if the Shares (or securities surrendered) have been held for more than one year and as a short-term capital gain or loss if the Shares (or securities surrendered) have been held for one year or less.

If you create or redeem Creation Units, you will be sent a confirmation statement showing how many Shares you created or sold and at what price.

**Medicare Tax.** An additional 3.8% Medicare tax is imposed on certain net investment income (including ordinary dividends and capital gain distributions received from a Fund and net gains from redemptions or other taxable dispositions of Fund Shares) of U.S. individuals, estates and trusts to the extent that such person's modified adjusted gross income (in the case of an individual) or adjusted gross income (in the case of an estate or trust) exceeds certain threshold amounts.

**Non-U.S. Shareholders.** If you are not a citizen or resident alien of the United States or if you are a non-U.S. entity, the Funds' ordinary income dividends (which include distributions of net short-term capital gains) will generally be subject to a 30% U.S. withholding tax, unless a lower treaty rate applies or unless such income is effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business.

As part of the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act, ( FATCA ), a Fund may be required to withhold 30% on certain types of U.S. sourced income (*e.g.*, dividends, interest, and other types of passive income) and after January 1, 2019, proceeds from the sale or other disposition of property producing U.S. sourced income and certain capital gain dividends to (i) foreign financial institutions ( FFIs ), including non-U.S. investment funds, unless they agree to collect and disclose to the IRS information regarding their direct and indirect U.S. account holders and (ii) certain nonfinancial foreign entities ( NFFEs ), unless they certify certain information regarding their direct and indirect U.S. owners. To avoid possible withholding, FFIs will need to enter into agreements with the IRS which state that they will provide the IRS information, including the names, account numbers and balances, addresses and taxpayer identification numbers of U.S. account holders and comply with due diligence procedures with respect to the identification of U.S. accounts as well as agree to withhold tax on certain types of withholdable payments made to

non-compliant foreign financial institutions or to applicable foreign account holders who fail to provide the required information to the IRS, or similar account information and required documentation to a local revenue authority, should an applicable intergovernmental agreement be implemented. NFFEs will need to provide certain information regarding each substantial U.S. owner or certifications of no substantial U.S. ownership, unless certain exceptions apply, or agree to provide certain information to the IRS.

While some parts of the FATCA rules have not been finalized, a Fund may be subject to the FATCA withholding obligation, and also will be required to perform due diligence reviews to classify foreign entity investors for FATCA purposes. Investors are required to agree to provide information necessary to allow a Fund to comply with the FATCA rules. If a Fund is required to withhold amounts from payments pursuant to FATCA, investors will receive distributions that are reduced by such withholding amounts.

Non-U.S. shareholders are advised to consult their tax advisors with respect to the particular tax consequences to them of an investment in the Funds, including the possible applicability of the U.S. estate tax.

The foregoing discussion summarizes some of the consequences under current U.S. federal income tax law of an investment in a Fund. It is not a substitute for personal tax advice. Consult your own tax advisor about the potential tax consequences of an investment in a Fund under all applicable tax laws.

## INDEX PROVIDERS

The Spin-Off Index is published by Horizon Kinetics, LLC ( Horizon Kinetics ). The ex-US Moat Focus Index and Wide Moat Focus Index are published by Morningstar. The Morningstar® name and logo are registered trademarks of Morningstar. Morningstar® Global ex-US Moat Focus Index<sup>SM</sup> and Morningstar® Wide Moat Focus Index <sup>SM</sup> are service marks of Morningstar. Morningstar is a leading provider of independent investment research in North America, Europe, Australia, and Asia. Morningstar offers an extensive line of internet, software, and print-based products and services for individuals, financial advisors, and institutions. The ex-US Moat Focus Index and Wide Moat Focus Index are rooted in Morningstar's proprietary research and are based on a transparent, rules-based methodology. Presently, Morningstar has developed and is maintaining a number of indexes in addition to the ex-US Moat Focus Index and Wide Moat Focus Index.

Horizon Kinetics and Morningstar are each referred to herein as an Index Provider and, together, the Index Providers. The Index Providers do not sponsor, endorse, or promote the Funds and bear no liability with respect to the Funds or any security.

## **HORIZON KINETICS GLOBAL SPIN-OFF INDEX**

The Spin-Off Index is a rules-based, equal-weighted index intended to track the performance of listed, publicly-held spin-offs that are domiciled and trade in the U.S. or developed markets of Western Europe and Asia.

In order for a company to be eligible for inclusion in the Spin-Off Index, the initial distribution of the component security must have been distributed to shareholders of the distributing company (the parent company) without any action having to be taken by the parent company shareholders. Spin-offs conducted in the form of share exchanges and initial public offerings are not eligible for inclusion in the Spin-Off Index. Additionally, the parent company must have distributed at least 80% of the component security to shareholders of the parent company, and shares of the component security must not have been publicly traded prior to the distribution. Companies that are separated to effect a merger or acquisition of the spun-off entity immediately following the distribution are excluded from the Spin-Off Index. Constituents are eligible for inclusion for a period of five years starting from the Spin-Off Index's first Reconstitution Date (as defined below) following the distribution of shares. In limited instances, the primary business of the company (what would typically be considered the parent company) is listed as the spun-off company due to tax or other legal considerations. The Index Provider may use its discretion in classifying which is the spun-off entity in these situations.

Component securities of the Spin-Off Index must have a market capitalization of at least \$500 million and a minimum average daily value traded for trailing 20 days of \$0.5 million. Shorter periods for average daily value traded will be considered for spin-offs that occur within 20 days of the Reconstitution Date at the discretion of the Index Provider. The component security must be domiciled and listed in the U.S. or the developed markets in Western Europe and Asia. Country of domicile is defined as the country where the company is headquartered. The component security must be an operating company and not a closed-end fund, an exchange traded fund (ETF) or a limited partnership. The Index Provider will, in most cases, use the screening system described herein for determining the composition of the Spin-Off Index. In addition, the Index Provider may screen issuers for certain factors or characteristics that the Index Provider believes, in its discretion, should cause those issuers to be included or excluded from the Index. As of December 31, 2016, the Spin-Off Index included 95 securities of companies with a market capitalization range of approximately \$485 million to \$102 billion and a weighted average market capitalization of \$5.3 billion. These amounts are subject to change.

The Spin-Off Index has a quarterly review in March, June, September and December of each year. The Spin-Off Index is reconstituted and rebalanced to equal-weight quarterly. Component changes are made after the close of the last trading day of March, June, September and December, and become effective at the open of the following trading day (Reconstitution Date). Constituents are first eligible for inclusion after the close of the securities' first day of regular-way trading. Components of the Spin-Off Index may change before the regularly scheduled review period if a component is deemed ineligible due to a specific corporate action.

The Index Provider is responsible for setting policy, determining index composition, and administering the indices. The Index Provider reserves the right to use qualitative judgment to include, exclude, adjust, or postpone the inclusion of a stock. Continued index membership of a constituent is not necessarily subject to the guidelines provided herein. A stock may be considered for exclusion by the Index Provider on the basis of corporate governance, accounting policies, lack of transparency or lack of representation, despite meeting all the criteria provided herein.



## MORNINGSTAR® GLOBAL EX-US MOAT FOCUS INDEX<sup>SM</sup>

The ex-US Moat Focus Index is a rules-based index intended to offer exposure to companies that the Index Provider determines to have sustainable competitive advantages based on a proprietary methodology that considers quantitative and qualitative factors (wide and narrow moat companies). Wide moat companies are those that the Index Provider's equity research team believes will maintain its competitive advantage(s) for at least 20 years. Narrow moat companies are those that the Index Provider's equity research team believes will maintain its competitive advantage(s) for at least 10 years. Wide and narrow moat companies are selected from the universe of companies represented in the Morningstar® Global Markets ex-US Index<sup>SM</sup> (the Parent Index), a broad market index representing 97% of developed ex-US and emerging markets market capitalization. The ex-US Moat Focus Index targets a select group of equity securities of wide and narrow moat companies: those that according to Morningstar's equity research team are attractively priced based on the of the issuer's common stock price to the Index Provider's equity research team's estimate of fair value at the time of each ex-US Moat Focus Index review. The Index Provider's equity research team's fair value estimates are calculated using a standardized, proprietary valuation model.

A selection committee, comprising members of Morningstar's equity research team, makes the final determination of whether a company is a wide or narrow moat company. Only those companies with one or more of the identifiable competitive advantages, as determined by the Index Provider's equity research team and agreed to by the selection committee, are wide or narrow moat companies. The quantitative factors used to identify competitive advantages include historical and projected returns on invested capital relative to cost of capital. The qualitative factors used to identify competitive advantages include customer switching cost (*i.e.*, the costs of customers switching to competitors), internal cost advantages, intangible assets (*e.g.*, intellectual property and brands), network effects (*i.e.*, whether products or services become more valuable as the number of customers grows) and efficient scale (*i.e.*, whether the company effectively serves a limited market that potential rivals have little incentive to enter into).

The Index Provider's equity research team uses a standardized, proprietary valuation model to assign fair values to potential ex-US Moat Focus Index constituents' common stock. The Index Provider's equity research team estimates the issuer's future free cash flows and then calculates an enterprise value using weighted average costs of capital as the discount rate. The Index Provider's equity research team then assigns each issuer's common stock a fair value by adjusting the enterprise value to account for net debt and other adjustments.

The Index Provider utilizes a momentum screen, in which momentum represents a security's 12-month price change. A momentum signal is used to exclude 20% of the wide and narrow moat stocks in the Parent Index with the worst 12-month momentum based on a 12-month price change of each stock. A buffer rule is applied to the current ex-US Moat Focus Index constituents. Those that are ranked in the top 150% of the number of stocks eligible for the ex-US Moat Focus Index, as measured by current market price/fair value will remain in the ex-US Moat Focus Index at the time of reconstitution and those that fall outside of the top 150% are excluded from the Index. The maximum weight of an individual country or sector in the ex-US Moat Focus Index is capped at 10% more than its corresponding weight in the Parent Index at the time of reconstitution, or 40%, whichever is higher.

As of December 31, 2016, the ex-US Moat Focus Index included 79 securities of companies with a market capitalization range of between approximately \$1.28 billion and \$231.87 billion and a weighted average market capitalization of \$29.38 billion. These amounts are subject to change.

The ex-US Moat Focus Index employs a staggered rebalance methodology. The ex-US Moat Focus Index is divided into two equally-weighted sub-portfolios, each is reconstituted and rebalanced semi-annually on alternating quarters. Each sub-portfolio will contain 50 equally-weighted securities at its semi-annual reconstitution and weights will vary



with market prices until the next reconstitution date. Due to the staggered rebalance methodology, constituents and weightings may vary between sub-portfolios. Each sub-portfolio is reweighted to 50% of the total ex-US Moat Focus Index every six months. Adjustments to one sub-portfolio are performed after the close of business on the third Friday of March and September and adjustments to the other sub-portfolio are performed after the close of business on the third Friday of June and December and are effective on the following Monday. If the Monday is a market holiday, reconstitution and rebalancing occurs on the Tuesday immediately following.

Rebalancing data, including constituent weights and related information, is posted on the Index Provider's website at the end of each quarter-end month. Target weights of the constituents are not otherwise adjusted between quarters except in the event of certain types of corporate actions.

## MORNINGSTAR® WIDE MOAT FOCUS INDEX<sup>SM</sup>

The Wide Moat Focus Index is a rules-based index intended to offer exposure to companies that the Index Provider determines have sustainable competitive advantages based on a proprietary methodology that considers quantitative and qualitative factors (wide moat companies). Wide moat companies are selected from the universe of companies represented in the Morningstar® US Market Index<sup>SM</sup>, a broad market index representing 97% of U.S. market capitalization. The Wide Moat Focus Index targets a select group of wide moat companies: those that according to Morningstar's equity research team are attractively priced as of each Wide Moat Focus Index review. Out of the companies in the Morningstar US Market Index that the Index Provider determines are wide moat companies, the Index Provider selects companies to be included in the Wide Moat Focus Index as determined by the ratio of the Index Provider's estimate of fair value of the issuer's common stock to the price. The Index Provider's equity research team's fair value estimates are calculated using a standardized, proprietary valuation model.

A selection committee, comprising members of Morningstar's equity research team, makes the final determination of whether a company is a wide moat company. Only those companies with one or more of the identifiable competitive advantages, as determined by the Index Provider's equity research team and agreed to by the selection committee, are wide moat companies. The quantitative factors used to identify competitive advantages include historical and projected returns on invested capital relative to cost of capital. The qualitative factors used to identify competitive advantages include customer switching cost (*i.e.*, the costs of customers switching to competitors), internal cost advantages, intangible assets (*e.g.*, intellectual property and brands), network effects (*i.e.*, whether products or services become more valuable as the number of customers grows) and efficient scale (*i.e.*, whether the company effectively serves a limited market that potential rivals have little incentive to enter into).

The Index Provider's equity research team uses a standardized, proprietary valuation model to assign fair values to potential Wide Moat Focus Index constituents' common stock. The Index Provider's equity research team estimates the issuer's future free cash flows and then calculates an enterprise value using weighted average costs of capital as the discount rate. The Index Provider's equity research team then assigns each issuer's common stock a fair value by adjusting the enterprise value to account for net debt and other adjustments.

A buffer rule is applied to the current Wide Moat Focus Index constituents. Those that are ranked in the top 150% of stocks representing the lowest current market price/fair value price eligible for inclusion in the Wide Moat Focus Index will remain in the Wide Moat Focus Index at the time of reconstitution and those that fall outside of the top 150% are excluded from the Index. The maximum weight of an individual sector in the Wide Moat Focus Index is capped at 10% more than its corresponding weight in the Morningstar US Market Index at the time of reconstitution, or 40%, whichever is higher.

As of December 31, 2016, the Wide Moat Focus Index included 50 securities of companies with a market capitalization range of between approximately \$2.64 billion to \$483.16 billion and a weighted average market capitalization of \$82.10 billion. These amounts are subject to change.

The Wide Moat Focus Index employs a staggered rebalance methodology. The Wide Moat Focus Index is divided into two equally-weighted sub-portfolios, and each is reconstituted and rebalanced semi-annually on alternating quarters. Each sub-portfolio will contain 40 equally-weighted securities at its semi-annual reconstitution and weights will vary with market prices until the next reconstitution date. Due to the staggered rebalance methodology, constituents and weightings may vary between sub-portfolios. Each sub-portfolio is reweighted to 50% of the total Wide Moat Focus Index every six months. Adjustments to one sub-portfolio are performed after the close of business on the third Friday of March and September and adjustments to the other sub-portfolio are performed after the close of business on the

third Friday of June and December, and all adjustments are effective on the following Monday. If the Monday is a market holiday, reconstitution and rebalancing occurs on the Tuesday immediately following.

Rebalancing data, including constituent weights and related information, is posted on the Index Provider's website at the end of each quarter-end month. Target weights of the constituents are not otherwise adjusted between quarters except in the event of certain types of corporate actions.

## LICENSE AGREEMENTS AND DISCLAIMERS

The Adviser has entered into a licensing agreement with Horizon Kinetics to use the Horizon Kinetics Global Spin-Off Index. The VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF is entitled to use the Spin-Off Index pursuant to a sub-licensing arrangement with the Adviser.

The VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF is not sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by Horizon Kinetics. Horizon Kinetics makes no representation or warranty, express or implied, to the owners of the VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF or any member of the public regarding the advisability of investing in securities generally or in the VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF.

The Adviser has entered into licensing agreements with Morningstar to use the Morningstar® Global ex-US Moat Focus Index<sup>SM</sup> and Morningstar® Wide Moat Focus Index<sup>SM</sup>. The VanEck Vectors International Moat ETF and VanEck Vectors Morningstar Wide Moat ETF are entitled to use the ex-US Moat Focus Index and Wide Moat Focus Index pursuant to their sub-licensing arrangement with the Adviser.

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**FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

The financial highlights tables which follow are intended to help you understand the Funds' financial performance for the past five years or as indicated. Certain information reflects financial results for a single Fund share. The total returns in the table represent that rate that an investor would have earned (or lost) on an investment in a Fund (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and distributions). This information has been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, the Trust's independent registered public accounting firm, whose report, along with the Funds' financial statements, are included in the Funds' Annual Report, which is available upon request.

**FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS (continued)****For a share outstanding throughout each period:**

|  | <b>Global Spin-Off ETF</b>                                   |  |
|--|--|--|
|  | <b>For the Year<br/>Ended<br/>September<br/>30,<br/>2016</b> | <b>For the Period<br/>June 9, 2015(a)<br/>through<br/>September 30,<br/>2015</b> |
| Net asset value, beginning of period                   | \$ 16.98   | \$ 19.78   |
| Income from investment operations:                     |  |  |
| Net investment income                                  | 0.39   | 0.05   |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments | 3.53   | (2.85)   |
| Total from investment operations                       | 3.92   | (2.80)   |
| Less:  |  |  |
| Dividends from net investment income                   | (0.11)   |  |
| Net asset value, end of period                         | \$ 20.79   | \$ 16.98   |
| Total return (b)                                       | 23.22%   | (14.16)% <sup>(c)</sup>  |

**Ratios/Supplemental Data**

|  |          |                      |
|--|----------|----------------------|
| Net assets, end of period (000 s)  | \$ 3,119 | \$ 2,547             |
| Ratio of gross expenses to average net assets                            | 5.07%    | 6.24% <sup>(d)</sup> |
| Ratio of net expenses to average net assets                              | 0.55%    | 0.55% <sup>(d)</sup> |
| Ratio of net expenses, excluding interest expense, to average net assets | 0.55%    | 0.55% <sup>(d)</sup> |
| Ratio of net investment income to average net assets                     | 2.13%    | 1.24% <sup>(d)</sup> |
| Portfolio turnover rate (e)  | 58%      | 30% <sup>(c)</sup>   |

|                                      | <b>Morningstar<br/>International Moat ETF</b>            |   |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|
|                                      | <b>For the Year<br/>Ended<br/>September 30,<br/>2016</b> | <b>For the Period<br/>July 13, 2015(a)<br/>through<br/>September 30,<br/>2015</b> |
| Net asset value, beginning of period | \$ 26.48   | \$ 30.17  |
| Income from investment operations:   |  |   |
| Net investment income                | 0.76   | 0.18  |

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|  |          |             |
|--|----------|-------------|
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments | 1.33     | (3.87)      |
| Total from investment operations                       | 2.09     | (3.69)      |
| Less:  |          |             |
| Dividends from net investment income                   | (0.23)   |             |
| Net asset value, end of period                         | \$ 28.34 | \$ 26.48    |
| Total return (b)                                       | 7.91%    | (12.23)%(c) |

**Ratios/Supplemental Data**

|  |           |           |
|--|-----------|-----------|
| Net assets, end of period (000 s)  | \$ 12,755 | \$ 10,591 |
| Ratio of gross expenses to average net assets                            | 1.62%     | 2.49%(d)  |
| Ratio of net expenses to average net assets                              | 0.56%     | 0.56%(d)  |
| Ratio of net expenses, excluding interest expense, to average net assets | 0.56%     | 0.56%(d)  |
| Ratio of net investment income to average net assets                     | 2.99%     | 3.27%(d)  |
| Portfolio turnover rate (e)  | 168%      | 54%(c)    |

(a) Commencement of operations

(b) Total return is calculated assuming an initial investment made at the net asset value at the beginning of period, reinvestment of any dividends and distributions at net asset value on the dividend/distributions payment date and a redemption at the net asset value on the last day of the period. The return does not reflect the deduction of taxes that a shareholder would pay on Fund dividends/distributions or the redemption of Fund shares.

(c) Not Annualized

(d) Annualized

(e) Portfolio turnover rates exclude securities received or delivered as a result of processing in-kind capital share transactions.



For a share outstanding throughout each period:

|  | <b>Morningstar Wide Moat ETF</b>        |             |             |             | <b>For the Period</b>    |
|--|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------------------|
|  | <b>For the Year Ended September 30,</b> |             |             |             | <b>April 24, 2012(a)</b> |
|  | <b>2016</b>                             | <b>2015</b> | <b>2014</b> | <b>2013</b> | <b>through</b>           |
|  |   |             |             |             | <b>September 30,</b>     |
|  |   |             |             |             | <b>2012</b>              |
| Net asset value, beginning of period                                     | \$ 27.96                                | \$ 31.27    | \$ 27.09    | \$ 21.54    | \$ 20.15                 |
| Income from investment operations:                                       |   |             |             |             |                          |
| Net investment income  | 0.48                                    | 0.57        | 0.37        | 0.23        | 0.08                     |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments                   | 6.19                                    | (3.46)      | 4.04        | 5.46        | 1.31                     |
| Total from investment operations   | 6.67                                    | (2.89)      | 4.41        | 5.69        | 1.39                     |
| Less:  |   |             |             |             |                          |
| Dividends from net investment income                                     | (0.62)                                  | (0.42)      | (0.23)      | (0.14)      |                          |
| Net asset value, end of period   | \$ 34.01                                | \$ 27.96    | \$ 31.27    | \$ 27.09    | \$ 21.54                 |
| Total return (b)   | 24.23%                                  | (9.41)%     | 16.35%      | 26.54%      | 6.90%(c)                 |
| <b>Ratios/Supplemental Data</b>  |   |             |             |             |                          |
| Net assets, end of period (000 s)  | \$ 753,358                              | \$ 742,364  | \$ 853,616  | \$ 364,395  | \$ 66,782                |
| Ratio of gross expenses to average net assets                            | 0.50%                                   | 0.50%       | 0.50%       | 0.51%       | 1.04%(d)                 |
| Ratio of net expenses to average net assets                              | 0.49%                                   | 0.49%       | 0.49%       | 0.49%       | 0.49%(d)                 |
| Ratio of net expenses, excluding interest expense, to average net assets | 0.49%                                   | 0.49%       | 0.49%       | 0.49%       | 0.49%(d)                 |
| Ratio of net investment income to average net assets                     | 1.44%                                   | 1.88%       | 1.63%       | 1.48%       | 1.62%(d)                 |
| Portfolio turnover rate (e)  | 178%                                    | 14%         | 15%         | 1%          | 0%(c)                    |

(a) Commencement of operations

(b)

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Total return is calculated assuming an initial investment made at the net asset value at the beginning of period, reinvestment of any dividends and distributions at net asset value on the dividend/distributions payment date and a redemption at the net asset value on the last day of the period. The return does not reflect the deduction of taxes that a shareholder would pay on Fund dividends/distributions or the redemption of Fund shares.

- (c) Not Annualized
- (d) Annualized
- (e) Portfolio turnover rates exclude securities received or delivered as a result of processing in-kind capital share transactions.

## **PREMIUM/DISCOUNT INFORMATION**

Information regarding how often the closing trading price of the Shares of each Fund was above (*i.e.*, at a premium) or below (*i.e.*, at a discount) the NAV of the Fund for the most recently completed year and the most recently completed quarter(s), as well as for each of the four previous calendar quarters, when available, can be found at [www.vaneck.com](http://www.vaneck.com).

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **CONTINUOUS OFFERING**

The method by which Creation Units are created and traded may raise certain issues under applicable securities laws. Because new Creation Units are issued and sold by the Trust on an ongoing basis, a distribution, as such term is used in the Securities Act may occur at any point. 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 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 Units 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 dealers who are not underwriters but are participating in a distribution (as contrasted to ordinary secondary trading transactions), and thus dealing with Shares that are part of an unsold allotment within the meaning of Section 4(3)(C) of the Securities Act, would be unable to take advantage of the prospectus delivery exemption provided by Section 4(3) of the Securities Act. 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. As a result, broker dealer firms should note that dealers who are not underwriters but are participating in a distribution (as contrasted with ordinary secondary market transactions) and thus dealing with the Shares that are part of an overallotment within the meaning of Section 4(3)(A) of the Securities Act would be unable to take advantage of the prospectus delivery exemption provided by Section 4(3) of the Securities Act. Firms that incur a prospectus delivery obligation with respect to Shares are reminded that, under Rule 153 of 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 NYSE Arca is satisfied by the fact that the prospectus is available at NYSE Arca upon request. The prospectus delivery mechanism provided in Rule 153 is only available with respect to transactions on an exchange.

In addition, certain affiliates of the Funds and the Adviser may purchase and resell Fund shares pursuant to this Prospectus.

## **OTHER INFORMATION**

The Trust was organized as a Delaware statutory trust on March 15, 2001. Its Declaration of Trust currently permits the Trust to issue an unlimited number of Shares of beneficial interest. If shareholders are required to vote on any matters, each Share outstanding would be entitled to one vote. Annual meetings of shareholders will not be held except as required by the 1940 Act and other applicable law. Each Fund may liquidate and terminate at any time and for any reason, including as a result of the termination of the applicable license agreement between the Adviser and the applicable Index Provider, without shareholder approval. See the Funds' SAI for more information concerning the Trust's form of organization. Section 12(d)(1) of the 1940 Act restricts investments by investment companies in the securities of other investment companies, including Shares of a Fund. Registered investment companies are permitted to invest in the Funds beyond the limits set forth in Section 12(d)(1) subject to certain terms and conditions set forth in an SEC exemptive order issued to the Trust, including that such investment companies enter into an agreement with the Funds.

The Prospectus, SAI and any other Fund communication do not create any contractual obligations between the Fund's shareholders and the Trust, the Fund, the Adviser and/or the Trustees. Further, shareholders are not intended third-party beneficiaries of any contracts entered into by (or on behalf of) the Fund, including contracts with the Adviser or other parties who provide services to the Fund.

Dechert LLP serves as counsel to the Trust, including the Funds. Ernst & Young LLP serves as the Trust's independent registered public accounting firm and audits the Funds' financial statements annually.

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

This Prospectus does not contain all the information included in the Registration Statement filed with the SEC with respect to the Funds' Shares. Information about the Funds can be reviewed and copied at the SEC's Public Reference Room and information on the operation of the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling the SEC at 1.202.551.8090. The Funds' Registration Statement, including this Prospectus, the Funds' SAI and the exhibits may be examined at the offices of the SEC (100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549) or on the EDGAR database at the SEC's website (<http://www.sec.gov>), and copies may be obtained, after paying a duplicating fee, by electronic request at the following email address: [publicinfo@sec.gov](mailto:publicinfo@sec.gov), or by writing the SEC's Public Reference Section, Washington, DC 20549-1520. These documents and other information concerning the Trust also may be inspected at the offices of NYSE Arca (20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005).

The SAI for the Funds, which has been filed with the SEC, provides more information about the Funds. The SAI for the Funds is incorporated herein by reference and is legally part of this Prospectus. Additional information about the Funds' investments is available in each Fund's annual and semi-annual reports to shareholders. In each Fund's annual report, you will find a discussion of the market conditions and investment strategies that significantly affected the Fund's performance during its last fiscal year. The SAI and the Funds' annual and semi-annual reports may be obtained without charge by writing to the Funds at Van Eck Securities Corporation, the Funds' distributor, at 666 Third Avenue, 9th Floor, New York, New York 10017 or by calling the distributor at the following number: Investor Information: 800.826.2333.

Shareholder inquiries may be directed to the Funds in writing to 666 Third Avenue, 9th Floor, New York, New York 10017 or by calling 800.826.2333.

The Funds' SAI is available at [www.vaneck.com](http://www.vaneck.com).

(Investment Company Act file no. 811-10325)

For more detailed information about the Funds, see the SAI dated February 1, 2017, as supplemented, which is incorporated by reference into this Prospectus. Additional information about the Funds' investments will be available in each Fund's annual and semi-annual reports to shareholders. In each Fund's annual report, you will find a discussion of the market conditions and investment strategies that significantly affected the Fund's performance during its last fiscal year.

Call VanEck at 800.826.2333 to request, free of charge, the annual or semi-annual reports, the SAI, or other information about the Funds or to make shareholder inquiries. You may also obtain the SAI or a Fund's annual or semi-annual reports, when available, by visiting the VanEck website at [www.vaneck.com](http://www.vaneck.com).

Information about the Funds (including the SAI) can also be reviewed and copied at the SEC Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C. Information about the operation of the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling 202.551.8090.

Reports and other information about the Funds are available on the EDGAR Database on the SEC's internet site at <http://www.sec.gov>. In addition, copies of this information may be obtained, after paying a duplicating fee, by electronic request at the following email address: [publicinfo@sec.gov](mailto:publicinfo@sec.gov), or by writing the SEC's Public Reference Section, Washington, DC 20549-0102.

Transfer Agent: The Bank of New York Mellon  
SEC Registration Number: 333-123257  
1940 Act Registration Number: 811-10325  
STRATPRO

**800.826.2333**  
**[www.vaneck.com](http://www.vaneck.com)**

PROSPECTUS

FEBRUARY 1, 2017

(as amended and restated on March 10, 2017)

VANECK VECTORS™

|                            |      |
|----------------------------|------|
| Biotech ETF                | BBH  |
| Environmental Services ETF | EVX® |
| Gaming ETF                 | BJK® |
| Generic Drugs ETF          | GNRX |
| Pharmaceutical ETF         | PPH® |
| Retail ETF                 | RTH® |
| Semiconductor ETF          | SMH® |

Principal U.S. Listing Exchange for EVX, BJK, RTH and SMH: NYSE Arca, Inc.

Principal U.S. Listing Exchange for BBH, GNRX and PPH: The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC

The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission has not approved or disapproved these securities or passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this Prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

800.826.2333 [vaneck.com](http://vaneck.com)

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**VANECK VECTORS™ BIOTECH ETF\*****SUMMARY INFORMATION****INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE**

VanEck Vectors™ Biotech ETF (the Fund) seeks to replicate as closely as possible, before fees and expenses, the price and yield performance of the MVIS™ US Listed Biotech 25 Index (the Biotech Index).

**FUND FEES AND EXPENSES**

The following tables describe the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy and hold shares of the Fund (Shares).

**Shareholder Fees** (*fees paid directly from your investment*) None

**Annual Fund Operating Expenses**

(*expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment*)

|                |       |
|----------------|-------|
| Management Fee | 0.35% |
| Other Expenses | 0.05% |

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses <sup>(a)</sup>  | 0.40%  |
| Fee Waivers and Expense Reimbursement <sup>(a)</sup> | -0.05% |

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waiver and Expense Reimbursement <sup>(a)</sup> | 0.35% |
|--|-------|

<sup>(a)</sup> Van Eck Associates Corporation (the Adviser) has agreed to waive fees and/or pay Fund expenses to the extent necessary to prevent the operating expenses of the Fund (excluding acquired fund fees and expenses, interest expense, trading expenses, taxes and extraordinary expenses) from exceeding 0.35% of the Fund's average daily net assets per year until at least February 1, 2018. During such time, the expense limitation is expected to continue until the Fund's Board of Trustees acts to discontinue all or a portion of such expense limitation.

**EXPENSE EXAMPLE**

This example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other funds. This example does not take into account brokerage commissions that you pay when purchasing or selling Shares of the Fund.

The example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your Shares at the end of those periods. The example also assumes that your investment has a 5% annual return and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same (except that the example incorporates the fee waiver and/or expense reimbursement arrangement for only the first year). Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions, your costs would be:

**YEAR EXPENSES**

|    |    |     |
|----|----|-----|
| 1  | \$ | 36  |
| 3  | \$ | 123 |
| 5  | \$ | 219 |
| 10 | \$ | 500 |

**PORTFOLIO TURNOVER**

The Fund will pay transaction costs, such as commissions, when it purchases and sells securities (or turns over its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover will cause the Fund to incur additional transaction costs and may result in higher taxes when Fund Shares are held in a taxable account. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the example, may affect the Fund's performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Fund's portfolio turnover rate was 41% of the average value of its portfolio.

**PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES**

The Fund normally invests at least 80% of its total assets in securities that comprise the Fund's benchmark index. The Biotech Index includes common stocks and depositary receipts of U.S. exchange-listed companies in the biotechnology sector. Such companies may include medium-capitalization companies and foreign companies that are listed on a U.S. exchange. Companies are considered to be in the biotechnology sector if they derive at least 50% of their revenues from (or,

\* Prior to May 1, 2016, the Fund's name was Market Vectors Biotech ETF.

## **VANECK VECTORS™ BIOTECH ETF (continued)**

in certain circumstances, have at least 50% of their assets related to) biotechnology. The biotechnology sector includes companies engaged primarily in research (including research contractors) and development as well as production, marketing and sales of drugs based on genetic analysis and diagnostic equipment (excluding pharmacies). Of the largest 50 stocks in the biotechnology sector by full market capitalization, the top 25 by free-float market capitalization (*i.e.*, includes only shares that are readily available for trading in the market) and three month average daily trading volume are included in the Biotech Index. As of December 31, 2016, the Biotech Index included 25 securities of companies with a market capitalization range of approximately \$2.50 billion to \$108.77 billion and a weighted average market capitalization of \$2.13 billion. These amounts are subject to change. The Fund's 80% investment policy is non-fundamental and may be changed without shareholder approval upon 60 days' prior written notice to shareholders.

The Fund, using a passive or indexing investment approach, attempts to approximate the investment performance of the Biotech Index by investing in a portfolio of securities that generally replicates the Biotech Index. Unlike many investment companies that try to beat the performance of a benchmark index, the Fund does not try to beat the Biotech Index and does not seek temporary defensive positions when markets decline or appear overvalued. Indexing may eliminate the chance that the Fund will substantially outperform the Biotech Index but also may reduce some of the risks of active management, such as poor security selection. Indexing seeks to achieve lower costs and better after-tax performance by keeping portfolio turnover low in comparison to actively managed investment companies.

The Fund is classified as a non-diversified fund and, therefore, may invest a greater percentage of its assets in a particular issuer. The Fund may concentrate its investments in a particular industry or group of industries to the extent that the Biotech Index concentrates in an industry or group of industries. As of September 30, 2016, the Biotech Index was concentrated in the biotechnology sector, and the health care sector represented a significant portion of the Biotech Index.

### **PRINCIPAL RISKS OF INVESTING IN THE FUND**

**Investors in the Fund should be willing to accept a high degree of volatility in the price of the Fund's Shares and the possibility of significant losses. An investment in the Fund involves a substantial degree of risk. An investment in the Fund is not a deposit with a bank and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency. Therefore, you should consider carefully the following risks before investing in the Fund, each of which could significantly and adversely affect the value of an investment in the Fund.**

**Risk of Investing in the Biotechnology Sector.** The success of biotechnology companies is highly dependent on the development, procurement and/or marketing of drugs. The values of biotechnology companies are also dependent on the development, protection and exploitation of intellectual property rights and other proprietary information, and the profitability of biotechnology companies may be affected significantly by such things as the expiration of patents or the loss of, or the inability to enforce, intellectual property rights. The research and development and other costs associated with developing or procuring new drugs, products or technologies and the related intellectual property rights can be significant, and the results of such research and expenditures are unpredictable. The Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance will depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the biotechnology sector. Moreover, the process for obtaining regulatory approval by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration or other governmental regulatory authorities is long and costly and there can be no assurance that the necessary approvals will be obtained or maintained. Companies in the biotechnology sector may also be subject to

expenses and losses from extensive litigation based on intellectual property, product liability and similar claims. Companies in the biotechnology sector may be adversely affected by government regulation and changes in reimbursement rates. Healthcare providers, principally hospitals, that transact with companies in the biotechnology sector, often rely on third party payors, such as Medicare, Medicaid and other government sponsored programs, private health insurance plans and health maintenance organizations to reimburse all or a portion of the cost of healthcare related products or services.

A biotechnology company's valuation can often be based largely on the potential or actual performance of a limited number of products. A biotechnology company's valuation can also be greatly affected if one of its products proves unsafe, ineffective or unprofitable. Such companies may also be characterized by thin capitalization and limited markets, financial resources or personnel. The stock prices of companies in the biotechnology sector have been and will likely continue to be extremely volatile, particularly when their products are up for regulatory approval and/or under regulatory scrutiny. Some of the companies in the Biotech Index are engaged in other lines of business unrelated to biotechnology, and they may experience problems with these lines of business which could adversely affect their operating results. The operating results of these companies may fluctuate as a result of these additional risks and events in the other lines of business. In addition, a company's ability to engage in new activities may expose it to business risks with which it has less experience than it has with the business risks associated with its traditional businesses. Despite a company's possible success in traditional biotechnology activities, there can be no assurance that the other lines of business in which these companies are engaged will not have an adverse effect on a company's business or financial condition.

Certain companies in which the Fund may invest are non-U.S. issuers whose securities are listed on U.S. exchanges. These securities involve risks beyond those associated with investments in U.S. securities, including greater market volatility, higher transactional costs, the possibility that the liquidity of such securities could be impaired because of future political and/or economic developments, taxation by foreign governments, political instability, the possibility that foreign governmental restrictions may be adopted which might adversely affect such securities and that the selection of such securities may be more difficult because there may be less publicly available information concerning such non-U.S. issuers or the accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards, practices and requirements applicable to non-U.S. issuers may differ from those applicable to U.S. issuers.

**Equity Securities Risk.** The value of the equity securities held by the Fund may fall due to general market and economic conditions, perceptions regarding the markets in which the issuers of securities held by the Fund participate, or factors relating to specific issuers in which the Fund invests. Equity securities are subordinated to preferred securities and debt in a company's capital structure with respect to priority in right to a share of corporate income, and therefore will be subject to greater dividend risk than preferred securities or debt instruments. In addition, while broad market measures of equity securities have historically generated higher average returns than fixed income securities, equity securities have generally also experienced significantly more volatility in those returns, although under certain market conditions fixed income securities may have comparable or greater price volatility.

**Risk of Investing in the Health Care Sector.** To the extent that the health care sector continues to represent a significant portion of the Fund, the Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance may depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the health care sector. Companies in the health care sector may be affected by extensive government regulation, restrictions on government reimbursement for medical expenses, rising costs of medical products and services, pricing pressure, an increased emphasis on outpatient services, limited number of products, industry innovation, changes in technologies and other market developments. Many health care companies are heavily dependent on patent protection and are subject to extensive litigation based on product liability and similar claims.

**Risk of Investing in Depositary Receipts.** The Fund may invest in depositary receipts which involve similar risks to those associated with investments in foreign securities. Depositary receipts are receipts listed on U.S. exchanges issued by banks or trust companies that entitle the holder to all dividends and capital gains that are paid out on the underlying foreign shares. Investments in depositary receipts may be less liquid than the underlying shares in their primary trading market and, if not included in the Biotech Index, may negatively affect the Fund's ability to replicate the performance of the Biotech Index.

**Risk of Investing in Medium-Capitalization Companies.** Medium-capitalization companies may be more volatile and more likely than large-capitalization companies to have narrower product lines, fewer financial resources, less management depth and experience and less competitive strength. In addition, these companies often have greater price volatility, lower trading volume and less liquidity than larger more established companies. Returns on investments in securities of medium-capitalization companies could trail the returns on investments in securities of large-capitalization companies.

**Issuer-Specific Changes Risk.** The value of individual securities or particular types of securities in the Fund's portfolio can be more volatile than the market as a whole and can perform differently from the value of the market as a whole, especially if the Fund's portfolio is concentrated in a country, group of countries, region, market, industry, group of industries, sector or asset class. The value of securities of smaller issuers can be more volatile than that of larger issuers.

**Market Risk.** The prices of the securities in the Fund are subject to the risks associated with investing in the securities market, including general economic conditions and sudden and unpredictable drops in value. An investment in the Fund may lose money.

**Operational Risk.** The Fund is exposed to operational risk arising from a number of factors, including, but not limited to, human error, processing and communication errors, errors of the Fund's service providers, counterparties or other third-parties, failed or inadequate processes and technology or system failures. The Fund seeks to reduce these operational risks through controls and procedures. However, these measures do not address every possible risk and may be inadequate for those risks that they are intended to address.

**Index Tracking Risk.** The Fund's return may not match the return of the Biotech Index for a number of reasons. For example, the Fund incurs a number of operating expenses not applicable to the Biotech Index and incurs costs associated with buying and selling securities, especially when rebalancing the Fund's securities holdings to reflect changes in the composition of the Biotech Index, which are not factored into the return of the Biotech Index. Transaction costs, including brokerage costs, will decrease the Fund's net asset value ( NAV ) to the extent not offset by the transaction fee payable by an Authorized Participant ( AP ). Market disruptions and regulatory restrictions could have an adverse effect on the Fund's ability to adjust its exposure to the required levels in order to track the Biotech Index. Errors in the Biotech Index data, the Biotech Index computations and/or the construction of the Biotech Index in accordance with its methodology may occur from

**VANECK VECTORS™ BIOTECH ETF (continued)**

time to time and may not be identified and corrected by the Biotech Index provider for a period of time or at all, which may have an adverse impact on the Fund and its shareholders. In addition, the Fund may not be able to invest in certain securities included in the Biotech Index, or invest in them in the exact proportions in which they are represented in the Biotech Index, due to legal restrictions or limitations imposed by the governments of certain countries, a lack of liquidity on stock exchanges in which such securities trade, potential adverse tax consequences or other regulatory reasons. To the extent the Fund calculates its NAV based on fair value prices and the value of the Biotech Index is based on securities closing prices (*i.e.*, the value of the Biotech Index is not based on fair value prices), the Fund's ability to track the Biotech Index may be adversely affected. For tax efficiency purposes, the Fund may sell certain securities, and such sale may cause the Fund to realize a loss and deviate from the performance of the Biotech Index. In light of the factors discussed above, the Fund's return may deviate significantly from the return of the Biotech Index.

**Authorized Participant Concentration Risk.** The Fund may have a limited number of financial institutions that act as APs, none of which are obligated to engage in creation or redemption transactions. To the extent that those APs exit the business, or are unable to or choose not to process creation and/or redemption orders, and no other AP is able to step forward to create and redeem, there may be a significantly diminished trading market for Shares or Shares may trade like closed-end funds at a discount (or premium) to NAV and possibly face trading halts and/or de-listing. The AP concentration risk may be heightened in scenarios where APs have limited or diminished access to the capital required to post collateral.

**No Guarantee of Active Trading Market.** While Shares are listed on The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC (NASDAQ), there can be no assurance that an active trading market for the Shares will be maintained. Further, secondary markets may be subject to irregular trading activity, wide bid/ask spreads and extended trade settlement periods in times of market stress because market makers and APs may step away from making a market in the Shares and in executing creation and redemption orders, which could cause a material deviation in the Fund's market price from its NAV.

**Trading Issues.** Trading in Shares on NASDAQ may be halted due to market conditions or for reasons that, in the view of NASDAQ, make trading in Shares inadvisable. In addition, trading in Shares on NASDAQ is subject to trading halts caused by extraordinary market volatility pursuant to NASDAQ's circuit breaker rules. There can be no assurance that the requirements of NASDAQ necessary to maintain the listing of the Fund will continue to be met or will remain unchanged.

**Replication Management Risk.** An investment in the Fund involves risks similar to those of investing in any fund of equity securities traded on an exchange, such as market fluctuations caused by such factors as economic and political developments, changes in interest rates and perceived trends in security prices. However, because the Fund is not actively managed, unless a specific security is removed from the Biotech Index, the Fund generally would not sell a security because the security's issuer was in financial trouble. Therefore, the Fund's performance could be lower than funds that may actively shift their portfolio assets to take advantage of market opportunities or to lessen the impact of a market decline or a decline in the value of one or more issuers.

**Fund Shares Trading, Premium/Discount Risk and Liquidity of Fund Shares.** The market prices of the Shares may fluctuate in response to the Fund's NAV, the intraday value of the Fund's holdings and supply and demand for Shares. The Adviser cannot predict whether Shares will trade above, below, or at their most recent NAV. Disruptions to creations and redemptions, the existence of market volatility or potential lack of an active trading market for Shares

(including through a trading halt), as well as other factors, may result in Shares trading at a significant premium or discount to NAV or to the intraday value of the Fund's holdings. If a shareholder purchases Shares at a time when the market price is at a premium to the NAV or sells Shares at a time when the market price is at a discount to the NAV, the shareholder may sustain losses. The securities held by the Fund may be traded in markets that close at a different time than NASDAQ. Liquidity in those securities may be reduced after the applicable closing times. Accordingly, during the time when NASDAQ is open but after the applicable market closing, fixing or settlement times, bid-ask spreads on NASDAQ and the resulting premium or discount to the Shares' NAV may widen. Additionally, in stressed market conditions, the market for the Fund's Shares may become less liquid in response to deteriorating liquidity in the markets for the Fund's underlying portfolio holdings.

**Non-Diversified Risk.** The Fund is classified as a non-diversified fund under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the 1940 Act). Therefore, the Fund may invest a relatively high percentage of its assets in a smaller number of issuers or may invest a larger proportion of its assets in a single issuer. As a result, the gains and losses on a single investment may have a greater impact on the Fund's NAV and may make the Fund more volatile than more diversified funds. The Fund may be particularly vulnerable to this risk because the Biotech Index is comprised of securities of a very limited number of issuers.

**Concentration Risk.** The Fund's assets may be concentrated in a particular sector or sectors or industry or group of industries to the extent the Biotech Index concentrates in a particular sector or sectors or industry or group of industries. To the extent that the Fund continues to be concentrated in the biotechnology sector, the Fund will be subject to the risk that



economic, political or other conditions that have a negative effect on that sector will negatively impact the Fund to a greater extent than if the Fund's assets were invested in a wider variety of sectors or industries.

## PERFORMANCE

The bar chart that follows shows how the Fund performed for the calendar years shown. The table below the bar chart shows the Fund's average annual returns (before and after taxes). The bar chart and table provide an indication of the risks of investing in the Fund by showing the Fund's performance from year to year and by showing how the Fund's average annual returns for the one year, five year and since inception periods compared with the Fund's benchmark index and a broad measure of market performance. All returns assume reinvestment of dividends and distributions. The Fund's past performance (before and after taxes) is not necessarily indicative of how the Fund will perform in the future. Updated performance information is available online at [www.vaneck.com](http://www.vaneck.com).

### Annual Total Returns (%) Calendar Years

**Best Quarter:** 21.78 1Q 12

**Worst Quarter:** -18.19 1Q 16

### Average Annual Total Returns for the Periods Ended December 31, 2016

The after-tax returns presented in the table below are calculated using the highest historical individual federal marginal income tax rates and do not reflect the impact of state and local taxes. Your actual after-tax returns will depend on your specific tax situation and may differ from those shown below. After-tax returns are not relevant to investors who hold Shares of the Fund through tax-deferred arrangements, such as 401(k) plans or individual retirement accounts.

|  | Past One<br>Year | Past Five<br>Years | Since<br>Inception<br>(12/20/2011) |
|--|------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|
| VanEck Vectors Biotech ETF (return before taxes)   | -15.04%          | 24.35%             | 25.01%                             |
| VanEck Vectors Biotech ETF (return after taxes on distributions)                         | -15.15%          | 24.28%             | 24.93%                             |
| VanEck Vectors Biotech ETF (return after taxes on distributions and sale of Fund Shares) | -8.51%           | 20.12%             | 20.70%                             |
| MVIS US Listed Biotech 25 Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)      | -14.95%          | 24.55%             | 25.21%                             |
| S&P 500® Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)                       | 11.96%           | 14.66%             | 14.88%                             |

## PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT

**Investment Adviser.** Van Eck Associates Corporation.

**Portfolio Managers.** The following individuals are jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio:

| <b>Name</b>           | <b>Title with Adviser</b> | <b>Date Began Managing<br/>the Fund</b> |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Hao-Hung (Peter) Liao | Portfolio Manager         | December 2011                           |
| George Chao           | Portfolio Manager         | December 2011                           |

**VANECK VECTORS™ BIOTECH ETF (continued)**

**PURCHASE AND SALE OF FUND SHARES**

For important information about the purchase and sale of Fund Shares, tax information and payments to broker-dealers and other financial intermediaries, please turn to Summary Information About Purchases and Sales of Fund Shares, Taxes and Payments to Broker-Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries on page 41 of this Prospectus.

**VANECK VECTORS™ ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES ETF\*****SUMMARY INFORMATION****INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE**

VanEck Vectors™ Environmental Services ETF (the Fund) seeks to replicate as closely as possible, before fees and expenses, the price and yield performance of the NYSE Arca Environmental Services Index (the Environmental Services Index).

**FUND FEES AND EXPENSES**

The following tables describe the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy and hold shares of the Fund (Shares).

**Shareholder Fees** (*fees paid directly from your investment*) None

**Annual Fund Operating Expenses**

(*expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment*)

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| Management Fee                                       | 0.50%  |
| Other Expenses                                       | 0.43%  |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses <sup>(a)</sup>  | 0.93%  |
| Fee Waivers and Expense Reimbursement <sup>(a)</sup> | -0.38% |

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waiver and Expense Reimbursement <sup>(a)</sup> | 0.55% |
|--|-------|

<sup>(a)</sup> Van Eck Associates Corporation (the Adviser) has agreed to waive fees and/or pay Fund expenses to the extent necessary to prevent the operating expenses of the Fund (excluding acquired fund fees and expenses, interest expense, trading expenses, taxes and extraordinary expenses) from exceeding 0.55% of the Fund's average daily net assets per year until at least February 1, 2018. During such time, the expense limitation is expected to continue until the Fund's Board of Trustees acts to discontinue all or a portion of such expense limitation.

**EXPENSE EXAMPLE**

This example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other funds. This example does not take into account brokerage commissions that you pay when purchasing or selling Shares of the Fund.

The example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your Shares at the end of those periods. The example also assumes that your investment has a 5% annual return and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same (except that the example incorporates the fee waiver and/or expense reimbursement arrangement for only the first year). Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these

assumptions, your costs would be:

**YEAR EXPENSES**

|    |    |       |
|----|----|-------|
| 1  | \$ | 56    |
| 3  | \$ | 258   |
| 5  | \$ | 478   |
| 10 | \$ | 1,108 |

**PORTFOLIO TURNOVER**

The Fund will pay transaction costs, such as commissions, when it purchases and sells securities (or turns over its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover will cause the Fund to incur additional transaction costs and may result in higher taxes when Fund Shares are held in a taxable account. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the example, may affect the Fund's performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Fund's portfolio turnover rate was 40% of the average value of its portfolio.

**PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES**

The Fund normally invests at least 80% of its total assets in common stocks and American depositary receipts ( ADRs ) of companies involved in the environmental services industry. The Environmental Services Index is comprised of companies that engage in business activities that may benefit from the global increase in demand for consumer waste disposal, removal and

\* Prior to May 1, 2016, the Fund's name was Market Vectors Environmental Services ETF.

## **VANECK VECTORS™ ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES ETF (continued)**

storage of industrial by-products, and the management of associated resources and includes securities of companies that are involved in management, removal and storage of consumer waste and industrial by-products and related environmental services, including waste collection, transfer and disposal services, recycling services, soil remediation, wastewater management and environmental consulting services. Such companies may include small- and medium-capitalization companies. As of December 31, 2016, the Environmental Services Index included 22 securities of companies with a market capitalization range of approximately \$215.28 million to \$31.34 billion and a weighted average market capitalization of \$8.66 billion. These amounts are subject to change. The Fund's 80% investment policy is non-fundamental and may be changed without shareholder approval upon 60 days' prior written notice to shareholders.

The Fund, using a passive or indexing investment approach, attempts to approximate the investment performance of the Environmental Services Index by investing in a portfolio of securities that generally replicates the Environmental Services Index. Unlike many investment companies that try to beat the performance of a benchmark index, the Fund does not try to beat the Environmental Services Index and does not seek temporary defensive positions when markets decline or appear overvalued. Indexing may eliminate the chance that the Fund will substantially outperform the Environmental Services Index but also may reduce some of the risks of active management, such as poor security selection. Indexing seeks to achieve lower costs and better after-tax performance by keeping portfolio turnover low in comparison to actively managed investment companies. The Fund will normally invest at least 80% of its assets in securities that comprise the Environmental Services Index.

The Fund is classified as a non-diversified fund and, therefore, may invest a greater percentage of assets in a particular issuer. The Fund may concentrate its investments in a particular industry or group of industries to the extent that the Environmental Services Index concentrates in an industry or group of industries. As of September 30, 2016, the Environmental Services Index was concentrated in the industrials sector (which includes as a sub-industry the environmental services industry).

### **PRINCIPAL RISKS OF INVESTING IN THE FUND**

**Investors in the Fund should be willing to accept a high degree of volatility in the price of the Fund's Shares and the possibility of significant losses. An investment in the Fund involves a substantial degree of risk. An investment in the Fund is not a deposit with a bank and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency. Therefore, you should consider carefully the following risks before investing in the Fund, each of which could significantly and adversely affect the value of an investment in the Fund.**

**Risk of Investing in the Environmental Services Industry.** Companies in the environmental services industry are engaged in a variety of activities related to environmental services and consumer and industrial waste management. These companies may be adversely affected by a decrease in demand for waste disposal, removal or storage of industrial by-products, and the management of associated resources. The Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance will depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the environmental services industry. Competitive pressures may have a significant effect on the financial condition of such companies. These prices may fluctuate substantially over short periods of time so the Fund's Share price may be more volatile than other types of investments. These companies must comply with various regulations and the terms of their operating permits and licenses. Failure to comply with or to renew permits and licenses or changes in government regulations can adversely impact their operations. Waste management companies are also affected by demand cycles, world events, increased

outsourcing and economic conditions. In addition, these companies are subject to liability for environmental damage claims.

Certain companies in which the Fund may invest are non-U.S. issuers whose securities are listed on U.S. exchanges. These securities involve risks beyond those associated with investments in U.S. securities, including greater market volatility, higher transactional costs, the possibility that the liquidity of such securities could be impaired because of future political and/or economic developments, taxation by foreign governments, political instability and the possibility that foreign governmental restrictions may be adopted which might adversely affect such securities.

**Equity Securities Risk.** The value of the equity securities held by the Fund may fall due to general market and economic conditions, perceptions regarding the markets in which the issuers of securities held by the Fund participate, or factors relating to specific issuers in which the Fund invests. Equity securities are subordinated to preferred securities and debt in a company's capital structure with respect to priority in right to a share of corporate income, and therefore will be subject to greater dividend risk than preferred securities or debt instruments. In addition, while broad market measures of equity securities have historically generated higher average returns than fixed income securities, equity securities have generally also experienced significantly more volatility in those returns, although under certain market conditions fixed income securities may have comparable or greater price volatility.

**Risk of Investing in the Industrials Sector.** To the extent that the Fund continues to be concentrated in the industrials sector, the Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance will depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the industrials sector. Companies in the industrials sector may be adversely affected by changes in government regulation, world events and economic conditions. In addition, companies in the industrials sector may be adversely affected by environmental damages, product liability claims and exchange rates.

**Risk of Investing in ADRs.** ADRs are issued by U.S. banks or trust companies that entitle the holder to all dividends and capital gains that are paid out on the underlying foreign shares. The Fund's investments in ADRs may be less liquid than the underlying shares in their primary trading market and, if not included in the Environmental Services Index, may negatively affect the Fund's ability to replicate the performance of the Environmental Services Index. In addition, investments in ADRs that are not included in the Environmental Services Index may increase tracking error.

**Risk of Investing in Small- and Medium-Capitalization Companies.** Small- and medium-capitalization companies may be more volatile and more likely than large-capitalization companies to have narrower product lines, fewer financial resources, less management depth and experience and less competitive strength. In addition, these companies often have greater price volatility, lower trading volume and less liquidity than larger more established companies. Returns on investments in securities of small- and medium-capitalization companies could trail the returns on investments in securities of large-capitalization companies.

**Issuer-Specific Changes Risk.** The value of individual securities or particular types of securities in the Fund's portfolio can be more volatile than the market as a whole and can perform differently from the value of the market as a whole, especially if the Fund's portfolio is concentrated in a country, group of countries, region, market, industry, group of industries, sector or asset class. The value of securities of smaller issuers can be more volatile than that of larger issuers.

**Market Risk.** The prices of the securities in the Fund are subject to the risks associated with investing in the securities market, including general economic conditions and sudden and unpredictable drops in value. An investment in the Fund may lose money.

**Operational Risk.** The Fund is exposed to operational risk arising from a number of factors, including, but not limited to, human error, processing and communication errors, errors of the Fund's service providers, counterparties or other third-parties, failed or inadequate processes and technology or system failures. The Fund seeks to reduce these operational risks through controls and procedures. However, these measures do not address every possible risk and may be inadequate for those risks that they are intended to address.

**Index Tracking Risk.** The Fund's return may not match the return of the Environmental Services Index for a number of reasons. For example, the Fund incurs a number of operating expenses not applicable to the Environmental Services Index and incurs costs associated with buying and selling securities, especially when rebalancing the Fund's securities holdings to reflect changes in the composition of the Environmental Services Index, which are not factored into the return of the Environmental Services Index. Transaction costs, including brokerage costs, will decrease the Fund's net asset value ( NAV ) to the extent not offset by the transaction fee payable by an Authorized Participant ( AP ). Market disruptions and regulatory restrictions could have an adverse effect on the Fund's ability to adjust its exposure to the required levels in order to track the Environmental Services Index. Errors in the Environmental Services Index data, the Environmental Services Index computations and/or the construction of the Environmental Services Index in accordance with its methodology may occur from time to time and may not be identified and corrected by the Environmental Services Index provider for a period of time or at all, which may have an adverse impact on the Fund and its shareholders. In addition, the Fund may not be able to invest in certain securities included in the Environmental



Services Index, or invest in them in the exact proportions in which they are represented in the Environmental Services Index, due to legal restrictions or limitations imposed by the governments of certain countries, a lack of liquidity on stock exchanges in which the securities trade, potential adverse tax consequences or other regulatory reasons. To the extent the Fund calculates its NAV based on fair value prices and the value of the Environmental Services Index is based on securities' closing prices (*i.e.*, the value of the Environmental Services Index is not based on fair value prices), the Fund's ability to track the Environmental Services Index may be adversely affected. For tax efficiency purposes, the Fund may sell certain securities, and such sale may cause the Fund to realize a loss and deviate from the performance of the Environmental Services Index. In light of the factors discussed above, the Fund's return may deviate significantly from the return of the Environmental Services Index.

**Authorized Participant Concentration Risk.** The Fund may have a limited number of financial institutions that act as APs, none of which are obligated to engage in creation or redemption transactions. To the extent that those APs exit the business, or are unable to or choose not to process creation and/or redemption orders, and no other AP is able to step forward to create and redeem, there may be a significantly diminished trading market for Shares or Shares may trade like closed-end funds at a discount (or premium) to NAV and possibly face trading halts and/or de-listing. The AP concentration risk may be heightened in scenarios where APs have limited or diminished access to the capital required to post collateral.

**VANECK VECTORS™ ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES ETF (continued)**

**No Guarantee of Active Trading Market.** While Shares are listed on NYSE Arca, Inc. ( NYSE Arca ), there can be no assurance that an active trading market for the Shares will be maintained. Further, secondary markets may be subject to irregular trading activity, wide bid/ask spreads and extended trade settlement periods in times of market stress because market makers and APs may step away from making a market in the Shares and in executing creation and redemption orders, which could cause a material deviation in the Fund's market price from its NAV.

**Trading Issues.** Trading in Shares on NYSE Arca may be halted due to market conditions or for reasons that, in the view of NYSE Arca, make trading in Shares inadvisable. In addition, trading in Shares on NYSE Arca is subject to trading halts caused by extraordinary market volatility pursuant to NYSE Arca's circuit breaker rules. There can be no assurance that the requirements of NYSE Arca necessary to maintain the listing of the Fund will continue to be met or will remain unchanged.

**Replication Management Risk.** An investment in the Fund involves risks similar to those of investing in any fund of equity securities traded on an exchange, such as market fluctuations caused by such factors as economic and political developments, changes in interest rates and perceived trends in security prices. However, because the Fund is not actively managed, unless a specific security is removed from the Environmental Services Index, the Fund generally would not sell a security because the security's issuer was in financial trouble. Therefore, the Fund's performance could be lower than funds that may actively shift their portfolio assets to take advantage of market opportunities or to lessen the impact of a market decline or a decline in the value of one or more issuers.

**Fund Shares Trading, Premium/Discount Risk and Liquidity of Fund Shares.** The market prices of the Shares may fluctuate in response to the Fund's NAV, the intraday value of the Fund's holdings and supply and demand for Shares. The Adviser cannot predict whether Shares will trade above, below, or at their most recent NAV. Disruptions to creations and redemptions, the existence of market volatility or potential lack of an active trading market for Shares (including through a trading halt), as well as other factors, may result in Shares trading at a significant premium or discount to NAV or to the intraday value of the Fund's holdings. If a shareholder purchases Shares at a time when the market price is at a premium to the NAV or sells Shares at a time when the market price is at a discount to the NAV, the shareholder may sustain losses. The securities held by the Fund may be traded in markets that close at a different time than NYSE Arca. Liquidity in those securities may be reduced after the applicable closing times. Accordingly, during the time when NYSE Arca is open but after the applicable market closing, fixing or settlement times, bid-ask spreads on NYSE Arca and the resulting premium or discount to the Shares' NAV may widen. Additionally, in stressed market conditions, the market for the Fund's Shares may become less liquid in response to deteriorating liquidity in the markets for the Fund's underlying portfolio holdings.

**Non-Diversified Risk.** The Fund is classified as a non-diversified fund under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the 1940 Act ). Therefore, the Fund may invest a relatively high percentage of its assets in a smaller number of issuers or may invest a larger proportion of its assets in a single issuer. As a result, the gains and losses on a single investment may have a greater impact on the Fund's NAV and may make the Fund more volatile than more diversified funds. The Fund may be particularly vulnerable to this risk because the Environmental Services Index is comprised of securities of a very limited number of issuers.

**Concentration Risk.** The Fund's assets may be concentrated in a particular sector or sectors or industry or group of industries to the extent the Environmental Services Index concentrates in a particular sector or sectors or industry or group of industries. To the extent that the Fund continues to be concentrated in the industrials sector (which includes as a sub-industry the environmental services industry), the Fund will be subject to the risk that economic, political or

other conditions that have a negative effect on that sector or sub-industry will negatively impact the Fund to a greater extent than if the Fund's assets were invested in a wider variety of sectors or industries.

## **PERFORMANCE**

The bar chart that follows shows how the Fund performed for the calendar years shown. The table below the bar chart shows the Fund's average annual returns (before and after taxes). The bar chart and table provide an indication of the risks of investing in the Fund by comparing the Fund's performance from year to year and by showing how the Fund's average annual returns for the one year, five year and ten year periods compared with the Fund's benchmark index and a broad measure of market performance. All returns assume reinvestment of dividends and distributions. The Fund's past performance (before and after income taxes) is not necessarily indicative of how the Fund will perform in the future. Updated performance information is available online at [www.vaneck.com](http://www.vaneck.com).

**Annual Total Returns (%) Calendar Years****Best Quarter:** 25.65 2Q 09**Worst Quarter:** -21.21 4Q 08**Average Annual Total Returns for the Periods Ended December 31, 2016**

The after-tax returns presented in the table below are calculated using the highest historical individual federal marginal income tax rates and do not reflect the impact of state and local taxes. Your actual after-tax returns will depend on your specific tax situation and may differ from those shown below. After-tax returns are not relevant to investors who hold Shares of the Fund through tax-deferred arrangements, such as 401(k) plans or individual retirement accounts.

|   | <b>Past One<br/>Year</b> | <b>Past Five<br/>Years</b> | <b>Past Ten<br/>Years</b> |
|---|--------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| VanEck Vectors Environmental Services ETF (return before taxes)   | 30.00%                   | 11.45%                     | 6.60%                     |
| VanEck Vectors Environmental Services ETF (return after taxes on distributions)                         | 29.61%                   | 11.11%                     | 6.35%                     |
| VanEck Vectors Environmental Services ETF (return after taxes on distributions and sale of Fund Shares) | 16.98%                   | 9.06%                      | 5.29%                     |
| NYSE Arca Environmental Services Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)              | 30.70%                   | 12.00%                     | 7.14%                     |
| S&P 500® Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)                                      | 11.96%                   | 14.66%                     | 6.95%                     |

**PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT**

**Investment Adviser.** Van Eck Associates Corporation.

**Portfolio Managers.** The following individuals are jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio:

| <b>Name</b>           | <b>Title with Adviser</b> | <b>Date Began Managing<br/>the Fund</b> |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Hao-Hung (Peter) Liao | Portfolio Manager         | October 2006                            |
| George Chao           | Portfolio Manager         | December 2007                           |

**PURCHASE AND SALE OF FUND SHARES**

For important information about the purchase and sale of Fund Shares, tax information and payments to broker-dealers and other financial intermediaries, please turn to Summary Information About Purchases and Sales of Fund Shares, Taxes and Payments to Broker-Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries on page 41 of this Prospectus.



**VANECK VECTORS™ GAMING ETF\*****SUMMARY INFORMATION****INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE**

VanEck Vectors™ Gaming ETF (the Fund) seeks to replicate as closely as possible, before fees and expenses, the price and yield performance of the MVIS™ Global Gaming Index (the Gaming Index).

**FUND FEES AND EXPENSES**

The following tables describe the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy and hold shares of the Fund (Shares).

**Shareholder Fees** (*fees paid directly from your investment*) None

**Annual Fund Operating Expenses**

(*expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment*)

|                |       |
|----------------|-------|
| Management Fee | 0.50% |
| Other Expenses | 0.43% |

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses <sup>(a)</sup>  | 0.93%  |
| Fee Waivers and Expense Reimbursement <sup>(a)</sup> | -0.26% |

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waiver and Expense Reimbursement <sup>(a)</sup> | 0.67% |
|--|-------|

<sup>(a)</sup> Van Eck Associates Corporation (the Adviser) has agreed to waive fees and/or pay Fund expenses to the extent necessary to prevent the operating expenses of the Fund (excluding acquired fund fees and expenses, interest expense, trading expenses, taxes and extraordinary expenses) from exceeding 0.65% of the Fund's average daily net assets per year until at least February 1, 2018. During such time, the expense limitation is expected to continue until the Fund's Board of Trustees acts to discontinue all or a portion of such expense limitation.

**EXPENSE EXAMPLE**

This example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other funds. This example does not take into account brokerage commissions that you pay when purchasing or selling Shares of the Fund.

The example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your Shares at the end of those periods. The example also assumes that your investment has a 5% annual return and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same (except that the example incorporates the fee waiver and/or expense reimbursement arrangement for only the first year). Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions, your costs would be:

**YEAR EXPENSES**

|    |    |       |
|----|----|-------|
| 1  | \$ | 68    |
| 3  | \$ | 270   |
| 5  | \$ | 489   |
| 10 | \$ | 1,119 |

**PORTFOLIO TURNOVER**

The Fund will pay transaction costs, such as commissions, when it purchases and sells securities (or turns over its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover will cause the Fund to incur additional transaction costs and may result in higher taxes when Fund Shares are held in a taxable account. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the example, may affect the Fund's performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Fund's portfolio turnover rate was 29% of the average value of its portfolio.

**PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES**

The Fund normally invests at least 80% of its total assets in securities that comprise the Fund's benchmark index. The Gaming Index includes common stocks and depositary receipts of companies that generate at least 50% of their revenues from (or, in certain circumstances, have at least 50% of their assets related to) gaming. This includes casinos and casino hotels, sports betting (including internet gambling and racetracks) and lottery services as well as gaming services, gaming technology and

\* Prior to May 1, 2016, the Fund's name was Market Vectors Gaming ETF.

gaming equipment. Such companies may include small- and medium-capitalization companies and foreign companies that are listed on a U.S. or foreign exchanges. As of December 31, 2016, the Gaming Index included 39 securities of companies with a market capitalization range of approximately \$889.43 million to \$42.45 billion and a weighted average market capitalization of \$303.55 million. These amounts are subject to change. The Fund's 80% investment policy is non-fundamental and may be changed without shareholder approval upon 60 days' prior written notice to shareholders.

The Fund, using a passive or indexing investment approach, attempts to approximate the investment performance of the Gaming Index by investing in a portfolio of securities that generally replicates the Gaming Index. Unlike many investment companies that try to beat the performance of a benchmark index, the Fund does not try to beat the Gaming Index and does not seek temporary defensive positions when markets decline or appear overvalued. Indexing may eliminate the chance that the Fund will substantially outperform the Gaming Index but also may reduce some of the risks of active management, such as poor security selection. Indexing seeks to achieve lower costs and better after-tax performance by keeping portfolio turnover low in comparison to actively managed investment companies.

The Fund is classified as a non-diversified fund and, therefore, may invest a greater percentage of its assets in a particular issuer. The Fund may concentrate its investments in a particular industry or group of industries to the extent that the Gaming Index concentrates in an industry or group of industries. As of September 30, 2016, the Gaming Index was concentrated in the consumer discretionary sector (which includes as a sub-industry the gaming industry).

#### **PRINCIPAL RISKS OF INVESTING IN THE FUND**

**Investors in the Fund should be willing to accept a high degree of volatility in the price of the Fund's Shares and the possibility of significant losses. An investment in the Fund involves a substantial degree of risk. An investment in the Fund is not a deposit with a bank and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency. Therefore, you should consider carefully the following risks before investing in the Fund, each of which could significantly and adversely affect the value of an investment in the Fund.**

**Risk of Investing in the Gaming Industry.** Companies in the gaming industry include those engaged in casino operations, race track operations, sports and horse race betting operations, online gaming operations and/or the provision of related equipment and technologies. The Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance will depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the gaming industry. Companies in the gaming industry are highly regulated, and state and Federal legislative or regulatory changes and licensing issues (as well as the laws of other countries) can significantly impact their ability to operate in certain jurisdictions, the activities in which such companies are allowed to engage and the profitability of companies in the industry. Companies in the gaming industry often face similar obstacles, issues and regulatory burdens. As a result, the securities of gaming companies owned by the Fund may react similarly to, and move in unison with, one another. The gaming industry may also be negatively affected by changes in economic conditions, consumer tastes and discretionary income levels, intense competition and technological developments. In addition, the gaming industry is characterized by the use of various forms of intellectual property, which are dependent upon patented technologies, trademarked brands and proprietary information. Companies operating in the gaming industry are subject to the risk of significant litigation regarding intellectual property rights, which may adversely affect and financially harm companies in which the Fund may invest. Furthermore, certain jurisdictions may impose additional restrictions on securities issued by gaming companies organized or operated in such jurisdictions that may be held by the Fund.



**Equity Securities Risk.** The value of the equity securities held by the Fund may fall due to general market and economic conditions, perceptions regarding the markets in which the issuers of securities held by the Fund participate, or factors relating to specific issuers in which the Fund invests. Equity securities are subordinated to preferred securities and debt in a company's capital structure with respect to priority in right to a share of corporate income, and therefore will be subject to greater dividend risk than preferred securities or debt instruments. In addition, while broad market measures of equity securities have historically generated higher average returns than fixed income securities, equity securities have generally also experienced significantly more volatility in those returns, although under certain market conditions fixed income securities may have comparable or greater price volatility.

**Risk of Investing in the Consumer Discretionary Sector.** To the extent that the Fund continues to be concentrated in the consumer discretionary sector, the Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance will depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the consumer discretionary sector. Companies engaged in the consumer discretionary sector are subject to fluctuations in supply and demand. These companies may also be adversely affected by changes in consumer spending as a result of world events, political and economic conditions, commodity price volatility, changes in exchange rates, imposition of import controls, increased competition, depletion of resources and labor relations.

**Risk of Investing in Foreign Securities.** The Fund invests in securities of issuers located in countries whose economies are heavily dependent upon trading with key partners. Any reduction in this trading may have an adverse impact on the Fund's

**VANECK VECTORS™ GAMING ETF (continued)**

investments. Investments in the securities of foreign issuers involve risks beyond those associated with investments in U.S. securities. These additional risks include greater market volatility, the availability of less reliable financial information, higher transactional and custody costs, taxation by foreign governments, decreased market liquidity and political instability. Because certain foreign securities markets may be limited in size, the activity of large traders may have an undue influence on the prices of securities that trade in such markets.

**Foreign Currency Risk.** Because the Fund's assets may be invested in securities denominated in foreign currencies, the income received by the Fund from these investments will generally be in foreign currencies. The Fund's exposure to foreign currencies and changes in the value of foreign currencies versus the U.S. dollar may result in reduced returns for the Fund. Moreover, the Fund may incur costs in connection with conversions between U.S. dollars and foreign currencies. The value of certain foreign countries' currencies may be subject to a high degree of fluctuation. This fluctuation may be due to changes in interest rates, investors' expectations concerning inflation and interest rates, the country's debt levels and trade deficit, the effects of monetary policies issued by the United States, foreign governments, central banks or supranational entities, the imposition of currency controls or other national or global political or economic developments. The economies of certain emerging market countries can be significantly affected by currency devaluations. Certain emerging market countries may also have managed currencies which are maintained at artificial levels relative to the U.S. dollar rather than at levels determined by the market. This type of system could lead to sudden and large adjustments in the currency, which in turn, can have a negative effect on the Fund and its investments.

**Special Risk Considerations of Investing in Chinese Issuers.** Investing in securities of Chinese companies involves certain risks and considerations not typically associated with investing in securities of U.S. issuers, including, among others, (i) more frequent (and potentially widespread) trading suspensions and government interventions with respect to Chinese issuers, (ii) currency revaluations and other currency exchange rate fluctuations or blockage, (iii) the nature and extent of intervention by the Chinese government in the Chinese securities markets, whether such intervention will continue and the impact of such intervention or its discontinuation, (iv) the risk of nationalization or expropriation of assets, (v) the risk that the Chinese government may decide not to continue to support economic reform programs, (vi) limitations on the use of brokers, (vii) higher rates of inflation, (viii) greater political, economic and social uncertainty, (ix) market volatility caused by any potential regional or territorial conflicts or natural disasters and (x) the risk of increased trade tariffs, embargoes and other trade limitations. In addition, the economy of China differs, often unfavorably, from the U.S. economy in such respects as structure, general development, government involvement, wealth distribution, rate of inflation, growth rate, interest rates, allocation of resources and capital reinvestment, among others. The Chinese central government has historically exercised substantial control over virtually every sector of the Chinese economy through administrative regulation and/or state ownership and actions of the Chinese central and local government authorities continue to have a substantial effect on economic conditions in China. In addition, previously the Chinese government has from time to time taken actions that influence the prices at which certain goods may be sold, encourage companies to invest or concentrate in particular industries, induce mergers between companies in certain industries and induce private companies to publicly offer their securities to increase or continue the rate of economic growth, control the rate of inflation or otherwise regulate economic expansion. The Chinese government may do so in the future as well, potentially having a significant adverse effect on economic conditions in China.

**Risk of Investing in Depositary Receipts.** The Fund may invest in depositary receipts which involve similar risks to those associated with investments in foreign securities. Depositary receipts are receipts listed on U.S. or foreign exchanges issued by banks or trust companies that entitle the holder to all dividends and capital gains that are paid out

on the underlying foreign shares. Investments in depositary receipts may be less liquid than the underlying shares in their primary trading market and, if not included in the Gaming Index, may negatively affect the Fund's ability to replicate the performance of the Gaming Index.

**Risk of Investing in Small- and Medium-Capitalization Companies.** Small- and medium-capitalization companies may be more volatile and more likely than large-capitalization companies to have narrower product lines, fewer financial resources, less management depth and experience and less competitive strength. In addition, these companies often have greater price volatility, lower trading volume and less liquidity than larger more established companies. Returns on investments in securities of small- and medium-capitalization companies could trail the returns on investments in securities of large-capitalization companies.

**Risk of Cash Transactions.** Unlike other exchange-traded funds (ETFs), the Fund expects to effect its creations and redemptions partially for cash, rather than in-kind securities. Therefore, it may be required to sell portfolio securities and subsequently recognize gains on such sales that the Fund might not have recognized if it were to distribute portfolio securities in kind. As such, investments in Shares may be less tax-efficient than an investment in a conventional ETF.

**Market Risk.** The prices of the securities in the Fund are subject to the risks associated with investing in the securities market, including general economic conditions and sudden and unpredictable drops in value. An investment in the Fund may lose money.

**Operational Risk.** The Fund is exposed to operational risk arising from a number of factors, including, but not limited to, human error, processing and communication errors, errors of the Fund's service providers, counterparties or other third-parties, failed or inadequate processes and technology or system failures. The Fund seeks to reduce these operational risks through controls and procedures. However, these measures do not address every possible risk and may be inadequate for those risks that they are intended to address.

**Index Tracking Risk.** The Fund's return may not match the return of the Gaming Index for a number of reasons. For example, the Fund incurs a number of operating expenses not applicable to the Gaming Index and incurs costs associated with buying and selling securities, especially when rebalancing the Fund's securities holdings to reflect changes in the composition of the Gaming Index, which are not factored into the return of the Gaming Index. Transaction costs, including brokerage costs, will decrease the Fund's net asset value (NAV) to the extent not offset by the transaction fee payable by an Authorized Participant ("AP"). Market disruptions and regulatory restrictions could have an adverse effect on the Fund's ability to adjust its exposure to the required levels in order to track the Gaming Index. Errors in the Gaming Index data, the Gaming Index computations and/or the construction of the Gaming Index in accordance with its methodology may occur from time to time and may not be identified and corrected by the Gaming Index provider for a period of time or at all, which may have an adverse impact on the Fund and its shareholders. In addition, the Fund may not be able to invest in certain securities included in the Gaming Index, or invest in them in the exact proportions in which they are represented in the Gaming Index, due to legal restrictions or limitations imposed by the governments of certain countries, a lack of liquidity on stock exchanges in which such securities trade, potential adverse tax consequences or other regulatory reasons. The Fund is expected to value certain of its investments based on fair value prices. To the extent the Fund calculates its NAV based on fair value prices and the value of the Gaming Index is based on securities' closing prices on local foreign markets (*i.e.*, the value of the Gaming Index is not based on fair value prices), the Fund's ability to track the Gaming Index may be adversely affected. For tax efficiency purposes, the Fund may sell certain securities, and such sale may cause the Fund to realize a loss and deviate from the performance of the Gaming Index. In light of the factors discussed above, the Fund's return may deviate significantly from the return of the Gaming Index.

**Authorized Participant Concentration Risk.** The Fund may have a limited number of financial institutions that act as APs, none of which are obligated to engage in creation or redemption transactions. To the extent that those APs exit the business, or are unable to or choose not to process creation and/or redemption orders, and no other AP is able to step forward to create and redeem, there may be a significantly diminished trading market for Shares or Shares may trade like closed-end funds at a discount (or premium) to NAV and possibly face trading halts and/or de-listing. The AP concentration risk may be heightened in scenarios where APs have limited or diminished access to the capital required to post collateral.

**No Guarantee of Active Trading Market.** While Shares are listed on NYSE Arca, Inc. (NYSE Arca), there can be no assurance that an active trading market for the Shares will be maintained. Further, secondary markets may be subject to irregular trading activity, wide bid/ask spreads and extended trade settlement periods in times of market stress because market makers and APs may step away from making a market in the Shares and in executing creation and redemption orders, which could cause a material deviation in the Fund's market price from its NAV.

**Trading Issues.** Trading in Shares on NYSE Arca may be halted due to market conditions or for reasons that, in the view of NYSE Arca, make trading in Shares inadvisable. In addition, trading in Shares on NYSE Arca is subject to

trading halts caused by extraordinary market volatility pursuant to NYSE Arca's circuit breaker rules. There can be no assurance that the requirements of NYSE Arca necessary to maintain the listing of the Fund will continue to be met or will remain unchanged.

**Replication Management Risk.** An investment in the Fund involves risks similar to those of investing in any fund of equity securities traded on an exchange, such as market fluctuations caused by such factors as economic and political developments, changes in interest rates and perceived trends in security prices. However, because the Fund is not actively managed, unless a specific security is removed from the Gaming Index, the Fund generally would not sell a security because the security's issuer was in financial trouble. Therefore, the Fund's performance could be lower than funds that may actively shift their portfolio assets to take advantage of market opportunities or to lessen the impact of a market decline or a decline in the value of one or more issuers.

**Fund Shares Trading, Premium/Discount Risk and Liquidity of Fund Shares.** The market prices of the Shares may fluctuate in response to the Fund's NAV, the intraday value of the Fund's holdings and supply and demand for Shares. The Adviser cannot predict whether Shares will trade above, below, or at their most recent NAV. Disruptions to creations and redemptions, the existence of market volatility or potential lack of an active trading market for Shares (including through a

**VANECK VECTORS™ GAMING ETF (continued)**

trading halt), as well as other factors, may result in Shares trading at a significant premium or discount to NAV or to the intraday value of the Fund's holdings. If a shareholder purchases Shares at a time when the market price is at a premium to the NAV or sells Shares at a time when the market price is at a discount to the NAV, the shareholder may sustain losses. The securities held by the Fund may be traded in markets that close at a different time than NYSE Arca. Liquidity in those securities may be reduced after the applicable closing times. Accordingly, during the time when NYSE Arca is open but after the applicable market closing, fixing or settlement times, bid-ask spreads on NYSE Arca and the resulting premium or discount to the Shares' NAV may widen. Additionally, in stressed market conditions, the market for the Fund's Shares may become less liquid in response to deteriorating liquidity in the markets for the Fund's underlying portfolio holdings.

**Non-Diversified Risk.** The Fund is classified as a non-diversified fund under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"). Therefore, the Fund may invest a relatively high percentage of its assets in a smaller number of issuers or may invest a larger proportion of its assets in a single issuer. As a result, the gains and losses on a single investment may have a greater impact on the Fund's NAV and may make the Fund more volatile than more diversified funds.

**Concentration Risk.** The Fund's assets may be concentrated in a particular sector or sectors or industry or group of industries to the extent the Gaming Index concentrates in a particular sector or sectors or industry or group of industries. To the extent that the Fund continues to be concentrated in the consumer discretionary sector (which includes as a sub-industry the gaming industry), the Fund will be subject to the risk that economic, political or other conditions that have a negative effect on that sector or sub-industry will negatively impact the Fund to a greater extent than if the Fund's assets were invested in a wider variety of sectors or industries.

**PERFORMANCE**

The bar chart that follows shows how the Fund performed for the calendar years shown. The table below the bar chart shows the Fund's average annual returns (before and after taxes). The bar chart and table provide an indication of the risks of investing in the Fund by comparing the Fund's performance from year to year and by showing how the Fund's average annual returns for the one year, five year and since inception periods compared with the Fund's benchmark index and a broad measure of market performance. All returns assume reinvestment of dividends and distributions. The Fund's past performance (before and after income taxes) is not necessarily indicative of how the Fund will perform in the future. Updated performance information is available online at [www.vaneck.com](http://www.vaneck.com).

**Annual Total Returns (%) Calendar Years**

**Best Quarter:** 34.93 2Q 09  
**Worst Quarter:** -18.89 3Q 11

**Average Annual Total Returns for the Periods Ended December 31, 2016**

The after-tax returns presented in the table below are calculated using the highest historical individual federal marginal income tax rates and do not reflect the impact of state and local taxes. Your actual after-tax returns will depend on your specific tax situation and may differ from those shown below. After-tax returns are not relevant to investors who hold Shares of the Fund through tax-deferred arrangements, such as 401(k) plans or individual retirement accounts.

|   | <b>Past<br/>One Year</b> | <b>Past<br/>Five Years</b> | <b>Since<br/>Inception<br/>(1/22/2008)</b> |
|---|--------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF (return before taxes)   | 11.08%                   | 5.86%                      | 1.16%                                      |
| VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF (return after taxes on distributions)                         | 9.61%                    | 4.82%                      | 0.41%                                      |
| VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF (return after taxes on distributions and sale of Fund Shares) | 6.27%                    | 4.36%                      | 0.74%                                      |
| MVIS Global Gaming Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)            | 11.26%                   | 6.33%                      | 1.93%                                      |
| S&P 500® Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)                      | 11.96%                   | 14.66%                     | 8.52%                                      |

**PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT**

**Investment Adviser.** Van Eck Associates Corporation.

**Portfolio Managers.** The following individuals are jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio:

| <b>Name</b> | <b>Title with Adviser</b> | <b>Date Began Managing the Fund</b> |
|-------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|-------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|

|                       |                   |              |
|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Hao Hung (Peter) Liao | Portfolio Manager | January 2008 |
| George Chao           | Portfolio Manager | January 2008 |

**PURCHASE AND SALE OF FUND SHARES**

For important information about the purchase and sale of Fund Shares, tax information and payments to broker-dealers and other financial intermediaries, please turn to Summary Information About Purchases and Sales of Fund Shares, Taxes and Payments to Broker-Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries on page 41 of this Prospectus.

**VANECK VECTORS™ GENERIC DRUGS ETF\*****SUMMARY INFORMATION****INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE**

VanEck Vectors™ Generic Drugs ETF (the Fund) seeks to replicate as closely as possible, before fees and expenses, the price and yield performance of the Indxx Global Generics & New Pharma Index (the Generic Drugs Index).

**FUND FEES AND EXPENSES**

The following tables describe the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy and hold shares of the Fund (Shares).

**Shareholder Fees** (*fees paid directly from your investment*) None

**Annual Fund Operating Expenses**

(*expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment*)

|                |       |
|----------------|-------|
| Management Fee | 0.50% |
| Other Expenses | 5.20% |

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses <sup>(a)</sup>  | 5.70%  |
| Fee Waivers and Expense Reimbursement <sup>(a)</sup> | -5.15% |

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waiver and Expense Reimbursement <sup>(b)</sup> | 0.55% |
|--|-------|

<sup>(a)</sup> Van Eck Associates Corporation (the Adviser) has agreed to waive fees and/or pay Fund expenses to the extent necessary to prevent the operating expenses of the Fund (excluding acquired fund fees and expenses, interest expense, trading expenses, taxes and extraordinary expenses) from exceeding 0.55% of the Fund's average daily net assets per year until at least February 1, 2018. During such time, the expense limitation is expected to continue until the Fund's Board of Trustees acts to discontinue all or a portion of such expense limitation.

**EXPENSE EXAMPLE**

This example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other funds. This example does not take into account brokerage commissions that you pay when purchasing or selling Shares of the Fund.

The example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your Shares at the end of those periods. The example also assumes that your investment has a 5% annual return and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same (except that the example incorporates the fee waiver and expense reimbursement arrangement for only the first year). Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions, your costs would be:



**YEAR EXPENSES**

|    |    |       |
|----|----|-------|
| 1  | \$ | 56    |
| 3  | \$ | 1,239 |
| 5  | \$ | 2,405 |
| 10 | \$ | 5,249 |

**PORTFOLIO TURNOVER**

The Fund will pay transaction costs, such as commissions, when it purchases and sells securities (or turns over its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover will cause the Fund to incur additional transaction costs and may result in higher taxes when Fund Shares are held in a taxable account. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the example, may affect the Fund's performance. During the period January 12, 2016 (the Fund's commencement of operations), through September 30, 2016, the Fund's portfolio turnover rate was 47% of the average value of its portfolio.

**PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES**

The Fund normally invests at least 80% of its total assets in securities that comprise the Fund's benchmark index. The Generic Drugs Index includes exchange-listed companies, on a global basis, that derive a significant proportion (as determined by Indxx, LLC (Indxx)) of their revenues (or that have the potential to derive a significant proportion of their revenues) from the generic drug industry, or that have a primary business focus on the generic drug industry. A company is

\* Prior to May 1, 2016, the Fund's name was Market Vectors Generic Drugs ETF.

deemed to derive a significant proportion of its revenue from the generic drug industry if (i), according to a public filing, it generates a majority of its revenue from the sale of generic drugs, (ii), in the absence of a revenue segment breakdown, it has stated its primary business to be the development and production of generic drugs or (iii) has a drug pipeline composed of generic drug filings. The universe of companies in the generic drug industry is determined based on proprietary research and analysis conducted by Indxx. Indxx uses a variety of publicly available sources for such analysis, including financial statements and other reports published by companies to determine whether the company is actively engaged in the generic drug industry. Products of these companies are pharmaceuticals that are identical, or bioequivalent in the dosage form, safety, strength, quality and intended usage to brand name pharmaceuticals. Such companies may include small- and medium-capitalization companies and U.S., foreign and emerging market issuers. American depositary receipts ( ADRs ) and global depositary receipts ( GDRs ) are eligible for inclusion in the Generic Drugs Index. As of December 31, 2016, the Generic Drugs Index included 78 securities of companies with a minimum market capitalization of \$660 million and a weighted average market capitalization of \$10.31 billion. These amounts are subject to change. Effective after market close on March 17, 2017, the Generic Drugs Index will remove from its existing portfolio any companies that are not part of the 40 largest companies (by market capitalization) eligible for inclusion in the Generic Drugs Index. The Fund's 80% investment policy is non-fundamental and may be changed without shareholder approval upon 60 days' prior written notice to shareholders.

The Fund, using a passive or indexing investment approach, attempts before fees and expenses to approximate the investment performance of the Generic Drugs Index by investing in a portfolio of securities that generally replicates the Generic Drugs Index. Unlike many investment companies that try to beat the performance of a benchmark index, the Fund does not try to beat the Generic Drugs Index and does not seek temporary defensive positions when markets decline or appear overvalued. Indexing may eliminate the chance that the Fund will substantially outperform the Generic Drugs Index but also may reduce some of the risks of active management, such as poor security selection. Indexing seeks to achieve lower costs and better after-tax performance by keeping portfolio turnover low in comparison to actively managed investment companies.

The Fund is classified as a non-diversified fund and, therefore, may invest a greater percentage of its assets in a particular issuer. The Fund may concentrate its investments in a particular industry or group of industries to the extent that the Generic Drugs Index concentrates in an industry or group of industries. As of September 30, 2016, the Generic Drugs Index was concentrated in the pharmaceutical sector, and each of the biotechnology and life sciences tools and services sectors represented a significant portion of the Generic Drugs Index.

## **PRINCIPAL RISKS OF INVESTING IN THE FUND**

**Investors in the Fund should be willing to accept a high degree of volatility in the price of the Fund's Shares and the possibility of significant losses. An investment in the Fund involves a substantial degree of risk. An investment in the Fund is not a deposit with a bank and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency. Therefore, you should consider carefully the following risks before investing in the Fund, each of which could significantly and adversely affect the value of an investment in the Fund.**

**Risk of Investing in the Pharmaceutical Sector.** The success of companies in the pharmaceutical sector that produce generic drugs is highly dependent on the development, procurement and marketing of these drugs. Many companies that produce generic drugs compete with large, well-financed pharmaceutical companies with more experienced development and marketing groups. Moreover, brand-name companies continually seek new ways to delay the introduction of generic products and/or decrease the impact of generic competition, such as filing new patents on drugs whose original patent production is about to expire, developing patented controlled-release products, changing

product claims and labeling, or developing and marketing as over-the-counter products those branded products that are about to face generic competition. The research and other costs associated with developing or procuring generic drugs and the related intellectual property rights can be significant, and the results of such research and expenditures are unpredictable. The Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance will depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the pharmaceutical sector. In addition, pharmaceutical companies that produce generic drugs may be susceptible to product obsolescence and face intense competition from less costly generic products. There is also the risk that pharmaceutical companies will be unable to obtain sufficient supplies or raw materials needed to create generic drugs. Such a shortage may also cause difficulties or delays in producing generic drugs, which would materially adversely affect a pharmaceutical company. Additionally, prices for existing generic drugs generally decline over time, although this may vary. Price deflation on existing generic drugs may have an adverse effect on profits for all companies that produce generic drugs. Companies in the pharmaceutical sector that produce generic drugs may also be subject to expenses and losses from extensive litigation based on intellectual property, product liability and similar claims. Companies in the pharmaceutical sector may be adversely affected by government regulation, restrictions on reimbursement rates, industry innovation, changes in technologies and other market developments. Companies in the pharmaceutical sector may be adversely affected by government regulation, corporate actions, such as mergers and

**VANECK VECTORS™ GENERIC DRUGS ETF (continued)**

acquisitions, restrictions on reimbursement rates, industry innovation, changes in technologies and other market developments. The ability of many pharmaceutical companies to commercialize current and any future products depends in part on the extent to which reimbursement for the cost of such products and related treatments are available from third party payors, such as Medicare, Medicaid and other government sponsored programs, private health insurance plans and health maintenance organizations.

**Risk of Investing in the Biotechnology Sector.** The success of biotechnology companies is highly dependent on the development, procurement and/or marketing of drugs. To the extent that the biotechnology sector continues to represent a significant portion of the Fund, the Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance may depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the biotechnology sector. Companies operating in the biotechnology sector are subject to similar risks of companies operating in the pharmaceutical sector, as discussed in more detail above. Additionally, a biotechnology company's valuation can often be based largely on the potential or actual performance of a limited number of products. A biotechnology company's valuation can also be greatly affected if one of its products proves unsafe, ineffective or unprofitable.

**Equity Securities Risk.** The value of the equity securities held by the Fund may fall due to general market and economic conditions, perceptions regarding the markets in which the issuers of securities held by the Fund participate, or factors relating to specific issuers in which the Fund invests. Equity securities are subordinated to preferred securities and debt in a company's capital structure with respect to priority in right to a share of corporate income, and therefore will be subject to greater dividend risk than preferred securities or debt instruments. In addition, while broad market measures of equity securities have historically generated higher average returns than fixed income securities, equity securities have generally also experienced significantly more volatility in those returns, although under certain market conditions fixed income securities may have comparable or greater price volatility.

**Special Risk Considerations of Investing in Indian Issuers.** Investment in securities of Indian issuers involves risks not typically associated with investments in securities of issuers in more developed countries that may negatively affect the value of your investment in the Fund. Such heightened risks include, among others, greater government control over the economy, political and legal uncertainty, currency fluctuations or blockage of foreign currency exchanges and the risk of nationalization or expropriation of assets. Issuers in India are subject to less stringent requirements regarding accounting, auditing and financial reporting than are issuers in more developed markets, and therefore, all material information may not be available or reliable. In addition, religious and border disputes persist in India. India has experienced civil unrest and hostilities with neighboring countries, including Pakistan, and the Indian government has confronted separatist movements in several Indian states. India has also experienced acts of terrorism that have targeted foreigners, which have had a negative impact on tourism, an important sector of the Indian economy. The Indian securities markets are smaller than securities markets in more developed economies and are subject to greater price volatility.

Indian stock exchanges have also experienced problems such as temporary exchange closures, broker defaults, settlement delays and strikes by brokers that have affected the market price and liquidity of the securities of Indian companies. In addition, the governing bodies of the Indian stock exchanges have from time to time restricted securities from trading, limited price movements and restricted margin requirements. Further, from time to time, disputes have occurred between listed companies and the Indian stock exchanges and other regulatory bodies that, in some cases, have had a negative effect on market sentiment.

**Special Risk Considerations of Investing in Asian Issuers.** The Fund may invest in securities issued by Asian issuers and, accordingly, may be subject to the risk of investing in such issuers. Investment in securities of issuers in Asia involves risks and special considerations not typically associated with investment in the U.S. securities markets. Certain Asian economies have experienced over-extension of credit, currency devaluations and restrictions, high unemployment, high inflation, decreased exports and economic recessions. Economic events in any one Asian country can have a significant effect on the entire Asian region as well as on major trading partners outside Asia, and any adverse effect on some or all of the Asian countries and regions in which the Fund invests. The securities markets in some Asian economies are relatively underdeveloped and may subject the Fund to higher action costs or greater uncertainty than investments in more developed securities markets. Such risks may adversely affect the value of the Fund's investments.

**Risk of Investing in Depositary Receipts.** The Fund may invest in depositary receipts which involve similar risks to those associated with investments in foreign securities. Depositary receipts are receipts listed on U.S. or foreign exchanges issued by banks or trust companies that entitle the holder to all dividends and capital gains that are paid out on the underlying foreign shares. Investments in depositary receipts may be less liquid than the underlying shares in their primary trading market and, if not included in the Generic Drugs Index, may negatively affect the Fund's ability to replicate the performance of the Generic Drugs Index.

**Risk of Investing in Foreign Securities.** The Fund invests in securities of issuers located in countries whose economies are heavily dependent upon trading with key partners. Any reduction in this trading may have an adverse impact on the Fund's investments. Investments in the securities of foreign issuers involve risks beyond those associated with investments in U.S. securities. These additional risks include greater market volatility, the availability of less reliable financial information, higher transactional and custody costs, taxation by foreign governments, decreased market liquidity and political instability. Because certain foreign securities markets may be limited in size, the activity of large traders may have an undue influence on the prices of securities that trade in such markets. The risks of investing in emerging market countries are greater than risks associated with investments in foreign developed countries.

**Risk of Investing in Emerging Market Issuers.** Investments in securities of emerging market issuers are exposed to a number of risks that may make these investments volatile in price or difficult to trade. Emerging markets are more likely than developed markets to experience problems with the clearing and settling of trades, as well as the holding of securities by local banks, agents and depositories. Political risks may include unstable governments, nationalization, restrictions on foreign ownership, laws that prevent investors from getting their money out of a country and legal systems that do not protect property rights as well as the laws of the United States. Market risks may include economies that concentrate in only a few industries, securities issues that are held by only a few investors, liquidity issues, limited trading capacity in local exchanges and the possibility that markets or issues may be manipulated by foreign nationals who have inside information.

**Foreign Currency Risk.** Because the Fund's assets may be invested in securities denominated in foreign currencies, the income received by the Fund from these investments will generally be in foreign currencies. The Fund's exposure to foreign currencies and changes in the value of foreign currencies versus the U.S. dollar may result in reduced returns for the Fund. Moreover, the Fund may incur costs in connection with conversions between U.S. dollars and foreign currencies. The value of certain foreign countries' currencies may be subject to a high degree of fluctuation. This fluctuation may be due to changes in interest rates, investors' expectations concerning inflation and interest rates, the country's debt levels and trade deficit, the effects of monetary policies issued by the United States, foreign governments, central banks or supranational entities, the imposition of currency controls or other national or global political or economic developments. The economies of certain emerging market countries can be significantly affected by currency devaluations.

**Risk of Investing in Small- and Medium-Capitalization Companies.** Small- and medium-capitalization companies may be more volatile and more likely than large-capitalization companies to have narrower product lines, fewer financial resources, less management depth and experience and less competitive strength. In addition, these companies often have greater price volatility, lower trading volume and less liquidity than larger more established companies. Returns on investments in securities of small-capitalization and medium-capitalization companies could trail the returns on investments in securities of large-capitalization companies.

**Market Risk.** The prices of the securities in the Fund are subject to the risks associated with investing in the securities market, including general economic conditions and sudden and unpredictable drops in value. An investment in the Fund may lose money.

**Operational Risk.** The Fund is exposed to operational risk arising from a number of factors, including, but not limited to, human error, processing and communication errors, errors of the Fund's service providers, counterparties or other third-parties, failed or inadequate processes and technology or system failures. The Fund seeks to reduce these operational risks through controls and procedures. However, these measures do not address every possible risk and may be inadequate for those risks that they are intended to address.

**Index Tracking Risk.** The Fund's return may not match the return of the Generic Drugs Index for a number of reasons. For example, the Fund incurs a number of operating expenses not applicable to the Generic Drugs Index and incurs costs associated with buying and selling securities, especially when rebalancing the Fund's securities holdings to reflect changes in the composition of the Generic Drugs Index, which are not factored into the return of the Generic Drugs Index. Transaction costs, including brokerage costs, will decrease the Fund's net asset value ( NAV ) to the extent not offset by the transaction fee payable by an Authorized Participant ( AP ). Market disruptions and regulatory restrictions could have an adverse effect on the Fund's ability to adjust its exposure to the required levels in order to track the Generic Drugs Index. Errors in the Generic Drugs Index data, the Generic Drugs Index computations and/or the construction of the Generic Drugs Index in accordance with its methodology may occur from time to time and may not be identified and corrected by the Generic Drugs Index provider for a period of time or at all, which may have an adverse impact on the Fund and its shareholders. In addition, the Fund may not be able to invest in certain securities included in the Generic Drugs Index, or invest in them in the exact proportions in which they are represented in the Generic Drugs Index, due to legal restrictions or limitations imposed by the governments of certain countries, a lack of liquidity on stock exchanges in which such securities trade, potential adverse tax consequences or other regulatory reasons. The Fund is expected to value certain of its investments based on fair value prices. To the extent the Fund calculates its NAV based on fair value prices and the value of the Generic Drugs Index is

**VANECK VECTORS™ GENERIC DRUGS ETF (continued)**

based on securities' closing prices on local foreign markets (*i.e.*, the value of the Generic Drugs Index is not based on fair value prices), the Fund's ability to track the Generic Drugs Index may be adversely affected. In addition, any issues the Fund encounters with regard to currency convertibility (including the cost of borrowing funds, if any) and repatriation may also increase the index tracking risk. The Fund may also need to rely on borrowings to meet redemptions, which may lead to increased expenses. For tax efficiency purposes, the Fund may sell certain securities, and such sale may cause the Fund to realize a loss and deviate from the performance of the Generic Drugs Index. In light of the factors discussed above, the Fund's return may deviate significantly from the return of the Generic Drugs Index.

**Replication Management Risk.** An investment in the Fund involves risks similar to those of investing in any fund of equity securities traded on an exchange, such as market fluctuations caused by such factors as economic and political developments, changes in interest rates and perceived trends in security prices. However, because the Fund is not actively managed, unless a specific security is removed from the Generic Drugs Index, the Fund generally would not sell a security because the security's issuer was in financial trouble. Therefore, the Fund's performance could be lower than funds that may actively shift their portfolio assets to take advantage of market opportunities or to lessen the impact of a market decline or a decline in the value of one or more issuers.

**Risk of Cash Transactions.** Unlike other exchange-traded funds (ETFs), the Fund expects to effect its creations and redemptions partially for cash, rather than in-kind securities. Therefore, it may be required to sell portfolio securities and subsequently recognize gains on such sales that the Fund might not have recognized if it were to distribute portfolio securities in kind. As such, investments in Shares may be less tax-efficient than an investment in a conventional ETF.

**Authorized Participant Concentration Risk.** The Fund may have a limited number of financial institutions that act as APs, none of which are obligated to engage in creation or redemption transactions. To the extent that those APs exit the business, or are unable to or choose not to process creation and/or redemption orders, and no other AP is able to step forward to create and redeem, there may be a significantly diminished trading market for Shares or Shares may trade like closed-end funds at a discount (or premium) to NAV and possibly face trading halts and/or de-listing. The AP concentration risk may be heightened in scenarios where APs have limited or diminished access to the capital required to post collateral.

**No Guarantee of Active Trading Market.** While Shares are listed on The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC (NASDAQ), there can be no assurance that an active trading markets for the Shares will be maintained. Further, secondary markets may be subject to irregular trading activity, wide bid/ask spreads and extended trade settlement periods in times of market stress because market makers and APs may step away from making a market in the Shares and in executing creation and redemption orders, which could cause a material deviation in the Fund's market price from its NAV.

**Trading Issues.** Trading in Shares on NASDAQ may be halted due to market conditions or for reasons that, in the view of NASDAQ, make trading in Shares inadvisable. In addition, trading in Shares on NASDAQ is subject to trading halts caused by extraordinary market volatility pursuant to NASDAQ's circuit breaker rules. There can be no assurance that the requirements of NASDAQ necessary to maintain the listing of the Fund will continue to be met or will remain unchanged.



**Fund Shares Trading, Premium/Discount Risk and Liquidity of Fund Shares.** The market prices of the Shares may fluctuate in response to the Fund's NAV, the intraday value of the Fund's holdings and supply and demand for Shares. The Adviser cannot predict whether Shares will trade above, below, or at their most recent NAV. Disruptions to creations and redemptions, the existence of market volatility or potential lack of an active trading market for Shares (including through a trading halt), as well as other factors, may result in Shares trading at a significant premium or discount to NAV or to the intraday value of the Fund's holdings. If a shareholder purchases Shares at a time when the market price is at a premium to the NAV or sells Shares at a time when the market price is at a discount to the NAV, the shareholder may sustain losses. The securities held by the Fund may be traded in markets that close at a different time than NASDAQ. Liquidity in those securities may be reduced after the applicable closing times. Accordingly, during the time when NASDAQ is open but after the applicable market closing, fixing or settlement times, bid-ask spreads on NASDAQ and the resulting premium or discount to the Shares' NAV may widen. Additionally, in stressed market conditions, the market for the Fund's Shares may become less liquid in response to deteriorating liquidity in the markets for the Fund's underlying portfolio holdings.

**Non-Diversified Risk.** The Fund is classified as a non-diversified fund under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"). Therefore, the Fund may invest a relatively high percentage of its assets in a smaller number of issuers or may invest a larger proportion of its assets in obligations of a single issuer. As a result, the gains and losses on a single investment may have a greater impact on the Fund's NAV and may make the Fund more volatile than more diversified funds.

**Concentration Risk.** The Fund's assets may be concentrated in a particular sector or sectors or industry or group of industries to the extent the Generic Drugs Index concentrates in a particular sector or sectors or industry or group of industries. To the extent that the Fund continues to be concentrated in the pharmaceutical sector, the Fund will be subject to

the risk that economic, political or other conditions that have a negative effect on that sector will negatively impact the Fund to a greater extent than if the Fund's assets were invested in a wider variety of sectors or industries.

**PERFORMANCE**

The Fund commenced operations on January 12, 2016 and therefore does not have a performance history for a full calendar year. The Fund's financial performance for the Fund's first fiscal period is included in the Financial Highlights section of the Prospectus. Visit [www.vaneck.com](http://www.vaneck.com) for current performance figures.

**PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT**

**Investment Adviser.** Van Eck Associates Corporation.

**Portfolio Managers.** The following individuals are primarily and jointly responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio:

| Name                  | Title with Adviser | Date Began Managing the Fund |
|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|
| Hao-Hung (Peter) Liao | Portfolio Manager  | January 2016                 |
| George Chao           | Portfolio Manager  | January 2016                 |

**PURCHASE AND SALE OF FUND SHARES**

For important information about the purchase and sale of Fund Shares, tax information, and payments to broker-dealers and other financial intermediaries, please turn to Summary Information about Purchases and Sales of Fund Shares, Taxes and Payments to Broker-Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries on page 41 of this Prospectus.

**VANECK VECTORS™ PHARMACEUTICAL ETF\*****SUMMARY INFORMATION****INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE**

VanEck Vectors™ Pharmaceutical ETF (the Fund) seeks to replicate as closely as possible, before fees and expenses, the price and yield performance of the MVIS™ US Listed Pharmaceutical 25 Index (the Pharmaceutical Index).

**FUND FEES AND EXPENSES**

The following tables describe the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy and hold shares of the Fund (Shares).

**Shareholder Fees** (*fees paid directly from your investment*) None  
**Annual Fund Operating Expenses**  
*(expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)*

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| Management Fee                                       | 0.35%  |
| Other Expenses                                       | 0.06%  |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses <sup>(a)</sup>  | 0.41%  |
| Fee Waivers and Expense Reimbursement <sup>(a)</sup> | -0.06% |

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waiver and Expense Reimbursement <sup>(a)</sup> | 0.35% |
|--|-------|

<sup>(a)</sup> Van Eck Associates Corporation (the Adviser) has agreed to waive fees and/or pay Fund expenses to the extent necessary to prevent the operating expenses of the Fund (excluding acquired fund fees and expenses, interest expense, trading expenses, taxes and extraordinary expenses) from exceeding 0.35% of the Fund's average daily net assets per year until at least February 1, 2018. During such time, the expense limitation is expected to continue until the Fund's Board of Trustees acts to discontinue all or a portion of such expense limitation.

**EXPENSE EXAMPLE**

This example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other funds. This example does not take into account brokerage commissions that you pay when purchasing or selling Shares of the Fund.

The example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your Shares at the end of those periods. The example also assumes that your investment has a 5% annual return and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same (except that the example incorporates the fee waiver and/or expense reimbursement arrangement for only the first year). Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions, your costs would be:

**YEAR EXPENSES**

|    |    |     |
|----|----|-----|
| 1  | \$ | 36  |
| 3  | \$ | 126 |
| 5  | \$ | 224 |
| 10 | \$ | 512 |

**PORTFOLIO TURNOVER**

The Fund will pay transaction costs, such as commissions, when it purchases and sells securities (or turns over its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover will cause the Fund to incur additional transaction costs and may result in higher taxes when Fund Shares are held in a taxable account. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the example, may affect the Fund's performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Fund's portfolio turnover rate was 25% of the average value of its portfolio.

**PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES**

The Fund normally invests at least 80% of its total assets in securities that comprise the Fund's benchmark index. The Pharmaceutical Index includes common stocks and depositary receipts of U.S. exchange-listed companies in the pharmaceutical sector. Such companies may include medium-capitalization companies and foreign companies that are listed on a U.S. exchange. Companies are considered to be in the pharmaceutical sector if they derive at least 50% of their revenues from (or, in certain circumstances, have at least 50% of their assets related to) pharmaceuticals. The pharmaceutical

\* Prior to May 1, 2016, the Fund's name was Market Vectors Pharmaceutical ETF.

sector includes companies engaged primarily in research (including research contractors) and development as well as production, marketing and sales of pharmaceuticals (excluding pharmacies). Of the largest 50 stocks in the pharmaceutical sector by full market capitalization, the top 25 by free-float market capitalization (*i.e.*, includes only shares that are readily available for trading in the market) and three month average daily trading volume are included in the Pharmaceutical Index. As of December 31, 2016, the Pharmaceutical Index included 25 securities of companies with a market capitalization range of approximately \$2.73 billion to \$313.43 billion and a weighted average market capitalization of \$4.40 billion. These amounts are subject to change. The Fund's 80% investment policy is non-fundamental and may be changed without shareholder approval upon 60 days' prior written notice to shareholders.

The Fund, using a passive or indexing investment approach, attempts to approximate the investment performance of the Pharmaceutical Index by investing in a portfolio of securities that generally replicates the Pharmaceutical Index. Unlike many investment companies that try to beat the performance of a benchmark index, the Fund does not try to beat the Pharmaceutical Index and does not seek temporary defensive positions when markets decline or appear overvalued. Indexing may eliminate the chance that the Fund will substantially outperform the Pharmaceutical Index but also may reduce some of the risks of active management, such as poor security selection. Indexing seeks to achieve lower costs and better after-tax performance by keeping portfolio turnover low in comparison to actively managed investment companies.

The Fund is classified as a non-diversified fund and, therefore, may invest a greater percentage of its assets in a particular issuer. The Fund may concentrate its investments in a particular industry or group of industries to the extent that the Pharmaceutical Index concentrates in an industry or group of industries. As of September 30, 2016, the Pharmaceutical Index was concentrated in the pharmaceutical sector, and the health care sector represented a significant portion of the Pharmaceutical Index.

## **PRINCIPAL RISKS OF INVESTING IN THE FUND**

**Investors in the Fund should be willing to accept a high degree of volatility in the price of the Fund's Shares and the possibility of significant losses. An investment in the Fund involves a substantial degree of risk. An investment in the Fund is not a deposit with a bank and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency. Therefore, you should consider carefully the following risks before investing in the Fund, each of which could significantly and adversely affect the value of an investment in the Fund.**

**Risk of Investing in the Pharmaceutical Sector.** The success of companies in the pharmaceutical sector is highly dependent on the development, procurement and marketing of drugs. The values of pharmaceutical companies are also dependent on the development, protection and exploitation of intellectual property rights and other proprietary information, and the profitability of pharmaceutical companies may be significantly affected by such things as the expiration of patents or the loss of, or the inability to enforce, intellectual property rights. The research and other costs associated with developing or procuring new drugs and the related intellectual property rights can be significant, and the results of such research and expenditures are unpredictable. The Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance will depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the pharmaceutical sector. In addition, pharmaceutical companies may be susceptible to product obsolescence. Many pharmaceutical companies face intense competition from new products and less costly generic products. Moreover, the process for obtaining regulatory approval by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) or other governmental regulatory authorities is long and costly and there can be no assurance that the necessary approvals will be obtained or maintained.

Companies in the pharmaceutical sector may also be subject to expenses and losses from extensive litigation based on intellectual property, product liability and similar claims. Companies in the pharmaceutical sector may be adversely affected by government regulation and changes in reimbursement rates. The ability of many pharmaceutical companies to commercialize current and any future products depends in part on the extent to which reimbursement for the cost of such products and related treatments are available from third party payors, such as Medicare, Medicaid and other government sponsored programs, private health insurance plans and health maintenance organizations.

The international operations of many pharmaceutical companies expose them to risks associated with instability and changes in economic and political conditions, foreign currency fluctuations, changes in foreign regulations and other risks inherent to international business. Such companies also may be characterized by thin capitalization and limited markets, financial resources or personnel, as well as dependence on wholesale distributors. A pharmaceutical company's valuation can be adversely affected if one of its products proves unsafe, ineffective or unprofitable. The stock prices of companies in the pharmaceutical sector have been and will likely continue to be extremely volatile, in part due to the prevalence of merger and acquisition activity in the pharmaceutical sector. Some of the companies in the Pharmaceutical Index are engaged in other lines of business unrelated to pharmaceuticals, and they may experience problems with these lines of business which could adversely affect their operating results. The operating results of these companies may fluctuate as a result of these additional

## VANECK VECTORS™ PHARMACEUTICAL ETF (continued)

risks and events in the other lines of business. In addition, a company's ability to engage in new activities may expose it to business risks with which it has less experience than it has with the business risks associated with its traditional businesses. Despite a company's possible success in traditional pharmaceutical activities, there can be no assurance that the other lines of business in which these companies are engaged will not have an adverse effect on a company's business or financial condition.

Certain companies in which the Fund may invest are non-U.S. issuers whose securities are listed on U.S. exchanges. These securities involve risks beyond those associated with investments in U.S. securities, including greater market volatility, higher transactional costs, the possibility that the liquidity of such securities could be impaired because of future political and/or economic developments, taxation by foreign governments, political instability, the possibility that foreign governmental restrictions may be adopted which might adversely affect such securities and that the selection of such securities may be more difficult because there may be less publicly available information concerning such non-U.S. issuers or the accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards, practices and requirements applicable to non-U.S. issuers may differ from those applicable to U.S. issuers.

**Equity Securities Risk.** The value of the equity securities held by the Fund may fall due to general market and economic conditions, perceptions regarding the markets in which the issuers of securities held by the Fund participate, or factors relating to specific issuers in which the Fund invests. Equity securities are subordinated to preferred securities and debt in a company's capital structure with respect to priority in right to a share of corporate income, and therefore will be subject to greater dividend risk than preferred securities or debt instruments. In addition, while broad market measures of equity securities have historically generated higher average returns than fixed income securities, equity securities have generally also experienced significantly more volatility in those returns, although under certain market conditions fixed income securities may have comparable or greater price volatility.

**Risk of Investing in the Health Care Sector.** To the extent that the health care sector continues to represent a significant portion of the Fund, the Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance may depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the health care sector. Companies in the health care sector may be affected by extensive government regulation, restrictions on government reimbursement for medical expenses, rising costs of medical products and services, pricing pressure, an increased emphasis on outpatient services, limited number of products, industry innovation, changes in technologies and other market developments. Many health care companies are heavily dependent on patent protection and are subject to extensive litigation based on product liability and similar claims.

**Risk of Investing in Depositary Receipts.** The Fund may invest in depositary receipts which involve similar risks to those associated with investments in foreign securities. Depositary receipts are receipts listed on U.S. exchanges issued by banks or trust companies that entitle the holder to all dividends and capital gains that are paid out on the underlying foreign shares. Investments in depositary receipts may be less liquid than the underlying shares in their primary trading market and, if not included in the Pharmaceutical Index, may negatively affect the Fund's ability to replicate the performance of the Pharmaceutical Index.

**Special Risk Considerations of Investing in European Issuers.** The Fund may invest in securities issued by European issuers and, accordingly, may be subject to the risk of investing in such issuers. Investment in securities of issuers in Europe involves risks and special considerations not typically associated with investment in the U.S. securities markets. The Economic and Monetary Union of the European Union ( EU ) requires member countries to comply with restrictions on inflation rates, deficits, interest rates, debt levels and fiscal and monetary controls, each of

which may significantly affect every country in Europe. Decreasing imports or exports, changes in governmental or EU regulations on trade, changes in the exchange rate of the euro, the default or threat of default by an EU member country on its sovereign debt, and/or an economic recession in an EU member country may have a significant adverse effect on the economies of EU member countries and on major trading partners outside Europe. The European financial markets have recently experienced volatility and have been adversely affected by concerns about economic downturns, credit rating downgrades, rising government debt levels and possible default on or restructuring of government debt in several European countries, including Greece, Ireland, Italy, Portugal and Spain. These events have adversely affected the value and exchange rate of the euro and may continue to significantly affect the economies of every country in Europe, including EU member countries that do not use the euro and non-EU member countries. In addition, in a referendum held on June 23, 2016, voters in the United Kingdom voted to leave the EU, creating economic and political uncertainty in its wake. Significant uncertainty exists regarding the timing of the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the EU and the effects such withdrawal will have on the euro, European economies and global markets.

**Risk of Investing in Foreign Securities.** The Fund invests in securities of issuers located in countries whose economies are heavily dependent upon trading with key partners. Any reduction in this trading may have an adverse impact on the Fund's investments. Investments in the securities of foreign issuers involve risks beyond those associated with investments in U.S. securities. These additional risks include greater market volatility, the availability of less reliable financial information, higher



transactional and custody costs, taxation by foreign governments, decreased market liquidity and political instability. Because certain foreign securities markets may be limited in size, the activity of large traders may have an undue influence on the prices of securities that trade in such markets.

**Risk of Investing in Medium-Capitalization Companies.** Medium-capitalization companies may be more volatile and more likely than large-capitalization companies to have narrower product lines, fewer financial resources, less management depth and experience and less competitive strength. In addition, these companies often have greater price volatility, lower trading volume and less liquidity than larger, more established companies. Returns on investments in securities of medium-capitalization companies could trail the returns on investments in securities of large-capitalization companies.

**Issuer-Specific Changes Risk.** The value of individual securities or particular types of securities in the Fund's portfolio can be more volatile than the market as a whole and can perform differently from the value of the market as a whole, especially if the Fund's portfolio is concentrated in a country, group of countries, region, market, industry, group of industries, sector or asset class. The value of securities of smaller issuers can be more volatile than that of larger issuers.

**Market Risk.** The prices of the securities in the Fund are subject to the risks associated with investing in the securities market, including general economic conditions and sudden and unpredictable drops in value. An investment in the Fund may lose money.

**Operational Risk.** The Fund is exposed to operational risk arising from a number of factors, including, but not limited to, human error, processing and communication errors, errors of the Fund's service providers, counterparties or other third-parties, failed or inadequate processes and technology or system failures. The Fund seeks to reduce these operational risks through controls and procedures. However, these measures do not address every possible risk and may be inadequate for those risks that they are intended to address.

**Index Tracking Risk.** The Fund's return may not match the return of the Pharmaceutical Index for a number of reasons. For example, the Fund incurs a number of operating expenses not applicable to the Pharmaceutical Index and incurs costs associated with buying and selling securities, especially when rebalancing the Fund's securities holdings to reflect changes in the composition of the Pharmaceutical Index, which are not factored into the return of the Pharmaceutical Index. Transaction costs, including brokerage costs, will decrease the Fund's net asset value (NAV) to the extent not offset by the transaction fee payable by an Authorized Participant (AP). Market disruptions and regulatory restrictions could have an adverse effect on the Fund's ability to adjust its exposure to the required levels in order to track the Pharmaceutical Index. Errors in the Pharmaceutical Index data, the Pharmaceutical Index computations and/or the construction of the Pharmaceutical Index in accordance with its methodology may occur from time to time and may not be identified and corrected by the Pharmaceutical Index provider for a period of time or at all, which may have an adverse impact on the Fund and its shareholders. In addition, the Fund may not be able to invest in certain securities included in the Pharmaceutical Index, or invest in them in the exact proportions in which they are represented in the Pharmaceutical Index, due to legal restrictions or limitations imposed by the governments of certain countries, a lack of liquidity on stock exchanges in which such securities trade, potential adverse tax consequences or other regulatory reasons. To the extent the Fund calculates its NAV based on fair value prices and the value of the Pharmaceutical Index is based on securities' closing prices (*i.e.*, the value of the Pharmaceutical Index is not based on fair value prices), the Fund's ability to track the Pharmaceutical Index may be adversely affected. For tax efficiency purposes, the Fund may sell certain securities, and such sale may cause the Fund to realize a loss and deviate from the performance of the Pharmaceutical Index. In light of the factors discussed above, the Fund's return may deviate significantly from the return of the Pharmaceutical Index.

**Authorized Participant Concentration Risk.** The Fund may have a limited number of financial institutions that act as APs, none of which are obligated to engage in creation or redemption transactions. To the extent that those APs exit the business, or are unable to or choose not to process creation and/or redemption orders, and no other AP is able to step forward to create and redeem, there may be a significantly diminished trading market for Shares or Shares may trade like closed-end funds at a discount (or premium) to NAV and possibly face trading halts and/or de-listing. The AP concentration risk may be heightened in scenarios where APs have limited or diminished access to the capital required to post collateral.

**No Guarantee of Active Trading Market.** While Shares are listed on The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC ( NASDAQ ), there can be no assurance that an active trading market for the Shares will be maintained. Further, secondary markets may be subject to irregular trading activity, wide bid/ask spreads and extended trade settlement periods in times of market stress because market makers and APs may step away from making a market in the Shares and in executing creation and redemption orders, which could cause a material deviation in the Fund's market price from its NAV.

**Trading Issues.** Trading in Shares on NASDAQ may be halted due to market conditions or for reasons that, in the view of NASDAQ, make trading in Shares inadvisable. In addition, trading in Shares on NASDAQ is subject to trading halts caused by

**VANECK VECTORS™ PHARMACEUTICAL ETF (continued)**

extraordinary market volatility pursuant to NASDAQ's circuit breaker rules. There can be no assurance that the requirements of NASDAQ necessary to maintain the listing of the Fund will continue to be met or will remain unchanged.

**Replication Management Risk.** An investment in the Fund involves risks similar to those of investing in any fund of equity securities traded on an exchange, such as market fluctuations caused by such factors as economic and political developments, changes in interest rates and perceived trends in security prices. However, because the Fund is not actively managed, unless a specific security is removed from the Pharmaceutical Index, the Fund generally would not sell a security because the security's issuer was in financial trouble. Therefore, the Fund's performance could be lower than funds that may actively shift their portfolio assets to take advantage of market opportunities or to lessen the impact of a market decline or a decline in the value of one or more issuers.

**Fund Shares Trading, Premium/Discount Risk and Liquidity of Fund Shares.** The market prices of the Shares may fluctuate in response to the Fund's NAV, the intraday value of the Fund's holdings and supply and demand for Shares. The Adviser cannot predict whether Shares will trade above, below, or at their most recent NAV. Disruptions to creations and redemptions, the existence of market volatility or potential lack of an active trading market for Shares (including through a trading halt), as well as other factors, may result in Shares trading at a significant premium or discount to NAV or to the intraday value of the Fund's holdings. If a shareholder purchases Shares at a time when the market price is at a premium to the NAV or sells Shares at a time when the market price is at a discount to the NAV, the shareholder may sustain losses. The securities held by the Fund may be traded in markets that close at a different time than NASDAQ. Liquidity in those securities may be reduced after the applicable closing times. Accordingly, during the time when NASDAQ is open but after the applicable market closing, fixing or settlement times, bid-ask spreads on NASDAQ and the resulting premium or discount to the Shares' NAV may widen. Additionally, in stressed market conditions, the market for the Fund's Shares may become less liquid in response to deteriorating liquidity in the markets for the Fund's underlying portfolio holdings.

**Non-Diversified Risk.** The Fund is classified as a non-diversified fund under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the 1940 Act). Therefore, the Fund may invest a relatively high percentage of its assets in a smaller number of issuers or may invest a larger proportion of its assets in a single issuer. As a result, the gains and losses on a single investment may have a greater impact on the Fund's NAV and may make the Fund more volatile than more diversified funds. The Fund may be particularly vulnerable to this risk because the Pharmaceutical Index is comprised of securities of a very limited number of issuers.

**Concentration Risk.** The Fund's assets may be concentrated in a particular sector or sectors or industry or group of industries to the extent the Pharmaceutical Index concentrates in a particular sector or sectors or industry or group of industries. To the extent that the Fund continues to be concentrated in the pharmaceutical sector, the Fund will be subject to the risk that economic, political or other conditions that have a negative effect on that sector will negatively impact the Fund to a greater extent than if the Fund's assets were invested in a wider variety of sectors or industries.

**PERFORMANCE**

The bar chart that follows shows how the Fund performed for the calendar years shown. The table below the bar chart shows the Fund's average annual returns (before and after taxes). The bar chart and table provide an indication of the risks of investing in the Fund by showing the Fund's performance from year to year and by showing how the Fund's average annual returns for the one year, five year and since inception periods compared with the Fund's benchmark

index and a broad measure of market performance. All returns assume reinvestment of dividends and distributions. The Fund's past performance (before and after taxes) is not necessarily indicative of how the Fund will perform in the future. Updated performance information is available online at [www.vaneck.com](http://www.vaneck.com).

**Annual Total Returns (%) Calendar Years**

28

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**Best Quarter:** 13.37 1Q 13**Worst Quarter:** -11.59 1Q 16**Average Annual Total Returns for the Periods Ended December 31, 2016**

The after-tax returns presented in the table below are calculated using the highest historical individual federal marginal income tax rates and do not reflect the impact of state and local taxes. Your actual after-tax returns will depend on your specific tax situation and may differ from those shown below. After-tax returns are not relevant to investors who hold Shares of the Fund through tax-deferred arrangements, such as 401(k) plans or individual retirement accounts.

|   | <b>Past One<br/>Year</b> | <b>Past Five<br/>Years</b> | <b>Since<br/>Inception<br/>(12/20/2011)</b> |
|---|--------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| VanEck Vectors Pharmaceutical ETF (return before taxes)   | -17.76%                  | 10.04%                     | 10.21%                                      |
| VanEck Vectors Pharmaceutical ETF (return after taxes on distributions)                         | -18.50%                  | 9.33%                      | 9.51%                                       |
| VanEck Vectors Pharmaceutical ETF (return after taxes on distributions and sale of Fund Shares) | -9.94%                   | 7.82%                      | 7.96%                                       |
| MVIS US Listed Pharmaceutical 25 Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)      | -17.70%                  | 10.05%                     | 10.23%                                      |
| S&P 500® Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)                              | 11.96%                   | 14.66%                     | 14.88%                                      |

**PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT**

**Investment Adviser.** Van Eck Associates Corporation.

**Portfolio Managers.** The following individuals are jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio:

| <b>Name</b>           | <b>Title with Adviser</b> | <b>Date Began Managing<br/>the Fund</b> |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Hao-Hung (Peter) Liao | Portfolio Manager         | December 2011                           |
| George Chao           | Portfolio Manager         | December 2011                           |

**PURCHASE AND SALE OF FUND SHARES**

For important information about the purchase and sale of Fund Shares, tax information and payments to broker-dealers and other financial intermediaries, please turn to Summary Information About Purchases and Sales of Fund Shares, Taxes and Payments to Broker-Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries on page 41 of this Prospectus.

**VANECK VECTORS™ RETAIL ETF\*****SUMMARY INFORMATION****INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE**

VanEck Vectors™ Retail ETF (the Fund) seeks to replicate as closely as possible, before fees and expenses, the price and yield performance of the MVIS™ US Listed Retail 25 Index (the Retail Index).

**FUND FEES AND EXPENSES**

The following tables describe the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy and hold shares of the Fund (Shares).

**Shareholder Fees** (*fees paid directly from your investment*) None  
**Annual Fund Operating Expenses**  
*(expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)*

|                |       |
|----------------|-------|
| Management Fee | 0.35% |
| Other Expenses | 0.08% |

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses <sup>(a)</sup>  | 0.43%  |
| Fee Waivers and Expense Reimbursement <sup>(a)</sup> | -0.08% |

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waiver and Expense Reimbursement <sup>(a)</sup> | 0.35% |
|--|-------|

<sup>(a)</sup> Van Eck Associates Corporation (the Adviser) has agreed to waive fees and/or pay Fund expenses to the extent necessary to prevent the operating expenses of the Fund (excluding acquired fund fees and expenses, interest expense, trading expenses, taxes and extraordinary expenses) from exceeding 0.35% of the Fund's average daily net assets per year until at least February 1, 2018. During such time, the expense limitation is expected to continue until the Fund's Board of Trustees acts to discontinue all or a portion of such expense limitation.

**EXPENSE EXAMPLE**

This example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other funds. This example does not take into account brokerage commissions that you pay when purchasing or selling Shares of the Fund.

The example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your Shares at the end of those periods. The example also assumes that your investment has a 5% annual return and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same (except that the example incorporates the fee waiver and/or expense reimbursement arrangement for only the first year). Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions, your costs would be:

**YEAR EXPENSES**

|    |    |     |
|----|----|-----|
| 1  | \$ | 36  |
| 3  | \$ | 130 |
| 5  | \$ | 233 |
| 10 | \$ | 534 |

**PORTFOLIO TURNOVER**

The Fund will pay transaction costs, such as commissions, when it purchases and sells securities (or turns over its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover will cause the Fund to incur additional transaction costs and may result in higher taxes when Fund Shares are held in a taxable account. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the example, may affect the Fund's performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Fund's portfolio turnover rate was 9% of the average value of its portfolio.

**PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES**

The Fund normally invests at least 80% of its total assets in securities that comprise the Fund's benchmark index. The Retail Index includes common stocks and depositary receipts of U.S. exchange-listed companies that derive at least 50% of their revenues from (or, in certain circumstances, have at least 50% of their assets related to) retail. This includes companies engaged primarily in retail distribution; wholesalers; online, direct mail and TV retailers; multi-line retailers; specialty retailers,

\* Prior to May 1, 2016, the Fund's name was Market Vectors Retail ETF.

such as apparel, automotive, computer and electronics, drug, home improvement and home furnishing retailers; and food and other staples retailers. Of the largest 50 stocks in the retail sector by full market capitalization, the top 25 by free-float market capitalization (*i.e.*, includes only shares that are readily available for trading in the market) and three month average daily trading volume are included in the Retail Index. Such companies may include foreign companies that are listed on a U.S. exchange. As of December 31, 2016, the Retail Index included 25 securities of companies with a market capitalization range of approximately \$3.18 billion to \$356.31 billion and a weighted average market capitalization of \$4.50 billion. These amounts are subject to change. The Fund's 80% investment policy is non-fundamental and may be changed without shareholder approval upon 60 days' prior written notice to shareholders.

The Fund, using a passive or indexing investment approach, attempts to approximate the investment performance of the Retail Index by investing in a portfolio of securities that generally replicates the Retail Index. Unlike many investment companies that try to beat the performance of a benchmark index, the Fund does not try to beat the Retail Index and does not seek temporary defensive positions when markets decline or appear overvalued. Indexing may eliminate the chance that the Fund will substantially outperform the Retail Index but also may reduce some of the risks of active management, such as poor security selection. Indexing seeks to achieve lower costs and better after-tax performance by keeping portfolio turnover low in comparison to actively managed investment companies.

The Fund is classified as a non-diversified fund and, therefore, may invest a greater percentage of its assets in a particular issuer. The Fund may concentrate its investments in a particular industry or group of industries to the extent that the Retail Index concentrates in an industry or group of industries. As of September 30, 2016, the Retail Index was concentrated in the consumer discretionary and consumer staples sectors.

## **PRINCIPAL RISKS OF INVESTING IN THE FUND**

**Investors in the Fund should be willing to accept a high degree of volatility in the price of the Fund's Shares and the possibility of significant losses. An investment in the Fund involves a substantial degree of risk. An investment in the Fund is not a deposit with a bank and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency. Therefore, you should consider carefully the following risks before investing in the Fund, each of which could significantly and adversely affect the value of an investment in the Fund.**

**Risk of Investing in Retail Companies.** Companies involved in retail may be affected by the performance of the domestic and international economy, interest rates, rates of inflation, exchange rates, competition, consumer confidence and reputational damage. The Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance will depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the retail sector. The success of companies involved in retail depends heavily on disposable household income and consumer spending, and changes in demographics and consumer preferences can affect the success of retail companies. Certain retail companies have historically been subject to significant seasonal and quarterly variations. The success of retail companies may be strongly affected by fads, marketing campaigns and other factors affecting supply and demand. These companies may be subject to severe competition, which may have an adverse impact on their profitability. Certain business segments of retail companies are highly cyclical, which may cause the operating results of such companies to vary significantly. Retail companies may be dependent on outside financing, which may be difficult to obtain. Many of these companies are dependent on third party suppliers and distribution systems. Retail companies may be unable to protect their intellectual property rights and may be liable for infringing the intellectual property rights of others. Changes in labor laws and other labor issues, such as increased labor costs, could adversely affect the financial performance of retail companies. If retail companies do not maintain the security of customer-related information, they could damage their reputations with customers, incur substantial costs and become subject to litigation, all of which could adversely affect the financial



performance of such companies. The international operations of certain retail companies in expose them to risks associated with instability and changes in economic and political conditions, foreign currency fluctuations, changes in foreign regulations and other risks inherent to international business. Some of the companies in the Retail Index are engaged in other lines of business unrelated to retail, and they may experience problems with these lines of business which could adversely affect their operating results. The operating results of these companies may fluctuate as a result of these additional risks and events in the other lines of business. In addition, a company's ability to engage in new activities may expose it to business risks with which it has less experience than it has with the business risks associated with its traditional businesses. Despite a company's possible success in traditional retail activities, there can be no assurance that the other lines of business in which these companies are engaged will not have an adverse effect on a company's business or financial condition.

Certain companies in which the Fund may invest are non-U.S. issuers whose securities are listed on U.S. exchanges. These securities involve risks beyond those associated with investments in U.S. securities, including greater market volatility, higher transactional costs, the possibility that the liquidity of such securities could be impaired because of future political and/or economic developments, taxation by foreign governments, political instability, the possibility that foreign governmental restrictions may be adopted which might adversely affect such securities and that the selection of such securities may be

**VANECK VECTORS™ RETAIL ETF (continued)**

more difficult because there may be less publicly available information concerning such non-U.S. issuers or the accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards, practices and requirements applicable to non-U.S. issuers may differ from those applicable to U.S. issuers.

**Equity Securities Risk.** The value of the equity securities held by the Fund may fall due to general market and economic conditions, perceptions regarding the markets in which the issuers of securities held by the Fund participate, or factors relating to specific issuers in which the Fund invests. Equity securities are subordinated to preferred securities and debt in a company's capital structure with respect to priority in right to a share of corporate income, and therefore will be subject to greater dividend risk than preferred securities or debt instruments. In addition, while broad market measures of equity securities have historically generated higher average returns than fixed income securities, equity securities have generally also experienced significantly more volatility in those returns, although under certain market conditions fixed income securities may have comparable or greater price volatility.

**Risk of Investing in the Consumer Discretionary Sector.** To the extent that the Fund continues to be concentrated in the consumer discretionary sector, the Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance will depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the consumer discretionary sector. Companies engaged in the consumer discretionary sector are subject to fluctuations in supply and demand. These companies may also be adversely affected by changes in consumer spending as a result of world events, political and economic conditions, commodity price volatility, changes in exchange rates, imposition of import controls, increased competition, depletion of resources and labor relations.

**Risk of Investing in the Consumer Staples Sector.** To the extent that the Fund continues to be concentrated in the consumer staples sector, the Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance will depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the consumer staples sector. Companies in the consumer staples sector may be adversely affected by changes in the worldwide economy, consumer spending, competition, demographics and consumer preferences, exploration and production spending.

**Risk of Investing in Depositary Receipts.** The Fund may invest in depositary receipts which involve similar risks to those associated with investments in foreign securities. Depositary receipts are receipts listed on U.S. exchanges issued by banks or trust companies that entitle the holder to all dividends and capital gains that are paid out on the underlying foreign shares. Investments in depositary receipts may be less liquid than the underlying shares in their primary trading market and, if not included in the Retail Index, may negatively affect the Fund's ability to replicate the performance of the Retail Index.

**Risk of Investing in Medium-Capitalization Companies.** Medium-capitalization companies may be more volatile and more likely than large-capitalization companies to have narrower product lines, fewer financial resources, less management depth and experience and less competitive strength. In addition, these companies often have greater price volatility, lower trading volume and less liquidity than larger more established companies. Returns on investments in securities of medium-capitalization companies could trail the returns on investments in securities of large-capitalization companies.

**Issuer-Specific Changes Risk.** The value of individual securities or particular types of securities in the Fund's portfolio can be more volatile than the market as a whole and can perform differently from the value of the market as a whole, especially if the Fund's portfolio is concentrated in a country, group of countries, region, market, industry, group of industries, sector or asset class. The value of securities of smaller issuers can be more volatile than that of

larger issuers.

**Market Risk.** The prices of the securities in the Fund are subject to the risks associated with investing in the securities market, including general economic conditions and sudden and unpredictable drops in value. An investment in the Fund may lose money.

**Operational Risk.** The Fund is exposed to operational risk arising from a number of factors, including, but not limited to, human error, processing and communication errors, errors of the Fund's service providers, counterparties or other third-parties, failed or inadequate processes and technology or system failures. The Fund seeks to reduce these operational risks through controls and procedures. However, these measures do not address every possible risk and may be inadequate for those risks that they are intended to address.

**Index Tracking Risk.** The Fund's return may not match the return of the Retail Index for a number of reasons. For example, the Fund incurs a number of operating expenses not applicable to the Retail Index and incurs costs associated with buying and selling securities, especially when rebalancing the Fund's securities holdings to reflect changes in the composition of the Retail Index, which are not factored into the return of the Retail Index. Transaction costs, including brokerage costs, will decrease the Fund's net asset value ( NAV ) to the extent not offset by the transaction fee payable by an Authorized Participant ( AP ). Market disruptions and regulatory restrictions could have an adverse effect on the Fund's ability to adjust its exposure to the required levels in order to track the Retail Index. Errors in the Retail Index data, the Retail Index computations and/or the construction of the Retail Index in accordance with its methodology may occur from time to time and may not be identified and corrected by the Retail Index provider for a period of time or at all, which may have an adverse impact on the Fund and its shareholders. In addition, the Fund may not be able to invest in certain securities included in the Retail Index, or invest in them in the exact proportions in which they are represented in the Retail Index, due

to legal restrictions or limitations imposed by the governments of certain countries, a lack of liquidity on stock exchanges in which the securities trade, potential adverse tax consequences or other regulatory reasons. To the extent the Fund calculates its NAV based on fair value prices and the value of the Retail Index is based on securities closing prices (*i.e.*, the value of the Retail Index is not based on fair value prices), the Fund's ability to track the Retail Index may be adversely affected. For tax efficiency purposes, the Fund may sell certain securities, and such sale may cause the Fund to realize a loss and deviate from the performance of the Retail Index. In light of the factors discussed above, the Fund's return may deviate significantly from the return of the Retail Index.

**Authorized Participant Concentration Risk.** The Fund may have a limited number of financial institutions that act as APs, none of which are obligated to engage in creation or redemption transactions. To the extent that those APs exit the business, or are unable to or choose not to process creation and/or redemption orders, and no other AP is able to step forward to create and redeem, there may be a significantly diminished trading market for Shares or Shares may trade like closed-end funds at a discount (or premium) to NAV and possibly face trading halts and/or de-listing. The AP concentration risk may be heightened in scenarios where APs have limited or diminished access to the capital required to post collateral.

**No Guarantee of Active Trading Market.** While Shares are listed on NYSE Arca, Inc. ( NYSE Arca ), there can be no assurance that an active trading market for the Shares will be maintained. Further, secondary markets may be subject to irregular trading activity, wide bid/ask spreads and extended trade settlement periods, in times of market stress because market makers and APs may step away from making a market in the Shares and in executing creation and redemption orders, which could cause a material deviation in the Fund's market price from its NAV.

**Trading Issues.** Trading in Shares on NYSE Arca may be halted due to market conditions or for reasons that, in the view of NYSE Arca, make trading in Shares inadvisable. In addition, trading in Shares on NYSE Arca is subject to trading halts caused by extraordinary market volatility pursuant to NYSE Arca's circuit breaker rules. There can be no assurance that the requirements of NYSE Arca necessary to maintain the listing of the Fund will continue to be met or will remain unchanged.

**Replication Management Risk.** An investment in the Fund involves risks similar to those of investing in any fund of equity securities traded on an exchange, such as market fluctuations caused by such factors as economic and political developments, changes in interest rates and perceived trends in security prices. However, because the Fund is not actively managed, unless a specific security is removed from the Retail Index, the Fund generally would not sell a security because the security's issuer was in financial trouble. Therefore, the Fund's performance could be lower than funds that may actively shift their portfolio assets to take advantage of market opportunities or to lessen the impact of a market decline or a decline in the value of one or more issuers.

**Fund Shares Trading, Premium/Discount Risk and Liquidity of Fund Shares.** The market prices of the Shares may fluctuate in response to the Fund's NAV, the intraday value of the Fund's holdings and supply and demand for Shares. The Adviser cannot predict whether Shares will trade above, below, or at their most recent NAV. Disruptions to creations and redemptions, the existence of market volatility or potential lack of an active trading market for Shares (including through a trading halt), as well as other factors, may result in Shares trading at a significant premium or discount to NAV or to the intraday value of the Fund's holdings. If a shareholder purchases Shares at a time when the market price is at a premium to the NAV or sells Shares at a time when the market price is at a discount to the NAV, the shareholder may sustain losses. The securities held by the Fund may be traded in markets that close at a different time than NYSE Arca. Liquidity in those securities may be reduced after the applicable closing times. Accordingly, during the time when NYSE Arca is open but after the applicable market closing, fixing or settlement times, bid-ask spreads on NYSE Arca and the resulting premium or discount to the Shares' NAV may widen. Additionally, in

stressed market conditions, the market for the Fund's Shares may become less liquid in response to deteriorating liquidity in the markets for the Fund's underlying portfolio holdings.

**Non-Diversified Risk.** The Fund is classified as a non-diversified fund under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the 1940 Act). Therefore, the Fund may invest a relatively high percentage of its assets in a smaller number of issuers or may invest a larger proportion of its assets in a single issuer. As a result, the gains and losses on a single investment may have a greater impact on the Fund's NAV and may make the Fund more volatile than more diversified funds. The Fund may be particularly vulnerable to this risk because the Retail Index is comprised of securities of a very limited number of issuers.

**Concentration Risk.** The Fund's assets may be concentrated in a particular sector or sectors or industry or group of industries to the extent the Retail Index concentrates in a particular sector or sectors or industry or group of industries. To the extent that the Fund continues to be concentrated in the consumer discretionary and consumer staples sectors, the Fund will be subject to the risk that economic, political or other conditions that have a negative effect on those sectors will negatively impact the Fund to a greater extent than if the Fund's assets were invested in a wider variety of sectors or industries.



**Date Began Managing  
the Fund**

|                       |                   |               |
|-----------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Hao-Hung (Peter) Liao | Portfolio Manager | December 2011 |
| George Chao           | Portfolio Manager | December 2011 |

**PURCHASE AND SALE OF FUND SHARES**

For important information about the purchase and sale of Fund Shares, tax information and payments to broker-dealers and other financial intermediaries, please turn to Summary Information About Purchases and Sales of Fund Shares, Taxes and Payments to Broker-Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries on page 41 of this Prospectus.

**VANECK VECTORS™ SEMICONDUCTOR ETF\*****SUMMARY INFORMATION****INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE**

VanEck Vectors™ Semiconductor ETF (the Fund) seeks to replicate as closely as possible, before fees and expenses, the price and yield performance of the MVIS™ US Listed Semiconductor 25 Index (the Semiconductor Index).

**FUND FEES AND EXPENSES**

The following tables describe the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy and hold shares of the Fund (Shares).

**Shareholder Fees** (*fees paid directly from your investment*) None

**Annual Fund Operating Expenses**

(*expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment*)

|                |       |
|----------------|-------|
| Management Fee | 0.35% |
| Other Expenses | 0.06% |

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses <sup>(a)</sup>  | 0.41%  |
| Fee Waivers and Expense Reimbursement <sup>(a)</sup> | -0.05% |

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waiver and Expense Reimbursement <sup>(a)</sup> | 0.36% |
|--|-------|

<sup>(a)</sup> Van Eck Associates Corporation (the Adviser) has agreed to waive fees and/or pay Fund expenses to the extent necessary to prevent the operating expenses of the Fund (excluding acquired fund fees and expenses, interest expense, trading expenses, taxes and extraordinary expenses) from exceeding 0.35% of the Fund's average daily net assets per year until at least February 1, 2018. During such time, the expense limitation is expected to continue until the Fund's Board of Trustees acts to discontinue all or a portion of such expense limitation.

**EXPENSE EXAMPLE**

This example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other funds. This example does not take into account brokerage commissions that you pay when purchasing or selling Shares of the Fund.

The example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your Shares at the end of those periods. The example also assumes that your investment has a 5% annual return and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same (except that the example incorporates the fee waiver and/or expense reimbursement arrangement for only the first year). Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions, your costs would be:



**YEAR EXPENSES**

|    |    |     |
|----|----|-----|
| 1  | \$ | 37  |
| 3  | \$ | 127 |
| 5  | \$ | 225 |
| 10 | \$ | 513 |

**PORTFOLIO TURNOVER**

The Fund will pay transaction costs, such as commissions, when it purchases and sells securities (or turns over its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover will cause the Fund to incur additional transaction costs and may result in higher taxes when Fund Shares are held in a taxable account. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the example, may affect the Fund's performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Fund's portfolio turnover rate was 53% of the average value of its portfolio.

**PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES**

The Fund normally invests at least 80% of its total assets in securities that comprise the Fund's benchmark index. The Semiconductor Index includes common stocks and depositary receipts of U.S. exchange-listed companies in the semiconductor sector. Such companies may include medium-capitalization companies and foreign companies that are listed on a U.S. exchange. Companies are considered to be in the semiconductor sector if they derive at least 50% of their

\* Prior to May 1, 2016, the Fund's name was Market Vectors Semiconductor ETF.

## VANECK VECTORS<sup>TM</sup> SEMICONDUCTOR ETF (continued)

revenues from (or, in certain circumstances, have at least 50% of their assets related to) semiconductors. The semiconductor sector includes companies engaged primarily in the production of semiconductors and semiconductor equipment. Of the largest 50 stocks in the semiconductor sector by full market capitalization, the top 25 by free-float market capitalization (*i.e.*, includes only shares that are readily available for trading in the market) and three month average daily trading volume are included in the Semiconductor Index. As of December 31, 2016, the Semiconductor Index included 25 securities of companies with a market capitalization range of approximately \$3.16 billion to \$171.88 billion and a weighted average market capitalization of \$2.83 billion. These amounts are subject to change. The Fund's 80% investment policy is non-fundamental and may be changed without shareholder approval upon 60 days' prior written notice to shareholders.

The Fund, using a passive or indexing investment approach, attempts to approximate the investment performance of the Semiconductor Index by investing in a portfolio of securities that generally replicates the Semiconductor Index. Unlike many investment companies that try to beat the performance of a benchmark index, the Fund does not try to beat the Semiconductor Index and does not seek temporary defensive positions when markets decline or appear overvalued. Indexing may eliminate the chance that the Fund will substantially outperform the Semiconductor Index but also may reduce some of the risks of active management, such as poor security selection. Indexing seeks to achieve lower costs and better after-tax performance by keeping portfolio turnover low in comparison to actively managed investment companies.

The Fund is classified as a non-diversified fund and, therefore, may invest a greater percentage of its assets in a particular issuer. The Fund may concentrate its investments in a particular industry or group of industries to the extent that the Semiconductor Index concentrates in an industry or group of industries. As of September 30, 2016, the Semiconductor Index was concentrated in the semiconductor sector, and each of the information technology and semiconductor equipment sectors represented a significant portion of the Semiconductor Index.

### PRINCIPAL RISKS OF INVESTING IN THE FUND

**Investors in the Fund should be willing to accept a high degree of volatility in the price of the Fund's Shares and the possibility of significant losses. An investment in the Fund involves a substantial degree of risk. An investment in the Fund is not a deposit with a bank and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency. Therefore, you should consider carefully the following risks before investing in the Fund, each of which could significantly and adversely affect the value of an investment in the Fund.**

**Risk of Investing in the Semiconductor Sector.** Competitive pressures may have a significant effect on the financial condition of companies in the semiconductor sector. As product cycles shorten and manufacturing capacity increases, these companies may become increasingly subject to aggressive pricing, which hampers profitability. The Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance will depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the semiconductor sector. Semiconductor companies are vulnerable to rapid product obsolescence. Many semiconductor companies may not successfully introduce new products, develop and maintain a loyal customer base or achieve general market acceptance for their products, and failure to do so could have a material adverse effect on their business, results of operations and financial condition. Reduced demand for end-user products, underutilization of manufacturing capacity, and other factors could adversely impact the operating results of companies in the semiconductor sector. Semiconductor companies typically face high capital costs and such companies may need additional financing, which may be difficult to obtain. They also may be subject to risks relating to research and

development costs and the availability and price of components. Moreover, they may be heavily dependent on intellectual property rights and may be adversely affected by loss or impairment of those rights. Some of the companies involved in the semiconductor sector are also engaged in other lines of business unrelated to the semiconductor business, and they may experience problems with these lines of business, which could adversely affect their operating results. The international operations of many semiconductor companies expose them to risks associated with instability and changes in economic and political conditions, foreign currency fluctuations, changes in foreign regulations, competition from subsidized foreign competitors with lower production costs and other risks inherent to international business. The semiconductor sector is highly cyclical, which may cause the operating results of many semiconductor companies to vary significantly. Companies in the semiconductor sector also may be subject to competition from new market entrants. The stock prices of companies in the semiconductor sector have been and will likely continue to be extremely volatile.

Certain companies in which the Fund may invest are non-U.S. issuers whose securities are listed on U.S. exchanges. These securities involve risks beyond those associated with investments in U.S. securities, including greater market volatility, higher transactional costs, the possibility that the liquidity of such securities could be impaired because of future political and/or economic developments, taxation by foreign governments, political instability, the possibility that foreign governmental restrictions may be adopted which might adversely affect such securities and that the selection of such securities may be more difficult because there may be less publicly available information concerning such non-U.S. issuers or the accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards, practices and requirements applicable to non-U.S. issuers may differ from those applicable to U.S. issuers.

**Equity Securities Risk.** The value of the equity securities held by the Fund may fall due to general market and economic conditions, perceptions regarding the markets in which the issuers of securities held by the Fund participate, or factors relating to specific issuers in which the Fund invests. Equity securities are subordinated to preferred securities and debt in a company's capital structure with respect to priority in right to a share of corporate income, and therefore will be subject to greater dividend risk than preferred securities or debt instruments. In addition, while broad market measures of equity securities have historically generated higher average returns than fixed income securities, equity securities have generally also experienced significantly more volatility in those returns, although under certain market conditions fixed income securities may have comparable or greater price volatility.

**Risk of Investing in the Information Technology Sector.** To the extent that the information technology sector continues to represent a significant portion of the Fund, the Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance may depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the information technology sector. Information technology companies face intense competition, both domestically and internationally, which may have an adverse effect on profit margins. Information technology companies may have limited product lines, markets, financial resources or personnel. The products of information technology companies may face product obsolescence due to rapid technological developments and frequent new product introduction, unpredictable changes in growth rates and competition for the services of qualified personnel. Companies in the information technology sector are heavily dependent on patent protection and the expiration of patents may adversely affect the profitability of these companies.

**Special Risk Considerations of Investing in Asian Issuers.** The Fund may invest in securities issued by Asian issuers and, accordingly, may be subject to the risk of investing in such issuers. Investment in securities of issuers in Asia involves risks and special considerations not typically associated with investment in the U.S. securities markets. Certain Asian economies have experienced over-extension of credit, currency devaluations and restrictions, high unemployment, high inflation, decreased exports and economic recessions. Economic events in any one Asian country can have a significant effect on the entire Asian region as well as on major trading partners outside Asia, and any adverse effect on some or all of the Asian countries and regions in which the Fund invests. The securities markets in some Asian economies are relatively underdeveloped and may subject the Fund to higher action costs or greater uncertainty than investments in more developed securities markets. Such risks may adversely affect the value of the Fund's investments.

**Risk of Investing in Foreign Securities.** The Fund invests in securities of issuers located in countries whose economies are heavily dependent upon trading with key partners. Any reduction in this trading may have an adverse impact on the Fund's investments. Investments in the securities of foreign issuers involve risks beyond those associated with investments in U.S. securities. These additional risks include greater market volatility, the availability of less reliable financial information, higher transactional and custody costs, taxation by foreign governments, decreased market liquidity and political instability. Because certain foreign securities markets may be limited in size, the activity of large traders may have an undue influence on the prices of securities that trade in such markets. The risks of investing in emerging market countries are greater than risks associated with investments in foreign developed countries.

**Risk of Investing in Depositary Receipts.** The Fund may invest in depositary receipts which involve similar risks to those associated with investments in foreign securities. Depositary receipts are receipts listed on U.S. exchanges issued by banks or trust companies that entitle the holder to all dividends and capital gains that are paid out on the underlying foreign shares. Investments in depositary receipts may be less liquid than the underlying shares in their primary trading market and, if not included in the Semiconductor Index, may negatively affect the Fund's ability to replicate the performance of the Semiconductor Index.

**Risk of Investing in Medium-Capitalization Companies.** Medium-capitalization companies may be more volatile and more likely than large-capitalization companies to have narrower product lines, fewer financial resources, less management depth and experience and less competitive strength. In addition, these companies often have greater price volatility, lower trading volume and less liquidity than larger more established companies. Returns on investments in securities of medium-capitalization companies could trail the returns on investments in securities of large-capitalization companies.

**Issuer-Specific Changes Risk.** The value of individual securities or particular types of securities in the Fund's portfolio can be more volatile than the market as a whole and can perform differently from the value of the market as a whole, especially if the Fund's portfolio is concentrated in a country, group of countries, region, market, industry, group of industries, sector or asset class. The value of securities of smaller issuers can be more volatile than that of larger issuers.

**Market Risk.** The prices of the securities in the Fund are subject to the risks associated with investing in the securities market, including general economic conditions and sudden and unpredictable drops in value. An investment in the Fund may lose money.

**VANECK VECTORS™ SEMICONDUCTOR ETF (continued)**

**Operational Risk.** The Fund is exposed to operational risk arising from a number of factors, including but not limited to, human error, processing and communication errors, errors of the Fund's service providers, counterparties or other third-parties, failed or inadequate processes and technology or system failures. The Fund seeks to reduce these operational risks through controls and procedures. However, these measures do not address every possible risk and may be inadequate for those risks that they are intended to address.

**Index Tracking Risk.** The Fund's return may not match the return of the Semiconductor Index for a number of reasons. For example, the Fund incurs a number of operating expenses not applicable to the Semiconductor Index and incurs costs associated with buying and selling securities, especially when rebalancing the Fund's securities holdings to reflect changes in the composition of the Semiconductor Index, which are not factored into the return of the Semiconductor Index. Transaction costs, including brokerage costs, will decrease the Fund's net asset value (NAV) to the extent not offset by the transaction fee payable by an Authorized Participant (AP). Market disruptions and regulatory restrictions could have an adverse effect on the Fund's ability to adjust its exposure to the required levels in order to track the Semiconductor Index. Errors in the Semiconductor Index data, the Semiconductor Index computations and/or the construction of the Semiconductor Index in accordance with its methodology may occur from time to time and may not be identified and corrected by the Semiconductor Index provider for a period of time or at all, which may have an adverse impact on the Fund and its shareholders. In addition, the Fund may not be able to invest in certain securities included in the Semiconductor Index, or invest in them in the exact proportions in which they are represented in the Semiconductor Index, due to legal restrictions or limitations imposed by the governments of certain countries, a lack of liquidity on stock exchanges in which the securities trade, potential adverse tax consequences or other regulatory reasons. To the extent the Fund calculates its net asset value NAV based on fair value prices and the value of the Semiconductor Index is based on securities' closing prices (*i.e.*, the value of the Semiconductor Index is not based on fair value prices), the Fund's ability to track the Semiconductor Index may be adversely affected. For tax efficiency purposes, the Fund may sell certain securities, and such sale may cause the Fund to realize a loss and deviate from the performance of the Semiconductor Index. In light of the factors discussed above, the Fund's return may deviate significantly from the return of the Semiconductor Index.

**Authorized Participant Concentration Risk.** The Fund may have a limited number of financial institutions that act as APs, none of which are obligated to engage in creation or redemption transactions. To the extent that those APs exit the business, or are unable to or choose not to process creation and/or redemption orders, and no other AP is able to step forward to create and redeem, there may be a significantly diminished trading market for Shares or Shares may trade like closed-end funds at a discount (or premium) to NAV and possibly face trading halts and/or de-listing. The AP concentration risk may be heightened in scenarios where APs have limited or diminished access to the capital required to post collateral.

**No Guarantee of Active Trading Market.** While Shares are listed on NYSE Arca, Inc. (NYSE Arca), there can be no assurance that an active trading market for the Shares will be maintained. Further, secondary markets may be subject to irregular trading activity, market dislocations, wide bid/ask spreads and extended trade settlement periods in times of market stress because market makers and APs may step away from making a market in the Shares and in executing creation and redemption orders, which could cause a material deviation in the Fund's market price from its NAV.

**Trading Issues.** Trading in Shares on NYSE Arca may be halted due to market conditions or for reasons that, in the view of NYSE Arca, make trading in Shares inadvisable. In addition, trading in Shares on NYSE Arca is subject to trading halts caused by extraordinary market volatility pursuant to NYSE Arca's circuit breaker rules. There can be no

assurance that the requirements of NYSE Arca necessary to maintain the listing of the Fund will continue to be met or will remain unchanged.

**Replication Management Risk.** An investment in the Fund involves risks similar to those of investing in any fund of equity securities traded on an exchange, such as market fluctuations caused by such factors as economic and political developments, changes in interest rates and perceived trends in security prices. However, because the Fund is not actively managed, unless a specific security is removed from the Semiconductor Index, the Fund generally would not sell a security because the security's issuer was in financial trouble. Therefore, the Fund's performance could be lower than funds that may actively shift their portfolio assets to take advantage of market opportunities or to lessen the impact of a market decline or a decline in the value of one or more issuers.

**Fund Shares Trading, Premium/Discount Risk and Liquidity of Fund Shares.** The market prices of the Shares may fluctuate in response to the Fund's NAV, the intraday value of the Fund's holdings and supply and demand for Shares. The Adviser cannot predict whether Shares will trade above, below, or at their most recent NAV. Disruptions to creations and redemptions, the existence of market volatility or potential lack of an active trading market for Shares (including through a trading halt), as well as other factors, may result in Shares trading at a significant premium or discount to NAV or to the intraday value of the Fund's holdings. If a shareholder purchases Shares at a time when the market price is at a premium to the NAV or sells Shares at a time when the market price is at a discount to the NAV, the shareholder may sustain losses. The securities held by the Fund may be traded in markets that close at a different time than NYSE Arca. Liquidity in those

securities may be reduced after the applicable closing times. Accordingly, during the time when NYSE Arca is open but after the applicable market closing, fixing or settlement times, bid-ask spreads on NYSE Arca and the resulting premium or discount to the Shares' NAV may widen. Additionally, in stressed market conditions, the market for the Fund's Shares may become less liquid in response to deteriorating liquidity in the markets for the Fund's underlying portfolio holdings.

**Non-Diversified Risk.** The Fund is classified as a non-diversified fund under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the 1940 Act). Therefore, the Fund may invest a relatively high percentage of its assets in a smaller number of issuers or may invest a larger proportion of its assets in a single issuer. As a result, the gains and losses on a single investment may have a greater impact on the Fund's NAV and may make the Fund more volatile than more diversified funds. The Fund may be particularly vulnerable to this risk because the Semiconductor Index is comprised of securities of a very limited number of issuers.

**Concentration Risk.** The Fund's assets may be concentrated in a particular sector or sectors or industry or group of industries to the extent the Semiconductor Index concentrates in a particular sector or sectors or industry or group of industries. To the extent that the Fund continues to be concentrated in the semiconductor sector, the Fund will be subject to the risk that economic, political or other conditions that have a negative effect on that sector will negatively impact the Fund to a greater extent than if the Fund's assets were invested in a wider variety of sectors or industries.

## PERFORMANCE

The bar chart that follows shows how the Fund performed for the calendar years shown. The table below the bar chart shows the Fund's average annual returns (before and after taxes). The bar chart and table provide an indication of the risks of investing in the Fund by showing the Fund's performance from year to year and by showing how the Fund's average annual returns for the one year, five year and since inception periods compared with the Fund's benchmark index and a broad measure of market performance. All returns assume reinvestment of dividends and distributions. The Fund's past performance (before and after taxes) is not necessarily indicative of how the Fund will perform in the future. Updated performance information is available online at [www.vaneck.com](http://www.vaneck.com).

### Annual Total Returns (%) Calendar Years

**Best Quarter:** 21.64 3Q 16

**Worst Quarter:** -10.02 2Q 12

### Average Annual Total Returns for the Periods Ended December 31, 2016

The after-tax returns presented in the table below are calculated using the highest historical individual federal marginal income tax rates and do not reflect the impact of state and local taxes. Your actual after-tax returns will depend on your specific tax situation and may differ from those shown below. After-tax returns are not relevant to investors who hold Shares of the Fund through tax-deferred arrangements, such as 401(k) plans or individual retirement accounts.

|  | Past One<br>Year | Past Five<br>Years | Since<br>Inception<br>(12/20/2011) |
|--|------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|
|--|------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|



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|  |        |        |        |
|--|--------|--------|--------|
| VanEck Vectors Semiconductor ETF (return before taxes)   | 35.39% | 20.54% | 20.78% |
| VanEck Vectors Semiconductor ETF (return after taxes on distributions)                         | 34.93% | 19.87% | 20.11% |
| VanEck Vectors Semiconductor ETF (return after taxes on distributions and sale of Fund Shares) | 20.04% | 16.46% | 16.68% |
| MVIS US Listed Semiconductor 25 Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)      | 35.51% | 20.45% | 20.69% |
| S&P 500® Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)                             | 11.96% | 14.66% | 14.88% |

**VANECK VECTORS™ SEMICONDUCTOR ETF (continued)**

**PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT**

**Investment Adviser.** Van Eck Associates Corporation.

**Portfolio Managers.** The following individuals are jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio:

| <b>Name</b>           | <b>Title with Adviser</b> | <b>Date Began Managing the Fund</b> |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Hao-Hung (Peter) Liao | Portfolio Manager         | December 2011                       |
| George Chao           | Portfolio Manager         | December 2011                       |

**PURCHASE AND SALE OF FUND SHARES**

For important information about the purchase and sale of Fund Shares, tax information and payments to broker-dealers and other financial intermediaries, please turn to Summary Information About Purchases and Sales of Fund Shares, Taxes and Payments to Broker-Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries on page 41 of this Prospectus.

**SUMMARY INFORMATION ABOUT PURCHASES AND SALES OF FUND SHARES, TAXES AND PAYMENTS TO BROKER-DEALERS AND OTHER FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES**

**PURCHASE AND SALE OF FUND SHARES**

The Funds issue and redeem Shares at NAV only in a large specified number of Shares each called a Creation Unit, or multiples thereof. A Creation Unit consists of 50,000 Shares.

Individual Shares of a Fund may only be purchased and sold in secondary market transactions through brokers. Shares of the Funds are listed on NYSE Arca, Inc. ( NYSE Arca ) or The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC ( NASDAQ ) and, together with NYSE Arca, each, an Exchange ) and because Shares trade at market prices rather than NAV, Shares of the Funds may trade at a price greater than or less than NAV.

**TAX INFORMATION**

Each Fund's distributions are taxable and will generally be taxed as ordinary income or capital gains.

**PAYMENTS TO BROKER-DEALERS AND OTHER FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES**

The Adviser and its related companies may pay broker-dealers or other financial intermediaries (such as a bank) for the sale of the Fund Shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing your broker-dealer or other intermediary or its employees or associated persons to recommend the Fund over another investment. Ask your financial adviser or visit your financial intermediary's website for more information.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE FUNDS INVESTMENT STRATEGIES AND RISKS**

### **PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES**

The Adviser anticipates that, generally, each Fund will hold all of the securities that comprise its Index in proportion to their weightings in such Index. However, under various circumstances, it may not be possible or practicable to purchase all of those securities in those weightings. In these circumstances, a Fund may purchase a sample of securities in its Index. There also may be instances in which the Adviser may choose to underweight or overweight a security in a Fund's Index, purchase securities not in the Fund's Index that the Adviser believes are appropriate to substitute for certain securities in such Index or utilize various combinations of other available investment techniques in seeking to replicate as closely as possible, before fees and expenses, the price and yield performance of the Fund's Index. Each Fund may sell securities that are represented in its Index in anticipation of their removal from its Index or purchase securities not represented in its Index in anticipation of their addition to such Index. Each Fund may also, in order to comply with the tax diversification requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Internal Revenue Code), temporarily invest in securities not included in its Index that are expected to be highly correlated with the securities included in its Index.

### **FUNDAMENTAL AND NON-FUNDAMENTAL POLICIES**

Each Fund's investment objective and each of its other investment policies are non-fundamental policies that may be changed by the Board of Trustees without shareholder approval, except as noted in this Prospectus or the Statement of Additional Information (SAI) under the section entitled Investment Policies and Restrictions Investment Restrictions.

### **RISKS OF INVESTING IN THE FUNDS**

The following section provides additional information regarding certain of the principal risks identified under Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund in each Fund's Summary Information section along with additional risk information. The risks listed below are applicable to each Fund unless otherwise noted.

**Investors in the Funds should be willing to accept a high degree of volatility in the price of the Funds' Shares and the possibility of significant losses. An investment in the Funds involves a substantial degree of risk. An investment in the Funds is not a deposit with a bank and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency. Therefore, you should consider carefully the following risks before investing in the Funds, each of which could significantly and adversely affect the value of an investment in a Fund.**

**Risk of Investing in the Biotechnology Sector.** (VanEck Vectors Biotech ETF and VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF only.) The success of biotechnology companies is highly dependent on the development, procurement and/or marketing of drugs. The values of biotechnology companies are also dependent on the development, protection and exploitation of intellectual property rights and other proprietary information, and the profitability of biotechnology companies may be affected significantly by such things as the expiration of patents or the loss of, or the inability to enforce, intellectual property rights.

The research and development and other costs associated with developing or procuring new drugs, products or technologies and the related intellectual property rights can be significant, and the results of such research and expenditures are unpredictable. In addition, the potential for an increased amount of required disclosure of proprietary scientific information could negatively impact the competitive position of these companies. There can be no assurance

that those efforts or costs will result in the development of a profitable drug, product or technology. Moreover, the process for obtaining regulatory approval by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration ( FDA ) or other governmental regulatory authorities is long and costly and there can be no assurance that the necessary approvals will be obtained or maintained.

The biotechnology sector is also subject to rapid and significant technological change and competitive forces that may make drugs, products or technologies obsolete or make it difficult to raise prices and, in fact, may result in price discounting. Companies in the biotechnology sector may also be subject to expenses and losses, including expensive insurance costs, from extensive litigation based on intellectual property, product liability and similar claims. Failure of biotechnology companies to comply with applicable laws and regulations can result in the imposition of civil and/or criminal fines, penalties and, in some instances, exclusion of participation in government sponsored programs such as Medicare and Medicaid.

Companies in the biotechnology sector may be adversely affected by government regulation and changes in reimbursement rates. Healthcare providers, principally hospitals, that transact with companies in the biotechnology sector, often rely on third party payors, such as Medicare, Medicaid and other government sponsored programs, private health insurance plans and health maintenance organizations to reimburse all or a portion of the cost of healthcare related products or services. Biotechnology companies will continue to be affected by the efforts of governments and third party payors to contain or reduce health care costs. For example, certain foreign markets control pricing or profitability of biotechnology products and technologies. In the United States, there has been, and there will likely to continue to be, a number of federal and state proposals to implement similar controls.

A biotechnology company s valuation can often be based largely on the potential or actual performance of a limited number of products. A biotechnology company s valuation can also be greatly affected if one of its products proves unsafe, ineffective

or unprofitable. Such companies may also be characterized by thin capitalization and limited markets, financial resources or personnel. The stock prices of companies involved in the biotechnology sector, especially those of smaller, less-seasoned companies, have been and will likely continue to be extremely volatile, particularly when their products are up for regulatory approval and/or under regulatory scrutiny. Some of the companies in the Biotech Index are engaged in other lines of business unrelated to biotechnology, and they may experience problems with these lines of business which could adversely affect their operating results. The operating results of these companies may fluctuate as a result of these additional risks and events in the other lines of business. In addition, a company's ability to engage in new activities may expose it to business risks with which it has less experience than it has with the business risks associated with its traditional businesses. Despite a company's possible success in traditional biotechnology activities, there can be no assurance that the other lines of business in which these companies are engaged will not have an adverse effect on a company's business or financial condition.

Certain companies in which a Fund may invest are non-U.S. issuers whose securities are listed on U.S. exchanges. These securities involve risks beyond those associated with investments in U.S. securities, including greater market volatility, higher transactional costs, the possibility that the liquidity of such securities could be impaired because of future political and/or economic developments, taxation by foreign governments, political instability, the possibility that foreign governmental restrictions may be adopted which might adversely affect such securities and that the selection of such securities may be more difficult because there may be less publicly available information concerning such non-U.S. issuers or the accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards, practices and requirements applicable to non-U.S. issuers may differ from those applicable to U.S. issuers.

**Risk of Investing in the Environmental Services Industry.** (VanEck Vectors Environmental Services ETF only.) Companies in the environmental services industry are engaged in a variety of activities related to environmental services and consumer and industrial waste management. These companies may be adversely affected by a global decrease in demand for consumer waste disposal, removal and storage of industrial by-products, and the management of associated resources. The Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance will depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the environmental services industry. Competitive pressures may have a significant effect on the financial condition of such companies. These prices may fluctuate substantially over short periods of time so the Fund's Share price may be more volatile than other types of investments. These companies must comply with various regulations and the terms of their operating permits and licenses. Failure to comply, failure to renew permits and licenses or changes in government regulations can adversely impact their operations. Waste management companies are also affected by demand cycles, world events, increased outsourcing and economic conditions. In addition, these companies are subject to liability for environmental damage claims.

Certain companies in which the Fund may invest are non-U.S. issuers whose securities are listed on U.S. exchanges. These securities involve risks beyond those associated with investments in U.S. securities, including greater market volatility, higher transactional costs, the possibility that the liquidity of such securities could be impaired because of future political and/or economic developments, taxation by foreign governments, political instability and the possibility that foreign governmental restrictions may be adopted which might adversely affect such securities.

**Risk of Investing in the Gaming Industry.** (VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF only.) Companies in the gaming industry include those engaged in casino operations, race track operations, sports and horse race betting operations, online gaming operations and/or the provision of related equipment and technologies. Companies in the gaming industry are highly regulated, and state and Federal legislative changes and licensing issues (as well as the laws of other countries) can significantly impact their ability to operate in certain jurisdictions, the activities in which such companies are allowed to engage and the profitability of companies in the sector. Certain companies in the gaming industry are highly leveraged and have recently experienced financial difficulty. Companies in the same industry often face similar

obstacles, issues and regulatory burdens. As a result, the securities of gaming companies owned by the Fund may react similarly to, and move in unison with, one another. The gaming industry may also be negatively affected by changes in economic conditions, consumer tastes and discretionary income levels, intense competition and technological developments that may cause these companies to become obsolete quickly. In addition, the gaming industry is characterized by the use of various forms of intellectual property, which are dependent upon patented technologies, trademarked brands and proprietary information. Companies operating in the gaming industry are subject to the risk of significant litigation regarding intellectual property rights, which may adversely affect and financially harm companies in which the Fund may invest. Furthermore, certain jurisdictions may impose additional restrictions on securities issued by gaming companies organized or operated in such jurisdictions that may be held by the Fund.

**Risk of Investing in the Pharmaceutical Sector.** (VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF and VanEck Vectors Pharmaceutical ETF only.) The success of companies in the pharmaceutical sector is highly dependent on the development, procurement and marketing of drugs. The values of pharmaceutical companies are also dependent on the development, protection and exploitation of intellectual property rights and other proprietary information, and the profitability of pharmaceutical companies may be significantly affected by such things as the expiration of patents or the loss of, or the inability to enforce, intellectual

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE FUNDS INVESTMENT STRATEGIES AND RISKS**  
**(continued)**

property rights. There can be no assurance that the steps taken by pharmaceutical companies to protect their proprietary rights will be adequate to prevent misappropriation of their proprietary rights or that competitors will not independently develop products that are substantially equivalent or superior to such companies' products. Pharmaceutical companies also rely on trade secrets, know-how and technology, which are not protected by patents, to maintain their competitive position. If any trade secret, know-how or other technology not protected by a patent were disclosed to, or independently developed by, a competitor, that company's business and financial condition could be materially adversely affected.

The research and other costs associated with developing or procuring new drugs and the related intellectual property rights can be significant, and the results of such research and expenditures are unpredictable. There can be no assurance that those efforts or costs will result in the development of a profitable drug. Pharmaceutical companies may be susceptible to product obsolescence. Many pharmaceutical companies face intense competition from new products and less costly generic products.

Pharmaceutical products are subject to approval of the FDA. The research, design, testing, manufacturing, labeling, marketing, distribution and advertising of pharmaceutical products are subject to extensive regulation by governmental authorities in the United States and other countries. The process for obtaining regulatory approval by the FDA or other governmental regulatory authorities is long and costly and may require extensive preclinical and clinical trials. There can be no assurance that the necessary approvals will be obtained or maintained. In addition, the potential for an increased amount of required disclosure of proprietary scientific information could negatively impact the position of pharmaceutical companies. The pharmaceutical sector is also subject to laws and regulations governing the protection of the environment and occupational health and safety, including laws regulating air emissions, wastewater discharges, the management and disposal of hazardous materials and wastes, and the health and safety of employees. Failure to comply with applicable domestic and/or foreign requirements can result in civil and criminal fines or other enforcement actions, recall or seizure of products, total or partial suspension of production, withdrawal of existing product approvals or clearances, refusal to approve or clear new applications or notifications, increased quality control costs, criminal prosecution, other penalties and, in some instances, exclusion of participation in government sponsored programs such as Medicare, Medicaid and other government sponsored programs.

The pharmaceutical sector is also subject to rapid and significant technological change and competitive forces that may make drugs obsolete or make it difficult to raise prices and, in fact, may result in price discounting. Companies in the pharmaceutical sector may also be subject to expenses and losses from extensive litigation based on intellectual property, product liability and similar claims that are inherent in the development, manufacturing and marketing of human therapeutic products. Product liability claims could delay or prevent completion of companies' clinical development programs as well as result in FDA investigations of the safety and effectiveness of companies' products, manufacturing processes and facilities, and marketing programs.

Companies in the pharmaceutical sector may be adversely affected by government regulation and changes in reimbursement rates. The ability of many pharmaceutical companies to commercialize current and any future products depends in part on the extent to which reimbursement for the cost of such products and related treatments are available from third party payors, such as Medicare, Medicaid and other government sponsored programs, private health insurance plans and health maintenance organizations. Third-party payors are increasingly challenging the price and cost-effectiveness of medical products. Regulations have been proposed to increase the availability and affordability of prescription drugs including proposals to increase access to generic drugs and to increase the rebates paid by drug



manufacturers in exchange for Medicaid coverage of their products. Whether such proposals will be adopted cannot be predicted. Significant uncertainty exists as to the reimbursement status of health care products, and there can be no assurance that adequate third-party coverage will be available for pharmaceutical companies to obtain satisfactory price levels for their products.

The international operations of many pharmaceutical companies expose them to risks associated with instability and changes in economic and political conditions, foreign currency fluctuations, changes in foreign regulations and other risks inherent to international business. Additionally, a pharmaceutical company's valuation can often be based largely on the potential or actual performance of a limited number of products. A pharmaceutical company's valuation can also be greatly affected if one of its products proves unsafe, ineffective or unprofitable. Such companies also may be characterized by thin capitalization and limited markets, financial resources or personnel, as well as dependence on wholesale distributors. The stock prices of companies in the pharmaceutical sector have been and will likely continue to be extremely volatile, in part due to the prevalence of merger and acquisition activity in the pharmaceutical sector. Some of the companies in the Pharmaceutical Index are engaged in other lines of business unrelated to pharmaceuticals, and they may experience problems with these lines of business which could adversely affect their operating results. The operating results of these companies may fluctuate as a result of these additional risks and events in the other lines of business. In addition, a company's ability to engage in new activities may expose it to business risks with which it has less experience than it has with the business risks associated with its traditional businesses. Despite a company's possible success in traditional pharmaceutical activities, there can be no

assurance that the other lines of business in which these companies are engaged will not have an adverse effect on a company's business or financial condition.

Shares of VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF may be subject to additional risks. Many companies that produce generic drugs compete with large, well-financed pharmaceutical companies with more experienced development and marketing groups. For example, brand-name drug manufacturers do not face any significant regulatory approval or other barriers to enter into the generics market. These brand-name companies may sell generic versions of their products to the market directly or grant certain companies rights to sell authorized generics to the detriment of other companies operating in the sector. Moreover, brand-name companies continually seek new ways to delay the introduction of generic products and/or decrease the impact of generic competition, such as filing new patents on drugs whose original patent production is about to expire, developing patented controlled-release products, changing product claims and labeling, or developing and marketing as over-the-counter products those branded products that are about to face generic competition. Additionally, brand-name companies increasingly have used state and federal legislative and regulatory means to delay generic competition. If brand-name companies or other third-parties are successful in limiting the use of generic products through these or other means, sales of generic products may decline, which would adversely affect companies that produce generic drugs. Fewer generic pharmaceutical launches or launches that are less profitable than those previously experienced may have an adverse effect on the profits of companies producing generic drugs. There is also the risk that pharmaceutical companies will be unable to obtain sufficient supplies or raw materials needed to create generic drugs. Such a shortage may also cause difficulties or delays in producing generic drugs, which would materially adversely affect a pharmaceutical company. Additionally, prices for existing generic drugs generally decline over time, although this may vary. Price deflation on existing generic drugs may have an adverse effect on profits for all companies that produce generic drugs. As additional companies begin to introduce generic equivalents of a drug, revenues and gross margins from such products may potentially decline rapidly. Corporate actions, such as mergers and acquisitions, are prevalent in the pharmaceutical sector, which subject securities of pharmaceutical companies to additional volatility and risks associated with such corporate actions. Certain pharmaceutical companies may also be subject to the risk of losing their foreign corporations status (*e.g.*, companies incorporated in Ireland, but predominantly operate elsewhere). Counterfeit versions of a drug could also harm a company's reputation.

Certain companies in which a Fund may invest are non-U.S. issuers whose securities are listed on U.S. exchanges. These securities involve risks beyond those associated with investments in U.S. securities, including greater market volatility, higher transactional costs, the possibility that the liquidity of such securities could be impaired because of future political and/or economic developments, taxation by foreign governments, political instability, the possibility that foreign governmental restrictions may be adopted which might adversely affect such securities and that the selection of such securities may be more difficult because there may be less publicly available information concerning such non-U.S. issuers or the accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards, practices and requirements applicable to non-U.S. issuers may differ from those applicable to U.S. issuers.

**Risk of Investing in Retail Companies.** (VanEck Vectors Retail ETF only.) Companies involved in retail may be affected by the performance of the domestic and international economy, interest rates, rates of inflation, exchange rates, competition, consumer confidence and reputational damage. The success of companies involved in retail depends heavily on disposable household income and consumer spending, and changes in demographics and consumer preferences can affect the success of retail companies. Certain retail companies have historically been subject to significant seasonal and quarterly variations. The success of retail companies may be strongly affected by fads, marketing campaigns and other factors affecting supply and demand. These companies may be subject to severe competition, which may have an adverse impact on their profitability. Certain business segments of retail companies are highly cyclical, which may cause the operating results of certain retail companies to vary significantly.

Retail companies may be dependent on outside financing, which may be difficult to obtain. Many of these companies are dependent on third party suppliers and distribution systems and purchase merchandise both directly from brand owners and indirectly from retailers and third party suppliers. Such companies may also be dependent upon suppliers for the products used for their own brand name merchandise. Reliance on third party suppliers subjects retail companies to risks of delivery delays, price increases and receipt of nonconforming or poor quality merchandise. Retail companies may be unable to protect their intellectual property rights and may be liable for infringing the intellectual property rights of others. Changes in labor laws and other labor issues, such as increased labor costs, could adversely affect the financial performance of retail companies. If retail companies do not maintain the security of customer-related information, they could damage their reputations with customers, incur substantial costs and become subject to litigation, all of which could adversely affect the financial performance of such companies. The international operations of certain retail companies expose them to risks associated with instability and changes in economic and political conditions, foreign currency fluctuations, changes in foreign regulations and other risks inherent to international business. Some of the companies in the Retail Index are engaged in other lines of business unrelated to retail, and they may experience problems with these lines of business which could adversely affect their

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE FUNDS INVESTMENT STRATEGIES AND RISKS**  
**(continued)**

operating results. The operating results of these companies may fluctuate as a result of these additional risks and events in the other lines of business. In addition, a company's ability to engage in new activities may expose it to business risks with which it has less experience than it has with the business risks associated with its traditional businesses. Despite a company's possible success in traditional retail activities, there can be no assurance that the other lines of business in which these companies are engaged will not have an adverse effect on a company's business or financial condition.

Certain companies in which the Fund may invest are non-U.S. issuers whose securities are listed on U.S. exchanges. These securities involve risks beyond those associated with investments in U.S. securities, including greater market volatility, higher transactional costs, the possibility that the liquidity of such securities could be impaired because of future political and/or economic developments, taxation by foreign governments, political instability, the possibility that foreign governmental restrictions may be adopted which might adversely affect such securities and that the selection of such securities may be more difficult because there may be less publicly available information concerning such non-U.S. issuers or the accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards, practices and requirements applicable to non-U.S. issuers may differ from those applicable to U.S. issuers.

**Risk of Investing in the Semiconductor Sector.** (VanEck Vectors Semiconductor ETF only.) Competitive pressures may have a significant effect on the financial condition of companies in the semiconductor sector. As product cycles shorten and manufacturing capacity increases, these companies may become increasingly subject to aggressive pricing, which hampers profitability. The Fund is also subject to the risk that the securities of such issuers will underperform the market as a whole due to legislative or regulatory changes. Additionally, semiconductor companies are vulnerable to rapid product obsolescence. Many semiconductor companies may not successfully introduce new products, develop and maintain a loyal customer base or achieve general market acceptance for their products, and failure to do so could have a material adverse effect on their business, results of operations and financial condition. Reduced demand for end-user products, underutilization of manufacturing capacity, limited personnel, periods of production shortages, significant price erosion, a limited number of products, wide fluctuations in securities prices due to risks of rapid obsolescence of products, economic performance of the customers of semiconductor companies and other factors could adversely impact the operating results of companies in the semiconductor sector. Semiconductor companies typically face high capital costs and such companies may need additional financing, which may be difficult to obtain. In addition, their capital equipment could suffer from rapid obsolescence. Some of the companies involved in the semiconductor sector are also engaged in other lines of business unrelated to the semiconductor business, and they may experience problems with these lines of business, which could adversely affect their operating results. The international operations of many semiconductor companies expose them to risks associated with instability and changes in economic and political conditions, foreign currency fluctuations, changes in foreign regulations, competition from subsidized foreign competitors with lower production costs and other risks inherent to international business. The semiconductor sector is highly cyclical, which may cause the operating results of many semiconductor companies to vary significantly. Companies in the semiconductor sector also may be subject to competition from new market entrants, both domestically and internationally, including competition from foreign competitors with lower production costs. The stock prices of companies in the semiconductor sector have been and will likely continue to be extremely volatile.

Semiconductor manufacturing processes are highly complex, costly and potentially vulnerable to impurities and other disruptions that can significantly increase costs and delay product shipments to customers. Many semiconductor companies rely on a single supplier or a limited number of suppliers for the parts and raw materials used in their

products, and if quality parts and materials are not delivered by the suppliers on a timely basis, these companies will not be able to manufacture and deliver their products on a timely schedule which could adversely affect their financial condition.

Semiconductor design and process methodologies are subject to rapid technological change requiring large expenditures for research and development in order to improve product performance and increase manufacturing yields. Semiconductor companies also may be subject to risks relating to research and development costs and the availability and price of components. Many semiconductor companies have created new technologies for the semiconductor sector and currently rely on a limited number of customers as purchasers of their products and services. Semiconductor companies rely on a combination of patents, trade secret laws and contractual provisions to protect their technologies. Inability to adequately protect proprietary rights may harm the competitive positions of many semiconductor companies. Additionally, semiconductor companies may be subject to claims of infringement of third-party intellectual property rights, which could adversely affect their business. Many semiconductor companies are dependent on their ability to continue to attract and retain highly skilled technical and managerial personnel to develop and generate their business.

Certain companies in which the Fund may invest are non-U.S. issuers whose securities are listed on U.S. exchanges. These securities involve risks beyond those associated with investments in U.S. securities, including greater market volatility, higher transactional costs, the possibility that the liquidity of such securities could be impaired because of future political and/or economic developments, taxation by foreign governments, political instability, the possibility that foreign governmental restrictions may be adopted which might adversely affect such securities and that the selection of such securities may be

more difficult because there may be less publicly available information concerning such non-U.S. issuers or the accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards, practices and requirements applicable to non-U.S. issuers may differ from those applicable to U.S. issuers.

**Risk of Investing in the Industrials Sector.** (VanEck Vectors Environmental Services ETF only.) To the extent that the industrials sector continues to represent at least a significant portion of the Fund, the Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance may depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the industrials sector. Companies in the industrials sector may be adversely affected by changes in government regulation, world events and economic conditions. In addition, companies in the industrials sector may be adversely affected by environmental damages, product liability claims and exchange rates. The stock prices of companies in the industrials sector are affected by supply and demand both for their specific product or service and for industrial sector products in general. The products of manufacturing companies may face product obsolescence due to rapid technological developments and frequent new product introduction. In addition, the industrials sector may also be adversely affected by changes or trends in commodity prices, which may be influenced or characterized by unpredictable factors.

**Risk of Investing in the Information Technology Sector.** (VanEck Vectors Semiconductor ETF only.) To the extent that the information technology sector continues to represent at least a significant portion of the Fund, the Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance may depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the information technology sector. Information technology companies face intense competition, both domestically and internationally, which may have an adverse effect on profit margins. Information technology companies may have limited product lines, markets, financial resources or personnel. The products of information technology companies may face product obsolescence due to rapid technological developments and frequent new product introduction, unpredictable changes in growth rates and competition for the services of qualified personnel. Companies in the information technology sector are heavily dependent on patent protection and the expiration of patents may adversely affect the profitability of these companies.

**Risk of Investing in the Consumer Discretionary Sector.** (VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF and VanEck Vectors Retail ETF only.) To the extent that the consumer discretionary sector continues to represent at least a significant portion of a Fund, the Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance may depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the consumer discretionary sector. Companies engaged in the consumer discretionary sector are subject to fluctuations in supply and demand. These companies may also be adversely affected by changes in consumer spending as a result of world events, political and economic conditions, commodity price volatility, changes in exchange rates, imposition of import controls, increased competition, depletion of resources and labor relations.

**Risk of Investing in the Consumer Staples Sector.** (VanEck Vectors Retail ETF only.) To the extent that the consumer staples sector continues to represent at least a significant portion of the Fund, the Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance may depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the consumer staples sector. Companies in the consumer staples sector may be adversely affected by changes in the worldwide economy, consumer spending, competition, demographics and consumer preferences, exploration and production spending. Companies in this sector are also affected by changes in government regulation, world events and economic conditions.

**Risk of Investing in the Health Care Sector.** (VanEck Vectors Biotech ETF and VanEck Vectors Pharmaceutical ETF only.) To the extent that the health care sector continues to represent at least a significant portion of a Fund, the Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance may depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the health care sector. Companies in the health care sector may be affected by extensive government regulation, restrictions on government reimbursement for medical expenses, rising costs of medical products and services,

demand for services, pricing pressure, an increased emphasis on outpatient services, limited number of products, industry innovation, changes in technologies, general and local economic conditions, expenses (including malpractice insurance premiums), competition among health care providers and other market developments. A major source of revenues for the health care sector is payments from Medicare and Medicaid programs. As a result, the sector is sensitive to legislative changes and reductions in governmental spending for such programs. Many health care companies are dependent on the development, protection and exploitation of intellectual property rights and other proprietary information, are heavily dependent on patent protection and are subject to extensive litigation based on intellectual property, product liability and similar claims, and the profitability of such companies may be affected significantly by such things as the expiration of patents or the loss of, or the inability to enforce, intellectual property rights and the expenses and losses from litigation. Health care companies are subject to competitive forces that may make it difficult to raise prices and, in fact, may result in price discounting. Many new products in the health care sector may be subject to regulatory approvals. The process of obtaining such approvals may be long and costly. Companies in the health care sector may be thinly capitalized and may be susceptible to product obsolescence.

**Risk of Investing in Foreign Securities.** (VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF, VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF, VanEck Vectors Pharmaceutical ETF and VanEck Vectors Semiconductor ETF only.) VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF, VanEck Vectors Generic

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Drugs ETF, VanEck Vectors Pharmaceutical ETF and VanEck Vectors Semiconductor ETF may invest in foreign securities. Each Fund invests in securities of issuers located in countries whose economies are heavily dependent upon trading with key partners. Any reduction in this trading may have an adverse impact on a Fund's investments. Investments in the securities of foreign issuers involve risks beyond those associated with investments in U.S. securities. These additional risks include greater market volatility, the availability of less reliable financial information, higher transactional and custody costs, taxation by foreign governments, decreased market liquidity and political instability. Because many foreign securities markets may be limited in size, the activity of large traders may have an undue influence on the prices of securities that trade in such markets. Certain foreign markets that have historically been considered relatively stable may become volatile in response to changed conditions or new developments. Increased interconnectivity of world economies and financial markets increases the possibility that adverse developments and conditions in one country or region will affect the stability of economies and financial markets in other countries or regions. Because each Fund may invest in securities denominated in foreign currencies and some of the income received by each Fund may be in foreign currency, changes in currency exchange rates may negatively impact the Funds' return. The risks of investing in emerging market countries are greater than the risks associated with investments in foreign developed countries. Foreign issuers are often subject to less stringent requirements regarding accounting, auditing, financial reporting and record keeping than are U.S. issuers, and, therefore, not all material information may be available or reliable. Securities exchanges or foreign governments may adopt rules or regulations that may negatively impact a Fund's ability to invest in foreign securities or may prevent each Fund from repatriating its investments. Each Fund may also invest in depositary receipts which involve similar risks to those associated with investments in foreign securities.

Also, certain issuers located in foreign countries in which a Fund invests may operate in, or have dealings with, countries subject to sanctions and/or embargoes imposed by the U.S. Government and the United Nations and/or countries identified by the U.S. Government as state sponsors of terrorism. As a result, an issuer may sustain damage to its reputation if it is identified as an issuer which operates in, or has dealings with, such countries. VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF, VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF, VanEck Vectors Pharmaceutical ETF and VanEck Vectors Semiconductor ETF, as investors in such issuers, will be indirectly subject to those risks.

**Foreign Currency Risk.** (VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF and VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF only.) Because a Fund's assets may be invested in securities denominated in foreign currencies, the income received by a Fund from these investments may be in foreign currencies. A Fund's exposure to foreign currencies and changes in the value of foreign currencies versus the U.S. dollar may result in reduced returns for the Fund. Moreover, a Fund may incur costs in connection with conversions between U.S. dollars and foreign currencies. The value of an emerging market country's currency may be subject to a high degree of fluctuation. This fluctuation may be due to changes in interest rates, investors' expectations concerning inflation and interest rates, the emerging market country's debt levels and trade deficit, the effects of monetary policies issued by the United States, foreign governments, central banks or supranational entities, the imposition of currency controls or other national or global political or economic developments. The economies of certain emerging market countries can be significantly affected by currency devaluations. Certain emerging market countries may also have managed currencies which are maintained at artificial levels relative to the U.S. dollar rather than at levels determined by the market. This type of system could lead to sudden and large adjustments in the currency, which in turn, can have a negative effect on the Fund and its investments.



**Risk of Investing in Depositary Receipts.** A Fund may invest in depositary receipts (including ADRs) which involve similar risks to those associated with investments in foreign securities. Depositary receipts are receipts listed on U.S. or foreign exchanges issued by banks or trust companies that entitle the holder to all dividends and capital gains that are paid out on the underlying foreign shares. The issuers of certain depositary receipts are under no obligation to distribute shareholder communications to the holders of such receipts, or to pass through to them any voting rights with respect to the deposited securities. Investments in depositary receipts may be less liquid than the underlying shares in their primary trading market and, if not included in a Fund's Index, may negatively affect a Fund's ability to replicate the performance of its Index. In addition, investments in depositary receipts that are not included in a Fund's Index may increase tracking error.

**Risk of Investing in Medium-Capitalization Companies.** (VanEck Vectors Biotech ETF, VanEck Vectors Pharmaceutical ETF, VanEck Vectors Retail ETF and VanEck Vectors Semiconductor ETF only.) A Fund may invest in medium-capitalization companies and, therefore, will be subject to certain risks associated with medium-capitalization companies. These companies are often subject to less analyst coverage and may be in early and less predictable periods of their corporate existences, with little or no record of profitability. In addition, these companies often have greater price volatility, lower trading volume and less liquidity than larger more established companies. These companies tend to have smaller revenues, narrower product lines, less management depth and experience, smaller shares of their product or service markets, fewer financial resources and less competitive strength than large-capitalization companies. Returns on investments in securities of medium-capitalization companies could trail the returns on investments in securities of large-capitalization companies.

**Risk of Investing in Small- and Medium-Capitalization Companies.** (VanEck Vectors Environmental Services ETF, VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF and VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF only.) A Fund may invest in small- and medium-capitalization companies and, therefore, will be subject to certain risks associated with small- and medium-capitalization companies. These companies are often subject to less analyst coverage and may be in early and less predictable periods of their corporate existences, with little or no record of profitability. In addition, these companies often have greater price volatility, lower trading volume and less liquidity than larger more established companies. These companies tend to have smaller revenues, narrower product lines, less management depth and experience, smaller shares of their product or service markets, fewer financial resources and less competitive strength than large-capitalization companies. Returns on investments in securities of small- and medium-capitalization companies could trail the returns on investments in securities of larger companies.

**Issuer-Specific Changes Risk.** (All Funds except VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF and VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF.) The value of individual securities or particular types of securities in a Fund's portfolio can be more volatile than the market as a whole and can perform differently from the value of the market as a whole, especially if the Fund's portfolio is concentrated in a country, group of countries, region, market, industry, group of industries, sector or asset class. The value of securities of smaller issuers can be more volatile than that of larger issuers. A change in the financial condition, market perception or the credit rating of an issuer of securities included in a Fund's Index may cause the value of its securities to decline.

**Risk of Cash Transactions.** Unlike other ETFs, each of VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF and VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF effects its creations and redemptions partially for cash, rather than in-kind securities. As a result, an investment in each Fund may be less tax-efficient than an investment in a more conventional ETF. Other ETFs generally are able to make in-kind redemptions and avoid realizing gains in connection with transactions designed to raise cash to meet redemption requests. Because each Fund currently intends to effect a portion of redemptions for cash, rather than in-kind distributions, it may be required to sell portfolio securities in order to obtain the cash needed to distribute redemption proceeds, which involves transaction costs. If each Fund recognizes gain on these sales, this generally will cause each Fund to recognize gain it might not otherwise have recognized if it were to distribute portfolio securities in-kind, or to recognize such gain sooner than would otherwise be required. Each Fund generally intends to distribute these gains to shareholders to avoid being taxed on this gain at the Fund level and otherwise comply with the special tax rules that apply to it. This strategy may cause shareholders to be subject to tax on gains they would not otherwise be subject to, or at an earlier date than, if they had made an investment in a different ETF.

**Risk of Investing in Emerging Market Issuers.** (VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF only.) The Fund may invest its assets in securities of emerging market issuers. Investment in securities of emerging market issuers involves risks not typically associated with investments in securities of issuers in more developed countries that may negatively affect the value of your investment in the Fund. Such heightened risks may include, among others, expropriation and/or nationalization of assets, restrictions on and government intervention in international trade, confiscatory taxation, political instability, including authoritarian and/or military involvement in governmental decision making, armed conflict, the impact on the economy as a result of civil war, crime (including drug violence) and social instability as a result of religious, ethnic and/or socioeconomic unrest. Issuers in certain emerging market countries are subject to less stringent requirements regarding accounting, auditing, financial reporting and record keeping than are issuers in more developed markets, and therefore, all material information may not be available or reliable. Emerging markets are also more likely than developed markets to experience problems with the clearing and settling of trades, as well as the holding of securities by local banks, agents and depositories. Low trading volumes and volatile prices in less developed markets may make trades harder to complete and settle, and governments or trade groups may compel local agents to hold securities in designated depositories that may not be subject to independent evaluation. Local agents are held only to the standards of care of their local markets. In general, the less developed a country's securities

markets are, the greater the likelihood of custody problems. Additionally, each of the factors described below could have a negative impact on the Fund's performance and increase the volatility of the Fund.

**Securities Markets.** Securities markets in emerging market countries are underdeveloped and are often considered to be less correlated to global economic cycles than those markets located in more developed countries. Securities markets in emerging market countries are subject to greater risks associated with market volatility, lower market capitalization, lower trading volume, illiquidity, inflation, greater price fluctuations, uncertainty regarding the existence of trading markets, governmental control and heavy regulation of labor and industry. These factors, coupled with restrictions on foreign investment and other factors, limit the supply of securities available for investment by the Fund. This will affect the rate at which the Fund is able to invest in emerging market countries, the purchase and sale prices for such securities and the timing of purchases and sales. Emerging markets can experience high rates of inflation, deflation and currency devaluation. The prices of certain securities listed on securities markets in emerging market countries have been subject to sharp fluctuations and sudden declines, and no assurance can be given as to the future performance of listed securities in general. Volatility of prices may be greater than in more developed securities markets. Moreover, securities markets in emerging market countries may be closed for extended periods of time or trading on

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securities markets may be suspended altogether due to political or civil unrest. Market volatility may also be heightened by the actions of a small number of investors. Brokerage firms in emerging market countries may be fewer in number and less established than brokerage firms in more developed markets. Since the Fund may need to effect securities transactions through these brokerage firms, the Fund is subject to the risk that these brokerage firms will not be able to fulfill their obligations to the Fund. This risk is magnified to the extent the Fund effects securities transactions through a single brokerage firm or a small number of brokerage firms. In addition, the infrastructure for the safe custody of securities and for purchasing and selling securities, settling trades, collecting dividends, initiating corporate actions, and following corporate activity is not as well developed in emerging market countries as is the case in certain more developed markets.

**Political and Economic Risk.** Certain emerging market countries have historically been subject to political instability and their prospects are tied to the continuation of economic and political liberalization in the region. Instability may result from factors such as government or military intervention in decision making, terrorism, civil unrest, extremism or hostilities between neighboring countries. Any of these factors, including an outbreak of hostilities could negatively impact the Fund's returns. Limited political and democratic freedoms in emerging market countries might cause significant social unrest. These factors may have a significant adverse effect on an emerging or frontier market country's economy.

Many emerging market countries may be heavily dependent upon international trade and, consequently, may continue to be negatively affected by trade barriers, exchange controls, managed adjustments in relative currency values and other protectionist measures imposed or negotiated by the countries with which it trades. They also have been, and may continue to be, adversely affected by economic conditions in the countries with which they trade.

In addition, commodities (such as oil, gas and minerals) represent a significant percentage of certain emerging market countries' exports and these economies are particularly sensitive to fluctuations in commodity prices. Adverse economic events in one country may have a significant adverse effect on other countries of this region. In addition, most emerging market countries have experienced, at one time or another, severe and persistent levels of inflation, including, in some cases, hyperinflation. This has, in turn, led to high interest rates, extreme measures by governments to keep inflation in check, and a generally debilitating effect on economic growth. Although inflation in many countries has lessened, there is no guarantee it will remain at lower levels. The political history of certain emerging market countries has been characterized by political uncertainty, intervention by the military in civilian and economic spheres, and political corruption. Such events could reverse favorable trends toward market and economic reform, privatization, and removal of trade barriers, and result in significant disruption in securities markets in the region.

Also, from time to time, certain issuers located in emerging market countries in which the Fund invests may operate in, or have dealings with, countries subject to sanctions and/or embargoes imposed by the U.S. Government and the United Nations and/or countries identified by the U.S. Government as state sponsors of terrorism. As a result, an issuer may sustain damage to its reputation if it is identified as an issuer which operates in, or has dealings with, such countries. The Fund, as an investor in such issuers, will be indirectly subject to those risks.

The economies of one or more countries in which the Fund may invest may be in various states of transition from a planned economy to a more market oriented economy. The economies of such countries differ from the economies of most developed countries in many respects, including levels of government involvement, states of development, growth rates, control of foreign exchange and allocation of resources. Economic growth in these economies may be

uneven both geographically and among various sectors of their economies and may also be accompanied by periods of high inflation. Political changes, social instability and adverse diplomatic developments in these countries could result in the imposition of additional government restrictions including expropriation of assets, confiscatory taxes or nationalization of some or all of the property held by the underlying issuers of securities included in the Fund's Index. There is no guarantee that the governments of these countries will not revert back to some form of planned or non-market oriented economy, and such governments continue to be active participants in many economic sectors through ownership positions and regulation. The allocation of resources in such countries is subject to a high level of government control. Such countries' governments may strictly regulate the payment of foreign currency denominated obligations and set monetary policy. Through their policies, these governments may provide preferential treatment to particular industries or companies. The policies set by the government of one of these countries could have a substantial effect on that country's economy.

**Investment and Repatriation Restrictions.** The government in an emerging market country may restrict or control to varying degrees the ability of foreign investors to invest in securities of issuers located or operating in such emerging market countries. These restrictions and/or controls may at times limit or prevent foreign investment in securities of issuers located or operating in emerging market countries and may inhibit the Fund's ability to track the Generic Drugs

Index. In addition, the Fund may not be able to buy or sell securities or receive full value for such securities. Moreover, certain emerging market countries may require governmental approval or special licenses prior to investments by foreign investors and may limit the amount of investments by foreign investors in a particular industry and/or issuer; may limit such foreign investment to a certain class of securities of an issuer that may have less advantageous rights than the classes available for purchase by domiciliaries of such emerging market countries; and/or may impose additional taxes on foreign investors. A delay in obtaining a required government approval or a license would delay investments in those emerging market countries, and, as a result, the Fund may not be able to invest in certain securities while approval is pending. The government of certain emerging market countries may also withdraw or decline to renew a license that enables the Fund to invest in such country. These factors make investing in issuers located or operating in emerging market countries significantly riskier than investing in issuers located or operating in more developed countries, and any one of them could cause a decline in the value of the Fund's Shares.

Additionally, investments in issuers located in certain emerging market countries may be subject to a greater degree of risk associated with governmental approval in connection with the repatriation of investment income, capital or the proceeds of sales of securities by foreign investors. Moreover, there is the risk that if the balance of payments in an emerging market country declines, the government of such country may impose temporary restrictions on foreign capital remittances. Consequently, the Fund could be adversely affected by delays in, or a refusal to grant, required governmental approval for repatriation of capital, as well as by the application to the Fund of any restrictions on investments. Furthermore, investments in emerging market countries may require the Fund to adopt special procedures, seek local government approvals or take other actions, each of which may involve additional costs to the Fund.

**Available Disclosure About Emerging Market Issuers.** Issuers located or operating in emerging market countries are not subject to the same rules and regulations as issuers located or operating in more developed countries. Therefore, there may be less financial and other information publicly available with regard to issuers located or operating in emerging market countries and such issuers are not subject to the uniform accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards applicable to issuers located or operating in more developed countries.

**Foreign Currency Considerations.** The Fund's assets that are invested in equity securities of issuers in emerging market countries will generally be denominated in foreign currencies, and the income received by the Fund from these investments will be principally in foreign currencies. The value of an emerging market country's currency may be subject to a high degree of fluctuation. This fluctuation may be due to changes in interest rates, the effects of monetary policies issued by the United States, foreign governments, central banks or supranational entities, the imposition of currency controls or other national or global political or economic developments. The economies of certain emerging market countries can be significantly affected by currency devaluations. Certain emerging market countries may also have managed currencies which are maintained at artificial levels relative to the U.S. dollar rather than at levels determined by the market. This type of system can lead to sudden and large adjustments in the currency which, in turn, can have a disruptive and negative effect on foreign investors.

The Fund's exposure to an emerging market country's currency and changes in value of such foreign currencies versus the U.S. dollar may reduce the Fund's investment performance and the value of your investment in the Fund. Meanwhile, the Fund will compute and expects to distribute its income in U.S. dollars, and the computation of income will be made on the date that the income is earned by the Fund at the foreign exchange rate in effect on that date. Therefore, if the value of the respective emerging market country's currency falls relative to the U.S. dollar between the earning of the income and the time at which the Fund converts the relevant emerging market country's currency to U.S. dollars, the Fund may be required to liquidate certain positions in order to make distributions if the Fund has insufficient cash in U.S. dollars to meet distribution requirements under the Internal Revenue Code. The liquidation of

investments, if required, could be at disadvantageous prices or otherwise have an adverse impact on the Fund's performance.

Certain emerging market countries also restrict the free conversion of their currency into foreign currencies, including the U.S. dollar. There is no significant foreign exchange market for many such currencies and it would, as a result, be difficult for the Fund to engage in foreign currency transactions designed to protect the value of the Fund's interests in securities denominated in such currencies. Furthermore, if permitted, the Fund may incur costs in connection with conversions between U.S. dollars and an emerging market country's currency. Foreign exchange dealers realize a profit based on the difference between the prices at which they are buying and selling various currencies. Thus, a dealer normally will offer to sell a foreign currency to the Fund at one rate, while offering a lesser rate of exchange should the Fund desire immediately to resell that currency to the dealer. The Fund will conduct its foreign currency exchange transactions either on a spot (*i.e.*, cash) basis at the spot rate prevailing in the foreign currency exchange market, or through entering into forward, futures or options contracts to purchase or sell foreign currencies.

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**Operational and Settlement Risk.** In addition to having less developed securities markets, emerging market countries have less developed custody and settlement practices than certain developed countries. Rules adopted under the 1940 Act permit the Fund to maintain its foreign securities and cash in the custody of certain eligible non-U.S. banks and securities depositories. Banks in emerging market countries that are eligible foreign sub-custodians may be recently organized or otherwise lack extensive operating experience. In addition, in certain emerging market countries there may be legal restrictions or limitations on the ability of the Fund to recover assets held in custody by a foreign sub-custodian in the event of the bankruptcy of the sub-custodian. Because settlement systems in emerging market countries may be less organized than in other developed markets, there may be a risk that settlement may be delayed and that cash or securities of the Fund may be in jeopardy because of failures of or defects in the systems. Under the laws in many emerging market countries, the Fund may be required to release local shares before receiving cash payment or may be required to make cash payment prior to receiving local shares, creating a risk that the Fund may surrender cash or securities without ever receiving securities or cash from the other party. Settlement systems in emerging market countries also have a higher risk of failed trades and back to back settlements may not be possible.

The Fund may not be able to convert a foreign currency to U.S. dollars in time for the settlement of redemption requests. In the event of a redemption request from an AP, the Fund will be required to deliver U.S. dollars to the AP on the settlement date. In the event that the Fund is not able to convert the foreign currency to U.S. dollars in time for settlement, which may occur as a result of the delays described above, the Fund may be required to liquidate certain investments and/or borrow money in order to fund such redemption. The liquidation of investments, if required, could be at disadvantageous prices or otherwise have an adverse impact on the Fund's performance (*e.g.*, by causing the Fund to overweight foreign currency denominated holdings and underweight other holdings which were sold to fund redemptions). In addition, the Fund will incur interest expense on any borrowings and the borrowings will cause the Fund to be leveraged, which may magnify gains and losses on its investments.

In certain emerging market countries, the marketability of quoted shares may be limited due to the restricted opening hours of stock exchanges, and a narrow range of investors and a relatively high proportion of market value may be concentrated in the hands of a relatively small number of shareholders. In addition, because certain emerging market countries' stock exchanges on which the Fund's portfolio securities may trade are open when the NASDAQ is closed, the Fund may be subject to heightened risk associated with market movements. Trading volume may be lower on certain emerging market countries' stock exchanges than on more developed securities markets and equities may be generally less liquid. The infrastructure for clearing, settlement and registration on the primary and secondary markets of certain emerging market countries are less developed than in certain other markets and under certain circumstances this may result in the Fund experiencing delays in settling and/or registering transactions in the markets in which it invests, particularly if the growth of foreign and domestic investment in certain emerging market countries places an undue burden on such investment infrastructure. Such delays could affect the speed with which the Fund can transmit redemption proceeds and may inhibit the initiation and realization of investment opportunities at optimum times.

Certain issuers in emerging market countries may utilize share blocking schemes. Share blocking refers to a practice, in certain foreign markets, where voting rights related to an issuer's securities are predicated on these securities being blocked from trading at the custodian or sub-custodian level for a period of time around a shareholder meeting. These restrictions have the effect of barring the purchase and sale of certain voting securities within a specified number of days before and, in certain instances, after a shareholder meeting where a vote of shareholders will be taken. Share blocking may prevent the Fund from buying or selling securities for a period of time. During the time that shares are blocked, trades in such securities will not settle. The blocking period can last up to several weeks. The process for



having a blocking restriction lifted can be quite onerous with the particular requirements varying widely by country. In addition, in certain countries, the block cannot be removed. As a result of the ramifications of voting ballots in markets that allow share blocking, the Adviser, on behalf of the Fund, reserves the right to abstain from voting proxies in those markets.

**Corporate and Securities Laws.** Securities laws in emerging market countries are relatively new and unsettled and, consequently, there is a risk of rapid and unpredictable change in laws regarding foreign investment, securities regulation, title to securities and shareholder rights. Accordingly, foreign investors may be adversely affected by new or amended laws and regulations. In addition, the systems of corporate governance to which emerging market issuers are subject may be less advanced than those systems to which issuers located in more developed countries are subject, and therefore, shareholders of issuers located in emerging market countries may not receive many of the protections available to shareholders of issuers located in more developed countries. In circumstances where adequate laws and shareholder rights exist, it may not be possible to obtain swift and equitable enforcement of the law. In addition, the enforcement of systems of taxation at federal, regional and local levels in emerging market countries may be inconsistent and subject to sudden change.

**Special Risk Considerations of Investing in Asian Issuers.** (VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF and VanEck Vectors Semiconductor ETF only.) A Fund may invest in securities issued by Asian issuers and, accordingly, may be subject to the risk of investing in such issuers. Investment in securities of issuers in Asia involves risks and special considerations not typically associated with investment in the U.S. securities markets. Certain Asian economies have experienced over-extension of credit, currency devaluations and restrictions, high unemployment, high inflation, decreased exports and economic recessions. Economic events in any one Asian country can have a significant effect on the entire Asian region as well as on major trading partners outside Asia, and any adverse effect on some or all of the Asian countries and regions in which the Fund invests. The securities markets in some Asian economies are relatively underdeveloped and may subject a Fund to higher action costs or greater uncertainty than investments in more developed securities markets. Such risks may adversely affect the value of a Fund's investments. Governments of many Asian countries have implemented significant economic reforms in order to liberalize trade policy, promote foreign investment in their economies, reduce government control of the economy and develop market mechanisms. There can be no assurance these reforms will continue or that they will be effective. Despite recent reform and privatizations, significant regulation of investment and industry is still pervasive in many Asian countries and may restrict foreign ownership of domestic corporations and repatriation of assets, which may adversely affect a Fund's investments. Governments in some Asian countries are authoritarian in nature, have been installed or removed as a result of military coups or have periodically used force to suppress civil dissent. Disparities of wealth, the pace and success of democratization, and ethnic, religious and racial disaffection have led to social turmoil, violence and labor unrest in some countries. Unanticipated or sudden political or social developments may result in sudden and significant investment losses. Investing in certain Asian countries involves risk of loss due to expropriation, nationalization, or confiscation of assets and property or the imposition of restrictions on foreign investments and on repatriation of capital invested.

**Special Risk Considerations of Investing in Australian Issuers.** (VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF only.) Investment in Australian issuers may subject the Fund to regulatory, political, currency, security, and economic risk specific to Australia. The Australian economy is heavily dependent on exports from the agricultural and mining sectors. As a result, the Australian economy is susceptible to fluctuations in the commodity markets. The Australian economy is also becoming increasingly dependent on its growing services industry. The Australian economy is dependent on trading with key trading partners, including the United States, China, Japan, Singapore and certain European countries. Reduction in spending on Australian products and services, or changes in any of the economies, may cause an adverse impact on the Australian economy.

Additionally, Australia is located in a part of the world that has historically been prone to natural disasters, such as hurricanes and droughts, and is economically sensitive to environmental events. Any such event may adversely impact the Australian economy, causing an adverse impact on the value of the Fund.

**Risk of Commodity Exposure.** The agricultural and mining sectors of Australia's economy account for the majority of its exports. Australia is susceptible to fluctuations in the commodity markets and, in particular, in the price and demand for agricultural products and natural resources. Any negative changes in these sectors could have an adverse impact on the Australian economy.

**Special Risk Considerations of Investing in Chinese Issuers.** (VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF only.) Investing in securities of Chinese companies, including issuers outside of China that generate significant revenues from China, involves certain risks and considerations not typically associated with investing in securities of U.S. issuers, including, among others, (i) more frequent (and potentially widespread) trading suspensions and government interventions with respect to Chinese issuers, (ii) currency revaluations and other currency exchange rate fluctuations or blockage, (iii) the nature and extent of intervention by the Chinese government in the Chinese securities markets, whether such

intervention will continue and the impact of such intervention or its discontinuation, (iv) the risk of nationalization or expropriation of assets, (v) the risk that the Chinese government may decide not to continue to support economic reform programs, (vi) limitations on the use of brokers, (vii) higher rates of inflation, (viii) greater political, economic and social uncertainty, (ix) market volatility caused by any potential regional or territorial conflicts or natural disasters and (x) the risk of increased trade tariffs, embargoes and other trade limitations. In addition, the economy of China differs, often unfavorably, from the U.S. economy in such respects as structure, general development, government involvement, wealth distribution, rate of inflation, growth rate, interest rates, allocation of resources and capital reinvestment, among others. The Chinese central government has historically exercised substantial control over virtually every sector of the Chinese economy through administrative regulation and/or state ownership and actions of the Chinese central and local government authorities continue to have a substantial effect on economic conditions in China. In addition, the Chinese government has from time to time taken actions that influence the prices at which certain goods may be sold, encourage companies to invest or concentrate in particular industries, induce mergers between companies in certain industries and induce private companies to publicly offer their securities to increase or continue the rate of economic growth, control the rate of inflation or otherwise regulate economic expansion. The Chinese government may do so in the future as well, potentially having a significant adverse effect on economic conditions in China.

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(continued)

**Special Risk Considerations of Investing in European Issuers.** (VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF, VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF and VanEck Vectors Pharmaceutical ETF only.) A Fund may invest in securities issued by European issuers and, accordingly, may be subject to the risk of investing in such issuers. Investment in securities of issuers in Europe involves risks and special considerations not typically associated with investment in the U.S. securities markets. The European Union ( EU ) requires member countries to comply with restrictions on inflation rates, deficits, interest rates, debt levels and fiscal and monetary controls, each of which may significantly affect every country in Europe. Decreasing imports or exports, changes in governmental or EU regulations on trade, changes in the exchange rate of the euro, the default or threat of default by an EU member country on its sovereign debt, and/or an economic recession in an EU member country may have a significant adverse effect on the economies of EU member countries and on major trading partners outside Europe. The European financial markets have recently experienced volatility and have been adversely affected by concerns about economic downturns, credit rating downgrades, rising government debt levels and possible default on or restructuring of government debt in several European countries, including Greece, Ireland, Italy, Portugal and Spain. A default or debt restructuring by any European country would adversely impact holders of that country's debt, and sellers of credit default swaps linked to that country's creditworthiness (which may be located in countries other than those listed in the previous sentence). These events have adversely affected the value and exchange rate of the euro and may continue to significantly affect the economies of every country in Europe, including EU member countries that do not use the euro and non-EU member countries. In addition, in a referendum held on June 23, 2016, voters in the United Kingdom recently voted to leave the EU, creating economic and political uncertainty in its wake. Significant uncertainty exists regarding the timing of the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the EU and the effects such withdrawal will have on the euro, European economies and the global markets.

Responses to the financial problems by European governments, central banks and others, including austerity measures and reforms, may not work, may result in social unrest and may limit future growth and economic recovery or have other unintended consequences. Further defaults or restructurings by governments and other entities of their debt could have additional adverse effects on economies, financial markets and asset valuations around the world. In addition, one or more countries may abandon the euro and/or withdraw from the EU. The impact of these actions, especially if they occur in a disorderly fashion, is not clear but could be significant and far-reaching.

**Special Risk Considerations of Investing in Indian Issuers.** (VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF only.) Investment in securities of Indian issuers involves risks not typically associated with investments in securities of issuers in more developed countries that may negatively affect the value of your investment in the Fund. Such heightened risks include, among others, greater government control over the economy, political and legal uncertainty, currency fluctuations or blockage of foreign currency exchanges and the risk of nationalization or expropriation of assets. Issuers in India are subject to less stringent requirements regarding accounting, auditing and financial reporting than are issuers in more developed markets, and therefore, all material information may not be available or reliable. In addition, religious and border disputes persist in India. India has experienced civil unrest and hostilities with neighboring countries, including Pakistan, and the Indian government has confronted separatist movements in several Indian states. India has also experienced acts of terrorism that have targeted foreigners, which have had a negative impact on tourism, an important sector of the Indian economy.

The Indian securities markets are smaller than securities markets in more developed economies and are subject to greater price volatility.

Indian stock exchanges have also experienced problems such as temporary exchange closures, broker defaults, settlement delays and strikes by brokers that have affected the market price and liquidity of the securities of Indian companies. In addition, the governing bodies of the Indian stock exchanges have from time to time restricted securities from trading, limited price movements and restricted margin requirements. Further, from time to time, disputes have occurred between listed companies and the Indian stock exchanges and other regulatory bodies that, in some cases, have had a negative effect on market sentiment. Additionally, each of the factors described below could have a negative impact on the Fund's performance and increase the volatility of the Fund.

**Economic Risk.** The Indian government has exercised and continues to exercise significant influence over many aspects of the economy, and the number of public sector enterprises in India is substantial. Accordingly, Indian government actions in the future could have a significant effect on the Indian economy. The Indian government has experienced chronic structural public sector deficits. High amounts of debt and public spending could have an adverse impact on India's economy. Additionally, the Indian economy may be dependent upon agriculture and thus the Fund's investments may be susceptible to adverse weather changes including the threat of monsoons and other natural disasters.

**Regulatory Risk.** Under the new SEBI (Foreign Portfolio Investors) Regulations, 2014 ( FPI Regulations ), a sub-account that is deemed to be a foreign portfolio investor ( FPI ) may continue to buy, sell or deal in securities until the expiry of its current foreign institutional investor ( FII ) registration, and will be converted to an FPI upon payment of a FPI

conversion fee and renewal registration fee. The Adviser is a qualified FII with the Securities and Exchange Board of India ( SEBI ). There can be no assurances that the Indian regulatory authorities will continue to grant such qualifications, and the loss of such qualifications could adversely impact the ability of the Fund to make investments in India.

If new policy announcements or regulations in India are made, including potential policies with retroactive effect, which require changes in the structure or operations of the Fund, these may adversely impact the performance of the Fund.

**Investment and Repatriation Restrictions.** The RBI, the Indian counterpart of the Federal Reserve Bank in the United States, imposes certain limits on the foreign ownership of Indian securities. In general, the aggregate ownership by an FII/sub-account/FPI is limited to 24% of the outstanding voting securities of an Indian issuer. This limit can be further extended to the applicable foreign investment limit in a specific sector if the shareholders of a company pass a special resolution to that effect. The aggregate holding of a single FII/Sub-account/FPI, whether directly or through offshore derivative investments ( ODIs ) or a combination thereof, must be less than 10% of the total paid-up equity capital of an Indian company. The SEBI, the Indian counterpart of the SEC in the United States, monitors foreign holdings and periodically announces current foreign ownership limitations and changes to such limits. These restrictions and/or controls may at times limit or prevent foreign investment in securities of issuers located or operating in India and may inhibit the Fund's ability to track the Generic Drugs Index.

In the case of an ultimate beneficial owner who has direct or indirect common shareholding/ beneficial ownership/beneficial interest, of more than 50% in an FPI and an ODI subscriber entity or two or more ODI subscribers, the participation through ODIs would be aggregated with the direct holding of FPIs or the other concerned ODI subscribers while determining whether the above investment cap in an Indian company has been triggered.

**Currency Fluctuation and Conversion Risk.** The income received by the Fund with respect to its investments in equity securities of Indian issuers will be principally in Indian rupees. The Fund's exposure to the Indian rupee and changes in the value of the Indian rupee versus the U.S. dollar may result in reduced returns for the Fund. Moreover, the Fund may incur costs in connection with conversions between U.S. dollars and Indian rupees.

**Equity Securities Risk.** The value of the equity securities held by a Fund may fall due to general market and economic conditions, perceptions regarding the markets in which the issuers of securities held by a Fund participate, or factors relating to specific issuers in which a Fund invests. For example, an adverse event, such as an unfavorable earnings report, may result in a decline in the value of equity securities of an issuer held by a Fund; the price of the equity securities of an issuer may be particularly sensitive to general movements in the securities markets; or a drop in the securities markets may depress the price of most or all of the equities securities held by a Fund. In addition, the equity securities of an issuer in a Fund's portfolio may decline in price if the issuer fails to make anticipated dividend payments. Equity securities are subordinated to preferred securities and debt in a company's capital structure with respect to priority in right to a share of corporate income, and therefore will be subject to greater dividend risk than preferred securities or debt instruments. In addition, while broad market measures of equity securities have historically generated higher average returns than fixed income securities, equity securities have generally also experienced significantly more volatility in those returns, although under certain market conditions fixed income securities may have comparable or greater price volatility.

A change in the financial condition, market perception or the credit rating of an issuer of securities included in a Fund's Index may cause the value of its securities to decline.

**Market Risk.** The prices of the securities in each Fund are subject to the risks associated with investing in the securities market, including general economic conditions and sudden and unpredictable drops in value. Overall securities values could decline generally or could underperform other investments. An investment in a Fund may lose money.

**Operational Risk.** Each Fund is exposed to operational risk arising from a number of factors, including, but not limited to, human error, processing and communication errors, errors of a Fund's service providers, counterparties or other third-parties, failed or inadequate processes and technology or system failures. Each Fund seeks to reduce these operational risks through controls and procedures. However, these measures do not address every possible risk and may be inadequate for those risks that they are intended to address.

**Index Tracking Risk.** Each Fund's return may not match the return of its Index for a number of reasons. For example, a Fund incurs a number of operating expenses not applicable to its Index and incurs costs associated with buying and selling securities, especially when rebalancing the Fund's securities holdings to reflect changes in the composition of its Index, which are not factored into the return of its Index. Transaction costs, including brokerage costs, will decrease a Fund's NAV to the extent not offset by the transaction fee payable by an AP. Market disruptions and regulatory restrictions could have an adverse effect on a Fund's ability to adjust its exposure to the required levels in order to track its Index. There is no assurance that a Fund's Index Provider or any agents that may act on its behalf will compile the Fund's Index accurately, or that the Index will be determined, composed or calculated accurately. Errors in respect of the quality, accuracy and

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE FUNDS INVESTMENT STRATEGIES AND RISKS**  
**(continued)**

completeness of the data used to compile an Index may occur from time to time and may not be identified and corrected by an Index Provider for a period of time or at all, particularly where the indices are less commonly used as benchmarks by funds or managers. Therefore, gains, losses or costs associated with errors of an Index Provider or its agents will generally be borne by the applicable Fund and its shareholders. For example, during a period where a Fund's Index contains incorrect constituents, the Fund would have market exposure to such constituents and would be underexposed to the Index's other constituents. Such errors may negatively or positively impact the Fund and its shareholders. Any gains due to an Index Provider's or others' errors will be kept by the Funds and its shareholders and any losses resulting from the Index Provider's or others' errors will be borne by the applicable Fund and its shareholders. A Fund may not be fully invested at times as a result of reserves of cash held by the Fund to pay expenses. In addition, a Fund may not be able to invest in certain securities included in its Index, or invest in them in the exact proportions in which they are represented its Index, due to legal restrictions or limitations imposed by the governments of certain countries, a lack of liquidity on stock exchanges in which such securities trade, potential adverse tax consequences or other regulatory reasons. Moreover, a Fund may be delayed in purchasing or selling securities included in its Index. Any issues a Fund encounters with regard to currency convertibility (including the cost of borrowing funds, if any) and repatriation may also increase the index tracking risk. VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF may also need to rely on borrowings to meet redemptions, which may lead to increased expenses. For tax efficiency purposes, a Fund may sell certain securities, and such sale may cause a Fund to realize a loss and deviate from the performance of its Index.

Each of VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF and VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF is expected to fair value certain of the foreign securities or other assets it holds. To the extent a Fund calculates its NAV based on fair value prices and the value of its Index is based on securities' closing prices (*i.e.*, the value of its Index is not based on fair value prices) or if the Fund otherwise calculates its NAV based on prices that differ from those used in calculating its respective Index, the Fund's ability to track its Index may be adversely affected. The need to comply with the tax diversification and other requirements of the Internal Revenue Code may also impact the Fund's ability to replicate the performance of its Index. In addition, if a Fund utilizes depository receipts and other derivative instruments that are not included in a Fund's Index, its return may not correlate as well with the return of its Index as would be the case if the Fund purchased all the securities in the Index directly. In light of the factors discussed above, a Fund's return may deviate significantly from the return of its Index.

Index tracking risk may be heightened during times of increased market volatility or other unusual market conditions. Errors in the construction or calculation of a Fund's Index may occur from time to time. Any such errors may not be identified or corrected by an Index's Provider for some period of time, which may have an adverse effect on the Funds and its shareholders.

**Replication Management Risk.** Unlike many investment companies, the Funds are not actively managed. Therefore, unless a specific security is removed from its Index, a Fund generally would not sell a security because the security's issuer is in financial trouble. If a specific security is removed from a Fund's Index, the Fund may be forced to sell such security at an inopportune time or for prices other than at current market values. An investment in a Fund involves risks similar to those of investing in any fund of equity securities traded on an exchange, such as market fluctuations caused by such factors as economic and political developments, changes in interest rates and perceived trends in security prices. Each Fund's Index may not contain the appropriate or a diversified mix of securities for any particular economic cycle. The timing of changes in the securities of a Fund's portfolio in seeking to replicate its Index could have a negative effect on the Fund. Unlike with an actively managed fund, the Adviser does not use techniques or



defensive strategies designed to lessen the effects of market volatility or to reduce the impact of periods of market decline. This means that, based on market and economic conditions, a Fund's performance could be lower than funds that may actively shift their portfolio assets to take advantage of market opportunities or to lessen the impact of a market decline or a decline in the value of one or more issuers.

**Authorized Participant Concentration Risk.** A Fund may have a limited number of financial institutions that act as APs, none of which are obligated to engage in creation or redemption transactions. To the extent that those APs exit the business, or are unable to or choose not to process creation and/or redemption orders, and no other AP is able to step forward to create and redeem, there may be a significantly diminished trading market for Shares or Shares may trade like closed-end funds at a discount (or premium) to NAV and possibly face trading halts and/or de-listing. The AP concentration risk may be heightened in scenarios where APs have limited or diminished access to the capital required to post collateral.

**No Guarantee of Active Trading Market.** While Shares are listed on NYSE Arca or NASDAQ, there can be no assurance that an active trading market for the Shares will be maintained. Further, secondary markets may be subject to irregular trading activity, wide bid/ask spreads and extended trade settlement periods in times of market stress because market makers and APs may step away from making a market in the Shares and in executing creation and redemption orders, which could cause a material deviation in a Fund's market price from its NAV. Van Eck Securities Corporation, the distributor of the Shares (the Distributor), does not maintain a secondary market in the Shares. Investors purchasing and selling shares in the

secondary market may not experience investment results consistent with those experienced by those APs creating and redeeming directly with a Fund.

Decisions by market makers or APs to reduce their role or step away from these activities in times of market stress could inhibit the effectiveness of the arbitrage process in maintaining the relationship between the underlying value of a Fund's portfolio securities and the Fund's market price. This reduced effectiveness could result in Fund Shares trading at a discount to its NAV and also in greater than normal intraday bid/ask spreads for Fund Shares.

**Trading Issues.** Trading in Shares on an Exchange may be halted due to market conditions or for reasons that, in the view of the Exchange, make trading in Shares inadvisable. In addition, trading in Shares on an Exchange is subject to trading halts caused by extraordinary market volatility pursuant to the relevant Exchange's circuit breaker rules. There can be no assurance that the requirements of an Exchange necessary to maintain the listing of a Fund will continue to be met or will remain unchanged.

**Fund Shares Trading, Premium/Discount Risk and Liquidity of Fund Shares.** Disruptions to creations and redemptions, the existence of market volatility or potential lack of an active trading market for Shares (including through a trading halt), as well as other factors, may result in Shares trading at a significant premium or discount to NAV or to the intraday value of a Fund's holdings. The NAV of the Shares will fluctuate with changes in the market value of a Fund's securities holdings. The market prices of Shares will fluctuate, in some cases materially, in accordance with changes in NAV and the intraday value of a Fund's holdings, as well as supply and demand on the NYSE Arca or NASDAQ, as applicable. The Adviser cannot predict whether Shares will trade below, at or above their NAV. Given the fact that Shares can be created and redeemed by APs in Creation Units, the Adviser believes that large discounts or premiums to the NAV of Shares should not be sustained in the long-term. While the creation/redemption feature is designed to make it likely that Shares normally will trade close to the value of a Fund's holdings, market prices are not expected to correlate exactly to a Fund's NAV due to timing reasons, supply and demand imbalances and other factors. The price differences may be due, in large part, to the fact that supply and demand forces at work in the secondary trading market for Shares may be closely related to, but not necessarily identical to, the same forces influencing the prices of the securities of a Fund's portfolio of investments trading individually or in the aggregate at any point in time. If a shareholder purchases Shares at a time when the market price is at a premium to the NAV or sells Shares at a time when the market price is at a discount to the NAV, the shareholder may sustain losses or receive significantly less than the underlying value of the Shares that were bought or sold. Any of these factors, discussed above and further below, may lead to the Shares trading at a premium or discount to a Fund's NAV. In addition, because certain of a Fund's underlying securities trade on exchanges that are closed when the NYSE Arca or NASDAQ (*i.e.*, the exchange that Shares of the Fund trade on) is open, there are likely to be deviations between the expected value of an underlying security and the closing security's price (*i.e.*, the last quote from its closed foreign market) resulting in premiums or discounts to NAV that may be greater than those experienced by other ETFs. In addition, the securities held by a Fund may be traded in markets that close at a different time than NYSE Arca or NASDAQ. Liquidity in those securities may be reduced after the applicable closing times. Accordingly, during the time when NYSE Arca or NASDAQ is open but after the applicable market closing, fixing or settlement times, bid/ask spreads and the resulting premium or discount to the Shares' NAV may widen. Additionally, in stressed market conditions, the market for a Fund's Shares may become less liquid in response to deteriorating liquidity in the markets for the Fund's underlying portfolio holdings.

When you buy or sell Shares of a Fund through a broker, you will likely incur a brokerage commission or other charges imposed by brokers. In addition, the market price of Shares, like the price of any exchange-traded security, includes a bid/ask spread charged by the market makers or other participants that trade the particular security. The spread of a Fund's Shares varies over time based on a Fund's trading volume and market liquidity and may increase if a

Fund's trading volume, the spread of a Fund's underlying securities, or market liquidity decrease. In times of severe market disruption, including when trading of a Fund's holdings may be halted, the bid/ask spread may increase significantly. This means that Shares may trade at a discount to a Fund's NAV, and the discount is likely to be greatest during significant market volatility.

**Non-Diversified Risk.** Each Fund is a separate investment portfolio of VanEck Vectors ETF Trust (the Trust), which is an open-end investment company registered under the 1940 Act. Each Fund is classified as a non-diversified fund under the 1940 Act. As a result, each Fund is subject to the risk that it will be more volatile than a diversified fund because the Fund may invest its assets in a smaller number of issuers or may invest a larger proportion of its assets in a single issuer. Moreover, the gains and losses on a single investment may have a greater impact on a Fund's NAV and may make the Fund more volatile than more diversified funds. All Funds except VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF and VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF may be particularly vulnerable to this risk because each Fund's Index is comprised of securities of a very limited number of companies.

**Concentration Risk.** A Fund's assets may be concentrated in a particular sector or sectors or industry or group of industries to the extent that its respective Index concentrates in a particular sector or sectors or industry or group of industries. The securities of many or all of the companies in the same sector or industry may decline in value due to developments adversely affecting such sector or industry. By concentrating its assets in a particular sector or sectors or industry or group of industries, a Fund is subject to the risk that economic, political or other conditions that have a negative effect on that sector

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE FUNDS INVESTMENT STRATEGIES AND RISKS  
(continued)**

or sectors or industry or group of industries will negatively impact the Fund to a greater extent than if the Fund's assets were invested in a wider variety of sectors or industries.

**ADDITIONAL NON-PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES**

Each Fund may invest in securities not included in its respective Index, money market instruments, including repurchase agreements or other funds which invest exclusively in money market instruments, convertible securities, structured notes (notes on which the amount of principal repayment and interest payments are based on the movement of one or more specified factors, such as the movement of a particular stock or stock index) and certain derivatives. Depository receipts not included in a Fund's Index may be used by a Fund in seeking performance that corresponds to its respective Index and in managing cash flows, and may count towards compliance with the Fund's 80% policy. Each Fund may also invest, to the extent permitted by the 1940 Act, in other affiliated and unaffiliated funds, such as open-end or closed-end management investment companies, including other exchange-traded funds (ETFs). None of the Funds employs a temporary defensive strategy, and none of the Funds will invest as part of a temporary defensive strategy to protect against potential stock market declines.

**BORROWING MONEY**

Each Fund may borrow money from a bank up to a limit of one-third of the market value of its assets. Each Fund has entered into a credit facility to borrow money for temporary, emergency or other purposes, including the funding of shareholder redemption requests, trade settlements and as necessary to distribute to shareholders any income required to maintain such Fund's status as a regulated investment company. To the extent that a Fund borrows money, it will be leveraged; at such times, the Fund will appreciate or depreciate in value more rapidly than its Index. Leverage generally has the effect of increasing the amount of loss or gain a Fund might realize, and may increase volatility in the value of a Fund's investments.

**LENDING PORTFOLIO SECURITIES**

Each Fund may lend its portfolio securities to brokers, dealers and other financial institutions desiring to borrow securities to complete transactions and for other purposes. In connection with such loans, a Fund receives liquid collateral equal to at least 102% of the value of the portfolio securities being loaned. This collateral is marked-to-market on a daily basis. Although a Fund will receive collateral in connection with all loans of its securities holdings, the Fund would be exposed to a risk of loss should a borrower fail to return the borrowed securities (*e.g.*, the Fund would have to buy replacement securities and the loaned securities may have appreciated beyond the value of the collateral held by the Fund) or become insolvent. A Fund may pay fees to the party arranging the loan of securities. In addition, a Fund will bear the risk of loss of any cash collateral that it invests.

**ADDITIONAL NON-PRINCIPAL RISKS**

**Risk of Investing in Derivatives.** Derivatives are financial instruments whose values are based on the value of one or more reference assets or indicators, such as a security, currency, interest rate, or index. Certain Funds' use of derivatives involves risks different from, and possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in securities and other more traditional investments. Moreover, although the value of a derivative is based on an underlying asset or indicator, a derivative typically does not carry the same rights as would be the case if a Fund

invested directly in the underlying securities, currencies or other assets.

Derivatives are subject to a number of risks, such as potential changes in value in response to market developments or, in the case of over-the-counter derivatives, as a result of a counterparty's credit quality and the risk that a derivative transaction may not have the effect the Adviser anticipated. Derivatives also involve the risk of mispricing or improper valuation and the risk that changes in the value of a derivative may not achieve the desired correlation with the underlying asset or indicator. Derivative transactions can create investment leverage, may be highly volatile, and a Fund could lose more than the amount it invests. The use of derivatives may increase the amount and affect the timing and character of taxes payable by shareholders of a Fund.

Many derivative transactions are entered into over-the-counter without a central clearinghouse; as a result, the value of such a derivative transaction will depend on, among other factors, the ability and the willingness of a Fund's counterparty to perform its obligations under the transaction. If a counterparty were to default on its obligations, a Fund's contractual remedies against such counterparty may be subject to bankruptcy and insolvency laws, which could affect the Fund's rights as a creditor (e.g., the Fund may not receive the net amount of payments that it is contractually entitled to receive). A liquid secondary market may not always exist for a Fund's derivative positions at any time.

**Leverage Risk.** To the extent that a Fund borrows money or utilizes certain derivatives, it may be leveraged. Leveraging generally exaggerates the effect on NAV of any increase or decrease in the market value of a Fund's portfolio securities.

## TAX ADVANTAGED PRODUCT STRUCTURE

Unlike many conventional mutual funds which are only bought and sold at closing NAVs, the Shares of the Funds have been designed to be tradable in a secondary market on an intra-day basis and to be created and redeemed principally in-kind, except VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF and VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF whose Shares are created and redeemed partially for cash, in Creation Units at each day's market close. These in-kind arrangements are designed to mitigate the adverse effects on a Fund's portfolio that could arise from frequent cash purchase and redemption transactions that affect the NAV of a Fund. Moreover, in contrast to conventional mutual funds, where frequent redemptions can have an adverse tax impact on taxable shareholders because of the need to sell portfolio securities which, in turn, may generate taxable gain, the in-kind redemption mechanism of the Funds, to the extent used, generally is not expected to lead to a tax event for shareholders whose Shares are not being redeemed.

## PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS

A description of each Fund's policies and procedures with respect to the disclosure of the Fund's portfolio securities is available in the Fund's SAI.

## MANAGEMENT OF THE FUNDS

**Board of Trustees.** The Board of Trustees of the Trust has responsibility for the general oversight of the management of the Funds, including general supervision of the Adviser and other service providers, but is not involved in the day-to-day management of the Trust. A list of the Trustees and the Trust officers, and their present positions and principal occupations, is provided in the Funds' SAI.

**Investment Adviser.** Under the terms of an Investment Management Agreement between the Trust and Van Eck Associates Corporation with respect to each Fund (the Investment Management Agreement), Van Eck Associates Corporation serves as the adviser to each Fund and, subject to the supervision of the Board of Trustees, is responsible for the day-to-day investment management of the Funds. As of December 31, 2016, the Adviser managed approximately \$37.97 billion in assets. The Adviser has been an investment adviser since 1955 and also acts as adviser or sub-adviser to mutual funds, other exchange-traded funds, other pooled investment vehicles and separate accounts. The Adviser's principal business address is 666 Third Avenue, 9th Floor, New York, New York 10017. A discussion regarding the Board of Trustees' approval of the Investment Management Agreement is available in the Trust's annual report for the period ended September 30, 2016.

For the services provided to each Fund under the Investment Management Agreement, each Fund pays the Adviser monthly fees based on a percentage of each Fund's average daily net assets at the annual rate of 0.35% (with respect to VanEck Vectors Biotech ETF, VanEck Vectors Pharmaceutical ETF, VanEck Vectors Retail ETF, and VanEck Vectors Semiconductor ETF), 0.50% (with respect to VanEck Vectors Environmental Services ETF, VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF and VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF). Until at least February 1, 2018, the Adviser has agreed to waive fees and/or pay Fund expenses to the extent necessary to prevent the operating expenses of each Fund (excluding acquired fund fees and expenses, interest expense, trading expenses, taxes and extraordinary expenses) from exceeding 0.35% (with respect to VanEck Vectors Biotech ETF, VanEck Vectors Pharmaceutical ETF, VanEck Vectors Retail ETF and VanEck Vectors Semiconductor ETF), 0.55% (with respect to VanEck Vectors

Environmental Services ETF and VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF) and 0.65% (with respect to VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF) of its average daily net assets per year.

Each Fund is responsible for all of its expenses, including the investment advisory fees, costs of transfer agency, custody, legal, audit and other services, interest, taxes, any distribution fees or expenses, offering fees or expenses and extraordinary expenses.

**Manager of Managers Structure.** With respect to VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF, the Adviser and the Trust may rely on an exemptive order (the Order ) from the SEC that permits the Adviser to enter into investment sub-advisory agreements with unaffiliated sub-advisers without obtaining shareholder approval. The Adviser, subject to the review and approval of the Board of Trustees, may select one or more sub-advisers for the Fund and supervise, monitor and evaluate the performance of each sub-adviser.

The Order also permits the Adviser, subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees, to replace sub-advisers and amend investment sub-advisory agreements, including applicable fee arrangements, without shareholder approval whenever the Adviser and the Board of Trustees believe such action will benefit the Fund and its shareholders. The Adviser thus would have the responsibility (subject to the oversight of the Board of Trustees) to recommend the hiring and replacement of sub-advisers as well as the discretion to terminate any sub-adviser and reallocate the Fund's assets for management among any other sub-adviser(s) and itself. This means that the Adviser would be able to reduce the sub-advisory fees and retain a larger

## MANAGEMENT OF THE FUNDS (continued)

portion of the management fee, or increase the sub-advisory fees and retain a smaller portion of the management fee. The Adviser would compensate each sub-adviser out of its management fee.

**Administrator, Custodian and Transfer Agent.** Van Eck Associates Corporation is the administrator for the Funds (the Administrator), and The Bank of New York Mellon is the custodian of the Funds' assets and provides transfer agency and fund accounting services to the Funds. The Administrator is responsible for certain clerical, recordkeeping and/or bookkeeping services which are provided pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement.

**Distributor.** Van Eck Securities Corporation is the distributor of the Shares. The Distributor will not distribute Shares in less than Creation Units, and does not maintain a secondary market in the Shares. The Shares are traded in the secondary market.

## PORTFOLIO MANAGERS

The portfolio managers who currently share joint responsibility for the day-to-day management of each Fund's portfolio are Hao Hung (Peter) Liao and George Chao. Mr. Liao has been employed by the Adviser since the summer of 2004. Mr. Chao has been employed by the Adviser since December 2007. Prior to joining the Adviser, he served as Controller of Operations Administrations Division and Corporate Safety (September 2006 to December 2007) for United Airlines. Messrs. Liao and Chao also serve as portfolio managers for certain other investment companies and pooled investment vehicles managed by the Adviser. See the Funds' SAI for additional information about the portfolio managers' compensation, other accounts managed by the portfolio managers and their respective ownership of Shares of each Fund.



**SHAREHOLDER INFORMATION****DETERMINATION OF NAV**

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, including the management fee, are accrued daily and taken into account for purposes of determining NAV. The NAV of each Fund is determined each business day as of the close of trading (ordinarily 4:00 p.m., Eastern time) on the relevant Exchange.

The values of each Fund's portfolio securities are based on the securities' closing prices on the markets on which the securities trade, when available. Due to the time differences between the United States and certain countries in which certain Funds invest, securities on these exchanges may not trade at times when Shares of the Fund will trade. In the absence of a last reported sales price, or if no sales were reported, and for other assets for which market quotes are not readily available, values may be based on quotes obtained from a quotation reporting system, established market makers or by an outside independent pricing service. Debt instruments with remaining maturities of more than 60 days are valued at the evaluated mean price provided by an outside independent pricing service. If an outside independent pricing service is unable to provide a valuation, the instrument is valued at the mean of the highest bid and the lowest asked quotes obtained from one or more brokers or dealers selected by the Adviser. Prices obtained by an outside independent pricing service may use information provided by market makers or estimates of market values obtained from yield data related to investments or securities with similar characteristics and may use a computerized grid matrix of securities and its evaluations in determining what it believes is the fair value of the portfolio securities. Short-term debt instruments having a maturity of 60 days or less are valued at amortized cost. 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. If a market quotation for a security or other asset is not readily available or the Adviser believes it does not otherwise accurately reflect the market value of the security or asset at the time a Fund calculates its NAV, the security or asset will be fair valued by the Adviser in accordance with the Trust's valuation policies and procedures approved by the Board of Trustees. Each Fund may also use fair value pricing in a variety of circumstances, including but not limited to, situations when the value of a security in the Fund's portfolio has been materially affected by events occurring after the close of the market on which the security is principally traded (such as a corporate action or other news that may materially affect the price of a security) or trading in a security has been suspended or halted. In addition, each Fund that holds foreign equity securities currently expects that it will fair value certain of the foreign equity securities held by the Fund each day the Fund calculates its NAV, except those securities principally traded on exchanges that close at the same time the Fund calculates its NAV.

Accordingly, a Fund's NAV is expected to reflect certain portfolio securities' fair values rather than their market prices at the time the exchanges on which they principally trade close. Fair value pricing involves subjective judgments and it is possible that a fair value determination for a security or other asset is materially different than the value that could be realized upon the sale of such security or asset. In addition, fair value pricing could result in a difference between the prices used to calculate a Fund's NAV and the prices used by such Fund's Index. This may adversely affect a Fund's ability to track its Index. With respect to securities that are principally traded on foreign exchanges, the value of a Fund's portfolio securities may change on days when you will not be able to purchase or sell your Shares.

**INTRADAY VALUE**

The trading prices of the Funds' Shares in the secondary market generally differ from the Funds' daily NAV and are affected by market forces such as the supply of and demand for Fund Shares and underlying securities held by each

Fund, economic conditions and other factors. Information regarding the intraday value of the Funds' Shares ( IIV ) is disseminated every 15 seconds throughout each trading day by NYSE Arca, NASDAQ or by market data vendors or other information providers. The IIV is based on the current market value of the securities and/or cash required to be deposited in exchange for a Creation Unit. The IIV does not necessarily reflect the precise composition of the current portfolio of securities held by each Fund at a particular point in time or the best possible valuation of the current portfolio. Therefore, the IIV should not be viewed as a real-time update of the Funds' NAV, which is computed only once a day. The IIV is generally determined by using current market quotations and/or price quotations obtained from broker-dealers and other market intermediaries that may trade in the portfolio securities held by each Fund and valuations based on current market rates. The quotations and/or valuations of certain Fund holdings may not be updated during U.S. trading hours if such holdings do not trade in the United States. Each Fund is not involved in, or responsible for, the calculation or dissemination of the IIV and makes no warranty as to its accuracy.

#### **RULE 144A AND OTHER UNREGISTERED SECURITIES**

An AP (*i.e.*, a person eligible to place orders with the Distributor to create or redeem Creation Units of a Fund) that is not a qualified institutional buyer, as such term is defined under Rule 144A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended ( Securities Act ), will not be able to receive, as part of a redemption, restricted securities eligible for resale under Rule 144A or other unregistered securities.

**SHAREHOLDER INFORMATION (continued)****BUYING AND SELLING EXCHANGE-TRADED SHARES**

The Shares of the Funds are listed on NYSE Arca or NASDAQ. If you buy or sell Shares in the secondary market, you will incur customary brokerage commissions and charges and may pay some or all of the spread, which is any difference between the bid price and the ask price. The spread varies over time for a Fund's Shares based on the Fund's trading volume and market liquidity, and is generally lower if the Funds have high trading volume and market liquidity, and generally higher if the Funds have little trading volume and market liquidity (which is often the case for funds that are newly launched or small in size). In times of severe market disruption or low trading volume in a Fund's Shares, this spread can increase significantly. It is anticipated that the Shares will trade in the secondary market at prices that may differ to varying degrees from the NAV of the Shares. During periods of disruptions to creations and redemptions or the existence of extreme market volatility, the market prices of Shares are more likely to differ significantly from the Shares' NAV.

The Depository Trust Company ( DTC ) serves as securities depository for the Shares. (The Shares may be held only in book-entry form; stock certificates will not be issued.) DTC, or its nominee, is the record or registered owner of all outstanding Shares. Beneficial ownership of Shares will be shown on the records of DTC or its participants (described below). Beneficial owners of Shares are not entitled to have Shares registered in their names, will not receive or be entitled to receive physical delivery of certificates in definitive form and are not considered the registered holder thereof. Accordingly, to exercise any rights of a holder of Shares, each beneficial owner must rely on the procedures of: (i) DTC; (ii) DTC Participants, *i.e.*, securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and certain other organizations, some of whom (and/or their representatives) own DTC; and (iii) Indirect Participants, *i.e.*, brokers, dealers, banks and trust companies that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a DTC Participant, either directly or indirectly, through which such beneficial owner holds its interests. The Trust understands that under existing industry practice, in the event the Trust requests any action of holders of Shares, or a beneficial owner desires to take any action that DTC, as the record owner of all outstanding Shares, is entitled to take, DTC would authorize the DTC Participants to take such action and that the DTC Participants would authorize the Indirect Participants and beneficial owners acting through such DTC Participants to take such action and would otherwise act upon the instructions of beneficial owners owning through them. As described above, the Trust recognizes DTC or its nominee as the owner of all Shares for all purposes. For more information, see the section entitled "Book Entry Only System" in the Funds' SAI.

Each Exchange is open for trading Monday through Friday and is closed on weekends and the following holidays: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Presidents' Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. Because non-U.S. exchanges may be open on days when a Fund does not price its Shares, the value of the securities in the Fund's portfolio may change on days when shareholders will not be able to purchase or sell a Fund's Shares.

The right of redemption may be suspended or the date of payment postponed (1) for any period during which the NYSE Arca or NASDAQ, as applicable, is closed (other than customary weekend and holiday closings); (2) for any period during which trading on the NYSE Arca or NASDAQ, as applicable, is suspended or restricted; (3) for any period during which an emergency exists as a result of which disposal of the Shares of a Fund or determination of its NAV is not reasonably practicable; or (4) in such other circumstance as is permitted by the SEC.

**Market Timing and Related Matters.** The Funds impose no restrictions on the frequency of purchases and redemptions. Frequent purchases and redemptions of Fund Shares may attempt to take advantage of a potential

arbitrage opportunity presented by a lag between a change in the value of a Fund's portfolio securities after the close of the primary markets for a Fund's portfolio securities and the reflection of that change in a Fund's NAV (market timing). The Board of Trustees considered the nature of each Fund (*i.e.*, a fund whose shares are expected to trade intraday), that the Adviser monitors the trading activity of APs for patterns of abusive trading, that the Funds reserve the right to reject orders that may be disruptive to the management of or otherwise not in the Funds' best interests, and that each Fund may fair value certain of its securities. Given this structure, the Board of Trustees determined that it is not necessary to impose restrictions on the frequency of purchases and redemptions for the Funds at the present time.

## DISTRIBUTIONS

**Net Investment Income and Capital Gains.** As a shareholder of a Fund, you are entitled to your share of such Fund's distributions of net investment income and net realized capital gains on its investments. Each Fund pays out substantially all of its net earnings to its shareholders as distributions.

Each Fund typically earns income dividends from stocks and interest from debt securities. These amounts, net of expenses, are typically passed along to Fund shareholders as dividends from net investment income. The Fund realizes capital gains or losses whenever it sells securities. Net capital gains are distributed to shareholders as capital gain distributions. Distributions from the Fund's net investment income, including net short-term capital gains, if any, are taxable to you as ordinary income. Any long-term capital gains distributions you receive from the Fund are taxable as long-term capital gain.

Net investment income, if any, is typically distributed to shareholders quarterly for VanEck Vectors Pharmaceutical ETF. Net investment income, if any, is typically distributed to shareholders at least annually for all other Funds while net realized capital gains, if any, are also typically distributed to shareholders at least annually. Dividends may be declared and paid more frequently to improve index tracking or to comply with the distribution requirements of the Internal Revenue Code. In addition, in situations where a Fund acquires investment securities after the beginning of a dividend period, a Fund may elect to distribute at least annually amounts representing the full dividend yield net of expenses on the underlying investment securities, as if the Fund owned the underlying investment securities for the entire dividend period. If a Fund so elects, some portion of each distribution may result in a return of capital, which, for tax purposes, is treated as a return of your investment in Shares. Record shareholders will be notified regarding the portion of the distribution which represents a return of capital.

Distributions in cash may be reinvested automatically in additional Shares of a Fund only if the broker through which you purchased Shares makes such option available.

## TAX INFORMATION

As with any investment, you should consider how your Fund investment will be taxed. The tax information in this Prospectus is provided as general information. You should consult your own tax professional about the tax consequences of an investment in a Fund, including the possible application of foreign, state and local taxes. Unless your investment in a Fund is through a tax-exempt entity or tax-deferred retirement account, such as a 401(k) plan, you need to be aware of the possible tax consequences when: (i) the Fund makes distributions, (ii) you sell Shares in the secondary market or (iii) you create or redeem Creation Units.

**Taxes on Distributions.** As noted above, each Fund expects to distribute net investment income, if any, at least annually (except for VanEck Vectors Pharmaceutical ETF, which expects to distribute net investment income, if any, at least quarterly), and any net realized long-term or short-term capital gains, if any, annually. Each Fund may also pay a special distribution at any time to comply with U.S. federal tax requirements.

In general, your distributions are subject to U.S. federal income tax when they are paid, whether you take them in cash or reinvest them in the Fund. Distributions of net investment income, including any net short-term gains, if any, are generally taxable as ordinary income. Whether distributions of capital gains represent long-term or short-term capital gains is determined by how long the Fund owned the investments that generated them, rather than how long you have owned your Shares. Distributions of net short-term capital gains in excess of net long term capital losses, if any, are generally taxable as ordinary income. Distributions of net long-term capital gains in excess of net short-term capital losses, if any, that are properly reported as capital gain dividends are generally taxable as long-term capital gains. Long-term capital gains of a non-corporate shareholder are generally taxable at a maximum rate of 15% or 20%, depending on whether the shareholder's income exceeds certain threshold amounts.

The Funds may receive dividends, the distribution of which a Fund may report as qualified dividends. In the event that a Fund receives such a dividend and designates the distribution of such dividend as a qualified dividend, the dividend may be taxed at the maximum capital gains rates of 15% or 20%, provided holding period and other requirements are met at both the shareholder and the Fund level. It is not expected that any significant portion of a Fund's distributions will be eligible for qualified dividend treatment.

Distributions in excess of a Fund's current and accumulated earnings and profits are treated as a tax-free return of your investment to the extent of your basis in the Shares, and generally as capital gain thereafter. A return of capital, which for tax purposes is treated as a return of your investment, reduces your basis in Shares, thus reducing any loss or

increasing any gain on a subsequent taxable disposition of Shares. A distribution will reduce a Fund's NAV per Share and may be taxable to you as ordinary income or capital gain even though, from an economic standpoint, the distribution may constitute a return of capital.

Dividends, interest and gains from non-U.S. investments of a Fund may give rise to withholding and other taxes imposed by foreign countries. Tax conventions between certain countries and the United States may, in some cases, reduce or eliminate such taxes.

If more than 50% of a Fund's total assets at the end of its taxable year consist of foreign securities, the Fund may elect to pass through to its investors certain foreign income taxes paid by the Fund, with the result that each investor will (i) include in gross income, even though not actually received, the investor's pro rata share of the Fund's foreign income taxes, and (ii) either deduct (in calculating U.S. taxable income) or credit (in calculating U.S. federal income), subject to certain holding period and other limitations, the investor's pro rata share of the Fund's foreign income taxes. It is expected that more than 50% of VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF's and VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF's assets will consist of securities that are foreign-listed companies and/or foreign-domiciled companies.

**Backup Withholding.** Each Fund may be required to withhold a percentage of your distributions and proceeds if you have not provided a taxpayer identification number or social security number or otherwise established a basis for exemption from backup withholding. The backup withholding rate for individuals is currently 28%. This is not an additional tax and may be

## SHAREHOLDER INFORMATION (continued)

refunded, or credited against your U.S. federal income tax liability, provided certain required information is furnished to the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS").

**Taxes on the Sale or Cash Redemption of Exchange Listed Shares.** Currently, any capital gain or loss realized upon a sale of Shares is generally treated as long-term capital gain or loss if the Shares have been held for more than one year and as a short-term capital gain or loss if held for one year or less. However, any capital loss on a sale of Shares held for six months or less is treated as long-term capital loss to the extent that capital gain dividends were paid with respect to such Shares. The ability to deduct capital losses may be limited. To the extent that a Fund shareholder's Shares are redeemed for cash, this is normally treated as a sale for tax purposes.

**Taxes on Creations and Redemptions of Creation Units.** A person who exchanges securities for Creation Units generally will recognize a gain or loss. The gain or loss will be equal to the difference between the market value of the Creation Units at the time of exchange and the sum of the exchanger's aggregate basis in the securities surrendered and the amount of any cash paid for such Creation Units. A person who exchanges Creation Units for securities will generally recognize a gain or loss equal to the difference between the exchanger's basis in the Creation Units and the sum of the aggregate market value of the securities received. The IRS, however, may assert that a loss realized upon an exchange of primarily securities for Creation Units cannot be deducted currently under the rules governing wash sales, or on the basis that there has been no significant change in economic position. Persons exchanging securities for Creation Units or redeeming Creation Units should consult their own tax adviser with respect to whether wash sale rules apply and when a loss might be deductible and the tax treatment of any creation or redemption transaction.

Under current U.S. federal income tax laws, any capital gain or loss realized upon a redemption (or creation) of Creation Units is generally treated as long-term capital gain or loss if the Shares (or securities surrendered) have been held for more than one year and as a short-term capital gain or loss if the Shares (or securities surrendered) have been held for one year or less.

If you create or redeem Creation Units, you will be sent a confirmation statement showing how many Shares you created or sold and at what price.

**Medicare Tax.** An additional 3.8% Medicare tax is imposed on certain net investment income (including ordinary dividends and capital gain distributions received from a Fund and net gains from redemptions or other taxable dispositions of Fund Shares) of U.S. individuals, estates and trusts to the extent that such person's modified adjusted gross income (in the case of an individual) or adjusted gross income (in the case of an estate or trust) exceeds certain threshold amounts.

**Non-U.S. Shareholders.** If you are not a citizen or resident alien of the United States or if you are a non-U.S. entity, the Funds' ordinary income dividends (which include distributions of net short-term capital gains) will generally be subject to a 30% U.S. withholding tax, unless a lower treaty rate applies or unless such income is effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business.

As part of the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act, ( FATCA ), a Fund may be required to withhold 30% on certain types of U.S. sourced income (e.g., dividends, interest, and other types of passive income), and after January 1, 2019, proceeds from the sale or other disposition of property producing U.S. sourced income and certain capital gain dividends to (i) foreign financial institutions ( FFIs ), including non-U.S. investment funds, unless they agree to collect and disclose to the IRS information regarding their direct and indirect U.S. account holders and (ii) certain

nonfinancial foreign entities ( NFFEs ), unless they certify certain information regarding their direct and indirect U.S. owners. To avoid possible withholding, FFIs will need to enter into agreements with the IRS which state that they will provide the IRS information, including the names, account numbers and balances, addresses and taxpayer identification numbers of U.S. account holders and comply with due diligence procedures with respect to the identification of U.S. accounts as well as agree to withhold tax on certain types of withholdable payments made to non-compliant foreign financial institutions or to applicable foreign account holders who fail to provide the required information to the IRS, or similar account information and required documentation to a local revenue authority, should an applicable intergovernmental agreement be implemented. NFFEs will need to provide certain information regarding each substantial U.S. owner or certifications of no substantial U.S. ownership, unless certain exceptions apply, or agree to provide certain information to the IRS.

While some parts of the FATCA rules have not been finalized, a Fund may be subject to the FATCA withholding obligation, and also will be required to perform due diligence reviews to classify foreign entity investors for FATCA purposes. Investors are required to agree to provide information necessary to allow a Fund to comply with the FATCA rules. If a Fund is required to withhold amounts from payments pursuant to FATCA, investors will receive distributions that are reduced by such withholding amounts.

Non-U.S. shareholders are advised to consult their tax advisors with respect to the particular tax consequences to them of an investment in the Funds, including the possible applicability of the U.S. estate tax.

The foregoing discussion summarizes some of the consequences under current U.S. federal income tax law of an investment in a Fund. It is not a substitute for personal tax advice. Consult your own tax advisor about the potential tax consequences of an investment in a Fund under all applicable tax laws.



## **INDEX PROVIDERS**

The Biotech Index, Gaming Index, Pharmaceutical Index, Retail Index and Semiconductor Index are published by MV Index Solutions GmbH ( MVIS ), which is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Adviser. The Environmental Services Index is published by NYSE. The Generic Drugs Index is published by Indxx.

MVIS, Indxx, and NYSE are referred to herein as the Index Providers. The Index Providers do not sponsor, endorse, or promote the Funds and bear no liability with respect to the Funds or any security.

## **MVIS US LISTED BIOTECH 25 INDEX**

The Biotech Index is a rules based, modified capitalization weighted, float adjusted index intended to give investors a means of tracking the overall performance of companies involved in the biotech industry. Biotechnology includes research (including research contractors), development as well as production, marketing and sales of drugs based on genetic analysis and diagnostic equipment (excluding pharmacies).

To be initially eligible for the Biotech Index, (i) companies must generate at least 50% of their revenues from (or, in certain circumstances, have at least 50% of their assets related to) biotechnology (as defined above) and (ii) stocks must have a market capitalization of greater than \$150 million as of the end of the month prior to the month in which a rebalancing date occurs. The Biotech Index includes common stocks and depositary receipts of U.S.-listed companies that meet the eligibility requirements described above.

As of December 31, 2016, the Biotech Index included 25 securities of companies with a market capitalization range of approximately \$2.50 billion to \$108.77 billion and a weighted average market capitalization of \$2.13 billion. These amounts are subject to change.

The Biotech Index is the exclusive property of MVIS (a wholly owned subsidiary of the Adviser), which has contracted with Solactive AG to maintain and calculate the Biotech Index. Solactive AG uses its best efforts to ensure that the Biotech Index is calculated correctly. Irrespective of its obligations towards MVIS, Solactive AG has no obligation to point out errors in the Biotech Index to third parties. VanEck Vectors Biotech ETF is not sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by MVIS and MVIS makes no representation regarding the advisability of investing in the VanEck Vectors Biotech ETF.

The Biotech Index is reconstituted semi-annually and rebalanced quarterly.

## NYSE ARCA ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES INDEX

The Environmental Services Index is a rules based, modified equal dollar weighted index intended to give investors a means of tracking the overall performance of the common stocks and depositary receipts of U.S. exchange-listed companies involved in environmental services. The Environmental Services Index is comprised of equity securities and depositary receipts of companies that engage in business involved in management, removal and storage of consumer waste and industrial by-products and related environmental services, including waste collection, transfer and disposal services, recycling services, soil remediation, wastewater management and environmental consulting services.

To be eligible for the Environmental Services Index, stocks must have a market capitalization greater than \$100 million, three-month trading price greater than \$3.00, and three-month daily average traded value greater than \$1 million. Components will be removed from the Environmental Services Index during the quarterly review, if the market capitalization falls below \$75 million or the daily average traded value fall below \$750 thousand.

As of December 31, 2016, the Environmental Services Index included 22 securities of companies with a market capitalization range of approximately \$215.28 million to \$31.34 billion and a weighted average market capitalization of \$8.66 billion. These amounts are subject to change.

The Environmental Services Index is weighted based on the market capitalization of each of the component securities, which are applied in conjunction with the scheduled quarterly adjustments to the Environmental Services Index: (1) the top four components, ranked by market capitalization, are equally weighted to collectively represent 40% of the Environmental Services Index by weight; (2) the bottom five components, ranked by market capitalization, are equally weighted to collectively represent 10% of the Environmental Services Index by weight; and (3) the remaining components are equally weighted to collectively to represent 50% of the Environmental Services Index.

The Environmental Services Index is reviewed quarterly so that the Environmental Services Index components continue to represent the universe of companies involved in environmental services relating to consumer and industrial waste management. NYSE may at any time and from time to time change the number of securities comprising the group by adding or deleting one or more securities, or replacing one more securities contained in the group with one or more substitute securities of its choice, if in the discretion of the NYSE Index Committee such addition, deletion or substitution is necessary or appropriate to maintain the quality and/or character of the Environmental Services Index. Changes to the Environmental Services Index compositions and/or the component share weights in the Environmental Services Index typically take effect after the close of trading one business day prior to the last business day of each calendar quarter month in connection with the quarterly index rebalance.

## **MVIS GLOBAL GAMING INDEX**

The Gaming Index is a rules based, modified capitalization weighted, float adjusted index intended to give investors a means of tracking the overall performance of companies involved in the casino and gaming industry. Gaming includes casinos and casino hotels, sports betting (including internet gambling and racetracks) and lottery services as well as gaming services, gaming technology and gaming equipment.

To be initially eligible for the Gaming Index, (i) companies must generate at least 50% of their revenues from (or, in certain circumstances, have at least 50% of their assets related to) gaming (as defined above) and (ii) stocks must have a market capitalization of greater than \$150 million as of the end of the month prior to the month in which a rebalancing date occurs. The Gaming Index includes common stocks and depositary receipts of companies that meet the eligibility requirements described above.

As of December 31, 2016, the Gaming Index included 39 securities of companies with a market capitalization range of approximately \$889.43 million to \$42.45 billion and a weighted average market capitalization of \$303.55 million. These amounts are subject to change.

The Gaming Index is the exclusive property of MVIS (a wholly owned subsidiary of the Adviser), which has contracted with Solactive AG to maintain and calculate the Gaming Index. Solactive AG uses its best efforts to ensure that the Gaming Index is calculated correctly. Irrespective of its obligations towards MVIS, Solactive AG has no obligation to point out errors in the Gaming Index to third parties. VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF is not sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by MVIS and MVIS makes no representation regarding the advisability of investing in the VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF.

The Gaming Index is reconstituted and rebalanced quarterly.

## INDXX GLOBAL GENERICS & NEW PHARMA INDEX

The Generic Drugs Index is a rules based, modified capitalization weighted index. The Generic Drugs Index includes exchange-listed companies, on a global basis, that derive a significant proportion (as determined by Indxx, LLC) of their revenues (or that have the potential to derive a significant proportion of their revenues) from the generic drug industry, or that have a primary business focus on the generic drug industry. A company is deemed to derive a significant proportion of its revenue from the generic drug industry if (i), according to a public filing, it generates a majority of its revenue from the sale of generic drugs, (ii), in the absence of a revenue segment breakdown, it has stated its primary business to be the development and production of generic drugs or (iii) has a drug pipeline composed of generic drug filings. The generic drug industry, as defined by Indxx, LLC, includes any company involved in the research, development, production, manufacturing or sale of generics, supergenerics, biosimilars, biobetters or their active pharmaceutical ingredients ( APIs ).

Health care equipment companies having a focus on injectable generics, biosimilars and biobetters are eligible for inclusion in the Generic Drugs Index. Companies primarily involved in API manufacturing, and contract manufacturing organization and contract research organization services are eligible for inclusion in the Generic Drugs Index. Companies focused primarily in manufacturing biotech APIs are also eligible for inclusion in the Generic Drugs Index.

To be eligible for the Generic Drugs Index, constituent stocks must have a market capitalization of greater than \$1 billion as of the last Friday in February and August. Constituent stocks whose market capitalizations fall below \$1 billion on the last Friday of February and August will no longer be eligible to remain in the Generic Drugs Index. Stocks must have an average daily trading volume of \$2 million per day over the last six months and traded on 90% of the days over the last three months as of the last Friday of February and August to be eligible for inclusion in the Generic Drugs Index.

As of December 31, 2016, the Generic Drugs Index included 78 securities of companies with a minimum market capitalization of \$660 million and a weighted average market capitalization of \$10.31 billion. These amounts are subject to change. Effective after market close on March 17, 2017, the Generic Drugs Index will remove from its existing portfolio any companies that are not part of the 40 largest companies (by market capitalization) eligible for inclusion in the Generic Drugs Index. These changes will occur during the semi-annual rebalancing and reconstitution process. To reduce portfolio turnover, the Generic Drugs Index employs a buffer rule under which a company that is no longer among the 40 largest companies (by market capitalization) will not be eliminated from the portfolio during the semi-annual rebalancing and reconstitution process if it remains among the 50 largest companies (by market capitalization) (a Legacy Company ). A company that is newly among the 40 largest companies (by market capitalization) during the semi-annual rebalancing and reconstitution process will not replace the Legacy Company in the portfolio.

The Generic Drugs Index is calculated using a capitalization weighting methodology, which is modified so as to ensure compliance with the diversification requirements of Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code. The Generic Drugs Index is rebalanced and reconstituted semi-annually.

The Generic Drugs Index is the exclusive property of Indxx, LLC. Indxx, LLC uses its best efforts to ensure that the Generic Drugs Index is calculated correctly. Indxx, LLC has no obligation to point out errors in the Generic Drugs Index to third parties. VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF is not sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by Indxx, LLC and Indxx, LLC makes no representation regarding the advisability of investing in VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF.



## **MVIS US LISTED PHARMACEUTICAL 25 INDEX**

The Pharmaceutical Index is a rules based, modified capitalization weighted, float adjusted index intended to give investors a means of tracking the overall performance of companies involved in the pharmaceutical industry. Pharmaceuticals include companies engaged primarily in research (including research contractors) and development as well as production, marketing and sales of pharmaceuticals (excluding pharmacies).

To be initially eligible for the Pharmaceutical Index, (i) companies must generate at least 50% of their revenues from (or, in certain circumstances, have at least 50% of their assets related to) pharmaceuticals (as defined above) and (ii) stocks must have a market capitalization of greater than \$150 million as of the end of the month prior to the month in which a rebalancing date occurs. The Pharmaceutical Index includes common stocks and depositary receipts of U.S.-listed companies that meet the eligibility requirements described above.

As of December 31, 2016, the Pharmaceutical Index included 25 securities of companies with a market capitalization range of approximately \$2.73 billion to \$313.43 billion and a weighted average market capitalization of \$4.40 billion. These amounts are subject to change.

The Pharmaceutical Index is the exclusive property of MVIS (a wholly owned subsidiary of the Adviser), which has contracted with Solactive AG to maintain and calculate the Pharmaceutical Index. Solactive AG uses its best efforts to ensure that the Pharmaceutical Index is calculated correctly. Irrespective of its obligations towards MVIS, Solactive AG has no obligation to point out errors in the Pharmaceutical Index to third parties. VanEck Vectors Pharmaceutical ETF is not sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by MVIS and MVIS makes no representation regarding the advisability of investing in the VanEck Vectors Pharmaceutical ETF.

The Pharmaceutical Index is reconstituted semi-annually and rebalanced quarterly.

## **MVIS US LISTED RETAIL 25 INDEX**

The Retail Index is a rules based, modified capitalization weighted, float adjusted index intended to give investors a means of tracking the overall performance of companies involved in the retail industry. Retail includes companies engaged primarily in retail distribution; wholesalers; online, direct mail and TV retailers; multi-line retailers; specialty retailers, such as apparel, automotive, computer and electronics, drug, home improvement and home furnishing retailers; and food and other staples retailers.

To be initially eligible for the Retail Index, (i) companies must generate at least 50% of their revenues from (or, in certain circumstances, have at least 50% of their assets related to) retail (as defined above) and (ii) stocks must have a market capitalization of greater than \$150 million as of the end of the month prior to the month in which a rebalancing date occurs. The Retail Index includes common stocks and depository receipts of U.S.-listed companies that meet the eligibility requirements described above.

As of December 31, 2016, the Retail Index included 25 securities of companies with a market capitalization range of approximately \$3.18 billion to \$356.31 billion and a weighted average market capitalization of \$4.50 billion. These amounts are subject to change.

The Retail Index is the exclusive property of MVIS (a wholly owned subsidiary of the Adviser), which has contracted with Solactive AG to maintain and calculate the Retail Index. Solactive AG uses its best efforts to ensure that the Retail Index is calculated correctly. Irrespective of its obligations towards MVIS, Solactive AG has no obligation to point out errors in the Retail Index to third parties. VanEck Vectors Retail ETF is not sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by MVIS and MVIS makes no representation regarding the advisability of investing in the VanEck Vectors Retail ETF.

The Retail Index is reconstituted semi-annually and rebalanced quarterly.



## **MVIS US LISTED SEMICONDUCTOR 25 INDEX**

The Semiconductor Index is a rules based, modified capitalization weighted, float adjusted index intended to give investors a means of tracking the overall performance of companies involved in the semiconductor industry. Semiconductors include companies engaged primarily in the production of semiconductors and semiconductor equipment.

To be initially eligible for the Semiconductor Index, (i) companies must generate at least 50% of their revenues from (or, in certain circumstances, have at least 50% of their assets related to) semiconductors (as defined above) and (ii) stocks must have a market capitalization of greater than \$150 million as of the end of the month prior to the month in which a rebalancing date occurs. The Semiconductor Index includes common stocks and depositary receipts of U.S.-listed companies that meet the eligibility requirements described above.

As of December 31, 2016, the Semiconductor Index included 25 securities of companies with a market capitalization range of between \$3.16 billion to \$171.88 billion and a weighted average market capitalization of \$2.83 billion. These amounts are subject to change.

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## FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The financial highlights tables which follow are intended to help you understand the Funds' financial performance for the past five years or as indicated. Certain information reflects financial results for a single Fund share. The total returns in the table represent that rate that an investor would have earned (or lost) on an investment in a Fund (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and distributions). This information has been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, the Trust's independent registered public accounting firm, whose report, along with the Funds' financial statements, are included in the Funds' Annual Report, which is available upon request.

**FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS (continued)****For a share outstanding throughout each period:**

|   | <b>Biotech ETF #</b>                    |             |             |             |                        |
|---|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------------------|
|   | <b>For the Year Ended September 30,</b> |             |             |             | <b>For the Period</b>  |
|   | <b>2016</b>                             | <b>2015</b> | <b>2014</b> | <b>2013</b> | <b>December 20,</b>    |
|   |   |             |             |             | <b>2011(a) through</b> |
|   |   |             |             |             | <b>September 30,</b>   |
|   |   |             |             |             | <b>2012</b>            |
| Net asset value, beginning of period            | \$ 114.45                               | \$ 105.84   | \$ 82.74    | \$ 54.07    | \$ 35.28               |
| Income from investment operations:              |   |             |             |             |                        |
| Net investment income (loss)                    | 0.33                                    | 0.24        | (0.03)      | 0.01        | 0.01                   |
| Net realized and unrealized gain on investments | 0.81                                    | 8.37        | 23.13       | 28.85       | 18.78                  |
| Total from investment operations                | 1.14                                    | 8.61        | 23.10       | 28.86       | 18.79                  |
| Less:   |   |             |             |             |                        |
| Dividends from net investment income            | (0.34)                                  |             | (f)         | (0.02)      |                        |
| Distributions from net realized capital gains   |   |             |             | (0.17)      |                        |
| Total dividends and distributions               | (0.34)                                  |             |             | (0.19)      |                        |
| Net asset value, end of period                  | \$ 115.25                               | \$ 114.45   | \$ 105.84   | \$ 82.74    | \$ 54.07               |
| Total return (b)                                | 0.97%                                   | 8.13%       | 27.92%      | 53.55%      | 53.26%(c)              |

**Ratios/Supplemental Data**

|  |            |            |            |            |            |
|--|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Net assets, end of period (000 s)                  | \$ 598,914 | \$ 651,978 | \$ 539,423 | \$ 434,089 | \$ 132,278 |
| Ratio of gross expenses to average net assets      | 0.40%      | 0.40%      | 0.41%      | 0.41%      | 0.44%(d)   |
| Ratio of net expenses to average net assets        | 0.35%      | 0.35%      | 0.35%      | 0.35%      | 0.35%(d)   |
| Ratio of net expenses, excluding interest expense, | 0.35%      | 0.35%      | 0.35%      | 0.35%      | 0.35%(d)   |

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to average net assets

|  |       |       |         |       |          |
|--|-------|-------|---------|-------|----------|
| Ratio of net investment income (loss) to average net assets. | 0.29% | 0.18% | (0.03)% | 0.01% | 0.03%(d) |
| Portfolio turnover rate (e)                                  | 41%   | 12%   | 11%     | 0%    | 12%(c)   |

|  | Environmental Services ETF<br>For the Year Ended September 30, |          |          |          | For the Period<br>January 1,<br>2012 through<br>September 30,<br>2012 | For the<br>Year Ended<br>December 31,<br>2011 |
|--|--|----------|----------|----------|---|---|
|  | 2016   | 2015     | 2014     | 2013     |   |   |
| Net asset value, beginning of period                   | \$ 58.37   | \$ 64.57 | \$ 62.43 | \$ 49.65 | \$ 46.61  | \$ 51.54                                      |
| Income from investment operations:                     |  |          |          |          |   |   |
| Net investment income                                  | 0.63   | 0.73     | 1.00     | 0.91     | 0.50  | 0.62  |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments | 11.36  | (5.88)   | 1.89     | 12.66    | 2.54  | (4.93)  |
| Total from investment operations                       | 11.99  | (5.15)   | 2.89     | 13.57    | 3.04  | (4.31)  |
| Less:  |  |          |          |          |   |   |
| Dividends from net investment income                   | (0.68)   | (1.05)   | (0.75)   | (0.79)   |   | (0.62)  |
| Net asset value, end of period                         | \$ 69.68   | \$ 58.37 | \$ 64.57 | \$ 62.43 | \$ 49.65  | \$ 46.61                                      |
| Total return (b)                                       | 20.75%   | (8.18)%  | 4.62%    | 27.67%   | 6.52%(c)  | (8.36)%                                       |

**Ratios/Supplemental Data**

|  |           |           |           |           |           |           |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Net assets, end of period (000 s)  | \$ 17,420 | \$ 14,593 | \$ 16,142 | \$ 18,729 | \$ 19,860 | \$ 23,305 |
| Ratio of gross expenses to average net assets                            | 0.93%     | 1.15%     | 0.92%     | 1.01%     | 1.01%(d)  | 0.83%     |
| Ratio of net expenses to average net assets                              | 0.55%     | 0.55%     | 0.55%     | 0.55%     | 0.55%(d)  | 0.55%     |
| Ratio of net expenses, excluding interest expense, to average net assets | 0.55%     | 0.55%     | 0.55%     | 0.55%     | 0.55%(d)  | 0.55%     |



|  |       |       |       |       |          |       |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------|-------|
| Ratio of net investment income to average net assets | 1.00% | 1.15% | 1.32% | 1.60% | 1.23%(d) | 1.08% |
| Portfolio turnover rate (e)                          | 40%   | 19%   | 13%   | 5%    | 4%(c)    | 1%    |

(a) Commencement of operations

(b) Total return is calculated assuming an initial investment made at the net asset value at the beginning of period, reinvestment of any dividends and distributions at net asset value on the dividend/distributions payment date and a redemption at the net asset value on the last day of the period. The return does not reflect the deduction of taxes that a shareholder would pay on Fund dividends/distributions or the redemption of Fund shares.

(c) Not Annualized

(d) Annualized

(e) Portfolio turnover rates exclude securities received or delivered as a result of processing in-kind capital share transactions.

(f) Amount represents less than \$0.005 per share

# On February 14, 2012, the Fund effected a 3 for 1 share split. Per share data has been adjusted to reflect the share split.

For a share outstanding throughout each period:

|  | <b>Gaming ETF</b>                       |             |             |             | <b>For the Period<br/>January 1,<br/>2012 through<br/>September 30,<br/>2012</b> | <b>For the<br/>Year Ended<br/>December 31,<br/>2011</b> |
|--|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|--|---|
|  | <b>For the Year Ended September 30,</b> |             |             |             |  |   |
|  | <b>2016</b>                             | <b>2015</b> | <b>2014</b> | <b>2013</b> |  |   |
| Net asset value,<br>beginning of period                      | \$ 29.82                                | \$ 43.38    | \$ 47.49    | \$ 34.22    | \$ 30.23   | \$ 31.48  |
| Income from<br>investment<br>operations:                     |   |             |             |             |  |   |
| Net investment<br>income                                     | 0.94(d)                                 | 1.12(a)     | 1.76        | 1.10        | 0.80   | 0.75  |
| Net realized and<br>unrealized gain (loss)<br>on investments | 6.69                                    | (12.80)     | (5.35)      | 13.55       | 3.19   | (1.34)  |
| Total from<br>investment operations                          | 7.63                                    | (11.68)     | (3.59)      | 14.65       | 3.99   | (0.59)  |
| Less:  |   |             |             |             |  |   |
| Dividends from net<br>investment income                      | (1.30)                                  | (1.88)      | (0.52)      | (1.38)      |  | (0.63)  |
| Distributions from net<br>realized capital gains             |   |             |             |             |  | (0.03)  |
| Total dividends and<br>distributions                         | (1.30)                                  | (1.88)      | (0.52)      | (1.38)      |  | (0.66)  |
| Net asset value, end<br>of period                            | \$ 36.15                                | \$ 29.82    | \$ 43.38    | \$ 47.49    | \$ 34.22   | \$ 30.23  |
| Total return (b)   | 26.23%                                  | (27.91)%    | (7.76)%     | 44.14%      | 13.20%(e)  | (1.87)%   |
| <b>Ratios/Supplemental<br/>Data</b>                          |   |             |             |             |  |   |
| Net assets, end of<br>period (000 s)                         | \$ 19,881                               | \$ 23,859   | \$ 43,384   | \$ 56,982   | \$ 59,894  | \$ 96,729   |
| Ratio of gross<br>expenses to average<br>net assets          | 0.93%                                   | 1.00%       | 0.73%       | 0.83%       | 0.78%(f)   | 0.66%   |
|  | 0.67%                                   | 0.66%       | 0.65%       | 0.65%       | 0.66%(f)   | 0.65%   |

|  |       |       |       |       |          |       |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------|-------|
| Ratio of net expenses to average net assets                              |       |       |       |       |          |       |
| Ratio of net expenses, excluding interest expense, to average net assets | 0.65% | 0.65% | 0.65% | 0.65% | 0.65%(f) | 0.65% |
| Ratio of net investment income to average net assets                     | 2.88% | 2.92% | 2.73% | 2.73% | 2.29%(f) | 1.91% |
| Portfolio turnover rate (c)  | 29%   | 27%   | 35%   | 16%   | 18%(e)   | 19%   |

|   |   |
|---|---|
|   | <b>Generic Drugs<br/>ETF<br/>For the Period<br/>January 12,<br/>2016 (a)<br/>through<br/>September 30,<br/>2016</b> |
| Net asset value, beginning of period            | \$ 25.21  |
| Income from investment operations:              |   |
| Net investment income                           | 0.07  |
| Net realized and unrealized loss on investments | (0.92)  |
| Total from investment operations                | (0.85)  |
| Net asset value, end of period                  | \$ 24.36  |
| Total return (b)                                | (3.37)%(e)  |

**Ratios/Supplemental Data**

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Net assets, end of period (000 s)  | \$ 2,436 |
| Ratio of gross expenses to average net assets                            | 5.70%(f) |
| Ratio of net expenses to average net assets                              | 0.55%(f) |
| Ratio of net expenses, excluding interest expense, to average net assets | 0.55%(f) |
| Ratio of net investment income to average net assets                     | 0.39%(f) |
| Portfolio turnover rate (c)  | 47%(e)   |

- (a) Commencement of operations
- (b) Total return is calculated assuming an initial investment made at the net asset value at the beginning of period, reinvestment of any dividends and distributions at net asset value on the dividend/distributions payment date and a redemption at the net asset value on the last day of the period. The return does not reflect the deduction of taxes that a shareholder would pay on Fund dividends/distributions or the redemption of Fund shares.
- (c) Portfolio turnover rates exclude securities received or delivered as a result of processing in-kind capital share transactions.
- (d) Calculated based upon average shares outstanding

- (e) Not Annualized
- (f) Annualized

**FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS (continued)****For a share outstanding throughout each period:**

|  | <b>Pharmaceutical ETF #</b>             |             |             |             |                        |
|--|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------------------|
|  | <b>For the Year Ended September 30,</b> |             |             |             | <b>For the Period</b>  |
|  | <b>2016</b>                             | <b>2015</b> | <b>2014</b> | <b>2013</b> | <b>December 20,</b>    |
|  |   |             |             |             | <b>2011(a) through</b> |
|  |   |             |             |             | <b>September 30,</b>   |
|  |   |             |             |             | <b>2012</b>            |
| Net asset value, beginning of period                                     | \$ 63.01                                | \$ 63.54    | \$ 47.89    | \$ 41.03    | \$ 35.96               |
| Income from investment operations:                                       |   |             |             |             |                        |
| Net investment income  | 1.24(f)                                 | 1.31        | 1.02        | 1.08        | 1.12                   |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments                   | (5.41)                                  | (0.62)      | 15.66       | 7.78        | 3.95                   |
| Total from investment operations   | (4.17)                                  | 0.69        | 16.68       | 8.86        | 5.07                   |
| Less:  |   |             |             |             |                        |
| Dividends from net investment income                                     | (1.40)                                  | (1.22)      | (1.03)      | (2.00)      |                        |
| Net asset value, end of period   | \$ 57.44                                | \$ 63.01    | \$ 63.54    | \$ 47.89    | \$ 41.03               |
| Total return (b)   | (6.72)%                                 | 0.96%       | 35.19%      | 22.44%      | 14.10%(c)              |
| <b>Ratios/Supplemental Data</b>  |   |             |             |             |                        |
| Net assets, end of period (000 s)  | \$ 231,938                              | \$ 314,297  | \$ 405,888  | \$ 241,267  | \$ 173,897             |
| Ratio of gross expenses to average net assets                            | 0.41%                                   | 0.41%       | 0.42%       | 0.43%       | 0.41%(d)               |
| Ratio of net expenses to average net assets                              | 0.35%                                   | 0.36%       | 0.35%       | 0.35%       | 0.35%(d)               |
| Ratio of net expenses, excluding interest expense, to average net assets | 0.35%                                   | 0.35%       | 0.35%       | 0.35%       | 0.35%(d)               |
| Ratio of net investment income to average net assets                     | 2.04%                                   | 1.78%       | 1.85%       | 2.30%       | 2.74%(d)               |
| Portfolio turnover rate (e)  | 25%                                     | 12%         | 14%         | 3%          | 1%(c)                  |

|  | <b>Retail ETF *</b>                     |             |             |             | <b>For the Period</b>  |
|--|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------------------|
|  | <b>For the Year Ended September 30,</b> |             |             |             | <b>December 20,</b>    |
|  |   |             |             |             | <b>2011(a) through</b> |
|  |   |             |             |             | <b>September 30,</b>   |
|  | <b>2016</b>                             | <b>2015</b> | <b>2014</b> | <b>2013</b> | <b>2012</b>            |
| Net asset value, beginning of period                                     | \$ 73.57                                | \$ 62.27    | \$ 55.34    | \$ 44.88    | \$ 37.32               |
| Income from investment operations:                                       |   |             |             |             |                        |
| Net investment income  | 0.93(f)                                 | 1.12(f)     | 0.60        | 0.27        | 0.95                   |
| Net realized and unrealized gain on investments                          | 5.27                                    | 10.47       | 6.94        | 11.04       | 6.63                   |
| Total from investment operations   | 6.20                                    | 11.59       | 7.54        | 11.31       | 7.58                   |
| Less:  |   |             |             |             |                        |
| Dividends from net investment income                                     | (1.75)                                  | (0.29)      | (0.61)      | (0.85)      | (0.02)                 |
| Net asset value, end of period   | \$ 78.02                                | \$ 73.57    | \$ 62.27    | \$ 55.34    | \$ 44.88               |
| Total return (b)   | 8.42%                                   | 18.63%      | 13.65%      | 25.69%      | 20.32%(c)              |
| <b>Ratios/Supplemental Data</b>  |   |             |             |             |                        |
| Net assets, end of period (000 s)\$                                      | 118,706                                 | \$ 203,909  | \$ 66,724   | \$ 42,696   | \$ 21,163              |
| Ratio of gross expenses to average net assets                            | 0.43%                                   | 0.42%       | 0.63%       | 0.69%       | 0.55%(d)               |
| Ratio of net expenses to average net assets                              | 0.35%                                   | 0.35%       | 0.35%       | 0.35%       | 0.35%(d)               |
| Ratio of net expenses, excluding interest expense, to average net assets | 0.35%                                   | 0.35%       | 0.35%       | 0.35%       | 0.35%(d)               |
| Ratio of net investment income to average net assets                     | 1.22%                                   | 1.49%       | 1.23%       | 1.84%       | 1.40%(d)               |
| Portfolio turnover rate (e)  | 9%                                      | 5%          | 3%          | 3%          | 2%(c)                  |

(a) Commencement of operations

(b) Total return is calculated assuming an initial investment made at the net asset value at the beginning of period, reinvestment of any dividends and distributions at net asset value on the dividend/distributions payment date and a redemption at the net asset value on the last day of the period. The return does not reflect the deduction of taxes that a shareholder would pay on Fund dividends/distributions or the redemption of Fund shares.

(c) Not Annualized

(d) Annualized

(e) Portfolio turnover rates exclude securities received or delivered as a result of processing in-kind capital share transactions.

(f) Calculated based upon average shares outstanding

- # On February 14, 2012, the Fund effected a 2 for 1 share split. Per share data has been adjusted to reflect the share split.
- \* On February 14, 2012, the Fund effected a 3 for 1 share split. Per share data has been adjusted to reflect the share split.

For a share outstanding throughout each period:

|   | <b>Semiconductor ETF</b>                |             |             |             |                        |
|---|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------------------|
|   | <b>For the Year Ended September 30,</b> |             |             |             | <b>For the Period</b>  |
|   | <b>2016</b>                             | <b>2015</b> | <b>2014</b> | <b>2013</b> | <b>December 20,</b>    |
|   |   |             |             |             | <b>2011(a) through</b> |
|   |   |             |             |             | <b>September 30,</b>   |
|   |   |             |             |             | <b>2012</b>            |
| Net asset value,<br>beginning of period   | \$ 49.97                                | \$ 51.10    | \$ 39.88    | \$ 31.66    | \$ 29.95               |
| Income from investment<br>operations:   |   |             |             |             |                        |
| Net investment income   | 0.82(b)                                 | 1.08(b)     | 0.62        | 0.72        | 0.56                   |
| Net realized and<br>unrealized gain (loss) on<br>investments                      | 19.67                                   | (1.58)      | 11.26       | 8.20        | 1.15                   |
| Payment from Adviser  | 0.04(g)                                 |             |             |             |                        |
| Total from investment<br>operations   | 20.53                                   | (0.50)      | 11.88       | 8.92        | 1.71                   |
| Less:   |   |             |             |             |                        |
| Dividends from net<br>investment income   | (1.14)                                  | (0.63)      | (0.66)      | (0.70)      |                        |
| Net asset value, end of<br>period   | \$ 69.36                                | \$ 49.97    | \$ 51.10    | \$ 39.88    | \$ 31.66               |
| Total return (c)  | 41.73%(g)                               | (1.09)%     | 30.13%      | 28.70%      | 5.71%(d)               |
| <b>Ratios/Supplemental<br/>Data</b>   |   |             |             |             |                        |
| Net assets, end of period<br>(000 s)  | \$ 577,130                              | \$ 190,923  | \$ 414,959  | \$ 262,017  | \$ 282,397             |
| Ratio of gross expenses<br>to average net assets                                  | 0.41%                                   | 0.41%       | 0.41%       | 0.43%       | 0.40%(e)               |
| Ratio of net expenses to<br>average net assets                                    | 0.36%                                   | 0.35%       | 0.35%       | 0.35%       | 0.35%(e)               |
| Ratio of net expenses,<br>excluding interest<br>expense, to average net<br>assets | 0.35%                                   | 0.35%       | 0.35%       | 0.35%       | 0.35%(e)               |
| Ratio of net investment<br>income to average net<br>assets                        | 1.45%                                   | 2.01%       | 1.68%       | 1.81%       | 1.87%(e)               |



|                         |     |     |    |    |       |
|-------------------------|-----|-----|----|----|-------|
| Portfolio turnover rate |     |     |    |    |       |
| (f)                     | 53% | 18% | 9% | 4% | 2%(d) |

- (a) Commencement of operations
- (b) Calculated based upon average shares outstanding
- (c) Total return is calculated assuming an initial investment made at the net asset value at the beginning of period, reinvestment of any dividends and distributions at net asset value on the dividend/distributions payment date and a redemption at the net asset value on the last day of the period. The return does not reflect the deduction of taxes that a shareholder would pay on Fund dividends/distributions or the redemption of Fund shares.
- (d) Not Annualized
- (e) Annualized
- (f) Portfolio turnover rates exclude securities received or delivered as a result of processing in-kind capital share transactions.
- (g) For the year ended September 30, 2016, 0.06% of total return, representing \$0.04 per share, consisted of a payment by the Adviser.

## **PREMIUM/DISCOUNT INFORMATION**

Information regarding how often the closing trading price of the Shares of each Fund was above (*i.e.*, at a premium) or below (*i.e.*, at a discount) the NAV of the Fund for the most recently completed year and the most recently completed quarter(s), as well as for each of the four previous calendar quarters, when available, can be found at [www.vaneck.com](http://www.vaneck.com).

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **CONTINUOUS OFFERING**

The method by which Creation Units are created and traded may raise certain issues under applicable securities laws. Because new Creation Units are issued and sold by the Trust on an ongoing basis, a distribution, as such term is used in the Securities Act may occur at any point. 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 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 Units 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 dealers who are not underwriters but are participating in a distribution (as contrasted to ordinary secondary trading transactions), and thus dealing with Shares that are part of an unsold allotment within the meaning of Section 4(3)(C) of the Securities Act, would be unable to take advantage of the prospectus delivery exemption provided by Section 4(3) of the Securities Act. 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. As a result, broker dealer firms should note that dealers who are not underwriters but are participating in a distribution (as contrasted with ordinary secondary market transactions) and thus dealing with the Shares that are part of an overallotment within the meaning of Section 4(3)(A) of the Securities Act would be unable to take advantage of the prospectus delivery exemption provided by Section 4(3) of the Securities Act. Firms that incur a prospectus delivery obligation with respect to Shares are reminded that, under Rule 153 of 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 NYSE Arca or NASDAQ is satisfied by the fact that the prospectus is available at NYSE Arca or NASDAQ upon request. The prospectus delivery mechanism provided in Rule 153 is only available with respect to transactions on an exchange.

In addition, certain affiliates of the Funds and the Adviser may purchase and resell Fund shares pursuant to this Prospectus.

## **OTHER INFORMATION**

The Trust was organized as a Delaware statutory trust on March 15, 2001. Its Declaration of Trust currently permits the Trust to issue an unlimited number of Shares of beneficial interest. If shareholders are required to vote on any matters, each Share outstanding would be entitled to one vote. Annual meetings of shareholders will not be held except as required by the 1940 Act and other applicable law. Each Fund may liquidate and terminate at any time and for any reason, including as a result of the termination of the applicable license agreement between the Adviser and the applicable Index Provider, without shareholder approval. See the Funds' SAI for more information concerning the Trust's form of organization. Section 12(d)(1) of the 1940 Act restricts investments by investment companies in the securities of other investment companies, including Shares of a Fund. Registered investment companies are permitted to invest in the Funds beyond the limits set forth in Section 12(d)(1) subject to certain terms and conditions set forth in an SEC exemptive order issued to the Trust, including that such investment companies enter into an agreement with the Funds.

The Prospectus, SAI and any other Fund communication do not create any contractual obligations between the Fund's shareholders and the Trust, the Fund, the Adviser and/or the Trustees. Further, shareholders are not intended third-party beneficiaries of any contracts entered into by (or on behalf of) the Fund, including contracts with the Adviser or other parties who provide services to the Fund.

Dechert LLP serves as counsel to the Trust, including the Funds. Ernst & Young LLP serves as the Trust's independent registered public accounting firm and audits the Funds' financial statements annually.

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

This Prospectus does not contain all the information included in the Registration Statement filed with the SEC with respect to the Funds' Shares. Information about the Funds can be reviewed and copied at the SEC's Public Reference Room and information on the operation of the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling the SEC at 1.202.551.8090. The Funds' Registration Statement, including this Prospectus, the Funds' SAI and the exhibits may be examined at the offices of the SEC (100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549) or on the EDGAR database at the SEC's website (<http://www.sec.gov>), and copies may be obtained, after paying a duplicating fee, by electronic request at the following email address: [publicinfo@sec.gov](mailto:publicinfo@sec.gov), or by writing the SEC's Public Reference Section, Washington, DC 20549-1520. These documents and other information concerning the Trust also may be inspected at the offices of NYSE Arca (20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005) and NASDAQ (One Liberty Plaza, 165 Broadway, New York, New York 10006).

The SAI for the Funds, which has been filed with the SEC, provides more information about the Funds. The SAI for the Funds is incorporated herein by reference and is legally part of this Prospectus. Additional information about the Funds' investments is available in each Fund's annual and semi-annual reports to shareholders. In each Fund's annual report, you will find a discussion of the market conditions and investment strategies that significantly affected the Fund's performance during its last fiscal year. The SAI and the Funds' annual and semi-annual reports may be obtained without charge by writing to the Funds at Van Eck Securities Corporation, the Funds' distributor, at 666 Third Avenue, 9th Floor, New York, New York 10017 or by calling the distributor at the following number: Investor Information: 800.826.2333.

Shareholder inquiries may be directed to the Funds in writing to 666 Third Avenue, 9th Floor, New York, New York 10017 or by calling 800.826.2333.

The Funds' SAI is available at [www.vaneck.com](http://www.vaneck.com).

(Investment Company Act file no. 811-10325)

## Edgar Filing: VanEck Vectors ETF Trust - Form 497

For more detailed information about the Funds, see the SAI dated February 1, 2017, as supplemented, which is incorporated by reference into this Prospectus. Additional information about the Funds' investments will be available in each Fund's annual and semi-annual reports to shareholders. In each Fund's annual report, you will find a discussion of the market conditions and investment strategies that significantly affected the Fund's performance during its last fiscal year.

Call VanEck at 800.826.2333 to request, free of charge, the annual or semi-annual reports, the SAI, or other information about the Funds or to make shareholder inquiries. You may also obtain the SAI or a Fund's annual or semi-annual reports, when available, by visiting the VanEck website at [www.vaneck.com](http://www.vaneck.com).

Information about the Funds (including the SAI) can also be reviewed and copied at the SEC Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C. Information about the operation of the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling 202.551.8090.

Reports and other information about the Funds are available on the EDGAR Database on the SEC's internet site at <http://www.sec.gov>. In addition, copies of this information may be obtained, after paying a duplicating fee, by electronic request at the following email address: [publicinfo@sec.gov](mailto:publicinfo@sec.gov), or by writing the SEC's Public Reference Section, Washington, DC 20549-0102.

Transfer Agent: The Bank of New York Mellon  
SEC Registration Number: 333-123257  
1940 Act Registration Number: 811-10325  
INDUSPRO

**800.826.2333**  
**[www.vaneck.com](http://www.vaneck.com)**

**VANECK VECTORS ETF TRUST****STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION****Dated February 1, 2017, as amended and restated on March 10, 2017**

This Statement of Additional Information (“SAI”) is not a prospectus. It should be read in conjunction with the Prospectus dated February 1, 2017 (the “Prospectus”) for the VanEck Vectors ETF Trust (the “Trust”), relating to each of the series of the Trust listed below, as it may be revised from time to time.

| <b><u>Fund</u></b>                                | <b><u>Principal U.S. Listing Exchange</u></b> | <b><u>Ticker</u></b> |
|---|---|----------------------|
| VanEck Vectors Biotech ETF                        | The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC                   | BBH                  |
| VanEck Vectors Environmental Services ETF         | NYSE Arca, Inc.                               | EVX <sup>®</sup>     |
| VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF                         | NYSE Arca, Inc.                               | BJK <sup>®</sup>     |
| VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF                  | The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC                   | GNRX                 |
| VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF                | NYSE Arca, Inc.                               | SPUN <sup>®</sup>    |
| VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF | NYSE Arca, Inc.                               | MOTI <sup>®</sup>    |
| VanEck Vectors Morningstar Wide Moat ETF          | NYSE Arca, Inc.                               | MOAT <sup>®</sup>    |
| VanEck Vectors Pharmaceutical ETF                 | The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC                   | PPH <sup>®</sup>     |
| VanEck Vectors Retail ETF                         | NYSE Arca, Inc.                               | RTH <sup>®</sup>     |
| VanEck Vectors Semiconductor ETF                  | NYSE Arca, Inc.                               | SMH <sup>®</sup>     |

A copy of each Prospectus may be obtained without charge by writing to the Trust or the Distributor. The Trust’s address is 666 Third Avenue, 9th Floor, New York, New York 10017. Capitalized terms used herein that are not defined have the same meaning as in the Prospectuses, unless otherwise noted.

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## GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE TRUST

The Trust<sup>1</sup> is an open-end management investment company. The Trust currently consists of 58 investment portfolios. This SAI relates to ten investment portfolios, VanEck Vectors Biotech ETF, VanEck Vectors Environmental Services ETF, VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF, VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF, VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF, VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF, VanEck Vectors Morningstar Wide Moat ETF, VanEck Vectors Pharmaceutical ETF, VanEck Vectors Retail ETF and VanEck Vectors Semiconductor ETF (each, a “Fund” and, together, the “Funds”). Each Fund is classified as a non-diversified fund under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (“1940 Act”), and, as a result, is not required to meet certain diversification requirements under the 1940 Act. The Trust was organized as a Delaware statutory trust on March 15, 2001. The shares of each Fund are referred to herein as “Shares.”

The Funds offer and issue Shares at their net asset value (“NAV”) only in aggregations of a specified number of Shares (each, a “Creation Unit”). Similarly, Shares are redeemable by the Funds only in Creation Units. Creation Units of VanEck Vectors Biotech ETF, VanEck Vectors Environmental Services ETF, VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF, VanEck Vectors Morningstar Wide Moat ETF, VanEck Vectors Pharmaceutical ETF, VanEck Vectors Retail ETF and VanEck Vectors Semiconductor ETF are issued and redeemed generally in exchange for specified securities included in each Fund’s Index (defined herein). Creation Units of VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF, VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF and VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF are issued and redeemed partially for cash and partially in exchange for specified securities included in each Fund’s Index. The Shares of VanEck Vectors Environmental Services ETF, VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF, VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF, VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF, VanEck Vectors Morningstar Wide Moat ETF, VanEck Vectors Retail ETF, and VanEck Vectors Semiconductor ETF are listed on NYSE Arca, Inc. (“NYSE Arca”), and Shares of VanEck Vectors Biotech ETF, VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF, and VanEck Vectors Pharmaceutical ETF are listed on The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC (“NASDAQ,” and, together with NYSE Arca, each, an “Exchange”). Shares of each Fund trade in the secondary market at market prices that may differ from the Shares’ NAV. A Creation Unit consists of 50,000 Shares of a Fund. The Trust reserves the right to permit or require a “cash” option for creations and redemptions of Shares (subject to applicable legal requirements).

<sup>1</sup> Prior to May 1, 2016, the Trust’s name was Market Vectors ETF Trust.

## INVESTMENT POLICIES AND RESTRICTIONS

### Repurchase Agreements

The Funds may invest in repurchase agreements with commercial banks, brokers or dealers to generate income from their excess cash balances and to invest securities lending cash collateral. A repurchase agreement is an agreement under which a Fund acquires a money market instrument (generally a security issued by the U.S. Government or an agency thereof, a banker's acceptance or a certificate of deposit) from a seller, subject to resale to the seller at an agreed-upon price and date (normally, the next business day). A repurchase agreement may be considered a loan collateralized by securities. The resale price reflects an agreed-upon interest rate effective for the period the instrument is held by a Fund and is unrelated to the interest rate on the underlying instrument.

In these repurchase agreement transactions, the securities acquired by a Fund (including accrued interest earned thereon) must have a total value at least equal to the value of the repurchase agreement and are held by the Trust's custodian bank until repurchased. In addition, the Trust's Board of Trustees ("Board" or "Trustees") has established guidelines and standards for review of the creditworthiness of any bank, broker or dealer counterparty to a repurchase agreement with each Fund. No more than an aggregate of 15% of each Fund's net assets will be invested in repurchase agreements having maturities longer than seven days.

The use of repurchase agreements involves certain risks. For example, if the other party to the agreement defaults on its obligation to repurchase the underlying security at a time when the value of the security has declined, the Funds may incur a loss upon disposition of the security. If the other party to the agreement becomes insolvent and subject to liquidation or reorganization under the Bankruptcy Code or other laws, a court may determine that the underlying security is collateral not within the control of a Fund and, therefore, the Fund may incur delays in disposing of the security and/or may not be able to substantiate its interest in the underlying security and may be deemed an unsecured creditor of the other party to the agreement.

### Futures Contracts and Options

Futures contracts generally provide for the future purchase or sale of a specified instrument, index or commodity at a specified future time and at a specified price. Stock index futures contracts and other types of futures contracts are settled daily with a payment by one party to the other of a cash amount based on the difference between the level of the stock index or other underlying instrument specified in the contract from one day to the next. Futures contracts are standardized as to maturity date and underlying instrument and are traded on futures exchanges. The Funds may use futures contracts and options on futures contracts based on other indexes or combinations of indexes that Van Eck Associates Corporation (the "Adviser") believes to be representative of each Fund's respective benchmark index (each, an "Index").

An option is a contract that provides the holder of the option the right to buy or sell shares or other assets at a fixed price, within a specified period of time. An American call option gives the option holder the right to buy the underlying security from the option writer at the option exercise price at any time prior to the expiration of the option. A European call option gives the option holder the right to buy the underlying security from the option writer only on the option expiration date. An American put option gives the option holder the right to sell the underlying security to the option writer at the option exercise price at any time prior to the expiration of the option. A European put option gives the option holder the right to sell the underlying security to the option writer at the option exercise price only on the option expiration date.

Although futures contracts (other than cash-settled futures contracts including most stock index futures contracts) by their terms call for actual delivery or acceptance of the underlying instrument or commodity, in most cases the contracts are closed out before the maturity date without the making or taking of delivery. Closing out an open futures position is done by taking an opposite position (buying the same contract which was previously sold or selling the same contract previously purchased) in an identical contract to terminate the position. Brokerage commissions are incurred when a futures contract position is opened or closed.

Futures traders are required to make a margin deposit (typically in cash or government securities) with a broker or custodian to initiate and maintain open positions in futures contracts. A margin deposit is intended to assure completion of the contract (delivery or acceptance of the underlying instrument or commodity or payment of the cash-settlement amount) if it is not terminated prior to the specified delivery date. Brokers may establish deposit requirements that are higher than the exchange minimums. Futures contracts are customarily purchased and sold on margin deposits which may range upward from less than 5% of the value of the contract being traded.

After a futures contract position is opened, the value of the contract is marked-to-market daily. If the futures contract price changes to the extent that the margin on deposit does not satisfy margin requirements, payment of additional "variation" margin will be required.

Conversely, a change in the contract value may reduce the required margin, resulting in a repayment of excess margin to the contract holder. Variation margin payments are made to and from the futures broker for as long as the contract remains open. The Funds expect to earn interest income on their margin deposits in the form of cash.

The Funds may use futures contracts and options thereon, together with positions in cash and money market instruments, to simulate full investment in each Fund's respective Index. Under such circumstances, the Adviser may seek to utilize other instruments that it believes to be correlated to each Fund's respective Index components or a subset of the components. Liquid futures contracts may not be currently available for the Index of each Fund.

Positions in futures contracts and options may be closed out only on an exchange that provides a secondary market therefor. However, there can be no assurance that a liquid secondary market will exist for any particular futures contract or option at any specific time. Thus, it may not be possible to close a futures or options position. In the event of adverse price movements, the Funds would continue to be required to make daily cash payments to maintain its required margin. In such situations, if a Fund has insufficient cash, it may have to sell portfolio securities to meet daily margin requirements at a time when it may be disadvantageous to do so. In addition, the Funds may be required to make delivery of the instruments underlying futures contracts they have sold.

The Funds will seek to minimize the risk that they will be unable to close out a futures or options contract by only entering into futures and options for which there appears to be a liquid secondary market.

The risk of loss in trading futures contracts or uncovered call options in some strategies (*e.g.*, selling uncovered stock index futures contracts) is potentially unlimited. The Funds do not plan to use futures and options contracts in this way. The risk of a futures position may still be large as traditionally measured due to the low margin deposits required. In many cases, a relatively small price movement in a futures contract may result in immediate and substantial loss or gain to the investor relative to the size of a required margin deposit.

Utilization of futures transactions by the Funds involves the risk of imperfect or even negative correlation to each Fund's respective Index if the index underlying the futures contracts differs from the Index. There is also the risk of loss by the Funds of margin deposits in the event of the bankruptcy or other similar insolvency with respect to a broker with whom a Fund has an open position in the futures contract or option.

Certain financial futures exchanges limit the amount of fluctuation permitted in futures contract prices during a single trading day. The daily limit establishes the maximum amount that the price of a futures contract may vary either up or down from the previous day's settlement price at the end of a trading session. Once the daily limit has been reached in a particular type of contract, no trades may be made on that day at a price beyond that limit. The daily limit governs only price movements during a particular trading day and therefore does not limit potential losses, because the limit may prevent the liquidation of unfavorable positions. Futures contract prices have occasionally moved to the daily limit for several consecutive trading days with little or no trading, thereby preventing prompt liquidation of future positions and subjecting some futures traders to substantial losses.

Except as otherwise specified in the Funds' Prospectus or this SAI, there are no limitations on the extent to which the Funds may engage in transactions involving futures and options thereon. The Funds will take steps to prevent their futures positions from "leveraging" their securities holdings. When a Fund has a long futures position requiring physical settlement, it will maintain with its custodian bank, cash or liquid securities having a value equal to the notional value of the contract (less any margin deposited in connection with the position). When a Fund has a short futures position requiring physical settlement, the Fund will maintain with its custodian bank assets substantially identical to those underlying the contract or cash and liquid securities (or a combination of the foregoing) having a value equal to the net obligation of the Fund under the contract (less the value of any margin deposits in connection with the position).

## Swaps

Over-the-counter ("OTC") swap agreements are contracts between parties in which one party agrees to make payments to the other party based on the change in market value or level of a specified index or asset. In return, the other party agrees to make payments to the first party based on the return of a different specified index or asset, usually an interest rate. Although OTC swap agreements entail the risk that a party will default on its payment obligations thereunder, each Fund seeks to reduce this risk generally by receiving (or paying) collateral daily and entering into agreements that involve payments no less frequently than quarterly. The net amount of the excess, if any, of a Fund's obligations over its entitlements with respect to each swap is accrued on a daily basis and an amount of cash or highly liquid securities having an aggregate value at least equal to the accrued excess is maintained in an account at the Trust's custodian bank.

Certain Funds may enter into interest rate swaps and credit default swaps. Interest rate swaps are typically exchange-traded contracts in which a party agrees to make periodic payments on certain referenced interest rates (e.g., a fixed rate or a floating rate) applied to a specified notional amount. A credit default swap on a security is a bilateral contract that enables an investor to buy or sell protection against a defined-issuer credit event. Credit default swaps referencing fixed income indices are generally traded on exchanges. Certain Funds may enter into credit default swap agreements either as a buyer or a seller. A Fund may buy protection to attempt to mitigate the risk of default or credit

quality deterioration in one or more of its individual holdings or in a segment of the fixed income securities market to which it has exposure, or to take a “short” position in individual bonds or market segments which it does not own. A Fund may sell protection in an attempt to gain exposure to the credit quality characteristics of particular bonds or market segments without investing directly in those bonds or market segments. As the protection seller in a credit default swap, a Fund effectively adds economic leverage to its portfolio because, in

addition to being subject to investment exposure on its total net assets, the Fund is subject to investment exposure on the notional amount of the swap.

The use of such swap agreements involves certain risks. For example, if the counterparty under an OTC swap agreement defaults on its obligation to make payments due from it as a result of its bankruptcy or otherwise, the Funds may lose such payments altogether or collect only a portion thereof, which collection could involve costs or delays.

The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the “Dodd-Frank Act”) and related regulatory developments require the clearing and exchange-trading of certain standardized OTC derivative instruments that the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (“CFTC”) and Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) defined as “swaps” and “security-based swaps,” respectively. Mandatory exchange-trading and clearing is occurring on a phased-in basis based on the type of market participant and CFTC approval of contracts for central clearing and exchange trading. In a cleared swap, a Fund’s ultimate counterparty is a central clearinghouse rather than a swap dealer, bank or other financial institution. A Fund enters into cleared swaps through an executing broker. Such transactions are then submitted for clearing and, if cleared, will be held at regulated futures commission merchants (“FCMs”) that are members of the clearinghouse that serves as the central counterparty. When a Fund enters into a cleared swap, it must deliver to the central counterparty (via an FCM) an amount referred to as “initial margin.” Initial margin requirements are determined by the central counterparty, but an FCM may require additional initial margin above the amount required by the central counterparty. During the term of the swap agreement, a “variation margin” amount may also be required to be paid by a Fund or may be received by the Fund in accordance with margin controls set for such accounts, depending upon changes in the price of the underlying reference asset subject to the swap agreement. At the conclusion of the term of the swap agreement, if a Fund has a loss equal to or greater than the margin amount, the margin amount is paid to the FCM along with any loss in excess of the margin amount. If a Fund has a loss of less than the margin amount, the excess margin is returned to the Fund. If a Fund has a gain, the full margin amount and the amount of the gain is paid to the Fund.

Central clearing is designed to reduce counterparty credit risk compared to uncleared swaps because central clearing interposes the central clearinghouse as the counterparty to each participant’s swap, but it does not eliminate those risks completely. There is also a risk of loss by a Fund of the initial and variation margin deposits in the event of bankruptcy of the FCM with which the Fund has an open position in a swap contract. The assets of a Fund may not be fully protected in the event of the bankruptcy of the FCM or central counterparty because the Fund might be limited to recovering only a pro rata share of all available funds and margin segregated on behalf of an FCM’s customers or central counterparty’s clearing members. If the FCM does not provide accurate reporting, a Fund is also subject to the risk that the FCM could use the Fund’s assets, which are held in an omnibus account with assets belonging to the FCM’s other customers, to satisfy its own financial obligations or the payment obligations of another customer to the central counterparty. Certain swaps have begun trading on exchanges called swap execution facilities. Exchange-trading is expected to, but may not necessarily, increase the liquidity of swaps trading.

In addition, with respect to cleared swaps, a Fund may not be able to obtain as favorable terms as it would be able to negotiate for an uncleared swap. In addition, an FCM may unilaterally impose position limits or additional margin requirements for certain types of swaps in which a Fund may invest. Central counterparties and FCMs generally can require termination of existing cleared swap transactions at any time, and can also require increases in margin above the margin that is required at the initiation of the swap agreement. Margin requirements for cleared swaps vary on a



number of factors, and the margin required under the rules of the clearinghouse and FCM may be in excess of the collateral required to be

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posted by a Fund to support its obligations under a similar uncleared swap. However, regulators recently adopted rules imposing certain margin requirements, including minimums, on uncleared swaps.

The Funds are also subject to the risk that, after entering into a cleared swap with an executing broker, no FCM or central counterparty is willing or able to clear the transaction. In such an event, the central counterparty would void the trade. Before a Fund can enter into a new trade, market conditions may become less favorable to the Fund.

The Adviser will continue to monitor developments regarding trading and execution of cleared swaps on exchanges, particularly to the extent regulatory changes affect a Fund's ability to enter into swap agreements and the costs and risks associated with such investments.

### Warrants and Subscription Rights

Warrants are equity securities in the form of options issued by a corporation which give the holder the right, but not the obligation, to purchase stock, usually at a price that is higher than the market price at the time the warrant is issued. A purchaser takes the risk that the warrant may expire worthless because the market price of the common stock fails to rise above the price set by the warrant.

### Currency Forwards

A currency forward transaction is a contract to buy or sell a specified quantity of currency at a specified date in the future at a specified price which may be any fixed number of days from the date of the contract agreed upon by the parties. Currency forward contracts may be used to increase or reduce exposure to currency price movements.

The use of currency forward transactions involves certain risks. For example, if the counterparty under the contract defaults on its obligation to make payments due from it as a result of its bankruptcy or otherwise, a Fund may lose such payments altogether or collect only a portion thereof, which collection could involve costs or delays.

### Convertible Securities

A convertible security is a bond, debenture, note, preferred stock, right, warrant or other security that may be converted into or exchanged for a prescribed amount of common stock or other security of the same or a different issuer or into cash within a particular period of time at a specified price or formula. A convertible security generally

entitles the holder to receive interest paid or accrued on debt securities or the dividend paid on preferred stock until the convertible security matures or is redeemed, converted or exchanged. Before conversion, convertible securities generally have characteristics similar to both debt and equity securities. The value of convertible securities tends to decline as interest rates rise and, because of the conversion feature, tends to vary with fluctuations in the market value of the underlying securities. Convertible securities ordinarily provide a stream of income with generally higher yields than those of common stock of the same or similar issuers. Convertible securities generally rank senior to common stock in a corporation's capital structure but are usually subordinated to comparable nonconvertible securities. Convertible securities generally do not participate directly in any dividend increases or decreases of the underlying securities although the market prices of convertible securities may be affected by any dividend changes or other changes in the underlying securities.

## Structured Notes

A structured note is a derivative security for which the amount of principal repayment and/or interest payments is based on the movement of one or more “factors.” These factors include, but are not limited to, currency exchange rates, interest rates (such as the prime lending rate or LIBOR), referenced bonds and stock indices. Some of these factors may or may not correlate to the total rate of return on one or more underlying instruments referenced in such notes. Investments in structured notes involve risks including interest rate risk, credit risk and market risk. Depending on the factor(s) used and the use of multipliers or deflators, changes in interest rates and movement of such factor(s) may cause significant price fluctuations. Structured notes may be less liquid than other types of securities and more volatile than the reference factor underlying the note.

## Participation Notes

Participation notes (“P-Notes”) are issued by banks or broker-dealers and are designed to offer a return linked to the performance of a particular underlying equity security or market. P-Notes can have the characteristics or take the form of various instruments, including, but not limited to, certificates or warrants. The holder of a P-Note that is linked to a particular underlying security is entitled to receive any dividends paid in connection with the underlying security. However, the holder of a P-Note generally does not receive voting rights as it would if it directly owned the underlying security. P-Notes constitute direct, general and unsecured contractual obligations of the banks or broker-dealers that issue them, which therefore subject a Fund to counterparty risk, as discussed below. Investments in P-Notes involve certain risks in addition to those associated with a direct investment in the underlying foreign securities or foreign securities markets whose return they seek to replicate. For instance, there can be no assurance that the trading price of a P-Note will equal the value of the underlying foreign security or foreign securities market that it seeks to replicate. As the purchaser of a P-Note, a Fund is relying on the creditworthiness of the counterparty issuing the P-Note and has no rights under a P-Note against the issuer of the underlying security. Therefore, if such counterparty were to become insolvent, a Fund would lose its investment. The risk that a Fund may lose its investments due to the insolvency of a single counterparty may be amplified to the extent the Fund purchases P-Notes issued by one issuer or a small number of issuers. P-Notes also include transaction costs in addition to those applicable to a direct investment in securities. In addition, a Fund’s use of P-Notes may cause the Fund’s performance to deviate from the performance of the portion of the Index to which the Fund is gaining exposure through the use of P-Notes.

Due to liquidity and transfer restrictions, the secondary markets on which P-Notes are traded may be less liquid than the markets for other securities, which may lead to the absence of readily available market quotations for securities in a Fund’s portfolio and may cause the value of the P-Notes to decline. The ability of a Fund to value its securities becomes more difficult and the Adviser’s judgment in the application of fair value procedures may play a greater role in the valuation of a Fund’s securities due to reduced availability of reliable objective pricing data. Consequently, while such determinations will be made in good faith, it may nevertheless be more difficult for a Fund to accurately assign a daily value to such securities.

P-Notes eligible for investment by VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF and VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF must be issued by banks or broker-dealers that are registered with the Securities and Exchange Board of India (“SEBI”) as a foreign institutional investor (“FII”) or an eligible foreign portfolio investor (“FPI”). Under the new SEBI (Foreign Portfolio Investors) Regulation, 2014 (“FPI Regulations”), subject to certain other conditions being met, P-Notes and/or offshore derivative instruments can be issued only to persons who are regulated by an appropriate foreign regulatory authority subject to compliance with ‘know-your-client’ norms. However, certain categories of FPIs, specifically, Category III FPIs and Category II FPIs which are unregulated broad-based funds and are classified as Category II by virtue of their investment

manager being appropriately regulated, are not permitted to issue, subscribe or otherwise deal in offshore derivative instruments or P-Notes. FPIs shall have to fully disclose to SEBI, any information concerning the terms of and parties to ODIs entered into by it relating to any securities listed or proposed to be listed in any stock exchange in India. On November 24, 2014, SEBI issued a circular (“Circular”) aligning the conditions for subscription of offshore derivative instruments (“ODIs”) to those applicable to FPIs. The Circular makes the ODI subscription more restrictive.

The existing ODI positions will not be affected by the Circular until the expiry of such ODI contracts. However, the Circular specifies that there will not be a rollover of existing ODI positions and for any new ODI positions, new contracts will have to be entered into, in consonance with the rules specified in the Circular.

### **SEBI Takeover Regulations (VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF and VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF only)**

Under the provisions of the SEBI (Substantial Acquisition of Shares and Takeovers) Regulations, 2011 (“Takeover Code”), any acquirer who holds, together with persons acting in concert with him, 5% or more of the shares or voting rights of a listed public Indian company, is required to notify the company and the stock exchanges on which the shares of such company are listed about its holding within the prescribed time period. Furthermore, any acquirer who holds, together with persons acting in concert with him, 5% or more of shares or voting rights is required to inform the company and the stock exchange about any change in its holding by 2% or more of the shares or voting rights in the target company.

Upon the acquisition of 25% or more of shares or voting rights or an acquisition of control of the company, whether directly or indirectly, the acquirer is required to make an open offer to the other shareholders offering to purchase at least 26% of all the outstanding shares of the company at an offer price as determined pursuant to the provisions of the Takeover Code (“Open Offer”). Further, under the provisions of the Takeover Code, any existing shareholder of a listed public Indian company, holding 25% or more but less than 75% of the shares of the company, is entitled to acquire up to 5% voting rights of the company, in any financial year ending March 31 without making a public offer for such an acquisition.

There are certain exemptions under the Takeover Code from the public offer provisions in certain specific instances such as an inter se transfer of shares amongst the persons named as promoters in the shareholding pattern filed by the target company in terms of the listing agreement or the Takeover Code for not less than three years prior to the proposed acquisition and transfer of shares pursuant to arrangement involving the target company as a transferor company or as a transferee company, or reconstruction of the target company, including amalgamation, merger or demerger, pursuant to an order of a court or a competent authority under any law or regulation, Indian or foreign. VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF and VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF may invest through subscription of shares under the preferential route or purchase shares from existing promoters or shareholders, in which case they would be required to comply with the public offer provisions of the Takeover Code if the post-acquisition holding of VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF or VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF, respectively, is in excess of the prescribed thresholds.

#### Future Developments

The Funds may take advantage of opportunities in the area of options, futures contracts, options on futures contracts, warrants, swaps and any other investments which are not presently contemplated for use or which are not currently available, but which may be developed, to the extent such investments are considered suitable for a Fund by the Adviser.

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## Investment Restrictions

The Trust has adopted the following investment restrictions as fundamental policies with respect to each Fund. These restrictions cannot be changed without the approval of the holders of a majority of each Fund's outstanding voting securities. For purposes of the 1940 Act, a majority of the outstanding voting securities of a Fund means the vote, at an annual or a special meeting of the security holders of the Trust, of the lesser of (1) 67% or more of the voting securities of the Fund present at such meeting, if the holders of more than 50% of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund are present or represented by proxy, or (2) more than 50% of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund. Under these restrictions:

Each Fund may not make loans, except that a Fund may (i) lend portfolio securities, (ii) enter into repurchase agreements, (iii) purchase all or a portion of an issue of debt securities, bank loan or participation interests, bank certificates of deposit, bankers' acceptances, debentures or other securities, whether or not the purchase is made upon the original issuance of the securities and (iv) participate in an interfund lending program with other registered investment companies;

2. Each Fund may not borrow money, except as permitted under the 1940 Act, and as interpreted or modified by regulation from time to time;

3. Each Fund may not issue senior securities, except as permitted under the 1940 Act, and as interpreted or modified by regulation from time to time;

4. VanEck Vectors Environmental Services ETF and VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF may not purchase a security (other than obligations of the U.S. Government, its agencies or instrumentalities) if, as a result, 25% or more of its total assets would be invested in a single issuer;

5. Each Fund may not purchase or sell real estate, except that a Fund may (i) invest in securities of issuers that invest in real estate or interests therein; (ii) invest in mortgage-related securities and other securities that are secured by real estate or interests therein; and (iii) hold and sell real estate acquired by the Fund as a result of the ownership of securities;

6. Each Fund may not engage in the business of underwriting securities issued by others, except to the extent that the Fund may be considered an underwriter within the meaning of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), in the disposition of restricted securities or in connection with its investments in other investment companies;

7. Each Fund may not purchase or sell commodities, unless acquired as a result of owning securities or other instruments, but it may purchase, sell or enter into financial options and futures, forward and spot currency contracts, swap transactions and other financial contracts or derivative instruments and may invest in securities or



other instruments backed by commodities; and

Each Fund, except VanEck Vectors Environmental Services ETF, VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF, VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF, VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF, VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF 8. and VanEck Vectors Morningstar Wide Moat ETF, may not purchase any security if, as a result of that purchase, 25% or more of its total assets would be invested in securities of issuers having their principal business activities in the same industry, except that the Fund will invest

25% or more of the value of its total assets in securities of issuers in any one industry or group of industries if the index that the Fund replicates concentrates in an industry or group of industries. With respect to each of VanEck Vectors Environmental Services ETF, VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF, VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF, VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF, VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF and VanEck Vectors Morningstar Wide Moat ETF, the Fund may not purchase any security if, as a result of that purchase, 25% or more of its total assets would be invested in securities of issuers having their principal business activities in the same industry, except that the Fund may invest 25% or more of the value of its total assets in securities of issuers in any one industry or group of industries if the index that the Fund replicates concentrates in an industry or group of industries. This limit does not apply to securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government, its agencies or instrumentalities.

In addition to the investment restrictions adopted as fundamental policies as set forth above, each Fund observes the following non-fundamental investment restrictions, which may be changed by the Board without a shareholder vote. Under these restrictions:

1. Each Fund will not invest in securities which are “illiquid” securities if the result is that more than 15% of a Fund’s net assets would be invested in such securities.

2. Each Fund will not make short sales of securities.

Each Fund will not purchase any security on margin, except for such short-term loans as are necessary for clearance  
3. of securities transactions. The deposit or payment by a Fund or initial or variation margin in connection with futures contracts or related options thereon is not considered the purchase of a security on margin.

Each Fund will not participate in a joint or joint-and-several basis in any trading account in securities, although  
4. transactions for the Funds and any other account under common or affiliated management may be combined or allocated between the Fund and such account.

Each Fund will not purchase securities of open-end or closed-end investment companies except in compliance with  
5. the 1940 Act, although the Funds may not acquire any securities of registered open-end investment companies or registered unit investment trusts in reliance on Sections 12(d)(1)(F) or 12(d)(1)(G) of the 1940 Act.

In addition to the fundamental and non-fundamental investment restrictions set forth above, each of VanEck Vectors Biotech ETF, VanEck Vectors Morningstar Wide Moat ETF, VanEck Vectors Pharmaceutical ETF and VanEck Vectors Semiconductor ETF observes the following additional restrictions, which may be changed by the Board without a shareholder vote: under normal market conditions (i) any borrowings by the Fund will be on a temporary basis and will not exceed 10% of the Fund’s net assets; and (ii) the Fund’s investments in the securities of other pooled investment vehicles will not exceed 10% of the Fund’s net assets. For purposes of (ii), real estate investment trusts are not considered to be pooled investment vehicles.

If a percentage limitation is adhered to at the time of investment or contract, a later increase or decrease in percentage resulting from any change in value or total or net assets will not result in a violation of such restriction, except that the percentage limitation with respect to the borrowing of money described above in fundamental restriction 2 will be continuously complied with.

With respect to fundamental restriction 2, the 1940 Act permits a Fund to borrow money from banks in an amount up to one-third of its total assets (including the amount borrowed) less its liabilities (not including any borrowings but including the fair market value at the time of computation of any other senior securities then outstanding). A Fund may also borrow an additional 5% of its total assets without regard to the foregoing limitation for temporary purposes such as clearance of portfolio transactions. Practices and investments that may involve leverage but are not considered to be borrowings are not subject to the policy.

With respect to fundamental restriction 3, the 1940 Act prohibits a Fund from issuing senior securities, except that a Fund may borrow money in amounts of up to one-third of the Fund's total assets from banks for any purpose. A Fund may also borrow money or engage in economically similar transactions if those transactions do not constitute "senior securities" under the 1940 Act. The policy above will be interpreted not to prevent collateral arrangements with respect to swaps, options, forward or futures contracts or other derivatives, or the posting of initial or variation margin.

Each Fund may invest its remaining assets in securities not included in its respective Index, money market instruments or funds which reinvest exclusively in money market instruments, in stocks that are in the relevant market but not the Fund's respective Index, and/or in combinations of certain stock index futures contracts, options on such futures contracts, stock options, stock index options, options on the Shares, and stock index swaps and swaptions, each with a view towards providing each Fund with exposure to the securities in its respective Index. These investments may be made to invest uncommitted cash balances or, in limited circumstances, to assist in meeting shareholder redemptions of Creation Units. Each Fund will not invest in money market instruments as part of a temporary defensive strategy to protect against potential stock market declines.

#### Indian Investment Restrictions (VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF only.)

Investments in Indian issuers comprise a part of the overall strategy of VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF. As of September 30, 2016, approximately 22.5% of the Fund's investments consisted of securities of Indian issuers. This amount is subject to change.

The investment restrictions described below only apply to the VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF's investments in Indian issuers.

## Edgar Filing: VanEck Vectors ETF Trust - Form 497

The Adviser is currently registered as an FII with the SEBI. The FII Regulations have been replaced by the FPI Regulations. However, under the FPI regulations, the Fund may continue to buy, sell or deal in securities until the expiry of its current sub-account registration and shall be converted to an FPI upon payment of the FPI registration fee. To that extent the Adviser is deemed to be an FPI.

Investments under the FPI Regulations and Foreign Exchange Management (transfer or issue of security by a person resident outside India) Regulations, 2000 are permitted only in the following:

securities in the primary and secondary markets including shares, debentures (please note the exception with regards to non-convertible debentures/bonds set out below) and warrants (as per the applicable Consolidated Foreign Direct Investment Policy) of companies unlisted, listed or to be listed on a recognized stock exchange in India;

primary issues of non-convertible debentures/ bonds with a minimum residual maturity of three years provided such non-convertible debentures/ bonds are committed to be listed within 15 days of such investment. In the event of such non-convertible debentures/ bonds issued not being listed within 15 days of issuance, for any reason, then the FPI shall immediately dispose of those non-convertible debentures/ bonds either by way of sale to a third party or to the issuer and the terms

of offer to FPIs should contain a clause that the issuer of such debt securities shall immediately redeem/buyback those securities from the FPIs in such an eventuality;

· units of schemes floated by domestic mutual funds including Unit Trust of India, whether listed on a recognized stock exchange in India or not or units of a scheme floated by a Collective Investment Scheme;

· dated government securities;

· derivatives traded on a recognized stock exchange;

· security receipts of asset reconstruction companies issued by an Indian company (sub-accounts cannot invest in security receipts) provided that the total holdings of all eligible investors put together shall not exceed 74% of the paid up value of each tranche of scheme of security receipts issued by the asset reconstruction companies;

· Indian Depository Receipts;

· rupee denominated credit enhanced bonds;

· perpetual debt instruments eligible for inclusion as Tier I capital and debt capital instruments as upper Tier II capital issued by banks in India to augment their capital (Tier I capital and Tier II capital as defined by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and modified from time to time) provided that the investment of all eligible investors in perpetual debt instruments (Tier I) shall not exceed an aggregate ceiling of 49% of each issue and investment by an individual FPI shall not exceed the limit of 10% of each issue;

· listed and unlisted non-convertible debentures/bonds issued by an Indian company in the infrastructure sector, where 'infrastructure' is defined in terms of the extant External Commercial Borrowings (ECB) guidelines;

· non-convertible debentures or bonds issued by Non-banking financial companies categorized as Infrastructure Finance Companies (IFCs) by the RBI; and

· rupee denominated bonds or units issued by infrastructure debt funds.

Further, FIIs and FPIs are allowed to engage in delivery based trading and short selling in compliance with the short selling and securities borrowing and lending framework laid down by SEBI, and also in a manner consistent with the procedures laid down by the respective stock exchanges including execution of trades involving derivatives on a recognized stock exchange. FPIs are allowed to tender their shares in case of an open offer following the takeover bid by an acquirer. FIIs/FPIs are allowed to tender their shares in case of an open offer following the takeover bid by an acquirer.

FII's/ FPIs which have issued derivative instruments based on underlying Indian securities such as P-Notes and any other equivalent instruments are required to make a monthly disclosure to the SEBI regarding the details of the instrument as well as the ultimate investor in such instruments.

The extent to which percentage positions may be taken in index options and index futures by the Fund would be restricted to the limits prescribed by applicable regulators from time to time. Separately, the following are the regulatory positions that the Adviser (as an FII) would have to observe under the applicable provisions of the securities laws of India:

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The ownership restrictions applicable to FIIs/sub-accounts and FPIs are as follows:

The aggregate FII/sub-accounts/FPI holding in any Indian company cannot exceed 24% of the entire paid-up share capital of that company which limit can be further extended to the applicable foreign investment limit in a specific sector if the directors and the shareholders of a company pass a special resolution to that effect. Currently, barring a few sectors such as telecom services and banking, foreign investment up to 100% is permitted in most sectors.

The aggregate holding of a single FPI or an investor group in an Indian company must be less than 10 per cent of the issued capital of such Indian company. An investor group is constituted where the same set of beneficial owners invest through multiple entities in which case the investment limits of all such entities shall be clubbed at the investment limit applicable to a single FPI. All entities having direct or indirect common shareholding/beneficial ownership/beneficial interest of more than 50% shall be considered as belonging to the same investor group.

As per a recent circular issued by SEBI on conditions on issuance of offshore derivative instruments (“ODIs”) under the FPI Regulations, in the case of an ultimate beneficial owner who has direct or indirect common shareholding/beneficial ownership/beneficial interest, of more than 50% in an FPI and an ODI subscriber entity or two or more ODI subscribers, the participation through ODIs would be clubbed with the direct holding of FPIs or the other concerned ODI subscriber(s) while determining whether the above investment cap in an Indian company has been triggered.

In addition, currently the overall limit for FIIs/sub-accounts/FPIs registered with SEBI for investing in the corporate debt market is \$51 billion (including sub-limit of \$2 billion for investment in commercial papers by eligible investors and sub-limit of \$5 billion for credit-enhanced bonds).

The aggregate debt investments by FIIs/sub-accounts/FPIs in government securities and treasury bills are capped at \$30 billion (including a sub-limit of \$25 billion for eligible investors in dated government securities and \$5 billion for FIIs/FPIs registered with SEBI as sovereign wealth funds, multilateral agencies, endowment funds, insurance funds, pension funds and foreign central banks in dated government securities of one year maturity or more).

However, as per an RBI circular (RBI/2015-16/198, A.P. (DIR Series) Circular No. 19, circular dated October 6, 2015), the following changes have been brought about to limits on FPI investment in debt securities:

- i. The limits for FPI investment in debt securities will henceforth be announced/ fixed in Indian Rupee (“INR”) terms.

- ii. The limits for FPI investment in central government securities will be increased in phases to reach 5% of the outstanding stock by March 2018. In aggregate terms, this is expected to open up room for additional investment of INR 1,200 billion in the limit for central government securities by March 2018 over and above the existing limit of INR 1,535 billion for all government securities.

- iii.

Additionally, there will be a separate limit for investment by all FPIs in the State Development Loans (“SDLs”), to be increased in phases to reach 2% of the outstanding stock by March 2018. This would amount to an additional limit of about INR 500 billion by March 2018.



- iv. The effective increase in limits for the following two quarters will be announced every half year in March and September.
- v. The existing requirement of investments being made in G-sec (including SDLs) with a minimum residual maturity of three years will continue to apply to all categories of FPIs.

- vi. Aggregate FPI investments in any Central Government security would be capped at 20% of the outstanding stock of the security. Investments at existing levels in the securities over this limit may continue but not get replenished through fresh purchases by FPIs until these fall below 20%.

Further, by way of a SEBI circular, foreign portfolio investors are allowed to participate in the exchange traded currency derivative segment to the extent of their Indian rupee exposure in India, subject to conditions and restrictions under applicable law. FPIs may take long as well as short positions in the permitted currency pairs up to \$10 million USD without having to establish the existence of any underlying exposure. To take long positions beyond the prescribed limit, foreign portfolio investors shall be required to have an underlying exposure in Indian debt or equity securities, including units of equity/debt mutual funds.

The RBI and SEBI by way of separate circulars dated February 3, 2015 have restricted the ability of FPIs to invest in debt securities having a residual maturity of less than 3 years. In addition, FPIs cannot invest in debt securities with residual maturity of more than 3 years but having optionality clauses exercisable within 3 years.

## SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS AND RISKS

A discussion of the risks associated with an investment in each Fund is contained in each Fund's Prospectus under the headings "Summary Information—Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund" with respect to the applicable Fund, and "Additional Information About the Funds' Investment Strategies and Risks—Risks of Investing in the Funds." The discussion below supplements, and should be read in conjunction with, such sections of each Fund's Prospectus.

### General

Investment in each Fund should be made with an understanding that the value of the Fund's portfolio securities may fluctuate in accordance with changes in the financial condition of the issuers of the portfolio securities, the value of securities generally and other factors.

An investment in each Fund should also be made with an understanding of the risks inherent in an investment in equity securities, including the risk that the financial condition of issuers may become impaired or that the general condition of the stock market may deteriorate (either of which may cause a decrease in the value of the portfolio securities and thus in the value of Shares). Common stocks are susceptible to general stock market fluctuations and to volatile increases and decreases in value as market confidence in and perceptions of their issuers change. These investor perceptions are based on various and unpredictable factors, including expectations regarding government, economic, monetary and fiscal policies, inflation and interest rates, economic expansion or contraction, and global or regional political, economic and banking crises.

Holdings of common stocks incur more risk than holdings of preferred stocks and debt obligations because common stockholders, as owners of the issuer, have generally inferior rights to receive payments from the issuer in comparison with the rights of creditors of, or holders of debt obligations or preferred stocks issued by, the issuer. Further, unlike debt securities which typically have a stated principal amount payable at maturity (whose value, however, will be subject to market fluctuations prior thereto), or preferred stocks which typically have a liquidation preference and which may have stated optional or mandatory redemption provisions, common stocks have neither a fixed principal amount nor a maturity. Common stock values are subject to market fluctuations as long as the common stock remains outstanding.

In the event that the securities in a Fund's Index are not listed on a national securities exchange, the principal trading market for some may be in the over-the-counter market. The existence of a liquid trading market for certain securities may depend on whether dealers will make a market in such securities. There can be no assurance that a market will be made or maintained or that any such market will be or remain liquid. The price at which securities may be sold and the value of a Fund's Shares will be adversely affected if trading markets for the Fund's portfolio securities are limited or absent or if bid/ask spreads are wide.

Shares of each Fund are subject to the risks of an investment in a portfolio of equity securities in an economic sector or industry in which each Fund's Index is highly concentrated. In addition, because it is the policy of each Fund to generally invest in the securities that comprise the Fund's respective Index, the portfolio of securities held by such Fund ("Fund Securities") also will be concentrated in that economic sector or industry.

The Funds are not actively managed by traditional methods, and therefore the adverse financial condition of any one issuer will not result in the elimination of its securities from the securities held by a Fund unless the securities of such issuer are removed from its respective Index.

An investment in each Fund should also be made with an understanding that the Fund will not be able to replicate exactly the performance of its respective Index because the total return generated by the securities will be reduced by transaction costs incurred in adjusting the actual balance of the securities and other Fund expenses, whereas such transaction costs and expenses are not included in the calculation of its respective Index. It is also possible that for periods of time, a Fund may not fully replicate the performance of its respective Index due to the temporary unavailability of certain Index securities in the secondary market or due to other extraordinary circumstances. It is also possible that the composition of a Fund may not exactly replicate the composition of its respective Index if the Fund has to adjust its portfolio holdings in order to continue to qualify as a “regulated investment company” under the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Internal Revenue Code”).

Regulatory developments affecting the exchange-traded and OTC derivatives markets may impair a Fund’s ability to manage or hedge its investment portfolio through the use of derivatives. The Dodd-Frank Act and the rules promulgated thereunder may limit the ability of a Fund to enter into one or more exchange-traded or OTC derivatives transactions.

The Trust, on behalf of the Funds, has filed a notice of eligibility with the National Futures Association claiming an exclusion from the definition of the term “commodity pool operator” (“CPO”) pursuant to CFTC Regulation 4.5, as promulgated under the Commodity Exchange Act (“CEA”) with respect to the Funds’ operations. Therefore, neither the Funds nor the Adviser (with respect to the Funds) is subject to registration or regulation as a commodity pool or CPO under the CEA. If a Fund becomes subject to these requirements, a Fund may incur additional compliance and other expenses. Each Fund’s use of derivatives may also be limited by the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code, for qualification as a regulated investment company for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

With respect to investments in swap transactions, commodity futures, commodity options or certain other derivatives used for purposes other than bona fide hedging purposes, an investment company must meet one of the following tests under the amended regulations in order to claim an exemption from being considered a “commodity pool” or CPO. First, the aggregate initial margin and premiums required to establish an investment company’s positions in such investments may not exceed five percent (5%) of the liquidation value of the investment company’s portfolio (after accounting for unrealized profits and unrealized losses on any such investments). Alternatively, the aggregate net notional value of such instruments, determined at the time of the most recent position established, may not exceed one hundred percent (100%) of the liquidation value of the investment company’s portfolio (after accounting for unrealized profits and unrealized losses on any such positions). In addition to meeting one of the foregoing trading limitations, the investment company may not market itself as a commodity pool or otherwise as a vehicle for trading in the commodity futures, commodity options or swaps and derivatives markets. In the event that the Adviser is required to register as a CPO, the disclosure and operations of the Funds would need to comply with all applicable CFTC regulations. Compliance with these additional registration and regulatory requirements would increase operational expenses. Other potentially adverse regulatory initiatives could also develop.

## **U.S. Federal Tax Treatment of Futures Contracts and Certain Option Contracts**

Each Fund may be required for federal income tax purposes to mark-to-market and recognize as income for each taxable year their net unrealized gains and losses on certain futures contracts and option contracts as of the end of the year as well as those actually realized during the year. Gain or loss from futures contracts required to be marked-to-market will be 60% long-term and 40% short-term capital gain or loss. Application of this rule may alter the timing and character of distributions to shareholders. Each Fund may be required to defer the recognition of losses on futures contracts or certain option contracts to the extent of any unrecognized gains on related positions held by the Fund.

In order for a Fund to continue to qualify for U.S. federal income tax treatment as a regulated investment company, at least 90% of its gross income for a taxable year must be derived from qualifying income, i.e., dividends, interest, income derived from loans of securities, gains from the sale of securities or of foreign currencies or other income derived with respect to the Fund's business of investing in securities. It is anticipated that any net gain realized from the closing out of futures contracts or certain option contracts will be considered gain from the sale of securities and therefore will be qualifying income for purposes of the 90% requirement.

Each Fund distributes to shareholders annually any net capital gains which have been recognized for U.S. federal income tax purposes (including unrealized gains at the end of the Fund's fiscal year on certain futures transactions and certain option contracts). Such distributions are combined with distributions of capital gains realized on each Fund's other investments and shareholders are advised on the nature of the distributions.

### **Concentration Considerations**

To the extent that a Fund's investments are concentrated in a particular sector or sectors or industry or group of industries, the Fund will be subject to the risk that economic, political or other conditions that have a negative effect on that sector or industry will negatively impact the Fund to a greater extent than if the Fund's assets were invested in a wider variety of sectors or industries. The securities of state and municipal governments and their political subdivisions are not considered to be issued by members of any industry.

### **Cyber Security**

The Funds, their service providers, each Exchange and Authorized Participants (defined below) are susceptible to cyber security risks that include, among other things, theft, unauthorized monitoring, release, misuse, loss, destruction or corruption of confidential and highly restricted data; denial of service attacks; unauthorized access to relevant systems, compromises to networks or devices that the Funds and their service providers use to service the Funds' operations; or operational disruption or failures in the physical infrastructure or operating systems that support the Funds and their service providers. Cyber attacks against or security breakdowns of the Funds, their service providers, an Exchange or Authorized Participants may adversely impact the Funds and their shareholders, potentially resulting in, among other things, financial losses; the inability of Fund shareholders to transact business and the Funds to process transactions; inability to calculate the Funds' NAVs; violations of applicable privacy and other laws; regulatory fines, penalties, reputational damage, reimbursement or other compensation costs; and/or additional compliance costs. The Funds may incur additional costs for cyber security risk management and remediation purposes. In addition, cyber security risks may also impact issuers of securities in which the Funds invest, which may cause the Funds' investment in such issuers to lose value. There can be no assurance that the Funds, their service providers, an Exchange or Authorized Participants will not suffer losses relating to cyber attacks or other information security breaches in the future.

## EXCHANGE LISTING AND TRADING

A discussion of exchange listing and trading matters associated with an investment in each Fund is contained in each Fund's Prospectus under the headings "Summary Information—Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund" with respect to the applicable Fund, "Additional Information About the Funds' Investment Strategies and Risks—Risks of Investing in the Funds," "Shareholder Information—Determination of NAV" and "Shareholder Information—Buying and Selling Exchange-Traded Shares." The discussion below supplements, and should be read in conjunction with, such sections of each Fund's Prospectus.

The Shares of each Fund are listed on the relevant Exchange and trade in the secondary market at prices that may differ to some degree from their NAV. An Exchange may but is not required to remove the Shares of the Funds from listing if: (1) following the initial twelve-month period beginning upon the commencement of trading of the Funds, there are fewer than 50 beneficial holders of the Shares for 30 or more consecutive trading days, (2) the value of a Fund's respective Index or portfolio of securities on which the Fund is based is no longer calculated or available or (3) such other event shall occur or condition exists that, in the opinion of the Exchange, makes further dealings on the Exchange inadvisable. In addition, the Exchange will remove the Shares from listing and trading upon termination of the Trust. There can be no assurance that the requirements of the Exchange necessary to maintain the listing of Shares of the Funds will continue to be met.

As in the case of other securities traded on an Exchange, brokers' commissions on secondary market transactions in Shares of each of the Funds will be based on negotiated commission rates at customary levels.

In order to provide investors with a basis to gauge whether the market price of the Shares on an Exchange is approximately consistent with the current value of the assets of a Fund on a per Share basis, an updated value of each Fund's Shares is disseminated intra-day ("IIV" and also known as the Indicative Optimized Portfolio Value) through the facilities of the Consolidated Tape Association's Network B. IIVs are disseminated every 15 seconds during regular Exchange trading hours. The Funds are not involved in or responsible for the calculation or dissemination of the IIVs and make no warranty as to the accuracy of the IIVs.

The IIV has a securities component and a cash component reflecting cash and other assets that may be held by the Funds. The securities values included in the IIV are the values of the Deposit Securities (as defined below under the heading "Creation and Redemption of Creation Units—Fund Deposit") for the Funds. While the IIV reflects the approximate current value of the Deposit Securities required to be deposited in connection with the purchase of a Creation Unit, it does not necessarily reflect the precise composition of the current portfolio of securities held by the Funds at a particular point in time because the current portfolio of each Fund may include securities that are not a part of the current Deposit Securities. Therefore, each Fund's IIV disseminated during the Exchange trading hours should not be viewed as a real-time update of the Fund's NAV, which is calculated only once a day.

The cash component included in the IIV could consist of estimated accrued interest, dividends and other income, less expenses. If applicable, the IIV also reflects changes in currency exchange rates between the U.S. dollar and the applicable currency.



## BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TRUST

### Trustees and Officers of the Trust

The Board of the Trust consists of five Trustees, four of whom are not “interested persons” (as defined in the 1940 Act), of the Trust (the “Independent Trustees”). Mr. David H. Chow, an Independent Trustee, serves as Chairman of the Board. The Board is responsible for overseeing the management and operations of the Trust, including general supervision of the duties performed by the Adviser and other service providers to the Trust. The Adviser is responsible for the day-to-day administration and business affairs of the Trust.

The Board believes that each Trustee’s experience, qualifications, attributes or skills on an individual basis and in combination with those of the other Trustees lead to the conclusion that the Board possesses the requisite skills and attributes to carry out its oversight responsibilities with respect to the Trust. The Board believes that the Trustees’ ability to review, critically evaluate, question and discuss information provided to them, to interact effectively with the Adviser, other service providers, counsel and independent auditors, and to exercise effective business judgment in the performance of their duties, support this conclusion. The Board also has considered the following experience, qualifications, attributes and/or skills, among others, of its members in reaching its conclusion: such person’s character and integrity; length of service as a board member of the Trust; such person’s willingness to serve and willingness and ability to commit the time necessary to perform the duties of a Trustee; and as to each Trustee other than Mr. van Eck, his status as not being an “interested person” (as defined in the 1940 Act) of the Trust. In addition, the following specific experience, qualifications, attributes and/or skills apply as to each Trustee: Mr. Chow, significant business and financial experience, particularly in the investment management industry, experience with trading and markets through his involvement with the Pacific Stock Exchange, and service as a chief executive officer, board member, partner or executive officer of various businesses and non-profit organizations; Mr. Short, business and financial experience, particularly in the investment management industry, and service as a president, board member or executive officer of various businesses; Mr. Sidebottom, business and financial experience, particularly in the investment management industry, and service as partner and/or executive officer of various businesses; Mr. Stamberger, business and financial experience and service as the president and chief executive officer of SmartBrief Inc., a media company; and Mr. van Eck, business and financial experience, particularly in the investment management industry, and service as a president, executive officer and/or board member of various businesses, including the Adviser, Van Eck Securities Corporation, and Van Eck Absolute Return Advisers Corporation. References to the experience, qualifications, attributes and skills of Trustees are pursuant to requirements of the SEC, do not constitute holding out of the Board or any Trustee as having any special expertise or experience, and shall not impose any greater responsibility or liability on any such person or on the Board by reason thereof.

The Trustees of the Trust, their addresses, positions with the Trust, year of birth, term of office and length of time served, principal occupations during the past five years, the number of portfolios in the Fund Complex overseen by each Trustee and other directorships, if any, held by the Trustees, are set forth below.

## Independent Trustees

| <b>Name,<br/>Address<sup>1</sup><br/>and Year<br/>of<br/>Birth</b> | <b>Position(s)<br/>Held with<br/>the Trust</b> | <b>Term of<br/>Office<sup>2</sup><br/>and<br/>Length<br/>of<br/>Time<br/>Served</b> | <b>Principal<br/>Occupation(s) During<br/>Past Five Years</b>   | <b>Number of Other<br/>Portfolios<br/>in<br/>Fund<br/>Complex<sup>3</sup><br/>Overseen</b> | <b>Directorships<br/>Held By<br/>Trustee During<br/>Past Five<br/>Years</b>   |
|--|--|---|---|--|---|
| David H.<br>Chow,<br>1957*†  | Chairman<br>Trustee                            | Since<br>2008<br>Since<br>2006  | Founder and CEO,<br>DanCourt Management<br>LLC (financial/strategy<br>consulting firm and<br>Registered Investment<br>Adviser), March 1999 to<br>present. | 58   | Director, Forward Management LLC and Audit<br>Committee Chairman, May 2001 to June 2015;<br>Trustee, Berea College of Kentucky and<br>Vice-Chairman of the Investment Committee,<br>May 2009 to present; Member of the Governing<br>Council of the Independent Directors Council,<br>October 2012 to present; President, July 2013 to<br>present, and Board Member of the CFA Society<br>of Stamford, July 2009 to present; Advisory<br>Board member, MainStay Fund Complex <sup>4</sup> , June<br>2015 to December 2015; Trustee, MainStay<br>Fund Complex <sup>4</sup> , January 2016 to present. |

| Name,<br>Address <sup>1</sup><br>and Year of<br>Birth | Position(s) and<br>Held with<br>the Trust | Term of<br>Office <sup>2</sup><br>Length<br>of<br>Time<br>Served | Principal<br>Occupation(s) During<br>Past Five Years  | Number of Other<br>Portfolios<br>in<br>Fund<br>Complex <sup>3</sup><br>Overseen | Directorships<br>Held By<br>Trustee During<br>Past Five<br>Years   |
|---|---|--|---|---|--|
| R. Alastair<br>Short, 1953*†                          | Trustee                                   | Since<br>2006  | President, Apex Capital Corporation<br>(personal investment vehicle), January<br>1988 to present; Vice Chairman, W.P.<br>Stewart & Co., Inc. (asset management<br>firm), September 2007 to September<br>2008; and Managing Director, The<br>GlenRock Group, LLC (private equity<br>investment firm), May 2004 to<br>September 2007.   | 70  | Chairman and Independent<br>Director, EULAV Asset<br>Management, January 2011 to<br>present; Independent Director,<br>Tremont offshore funds, June<br>2009 to present; Director,<br>Kenyon Review.   |
| Peter J.<br>Sidebottom,<br>1962*†                     | Trustee                                   | Since<br>2012  | Partner, PWC/Strategy & Financial<br>Services Advisory, February 2015 to<br>present; Founder and Board Member,<br>AspenWoods Risk Solutions,<br>September 2013 to February 2016;<br>Independent consultant, June 2013 -<br>February 2015; Partner, Bain &<br>Company (management consulting<br>firm), April 2012 to December 2013;<br>Executive Vice President and Senior<br>Operating Committee Member, TD<br>Ameritrade (on-line brokerage firm),<br>February 2009 to January 2012. | 58  | Board Member, Special<br>Olympics, New Jersey,<br>November 2011 to September<br>2013; Director, The Charlotte<br>Research Institute, December<br>2000 to present; Board<br>Member, Social Capital<br>Institute, University of North<br>Carolina Charlotte, November<br>2004 to January 2012; Board<br>Member, NJ-CAN, July 2014<br>to present. |
| Richard D.<br>Stamberger,<br>1959*†                   | Trustee                                   | Since<br>2006  | Director, President and CEO,<br>SmartBrief, Inc. (media company).   | 70  | Director, Food and Friends,<br>Inc., 2013 to present.  |

1 The address for each Trustee and officer is 666 Third Avenue, 9th Floor, New York, New York 10017.

2 Each Trustee serves until resignation, death, retirement or removal. Officers are elected yearly by the Trustees.

3 The Fund Complex consists of the VanEck Funds, VanEck VIP Trust and the Trust.

The MainStay Fund Complex consists of MainStay Funds Trust, MainStay Funds, MainStay VP Funds Trust,  
4 Private Advisors Alternative Strategies Master Fund, Private Advisors Alternative Strategies Fund and MainStay  
DefinedTerm Municipal Opportunities Fund.

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\*Member of the Audit Committee.

†Member of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee.

Interested Trustee

| <b>Name, Address<sup>1</sup> and Year of Birth</b> | <b>Position(s) Held with the Trust</b>         | <b>Term of Office<sup>2</sup> and Length of Time Served</b>              | <b>Principal Occupation(s) During Past Five Years</b>  | <b>Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex<sup>3</sup> Overseen</b> | <b>Other Directorships Held By Trustee During Past Five Years</b> |
|--|--|--|--|--|---|
| Jan F. van Eck, 1963 <sup>4</sup>                  | Trustee, President and Chief Executive Officer | Trustee (Since 2006); President and Chief Executive Officer (Since 2009) | Director, President, Chief Executive Officer and Owner of the Adviser, Van Eck Associates Corporation; Director, President and Chief Executive Officer, Van Eck Securities Corporation (“VESCO”); Director, President and Chief Executive Officer, Van Eck Absolute Return Advisers Corp. (“VEARA”). | 58   | Director, National Committee on US-China Relations.               |

<sup>1</sup>The address for each Trustee and officer is 666 Third Avenue, 9th Floor, New York, New York 10017.

<sup>2</sup>Each Trustee serves until resignation, death, retirement or removal. Officers are elected yearly by the Trustees.

<sup>3</sup>The Fund Complex consists of the VanEck Funds, VanEck VIP Trust and the Trust.

<sup>4</sup>“Interested person” of the Trust within the meaning of the 1940 Act. Mr. van Eck is an officer of the Adviser.

Officer Information

The Officers of the Trust, their addresses, positions with the Trust, year of birth and principal occupations during the past five years are set forth below.

| <b>Officer’s Name, Address<sup>1</sup> and Year of Birth</b> | <b>Position(s) Held with the Trust</b> | <b>Term of Office<sup>2</sup> and Length of Time</b> | <b>Principal Occupation(s) During The Past Five Years</b> |
|--|--|--|---|
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|                                   |  |            |   |
|-----------------------------------|--|------------|---|
| Matthew A. Babinsky,<br>1983      | Assistant Vice President and Assistant Secretary | Since 2016 | Assistant Vice President and Assistant General Counsel of the Adviser, VESC and VEARA (since 2016); Associate, Clifford Chance US LLP (October 2011 to April 2016); Officer of other investment companies advised by the Adviser. |
| Russell G. Brennan, 1964          | Assistant Vice President and Assistant Treasurer | Since 2008 | Assistant Vice President and Assistant Treasurer of the Adviser (since 2008); Manager (Portfolio Administration) of the Adviser, September 2005 to October 2008; Officer of other investment companies advised by the Adviser.    |
| Charles T. Cameron,<br>1960<br>22 | Vice President                                   | Since 2006 | Director of Trading (since 1995) and Portfolio Manager (since 1997) for the Adviser; Officer of other investment companies advised by the Adviser.  |

| <b>Officer's Name, Address<sup>1</sup> and Year of Birth</b> | <b>Position(s) Held with the Trust</b>  | <b>Term of Office<sup>2</sup> and Length of Time Served</b>   | <b>Principal Occupation(s) During The Past Five Years</b>   |
|--|---|---|---|
| Simon Chen, 1971   | Assistant Vice President  | Since 2012  | Greater China Director of the Adviser (since January 2012); General Manager, SinoMarkets Ltd. (June 2007 to December 2011).   |
| John J. Crimmins, 1957                                       | Vice President, Treasurer, Chief Financial Officer and Principal Accounting Officer | Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Principal Accounting Officer (Since 2012); Treasurer (Since 2009) | Vice President of Portfolio Administration of the Adviser, June 2009 to present; Vice President of VESC and VEARA, June 2009 to present; Chief Financial, Operating and Compliance Officer, Kern Capital Management LLC, September 1997 to February 2009; Officer of other investment companies advised by the Adviser. |
| Uwe Eberle, 1965   | Vice President  | Since 2016  | Managing Director of Van Eck Switzerland AG (since 2010).   |
| Eduardo Escario, 1975  | Vice President  | Since 2012  | Regional Director, Business Development/Sales for Southern Europe and South America of the Adviser (since July 2008); Regional Director (Spain, Portugal, South America and Africa) of Dow Jones Indexes and STOXX Ltd. (May 2001 – July 2008).   |
| Susan C. Lashley, 1955                                       | Vice President  | Since 2006  | Vice President of the Adviser and VESC; Officer of other investment companies advised by the Adviser.   |
| Laura I. Martínez, 1980                                      | Vice President and Assistant Secretary  | Vice President (Since 2016) and Assistant Secretary (Since 2008)  | Vice President (since 2016), Associate General Counsel and Assistant Secretary (since 2008) and Assistant Vice President (2008 to 2016) of the Adviser, VESC and VEARA (since 2008); Associate, Davis Polk & Wardwell (October 2005 to June 2008); Officer of other investment companies advised by the Adviser.        |
| Ferat Oeztuerk, 1983   | Assistant Vice President  | Since 2012  | Sales Associate, VanEck (Europe) GmbH (since November 2011); Account Manager, Vodafone Global Enterprise Limited (January 2011 to October 2011).  |
| James Parker, 1969   | Assistant Treasurer   | Since June 2014   | Manager (Portfolio Administration) of the Adviser (since June 2010); Vice President of JPMorgan Chase & Co. (April 1999 to January 2010).   |
| Philipp Schlegel,  | Vice President  | Since 2016  | Senior Director of Van Eck Switzerland AG (since 2010).   |

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|                         |  |   |  |
|-------------------------|--|---|--|
| Jonathan R. Simon, 1974 | Senior Vice President, Secretary and Chief Legal Officer | Senior Vice President (Since 2016) and Secretary and Chief Legal Officer (Since 2014) | Senior Vice President (since 2016), General Counsel and Secretary (since 2014) and Vice President (2006 to 2016) of the Adviser, VESC and VEARA; Officer of other investment companies advised by the Adviser. |
|-------------------------|--|---|--|

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| <b>Officer's Name, Address<sup>1</sup> and Year of Birth</b> | <b>Position(s) Held with the Trust</b> | <b>Term of Office<sup>2</sup> and Length of Time Served</b> | <b>Principal Occupation(s) During The Past Five Years</b>  |
|--|--|---|--|
| Bruce J. Smith, 1955   | Senior Vice President                  | Since 2006  | Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Controller of the Adviser, VESC and VEARA (since 1997); Director of the Adviser, VESC and VEARA (since October 2010); Officer of other investment companies advised by the Adviser.  |
| Janet Squitieri, 1961  | Chief Compliance Officer               | Since September 2013  | Vice President, Global Head of Compliance of the Adviser, VESC and VEARA (since September 2013); Chief Compliance Officer and Senior Vice President North America of HSBC Global Asset Management NA (August 2010 to September 2013); Chief Compliance Officer North America of Babcock & Brown LP (July 2008 to June 2010). |

<sup>1</sup>The address for each Officer is 666 Third Avenue, 9th Floor, New York, New York 10017.

<sup>2</sup>Officers are elected yearly by the Trustees.

The Board of the Trust met seven times during the fiscal year ended September 30, 2016.

The Board has an Audit Committee consisting of four Trustees who are Independent Trustees. Messrs. Chow, Short, Sidebottom and Stamberger currently serve as members of the Audit Committee and each of Messrs. Chow, Short, Sidebottom and Stamberger has been designated as an “audit committee financial expert” as defined under Item 407 of Regulation S-K of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”). Mr. Short is the Chairman of the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee has the responsibility, among other things, to: (i) oversee the accounting and financial reporting processes of the Trust and its internal control over financial reporting; (ii) oversee the quality and integrity of the Trust’s financial statements and the independent audit thereof; (iii) oversee or, as appropriate, assist the Board’s oversight of the Trust’s compliance with legal and regulatory requirements that relate to the Trust’s accounting and financial reporting, internal control over financial reporting and independent audit; (iv) approve prior to appointment the engagement of the Trust’s independent registered public accounting firm and, in connection therewith, to review and evaluate the qualifications, independence and performance of the Trust’s independent registered public accounting firm; and (v) act as a liaison between the Trust’s independent registered public accounting firm and the full Board. The Audit Committee met four times during the fiscal year ended September 30, 2016.

The Board also has a Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee consisting of four Independent Trustees. Messrs. Chow, Short, Sidebottom and Stamberger currently serve as members of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. Mr. Stamberger is the Chairman of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee has the responsibility, among other things, to: (i) evaluate, as necessary, the composition of the Board, its committees and sub-committees and make such recommendations to the Board as deemed appropriate by the Committee; (ii) review and define Independent Trustee qualifications; (iii) review the qualifications of individuals serving as Trustees on the Board and its committees; (iv) evaluate,





recommend and nominate qualified individuals for election or appointment as members of the Board and recommend the appointment of members and chairs of each Board committee and subcommittee; and (v) review and assess, from time to time, the performance of the committees and subcommittees of the Board and report the results to the Board. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee met once during the fiscal year ended September 30, 2016. The Board has determined that its leadership structure is appropriate given the business and nature of the Trust. In connection with its determination, the Board considered that the Chairman of the Board is an Independent Trustee. The Chairman of the Board can play an important role in setting the agenda of the Board and also serves as a key point person for dealings between management and the other Independent Trustees. The Independent Trustees believe that the Chairman's independence facilitates meaningful dialogue between the Adviser and the Independent Trustees. The Board also considered that the Chairman of each Board committee is an Independent Trustee, which yields similar benefits with respect to the functions and activities of the various Board committees. The Independent Trustees also regularly meet outside the presence of management and are advised by independent legal counsel. The Board has determined that its committees help ensure that the Trust has effective and independent governance and oversight. The Board also believes that its leadership structure facilitates the orderly and efficient flow of information to the Independent Trustees from management of the Trust, including the Adviser. The Board reviews its structure on an annual basis.

As an integral part of its responsibility for oversight of the Trust in the interests of shareholders, the Board, as a general matter, oversees risk management of the Trust's investment programs and business affairs. The function of the Board with respect to risk management is one of oversight and not active involvement in, or coordination of, day-to-day risk management activities for the Trust. The Board recognizes that not all risks that may affect the Trust can be identified, that it may not be practical or cost-effective to eliminate or mitigate certain risks, that it may be necessary to bear certain risks (such as investment-related risks) to achieve the Trust's goals, and that the processes, procedures and controls employed to address certain risks may be limited in their effectiveness. Moreover, reports received by the Trustees that may relate to risk management matters are typically summaries of the relevant information.

The Board exercises oversight of the risk management process primarily through the Audit Committee, and through oversight by the Board itself. The Trust faces a number of risks, such as investment-related and compliance risks. The Adviser's personnel seek to identify and address risks, i.e., events or circumstances that could have material adverse effects on the business, operations, shareholder services, investment performance or reputation of the Trust. Under the overall supervision of the Board or the applicable Committee of the Board, the Trust, the Adviser, and the affiliates of the Adviser employ a variety of processes, procedures and controls to identify such possible events or circumstances, to lessen the probability of their occurrence and/or to mitigate the effects of such events or circumstances if they do occur. Different processes, procedures and controls are employed with respect to different types of risks. Various personnel, including the Trust's Chief Compliance Officer, as well as various personnel of the Adviser and other service providers such as the Trust's independent accountants, may report to the Audit Committee and/or to the Board with respect to various aspects of risk management, as well as events and circumstances that have arisen and responses thereto.

Except as follows, the officers and Trustees of the Trust, in aggregate, own less than 1% of the Shares of each Fund as of December 31, 2016. The following Trustees and/or officers beneficially own 1% or more of a Fund's Shares, as noted below:

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| <b>Fund Name</b>                   | <b>Name of Beneficial Owners</b> | <b>Number of Shares</b> | <b>Percent of Fund</b> |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF | Jan van Eck                      | 6,000                   | 4.00%                  |

For each Trustee, the dollar range of equity securities beneficially owned (including ownership through the Trust's Deferred Compensation Plan) by the Trustee in the Trust and in all registered investment companies advised by the Adviser ("Family of Investment Companies") that are overseen by the Trustee is shown below.

| Name of Trustee       | Dollar Range of Equity Securities in VanEck Vectors Biotech ETF (As of December 31, 2016) | Dollar Range of Equity Securities in VanEck Vectors Environmental Services ETF (As of December 31, 2016) | Dollar Range of Equity Securities in VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF (As of December 31, 2016) | Dollar Range of Equity Securities in VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF (As of December 31, 2016) | Dollar Range of Equity Securities in VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF (As of December 31, 2016) | Dollar Range of Equity Securities in VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF (As of December 31, 2016) |
|-----------------------|---|--|--|---|---|--|
| David H. Chow         | None  | None   | None   | None  | None  | None   |
| R. Alastair Short     | None  | None   | None   | None  | None  | None   |
| Peter J. Sidebottom   | None  | None   | None   | None  | None  | None   |
| Richard D. Stamberger | None  | None   | \$10,001-\$50,000  | None  | None  | None   |
| Jan F. van Eck        | None  | None   | \$10,001-\$50,000  | \$10,001-\$50,000   | Over \$100,000  | Over \$100,000   |

| Name of Trustee       | Dollar Range of Equity Securities in VanEck Vectors Morningstar Wide Moat ETF (As of December 31, 2016) | Dollar Range of Equity Securities in VanEck Vectors Pharmaceutical ETF (As of December 31, 2016) | Dollar Range of Equity Securities in VanEck Vectors Retail ETF (As of December 31, 2016) | Dollar Range of Equity Securities in VanEck Vectors Semiconductor ETF (As of December 31, 2016) | Aggregate Dollar Range of Equity Securities in all Registered Investment Companies Overseen By Trustee in Family of Investment Companies (As of December 31, 2016) |
|-----------------------|---|--|--|---|--|
| David H. Chow         | Over \$100,000  | None   | None   | None  | Over \$100,000   |
| R. Alastair Short     | None  | None   | None   | None  | None   |
| Peter J. Sidebottom   | None  | None   | None   | None  | None   |
| Richard D. Stamberger | \$10,001-\$50,000   | None   | None   | None  | Over \$100,000   |
| Jan F. van Eck        | None  | None   | None   | None  | Over \$100,000   |

As to each Independent Trustee and his immediate family members, no person owned beneficially or of record securities in an investment manager or principal underwriter of the Funds, or a person (other than a registered investment company) directly or indirectly controlling, controlled by or under common control with the investment manager or principal underwriter of the Funds.

#### Remuneration of Trustees

The Trust pays each Independent Trustee an annual retainer of \$80,000, a per meeting fee of \$15,000 for scheduled quarterly meetings of the Board and each special meeting of the Board and a per meeting fee of \$7,500 for telephonic meetings. Additionally, the Trust pays the Chairman of the Board an annual retainer of \$45,500, the Chairman of the Audit Committee an annual retainer of \$19,500 and the Chairman of the Governance Committee an annual retainer of \$13,000. The Trust also reimburses each Trustee for travel and other out-of-pocket expenses incurred in attending such meetings. No pension or retirement benefits are accrued as part of Trustee compensation.

The table below shows the compensation paid to the Trustees by the Trust for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2016. Annual Trustee fees may be reviewed periodically and changed by the Trust's Board.

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| Name of Trustee               | Aggregate Compensation From the Trust | Deferred Compensation From the Trust | Pension or Retirement Benefits Accrued as Part of the Trust's Expenses | Estimated Annual Benefits Upon Retirement | Total Compensation From the Trust and the Fund Complex <sup>(1)</sup> Paid to Trustee |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|---|---|
| David H. Chow                 | \$ 230,540                            | \$ 0                                 | N/A  | N/A                                       | \$ 230,540  |
| R. Alastair Short             | \$ 204,500                            | \$ 0                                 | N/A  | N/A                                       | \$ 339,500  |
| Peter J. Sidebottom           | \$ 170,000                            | \$ 0                                 | N/A  | N/A                                       | \$ 170,000  |
| Richard D. Stamberger         | \$ 164,740                            | \$ 18,300                            | N/A  | N/A                                       | \$ 333,040  |
| Jan F. van Eck <sup>(2)</sup> | \$ 0                                  | \$ 0                                 | N/A  | N/A                                       | \$ 0  |

(1)The "Fund Complex" consists of VanEck Funds, VanEck VIP Trust and the Trust.

(2)"Interested person" under the 1940 Act.

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## PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS DISCLOSURE

Each Fund's portfolio holdings are publicly disseminated each day the Fund is open for business through financial reporting and news services, including publicly accessible Internet web sites. In addition, a basket composition file, which includes the security names and share quantities to deliver in exchange for Creation Units, together with estimates and actual cash components, is publicly disseminated daily prior to the opening of the Exchange via the National Securities Clearing Corporation (the "NSCC"), a clearing agency that is registered with the SEC. The basket represents one Creation Unit of each Fund. The Trust, Adviser, Custodian and Distributor will not disseminate non-public information concerning the Trust.

## QUARTERLY PORTFOLIO SCHEDULE

The Trust is required to disclose, after its first and third fiscal quarters, the complete schedule of the Funds' portfolio holdings with the SEC on Form N-Q. Form N-Q for the Funds is available on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. The Funds' Form N-Q may also be reviewed and copied at the SEC's Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C. and information on the operation of the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling 202.551.8090. The Funds' Form N-Q is available through the Funds' website, at [www.vaneck.com](http://www.vaneck.com) or by writing to 666 Third Avenue, 9th Floor, New York, New York 10017.

## POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The Adviser (and its principals, affiliates or employees) may serve as investment adviser to other client accounts and conduct investment activities for their own accounts. Such "Other Clients" may have investment objectives or may implement investment strategies similar to those of the Funds, or may track the same index a Fund tracks. When the Adviser implements investment strategies for Other Clients that are similar or directly contrary to the positions taken by a Fund, the prices of the Fund's securities may be negatively affected. For example, when purchase or sales orders for a Fund are aggregated with those of other funds and/or Other Clients and allocated among them, the price that the Fund pays or receives may be more in the case of a purchase or less in a sale than if the Adviser served as adviser to only the Fund. When Other Clients are selling a security that a Fund owns, the price of that security may decline as a result of the sales. The compensation that the Adviser receives from Other Clients may be higher than the compensation paid by a Fund to the Adviser. The Adviser has implemented procedures to monitor trading across the Funds and its Other Clients.

## CODE OF ETHICS

The Funds, the Adviser and the Distributor have each adopted a Code of Ethics pursuant to Rule 17j-1 under the 1940 Act ("Rule 17j-1"). Such Codes of Ethics require, among other things, that "access persons" (as defined in Rule 17j-1)

conduct personal securities transactions in a manner that avoids any actual or potential conflict of interest or any abuse of a position of trust and responsibility. The Codes of Ethics allow such access persons to invest in securities that may be purchased and held by a Fund, provided such investments are done consistently with the provisions of the Codes of Ethics.

#### PROXY VOTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The Funds' proxy voting record is available upon request and on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. Proxies for each Fund's portfolio securities are voted in accordance with the Adviser's proxy voting policies and procedures, which are set forth in Appendix A to this SAI.



The Trust is required to disclose annually each Fund's complete proxy voting record on Form N-PX covering the period July 1 through June 30 and file it with the SEC no later than August 31. Form N-PX for the Funds is available through the Funds' website, at [www.vaneck.com](http://www.vaneck.com), or by writing to 666 Third Avenue, 9th Floor, New York, New York 10017. The Funds' Form N-PX is also available on the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

## MANAGEMENT

The following information supplements and should be read in conjunction with the section in each Fund's Prospectus entitled "Management of the Funds."

### Investment Adviser

Van Eck Associates Corporation acts as investment adviser to the Trust and, subject to the general supervision of the Board, is responsible for the day-to-day investment management of the Funds. The Adviser is a private company with headquarters in New York and manages numerous pooled investment vehicles and separate accounts. The Adviser has been wholly owned by members of the van Eck family since its founding in 1955 and its shares are held by the Adviser's Chief Executive Officer, Jan van Eck, and his family. Mr. van Eck's positions with the Trust and the Adviser are discussed above.

The Adviser serves as investment adviser to the Funds pursuant to an investment management agreement between the Trust and the Adviser (the "Investment Management Agreement"). Under the Investment Management Agreement, the Adviser, subject to the supervision of the Board and in conformity with the stated investment policies of each Fund, manages the investment of the Funds' assets. The Adviser is responsible for placing purchase and sale orders and providing continuous supervision of the investment portfolio of the Funds.

*Indemnification.* Pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement, the Trust has agreed to indemnify the Adviser for certain liabilities, including certain liabilities arising under the federal securities laws, unless such loss or liability results from willful misfeasance, bad faith or gross negligence in the performance of its duties or the reckless disregard of its obligations and duties.

Investments in the securities of underlying funds may involve duplication of advisory fees and certain other expenses. By investing in an underlying fund, a Fund becomes a shareholder of that underlying fund. As a result, the Fund's shareholders will indirectly bear the Fund's proportionate share of the fees and expenses paid by shareholders of the underlying fund, in addition to the fees and expenses the Fund's shareholders directly bear in connection with the Fund's own operations. To minimize the duplication of fees, the Adviser has agreed to waive the management fee it charges to a Fund by any amount it collects as a management fee from an underlying fund managed by the Adviser, as a result of an investment of the Fund's assets in such underlying fund.

*Compensation.* As compensation for its services under the Investment Management Agreement, the Adviser is paid a monthly fee based on a percentage of each applicable Fund's average daily net assets at the annual rate of 0.35% (with respect to VanEck Vectors Biotech ETF, VanEck Vectors Pharmaceutical ETF, VanEck Vectors Retail ETF and VanEck Vectors Semiconductor ETF), 0.45% (with respect to VanEck Vectors Morningstar Wide Moat ETF), 0.50% (with respect to VanEck Vectors Environmental Services ETF, VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF, VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF, VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF and VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF). From time to time, the Adviser may waive all or a portion of its fees. Until at least February 1, 2018, the Adviser has agreed to waive fees and/or pay Fund expenses to the extent necessary to prevent the operating expenses of each Fund (excluding acquired fund fees and expenses, interest expense, trading

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expenses, taxes and extraordinary expenses) from exceeding 0.35% (with respect to VanEck Vectors Biotech ETF, VanEck Vectors Pharmaceutical ETF, VanEck Vectors Retail ETF and VanEck Vectors Semiconductor ETF), 0.49% (with respect to VanEck Vectors Morningstar Wide Moat ETF), 0.55% (with respect to VanEck Vectors Environmental Services ETF, VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF and VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF), 0.56% (with respect to VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF) and 0.65% (with respect to VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF) of its average daily net assets per year.

The management fees paid by each Fund and the expenses waived or assumed by the Adviser during the Funds' fiscal years ended September 30, 2014, September 30, 2015 and September 30, 2016, as applicable, or, if the Fund has not been in existence for a full fiscal year, since the commencement of operations of that Fund are set forth in the chart below.

| Fund  | Management Fees Paid During the Fiscal Year Ended September 30 |             |             | Expenses Waived or Assumed by the Adviser During the Fiscal Year Ended September 30 |           |           | Date of Commencement of Operations of the Fund |
|---|--|-------------|-------------|---|-----------|-----------|--|
|   | 2014   | 2015        | 2016        | 2014  | 2015      | 2016      |  |
| VanEck Vectors Biotech ETF                        | \$1,809,011  | \$2,554,771 | \$2,059,825 | \$280,634   | \$330,219 | \$273,672 | 12/20/2011                                     |
| VanEck Vectors Environmental Services ETF         | \$96,704   | \$79,554    | \$78,867    | \$70,794  | \$94,256  | \$59,185  | 10/10/2006                                     |
| VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF                         | \$352,896  | \$167,643   | \$102,138   | \$50,189  | \$114,837 | \$54,218  | 01/22/2008                                     |
| VanEck Generic Drugs ETF                          | N/A  | N/A         | \$8,697     | N/A   | N/A       | \$89,601  | 01/12/2016                                     |
| VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF                | N/A  | \$2,912     | \$13,586    | N/A   | \$33,257  | \$122,844 | 06/09/2015                                     |
| VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF | N/A  | \$10,805    | \$56,618    | N/A   | \$41,850  | \$119,968 | 07/13/2015                                     |
| VanEck Vectors Morningstar Wide Moat ETF          | \$2,857,519  | \$4,030,669 | \$3,210,711 | \$34,757  | \$39,730  | \$55,653  | 04/24/2012                                     |
| VanEck Vectors Pharmaceutical ETF                 | \$1,074,541  | \$1,293,791 | \$1,010,966 | \$192,515   | \$212,209 | \$160,101 | 12/20/2011                                     |
| VanEck Vectors Retail ETF                         | \$142,969  | \$769,283   | \$525,684   | \$112,774   | \$146,310 | \$116,146 | 12/20/2011                                     |
| VanEck Vectors Semiconductor ETF                  | \$1,163,420  | \$1,392,964 | \$1,023,436 | \$206,894   | \$215,794 | \$149,188 | 12/20/2011                                     |

*Term.* The Investment Management Agreement is subject to annual approval by (1) the Board or (2) a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities (as defined in the 1940 Act) of each Fund, *provided* that in either event such continuance also is approved by a majority of the Board who are not interested persons (as defined in the 1940

Act) of the Trust by a vote cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on such approval. The Investment Management Agreement is terminable without penalty, on 60 days' notice, by the Board or by a vote of the holders of a majority (as defined in the 1940 Act) of a Fund's outstanding voting securities. The Investment Management Agreement is also terminable upon 60 days' notice by the Adviser and will terminate automatically in the event of its assignment (as defined in the 1940 Act).

## The Administrator

Van Eck Associates Corporation also serves as administrator for the Trust pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement. Under the Investment Management Agreement, the Adviser is obligated on a continuous basis to provide such administrative services as the Board of the Trust reasonably deems necessary for the proper administration of the Trust and the Funds. The Adviser will generally assist in all aspects of the Trust's and the Funds' operations; supply and maintain office facilities, statistical and research data, data processing services, clerical, bookkeeping and record keeping services (including without limitation the maintenance of such books and records as are required under the 1940 Act and the rules thereunder, except as maintained by other agents), internal auditing, executive and administrative services, and stationery and office supplies; prepare reports to shareholders or investors; prepare and file tax returns; supply financial information and supporting data for reports to and filings with the SEC and various state Blue Sky authorities; supply supporting documentation for meetings of the Board; provide monitoring reports and assistance regarding compliance with the Declaration of Trust, by-laws, investment objectives and policies and with federal and state securities laws; arrange for appropriate insurance coverage; calculate NAVs, net income and realized capital gains or losses; and negotiate arrangements with, and supervise and coordinate the activities of, agents and others to supply services. Van Eck Associates Corporation owns 100% of the common stock of Van Eck Securities Corporation (the "Distributor").

## Custodian and Transfer Agent

The Bank of New York Mellon ("The Bank of New York"), located at 101 Barclay Street, New York, New York 10286, serves as custodian for the Funds pursuant to a Custodian Agreement. As Custodian, The Bank of New York holds the Funds' assets. As compensation for these custodial services, The Bank of New York receives, among other items, transaction fees, asset-based safe keeping fees and overdraft charges and may be reimbursed by a Fund for its out-of-pocket expenses. The Bank of New York serves as the Funds' transfer agent (in such capacity, the "Transfer Agent") pursuant to a Transfer Agency Agreement. In addition, The Bank of New York provides various accounting services to each of the Funds pursuant to a fund accounting agreement.

## The Distributor

Van Eck Securities Corporation is the principal underwriter and distributor of Shares. Its principal address is 666 Third Avenue, New York, New York 10017 and investor information can be obtained by calling 800-826-2333. The Distributor has entered into an agreement with the Trust which will continue from its effective date unless terminated by either party upon 60 days' prior written notice to the other party by the Trust and the Adviser, or by the Distributor, or until termination of the Trust or each Fund offering its Shares, and which is renewable annually thereafter (the "Distribution Agreement"), pursuant to which it distributes Shares. Shares will be continuously offered for sale by the Trust through the Distributor only in Creation Units, as described below under "Creation and Redemption of Creation Units—Procedures for Creation of Creation Units." Shares in less than Creation Units are not distributed by the Distributor. The Distributor will deliver a prospectus to persons purchasing Shares in Creation Units and will maintain records of both orders placed with it and confirmations of acceptance furnished by it. The Distributor is a broker-dealer registered under the Exchange Act and a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority

(“FINRA”). The Distributor has no role in determining the investment policies of the Trust or which securities are to be purchased or sold by the Trust.

The Distributor may also enter into sales and investor services agreements with broker-dealers or other persons that are Participating Parties and DTC Participants (as defined below) to provide

distribution assistance, including broker-dealer and shareholder support and educational and promotional services but must pay such broker-dealers or other persons, out of its own assets.

The Distribution Agreement provides that it may be terminated at any time, without the payment of any penalty: (i) by vote of a majority of the Independent Trustees or (ii) by vote of a majority (as defined in the 1940 Act) of the outstanding voting securities of the Funds, on at least 60 days' written notice to the Distributor. The Distribution Agreement is also terminable upon 60 days' notice by the Distributor and will terminate automatically in the event of its assignment (as defined in the 1940 Act).

Affiliated Index Provider (VanEck Vectors Biotech ETF, VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF, VanEck Vectors Pharmaceutical ETF, VanEck Vectors Retail ETF and VanEck Vectors Semiconductor ETF only)

MVIS US Listed Biotech 25 Index (the "Biotech Index"), MVIS Global Gaming Index (the "Gaming Index"), MVIS US Listed Pharmaceutical 25 Index (the "Pharmaceutical Index"), MVIS US Listed Retail 25 Index (the "Retail Index") and MVIS US Listed Semiconductor 25 Index (the "Semiconductor Index") (each an "MVIS Index," and collectively, the "MVIS Indices") are published by MVIS (the "Index Provider"), which is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Adviser. In order to minimize any potential for conflicts caused by the fact that the Adviser or its affiliates act as the Index Provider to a Fund that tracks an MVIS Index, the Index Provider has retained Solactive AG, an unaffiliated third party (the "Calculation Agent"), to calculate the MVIS Indices. The Calculation Agent, using a rules-based methodology, will calculate, maintain and disseminate each of the MVIS Indices on a daily basis. The Index Provider will monitor the results produced by the Calculation Agent to help ensure that the MVIS Indices are being calculated in accordance with the applicable rules-based methodology. In addition, the Adviser and MVIS have established policies and procedures designed to prevent non-public information about pending changes to an MVIS Index from being used or disseminated in an improper manner. Furthermore, the Adviser and the Index Provider have established policies and procedures designed to prevent improper use and dissemination of non-public information about VanEck Vectors Biotech ETF's, VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF's, VanEck Vectors Pharmaceutical ETF's, VanEck Vectors Retail ETF's and VanEck Vectors Semiconductor ETF's portfolio strategies and to prevent VanEck Vectors Biotech ETF's, VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF's, VanEck Vectors Pharmaceutical ETF's, VanEck Vectors Retail ETF's and VanEck Vectors Semiconductor ETF's portfolio managers from having any influence on the construction of the applicable MVIS Index's methodology.

Other Accounts Managed by the Portfolio Managers

As of the date indicated below, Messrs. Liao and Chao managed the following other accounts:

Other Accounts Managed  
(As of September 30, 2016)

Accounts with respect to  
which  
the advisory fee is based on  
the

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| Name of Portfolio Manager | Category of Account              | Number of Accounts in Category | Total Assets in Accounts in Category | performance of the account     |                                      |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
|                           |                                  |                                |                                      | Number of Accounts in Category | Total Assets in Accounts in Category |
| Hao Hung (Peter) Liao     | Registered investment companies  | 43                             | \$24,140.37 million                  | 0                              | \$0                                  |
|                           | Other pooled investment vehicles | 3                              | \$199.77 million                     | 0                              | \$0                                  |
|                           | Other accounts                   | 0                              | \$0                                  | 0                              | \$0                                  |



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|             |                                  |    |                     |   |     |
|-------------|----------------------------------|----|---------------------|---|-----|
| George Chao | Registered investment companies  | 43 | \$24,140.37 million | 0 | \$0 |
|             | Other pooled investment vehicles | 3  | \$199.77 million    | 0 | \$0 |
|             | Other accounts                   | 0  | \$0                 | 0 | \$0 |

Although the funds in the Trust that are managed by Messrs. Liao and Chao may have different investment strategies, each has an investment objective of seeking to replicate as closely as possible, before fees and expenses, the price and yield performance of its respective underlying index. The Adviser does not believe that management of the various accounts presents a material conflict of interest for Messrs. Liao and Chao or the Adviser.

Portfolio Manager Compensation

The portfolio managers are paid a fixed base salary and a bonus. The bonus is based upon the quality of investment analysis and the management of the funds. The quality of management of the funds includes issues of replication, rebalancing, portfolio monitoring and efficient operation, among other factors. Portfolio managers who oversee accounts with significantly different fee structures are generally compensated by discretionary bonus rather than a set formula to help reduce potential conflicts of interest. At times, the Adviser and its affiliates manage accounts with incentive fees. The portfolio managers may serve as portfolio managers to other clients. Such “Other Clients” may have investment objectives or may implement investment strategies similar to those of the Fund, or may track the same index the Fund tracks. When the portfolio managers implement investment strategies for Other Clients that are similar or directly contrary to the positions taken by the Fund, the prices of the Fund’s securities may be negatively affected. The compensation that the Fund’s portfolio managers receive for managing other client accounts may be higher than the compensation the portfolio managers receive for managing the Fund. The Adviser has implemented procedures to monitor trading across funds and its Other Clients.

Portfolio Manager Share Ownership

The portfolio holdings of Messrs. Liao and Chao, as of September 30, 2016 of the Funds are shown below.

| Fund                                      | None | \$1 to   | \$10,001 to | \$50,001 to | \$100,001 to | \$500,001 to | Over        |
|---|------|----------|-------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
|   |      | \$10,000 | \$50,000    | \$100,000   | \$500,000    | \$1,000,000  | \$1,000,000 |
| <b>Peter Liao</b>                         |      |          |             |             |              |              |             |
| VanEck Vectors Biotech ETF                | X    |          |             |             |              |              |             |
| VanEck Vectors Environmental Services ETF |      | X        |             |             |              |              |             |
| VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF                 |      | X        |             |             |              |              |             |
| VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF          | X    |          |             |             |              |              |             |

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| <b>Fund</b>                                       | <b>None</b> | <b>\$1 to<br/>\$10,000</b> | <b>\$10,001<br/>to<br/>\$50,000</b> | <b>\$50,001 to<br/>\$100,000</b> | <b>\$100,001<br/>to<br/>\$500,000</b> | <b>\$500,001 to Over<br/>\$1,000,000</b> |
|---|-------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF                |             | X                          |                                     |                                  |                                       |  |
| VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF |             | X                          |                                     |                                  |                                       |  |
| VanEck Vectors Morningstar Wide Moat ETF          |             | X                          |                                     |                                  |                                       |  |
| VanEck Vectors Pharmaceutical ETF                 | X           |                            |                                     |                                  |                                       |  |
| VanEck Vectors Retail ETF                         | X           |                            |                                     |                                  |                                       |  |
| VanEck Vectors Semiconductor ETF                  |             | X                          |                                     |                                  |                                       |  |
| <b>George Chao</b>                                |             |                            |                                     |                                  |                                       |  |
| VanEck Vectors Biotech ETF                        |             | X                          |                                     |                                  |                                       |  |
| VanEck Vectors Environmental Services ETF         | X           |                            |                                     |                                  |                                       |  |
| VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF                         |             | X                          |                                     |                                  |                                       |  |
| VanEck Generic Drugs ETF                          |             | X                          |                                     |                                  |                                       |  |
| VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF                |             | X                          |                                     |                                  |                                       |  |
| VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF | X           |                            |                                     |                                  |                                       |  |
| VanEck Vectors Morningstar Wide Moat ETF          |             | X                          |                                     |                                  |                                       |  |
| VanEck Vectors Pharmaceutical ETF                 | X           |                            |                                     |                                  |                                       |  |
| VanEck Vectors Retail ETF                         | X           |                            |                                     |                                  |                                       |  |
| VanEck Vectors Semiconductor ETF                  |             | X                          |                                     |                                  |                                       |  |

## BROKERAGE TRANSACTIONS

When selecting brokers and dealers to handle the purchase and sale of portfolio securities, the Adviser looks for prompt execution of the order at a favorable price. Generally, the Adviser works with recognized dealers in these securities, except when a better price and execution of the order can be obtained elsewhere. The Funds will not deal with affiliates in principal transactions unless permitted by exemptive order or applicable rule or regulation. The Adviser owes a duty to its clients to seek best execution on trades effected. Since the investment objective of each Fund is investment performance that corresponds to that of an Index, the Adviser does not intend to select brokers and dealers for the purpose of receiving research services in addition to a favorable price and prompt execution either from that broker or an unaffiliated third party.

The Adviser assumes general supervision over placing orders on behalf of the Trust for the purchase or sale of portfolio securities. If purchases or sales of portfolio securities of the Trust and one or more other investment companies or clients supervised by the Adviser are considered at or about the same time, transactions in such securities are allocated among the several investment companies and clients in a manner deemed equitable to all by the Adviser. In some cases, this procedure could have a detrimental effect on the price or volume of the security so far as the Trust is concerned. However, in other cases, it is possible that the ability to participate in volume transactions and to negotiate lower brokerage commissions will be beneficial to the Trust. The primary consideration is best execution.

Portfolio turnover may vary from year to year, as well as within a year. High turnover rates are likely to result in comparatively greater brokerage expenses and taxable distributions. The overall reasonableness of brokerage commissions is evaluated by the Adviser based upon its knowledge of available information as to the general level of commissions paid by other institutional investors for comparable services.

The aggregate brokerage commissions paid by each Fund during the Fund's fiscal years ended September 30, 2014, September 30, 2015 and September 30, 2016, as applicable, or, if the Fund has not been in existence for a full fiscal year, since the commencement of operations of that Fund are set forth in the chart below.

| Fund  | Brokerage Commissions Paid<br>During the<br>Fiscal Year Ended September<br>30 |           |           | Date of<br>Commencement<br>of Operations of<br>the Fund |
|---|---|-----------|-----------|---|
|   | 2014  | 2015      | 2016      |   |
| VanEck Vectors Biotech ETF                        | \$117,114   | \$205,125 | \$318,083 | 12/20/2011  |
| VanEck Vectors Environmental Services ETF         | \$2,764   | \$5,447   | \$5,859   | 10/10/2006  |
| VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF                         | \$37,819  | \$14,003  | \$8,566   | 01/22/2008  |
| VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF                  | N/A   | N/A       | \$2,342   | 01/12/2016  |
| VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF                | N/A   | \$893     | \$2,230   | 06/09/2015  |
| VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF | N/A   | \$12,626  | \$16,927  | 07/13/2015  |

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|  |           |           |           |            |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| VanEck Vectors Morningstar Wide Moat ETF | \$436,623 | \$347,063 | \$576,733 | 04/24/2012 |
| VanEck Vectors Pharmaceutical ETF        | \$65,489  | \$68,814  | \$101,359 | 12/20/2011 |
| VanEck Vectors Retail ETF                | \$4,202   | \$27,478  | \$19,591  | 12/20/2011 |
| VanEck Vectors Semiconductor ETF         | \$65,370  | \$104,582 | \$203,640 | 12/20/2011 |

BOOK ENTRY ONLY SYSTEM

The following information supplements and should be read in conjunction with the section in each Fund's Prospectus entitled "Shareholder Information—Buying and Selling Exchange-Traded Shares."

The Depository Trust Company ("DTC") acts as securities depository for the Shares. Shares of the Funds are represented by securities registered in the name of DTC or its nominee and deposited with, or on behalf of, DTC. Certificates will not be issued for Shares.

DTC, a limited-purpose trust company, was created to hold securities of its participants (the "DTC Participants") and to facilitate the clearance and settlement of securities transactions among the DTC Participants in such securities through electronic book-entry changes in accounts of the DTC Participants, thereby eliminating the need for physical movement of securities certificates. DTC Participants include securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and certain other organizations, some of whom (and/or their representatives) own DTC. More specifically, DTC is owned by a number of its DTC Participants and by the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") and FINRA. Access to the DTC system is also available to others such as banks, brokers, dealers and trust companies that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a DTC Participant, either directly or indirectly (the "Indirect Participants").

Beneficial ownership of Shares is limited to DTC Participants, Indirect Participants and persons holding interests through DTC Participants and Indirect Participants. Ownership of beneficial interests in Shares (owners of such beneficial interests are referred to herein as "Beneficial Owners") is shown on, and the transfer of ownership is effected only through, records maintained by DTC (with respect to DTC Participants) and on the records of DTC Participants (with respect to Indirect Participants and Beneficial Owners that are not DTC Participants). Beneficial Owners will receive from or through the DTC Participant a written confirmation relating to their purchase of Shares.

Conveyance of all notices, statements and other communications to Beneficial Owners is effected as follows. Pursuant to the Depository Agreement between the Trust and DTC, DTC is required to make available to the Trust upon request and for a fee to be charged to the Trust a listing of the Shares holdings of each DTC Participant. The Trust shall inquire of each such DTC Participant as to the number of Beneficial Owners holding Shares, directly or indirectly, through such DTC Participant. The Trust shall provide each such DTC Participant with copies of such notice, statement or other communication, in such form, number and at such place as such DTC Participant may reasonably request, in order that such notice, statement or communication may be transmitted by such DTC Participant, directly or indirectly, to such Beneficial Owners. In addition, the Trust shall pay to each such DTC Participant a fair and reasonable amount as reimbursement for the expenses attendant to such transmittal, all subject to applicable statutory and regulatory requirements.

Share distributions shall be made to DTC or its nominee, Cede & Co., as the registered holder of all Shares. DTC or its nominee, upon receipt of any such distributions, shall credit immediately DTC Participants' accounts with payments

in amounts proportionate to their respective beneficial interests in Shares as shown on the records of DTC or its nominee. Payments by DTC Participants to Indirect Participants and Beneficial Owners of Shares held through such DTC Participants will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices, as is now the case with securities held for the accounts of customers in bearer form or registered in a “street name,” and will be the responsibility of such DTC Participants.

The Trust has no responsibility or liability for any aspects of the records relating to or notices to Beneficial Owners, or payments made on account of beneficial ownership interests in such Shares, or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records relating to such beneficial ownership interests or for any other aspect of the relationship between DTC and the DTC Participants or the relationship between such DTC Participants and the Indirect Participants and Beneficial Owners owning through such DTC Participants.

DTC may determine to discontinue providing its service with respect to the Shares at any time by giving reasonable notice to the Trust and discharging its responsibilities with respect thereto under applicable law. Under such circumstances, the Trust shall take action either to find a replacement for DTC to perform its functions at a comparable cost or, if such a replacement is unavailable, to issue and deliver printed certificates representing ownership of Shares, unless the Trust makes other arrangements with respect thereto satisfactory to the Exchange.

## CREATION AND REDEMPTION OF CREATION UNITS

### General

The Funds issue and sell Shares only in Creation Units on a continuous basis through the Distributor, without an initial sales load, at their NAV next determined after receipt, on any Business Day (as defined herein), of an order in proper form. An Authorized Participant (defined below) that is not a “qualified institutional buyer,” as such term is defined under Rule 144A of the Securities Act of 1933, will not be able to receive, as part of a redemption, restricted securities eligible for resale under Rule 144A.

A “Business Day” with respect to the Funds is any day on which the NYSE is open for business. As of the date of the Prospectus, the NYSE observes the following holidays: New Year’s Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, President’s Day (Washington’s Birthday), Good Friday, Memorial Day (observed), Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.

### Fund Deposit

The consideration for a purchase of Creation Units generally consists of the in-kind deposit of a designated portfolio of equity securities (the “Deposit Securities”) that comprise each Fund’s respective Index and an amount of cash computed as described below (the “Cash Component”) or, as permitted or required by the Fund, of cash. The Cash Component together with the Deposit Securities, as applicable, are referred to as the “Fund Deposit,” which represents the minimum initial and subsequent investment amount for Shares. The Cash Component represents the difference between the NAV of a Creation Unit and the market value of Deposit Securities and may include a Dividend Equivalent Payment. The “Dividend Equivalent Payment” enables each Fund to make a complete distribution of dividends on the next dividend payment date, and is an amount equal, on a per Creation Unit basis, to the dividends on all the securities held by the Fund (“Fund Securities”) with ex-dividend dates within the accumulation period for such distribution (the “Accumulation Period”), net of expenses and liabilities for such period, as if all of the Fund Securities had been held by the Trust for the entire Accumulation Period. The Accumulation Period begins on the ex-dividend date for each Fund and ends on the next ex-dividend date.

The Administrator, through the NSCC, makes available on each Business Day, immediately prior to the opening of business on the Exchange (currently 9:30 a.m. Eastern time), the list of the names and the required number of shares of each Deposit Security to be included in the current Fund Deposit (based on information at the end of the previous Business Day) as well as the Cash Component for each Fund. Such Fund Deposit is applicable, subject to any adjustments as described below, in order to effect creations of Creation Units of each Fund until such time as the next-announced Fund Deposit composition is made available.



The identity and number of shares of the Deposit Securities required for a Fund Deposit for each Fund changes as rebalancing adjustments and corporate action events are reflected from time to time by the Adviser with a view to the investment objective of the applicable Fund. The composition of the Deposit Securities may also change in response to adjustments to the weighting or composition of the securities constituting each Fund's respective Index. In addition, the Trust reserves the right to accept a basket of securities or cash that differs from Deposit Securities or to permit or require the substitution of an amount of cash (i.e., a "cash in lieu" amount) to be added to the Cash Component to replace any Deposit Security which may, among other reasons, not be available in sufficient quantity for delivery, not be permitted to be re-registered in the name of the Trust as a result of an in-kind creation order pursuant to local law or market convention or which may not be eligible for transfer through the Clearing Process (described below), or which may not be eligible for trading by a Participating Party (defined below). In

light of the foregoing, in order to seek to replicate the in-kind creation order process, the Trust expects to purchase the Deposit Securities represented by the cash in lieu amount in the secondary market (“Market Purchases”). In such cases where the Trust makes Market Purchases because a Deposit Security may not be permitted to be re-registered in the name of the Trust as a result of an in-kind creation order pursuant to local law or market convention, or for other reasons, the Authorized Participant will reimburse the Trust for, among other things, any difference between the market value at which the securities were purchased by the Trust and the cash in lieu amount (which amount, at the Adviser’s discretion, may be capped), applicable registration fees and taxes. Brokerage commissions incurred in connection with the Trust’s acquisition of Deposit Securities will be at the expense of each Fund and will affect the value of all Shares of the Fund; but the Adviser may adjust the transaction fee to the extent the composition of the Deposit Securities changes or cash in lieu is added to the Cash Component to protect ongoing shareholders. The adjustments described above will reflect changes, known to the Adviser on the date of announcement to be in effect by the time of delivery of the Fund Deposit, in the composition of the relevant Index or resulting from stock splits and other corporate actions.

In addition to the list of names and numbers of securities constituting the current Deposit Securities of a Fund Deposit, the Administrator, through the NSCC, also makes available (i) on each Business Day, the Dividend Equivalent Payment, if any, and the estimated Cash Component effective through and including the previous Business Day, per outstanding Shares of the Fund, and (ii) on a continuous basis throughout the day, the Indicative Per Share Portfolio Value.

#### Procedures for Creation of Creation Units

To be eligible to place orders with the Distributor to create Creation Units of the Funds, an entity or person either must be (1) a “Participating Party,” *i.e.*, a broker-dealer or other participant in the Clearing Process through the Continuous Net Settlement System of the NSCC; or (2) a DTC Participant (see “Book Entry Only System”); and, in either case, must have executed an agreement with the Distributor and the Transfer Agent (as it may be amended from time to time in accordance with its terms) (“Participant Agreement”) (discussed below). A Participating Party and DTC Participant are collectively referred to as an “Authorized Participant.” All Creation Units of the Funds, however created, will be entered on the records of the Depository in the name of Cede & Co. for the account of a DTC Participant.

All orders to create Creation Units must be placed in multiples of 50,000 Shares (*i.e.*, a Creation Unit) of a Fund. All orders to create Creation Units, whether through the Clearing Process or outside the Clearing Process, must be received by the Distributor no later than the closing time of the regular trading session on NYSE Arca (“Closing Time”) (ordinarily 4:00 p.m. Eastern time) on the date such order is placed in order for creation of Creation Units to be effected based on the NAV of a Fund as determined on such date. A “Custom Order” may be placed by an Authorized Participant in the event that the Trust permits or requires the substitution of an amount of cash to be added to the Cash Component to replace any Deposit Security which may not be available in sufficient quantity for delivery or which may not be eligible for trading by such Authorized Participant or the investor for which it is acting, or other relevant reason. The Business Day on which a creation order (or order to redeem as discussed below) is placed is herein referred to as the “Transmittal Date.” Orders must be transmitted by telephone or other transmission method acceptable to the Distributor pursuant to procedures set forth in the Participant Agreement, as described below (see “—Placement of Creation Orders Using Clearing Process”). Severe economic or market disruptions or changes, or telephone or other communication failure, may impede the ability to reach the Distributor, a Participating Party or a DTC Participant.

Creation Units may be created in advance of the receipt by the Trust of all or a portion of the Fund Deposit. In such cases, the Authorized Participant will remain liable for the full deposit of the

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missing portion(s) of the Fund Deposit and will be required to post collateral with the Trust consisting of cash at least equal to a percentage of the marked-to-market value of such missing portion(s) that is specified in the Participant Agreement. The Trust may use such collateral to buy the missing portion(s) of the Fund Deposit at any time and will subject such Authorized Participant to liability for any shortfall between the cost to the Trust of purchasing such securities and the value of such collateral. The Trust will have no liability for any such shortfall. The Trust will return any unused portion of the collateral to the Authorized Participant once the entire Fund Deposit has been properly received by the Distributor and deposited into the Trust.

Orders to create Creation Units of a Fund shall be placed with a Participating Party or DTC Participant, as applicable, in the form required by such Participating Party or DTC Participant. Investors should be aware that their particular broker may not have executed a Participant Agreement, and that, therefore, orders to create Creation Units of the Funds may have to be placed by the investor's broker through a Participating Party or a DTC Participant who has executed a Participant Agreement. At any given time there may be only a limited number of broker-dealers that have executed a Participant Agreement. Those placing orders to create Creation Units of a Fund through the Clearing Process should afford sufficient time to permit proper submission of the order to the Distributor prior to the Closing Time on the Transmittal Date.

Orders for creation that are effected outside the Clearing Process are likely to require transmittal by the DTC Participant earlier on the Transmittal Date than orders effected using the Clearing Process. Those persons placing orders outside the Clearing Process should ascertain the deadlines applicable to DTC and the Federal Reserve Bank wire system by contacting the operations department of the broker or depository institution effectuating such transfer of Deposit Securities and Cash Component.

Orders to create Creation Units of a Fund may be placed through the Clearing Process utilizing procedures applicable to domestic funds for domestic securities ("Domestic Funds") (see "—Placement of Creation Orders Using Clearing Process") or outside the Clearing Process utilizing the procedures applicable to either Domestic Funds or foreign funds for foreign securities ("Foreign Funds") (see "—Placement of Creation Orders Outside Clearing Process—Domestic Funds" and "—Placement of Creation Orders Outside Clearing Process—Foreign Funds"). In the event that a Fund includes both domestic and foreign securities, the time for submitting orders is as stated in the "Placement of Creation Orders Outside Clearing Process—Foreign Funds" and "Placement of Redemption Orders Outside Clearing Process—Foreign Funds" sections below shall operate.

#### Placement of Creation Orders Using Clearing Process

Fund Deposits created through the Clearing Process, if available, must be delivered through a Participating Party that has executed a Participant Agreement.

The Participant Agreement authorizes the Distributor to transmit to NSCC on behalf of the Participating Party such trade instructions as are necessary to effect the Participating Party's creation order. Pursuant to such trade instructions

from the Distributor to NSCC, the Participating Party agrees to transfer the requisite Deposit Securities (or contracts to purchase such Deposit Securities that are expected to be delivered in a “regular way” manner by the third (3rd) Business Day) and the Cash Component to the Trust, together with such additional information as may be required by the Distributor. An order to create Creation Units of a Fund through the Clearing Process is deemed received by the Distributor on the Transmittal Date if (i) such order is received by the Distributor not later than the Closing Time on such Transmittal Date and (ii) all other procedures set forth in the Participant Agreement are properly followed.

#### Placement of Creation Orders Outside Clearing Process—Domestic Funds

Fund Deposits created outside the Clearing Process must be delivered through a DTC Participant that has executed a Participant Agreement. A DTC Participant who wishes to place an order creating Creation Units of the Funds to be effected outside the Clearing Process need not be a Participating Party, but such orders must state that the DTC Participant is not using the Clearing Process and that the creation of Creation Units will instead be effected through a transfer of securities and cash. The Fund Deposit transfer must be ordered by the DTC Participant in a timely fashion so as to ensure the delivery of the requisite number of Deposit Securities through DTC to the account of the Trust by no later than 11:00 a.m. Eastern time, of the next Business Day immediately following the Transmittal Date. All questions as to the number of Deposit Securities to be delivered, and the validity, form and eligibility (including time of receipt) for the deposit of any tendered securities, will be determined by the Trust, whose determination shall be final and binding. The cash equal to the Cash Component must be transferred directly to the Distributor through the Federal Reserve wire system in a timely manner so as to be received by the Distributor no later than 2:00 p.m. Eastern time, on the next Business Day immediately following the Transmittal Date. An order to create Creation Units of a Fund outside the Clearing Process is deemed received by the Distributor on the Transmittal Date if (i) such order is received by the Distributor not later than the Closing Time on such Transmittal Date; and (ii) all other procedures set forth in the Participant Agreement are properly followed. However, if the Distributor does not receive both the requisite Deposit Securities and the Cash Component in a timely fashion on the next Business Day immediately following the Transmittal Date, such order will be cancelled. Upon written notice to the Distributor, such cancelled order may be resubmitted the following Business Day using a Fund Deposit as newly constituted to reflect the current NAV of the applicable Fund. The delivery of Creation Units so created will occur no later than the third (3rd) Business Day following the day on which the creation order is deemed received by the Distributor.

Additional transaction fees may be imposed with respect to transactions effected outside the Clearing Process (through a DTC participant) and in circumstances in which any cash can be used in lieu of Deposit Securities to create Creation Units. (See “Creation Transaction Fee” section below.)

#### Placement of Creation Orders Outside Clearing Process—Foreign Funds

The Distributor will inform the Transfer Agent, the Adviser and the Custodian upon receipt of a Creation Order. The Custodian will then provide such information to the appropriate subcustodian. The Custodian will cause the subcustodian of such Fund to maintain an account into which the Deposit Securities (or the cash value of all or part of such securities, in the case of a permitted or required cash purchase or “cash in lieu” amount) will be delivered. Deposit Securities must be delivered to an account maintained at the applicable local custodian. The Trust must also receive, on or before the contractual settlement date, immediately available or same day funds estimated by the Custodian to be sufficient to pay the Cash Component next determined after receipt in proper form of the purchase order, together with the creation transaction fee described below.

Once the Transfer Agent has accepted a creation order, the Transfer Agent will confirm the issuance of a Creation Unit of a Fund against receipt of payment, at such NAV as will have been calculated after receipt in proper form of such order. The Transfer Agent will then transmit a confirmation of acceptance of such order.

Creation Units will not be issued until the transfer of good title to the Trust of the Deposit Securities and the payment of the Cash Component have been completed. When the subcustodian has confirmed to the Custodian that the required Deposit Securities (or the cash value thereof) have been

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delivered to the account of the relevant subcustodian, the Distributor and the Adviser will be notified of such delivery and the Transfer Agent will issue and cause the delivery of the Creation Units.

#### Acceptance of Creation Orders

The Trust reserves the absolute right to reject a creation order transmitted to it by the Distributor if, for any reason, (a) the order is not in proper form; (b) the creator or creators, upon obtaining the Shares, would own 80% or more of the currently outstanding Shares of a Fund; (c) the Deposit Securities delivered are not as specified by the Administrator, as described above; (d) the acceptance of the Deposit Securities would have certain adverse tax consequences to a Fund; (e) the acceptance of the Fund Deposit would, in the opinion of counsel, be unlawful; (f) the acceptance of the Fund Deposit would otherwise, in the discretion of the Trust or the Adviser, have an adverse effect on the Trust or the rights of beneficial owners; or (g) in the event that circumstances outside the control of the Trust, the Distributor and the Adviser make it for all practical purposes impossible to process creation orders. Examples of such circumstances include, without limitation, acts of God or public service or utility problems such as earthquakes, fires, floods, extreme weather conditions and power outages resulting in telephone, telecopy and computer failures; wars; civil or military disturbances, including acts of civil or military authority or governmental actions; terrorism; sabotage; epidemics; riots; labor disputes; market conditions or activities causing trading halts; systems failures involving computer or other information systems affecting the Trust, the Adviser, the Distributor, DTC, the NSCC or any other participant in the creation process, and similar extraordinary events. The Transfer Agent will notify a prospective creator of its rejection of the order of such person. The Trust, the Custodian, any subcustodian, the Distributor and the Transfer Agent are under no duty, however, to give notification of any defects or irregularities in the delivery of Fund Deposits to Authorized Participants nor shall any of them incur any liability to Authorized Participants for the failure to give any such notification.

All questions as to the number of shares of each security in the Deposit Securities and the validity, form, eligibility and acceptance for deposit of any securities to be delivered shall be determined by the Trust, and the Trust's determination shall be final and binding.

#### Creation Transaction Fee

A fixed creation transaction fee of \$500 (\$1,000 with respect to VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF, VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF, VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF and VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF) payable to the Custodian is imposed on each creation transaction regardless of the number of Creation Units purchased in the transaction. In addition, a variable charge for cash creations or for creations outside the Clearing Process currently of up to four times the basic creation transaction fee may be imposed. In the case of cash creations or where the Trust permits or requires a creator to substitute cash in lieu of depositing a portion of the Deposit Securities, the creator may be assessed an additional variable charge to compensate the Funds for the costs associated with purchasing the applicable securities. (See "Fund Deposit" section above.) As a result, in order to seek to replicate the in-kind creation order process, the Trust expects to purchase, in the secondary market or otherwise gain exposure to, the portfolio securities that could have been delivered as a result of an in-kind creation order pursuant to local law or market convention, or for other reasons ("Market Purchases"). In such cases where the Trust makes Market



Purchases, the Authorized Participant will reimburse the Trust for, among other things, any difference between the market value at which the securities and/or financial instruments were purchased by the Trust and the cash in lieu amount (which amount, at the Adviser's discretion, may be capped), applicable registration fees, brokerage commissions and certain taxes. The Adviser may adjust the transaction fee to the extent the composition of the creation securities changes or cash in lieu is added to the Cash Component to protect ongoing shareholders. Creators of

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Creation Units are responsible for the costs of transferring the securities constituting the Deposit Securities to the account of the Trust.

### Redemption of Creation Units

Shares may be redeemed only in Creation Units at their NAV next determined after receipt of a redemption request in proper form by the Distributor, only on a Business Day and only through a Participating Party or DTC Participant who has executed a Participant Agreement. **The Trust will not redeem Shares in amounts less than Creation Units.** Beneficial Owners also may sell Shares in the secondary market, but must accumulate enough Shares to constitute a Creation Unit in order to have such Shares redeemed by the Trust. There can be no assurance, however, that there will be sufficient liquidity in the public trading market at any time to permit assembly of a Creation Unit. Investors should expect to incur brokerage and other costs in connection with assembling a sufficient number of Shares to constitute a redeemable Creation Unit. See with respect to each Fund the section entitled “Summary Information—Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund” and “Additional Information About the Funds’ Investment Strategies and Risks—Risks of Investing in the Funds” in the Prospectus.

The Administrator, through NSCC, makes available immediately prior to the opening of business on the Exchange (currently 9:30 a.m. Eastern time) on each day that the Exchange is open for business, the Fund Securities that will be applicable (subject to possible amendment or correction) to redemption requests received in proper form (as defined below) on that day. An Authorized Participant submitting a redemption request is deemed to represent to the Trust that it (or its client) (i) owns outright or has full legal authority and legal beneficial right to tender for redemption the requisite number of Fund Shares to be redeemed and can receive the entire proceeds of the redemption, and (ii) the Fund Shares to be redeemed have not been loaned or pledged to another party nor are they the subject of a repurchase agreement, securities lending agreement or such other arrangement that would preclude the delivery of such Fund Shares to the Trust. The Trust reserves the right to verify these representations at its discretion, but will typically require verification with respect to a redemption request from a Fund in connection with higher levels of redemption activity and/or short interest in the Fund. If the Authorized Participant, upon receipt of a verification request, does not provide sufficient verification of its representations as determined by the Trust, the redemption request will not be considered to have been received in proper form and may be rejected by the Trust.

Unless cash redemptions are permitted or required for a Fund, the redemption proceeds for a Creation Unit generally consist of Fund Securities as announced by the Administrator on the Business Day of the request for redemption, plus cash in an amount equal to the difference between the NAV of the Shares being redeemed, as next determined after a receipt of a request in proper form, and the value of the Fund Securities, less the redemption transaction fee and variable fees described below. Should the Fund Securities have a value greater than the NAV of the Shares being redeemed, a compensating cash payment to the Trust equal to the differential plus the applicable redemption transaction fee will be required to be arranged for by or on behalf of the redeeming shareholder. Each Fund reserves the right to honor a redemption request by delivering a basket of securities or cash that differs from the Fund Securities.

### Redemption Transaction Fee

The basic redemption transaction fee of \$500 (\$1,000 with respect to VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF, VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF, VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF and VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF) is the same no matter how many Creation Units are being redeemed pursuant to any one redemption request. An additional charge up to four times the redemption transaction fee will be charged with respect to cash redemptions or redemptions

outside of the Clearing Process. An additional variable charge for cash redemptions or partial cash redemptions (when cash redemptions are permitted or required for a Fund) may also be imposed to compensate each applicable Fund for the costs associated with selling the applicable securities. As a result, in order to seek to replicate the in-kind redemption order process, the Trust expects to sell, in the secondary market, the portfolio securities or settle any financial instruments that may not be permitted to be re-registered in the name of the Participating Party as a result of an in-kind redemption order pursuant to local law or market convention, or for other reasons (“Market Sales”). In such cases where the Trust makes Market Sales, the Authorized Participant will reimburse the Trust for, among other things, any difference between the market value at which the securities and/or financial instruments were sold or settled by the Trust and the cash in lieu amount (which amount, at the Adviser’s discretion, may be capped), applicable registration fees, brokerage commissions and certain taxes (“Transaction Costs”). The Adviser may adjust the transaction fee to the extent the composition of the redemption securities changes or cash in lieu is added to the Cash Component to protect ongoing shareholders. In no event will fees charged by a Fund in connection with a redemption exceed 2% of the value of each Creation Unit. Investors who use the services of a broker or other such intermediary may be charged a fee for such services. To the extent a Fund cannot recoup the amount of Transaction Costs incurred in connection with a redemption from the redeeming shareholder because of the 2% cap or otherwise, those Transaction Costs will be borne by the Fund’s remaining shareholders and negatively affect the Fund’s performance.

### **Placement of Redemption Orders Using Clearing Process**

Orders to redeem Creation Units of a Fund through the Clearing Process, if available, must be delivered through a Participating Party that has executed a Participant Agreement. An order to redeem Creation Units of a Fund using the Clearing Process is deemed received on the Transmittal Date if (i) such order is received by the Distributor not later than 4:00 p.m. Eastern time on such Transmittal Date; and (ii) all other procedures set forth in the Participant Agreement are properly followed; such order will be effected based on the NAV of the applicable Fund as next determined. An order to redeem Creation Units of a Fund using the Clearing Process made in proper form but received by the Fund after 4:00 p.m. Eastern time, will be deemed received on the next Business Day immediately following the Transmittal Date. The requisite Fund Securities (or contracts to purchase such Fund Securities which are expected to be delivered in a “regular way” manner) and the applicable cash payment will be transferred by the third (3rd) Business Day following the date on which such request for redemption is deemed received.

### **Placement of Redemption Orders Outside Clearing Process—Domestic Funds**

Orders to redeem Creation Units of a Fund outside the Clearing Process must be delivered through a DTC Participant that has executed a Participant Agreement. A DTC Participant who wishes to place an order for redemption of Creation Units of a Fund to be effected outside the Clearing Process need not be a Participating Party, but such orders must state that the DTC Participant is not using the Clearing Process and that redemption of Creation Units of the Fund will instead be effected through transfer of Creation Units of the Fund directly through DTC. An order to redeem Creation Units of a Fund outside the Clearing Process is deemed received by the Administrator on the Transmittal Date if (i) such order is received by the Administrator not later than 4:00 p.m. Eastern time on such Transmittal Date; (ii) such order is preceded or accompanied by the requisite number of Shares of Creation Units specified in such order, which delivery must be made through DTC to the Administrator no later than 11:00 a.m. Eastern time, on such Transmittal Date (the “DTC Cut-Off-Time”); and (iii) all other procedures set forth in the Participant Agreement are properly followed.

After the Administrator has deemed an order for redemption outside the Clearing Process received, the Administrator will initiate procedures to transfer the requisite Fund Securities (or contracts to purchase such Fund Securities) which are expected to be delivered within three Business Days and the

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cash redemption payment to the redeeming Beneficial Owner by the third Business Day following the Transmittal Date on which such redemption order is deemed received by the Administrator. An additional variable redemption transaction fee of up to four times the basic transaction fee is applicable to redemptions outside the Clearing Process.

#### Placement of Redemption Orders Outside Clearing Process—Foreign Funds

Arrangements satisfactory to the Trust must be in place for the Participating Party to transfer the Creation Units through DTC on or before the settlement date. Redemptions of Shares for Fund Securities will be subject to compliance with applicable U.S. federal and state securities laws and a Fund (whether or not it otherwise permits or requires cash redemptions) reserves the right to redeem Creation Units for cash to the extent that the Funds could not lawfully deliver specific Fund Securities upon redemptions or could not do so without first registering the Deposit Securities under such laws.

In connection with taking delivery of Shares for Fund Securities upon redemption of Creation Units, a redeeming shareholder or entity acting on behalf of a redeeming shareholder must maintain appropriate custody arrangements with a qualified broker-dealer, bank or other custody providers in each jurisdiction in which any of the Fund Securities are customarily traded, to which account such Fund Securities will be delivered. If neither the redeeming shareholder nor the entity acting on behalf of a redeeming shareholder has appropriate arrangements to take delivery of the Fund Securities in the applicable foreign jurisdiction and it is not possible to make other such arrangements, or if it is not possible to effect deliveries of the Fund Securities in such jurisdictions, the Trust may, in its discretion, exercise its option to redeem such Shares in cash, and the redeeming shareholder will be required to receive its redemption proceeds in cash.

Deliveries of redemption proceeds generally will be made within three business days. Due to the schedule of holidays in certain countries or for other reasons, however, the delivery of redemption proceeds may take longer than three business days after the day on which the redemption request is received in proper form. In such cases, the local market settlement procedures will not commence until the end of the local holiday periods.

For every occurrence of one or more intervening holidays in the applicable non-U.S. market that are not holidays observed in the U.S. equity market, the redemption settlement cycle may be extended by the number of such intervening holidays. In addition to holidays, other unforeseeable closings in a non-U.S. market due to emergencies may also prevent the Foreign Funds from delivering securities within the normal settlement period.

The securities delivery cycles currently practicable for transferring portfolio securities to redeeming investors, coupled with non-U.S. market holiday schedules, will require a delivery process longer than seven calendar days, in certain circumstances. The holidays applicable to the Foreign Funds during such periods are listed below, as are instances where more than seven days will be needed to deliver redemption proceeds. Although certain holidays may occur on different dates in subsequent years, the number of days required to deliver redemption proceeds in any given year is not expected to exceed the maximum number of days listed below for the Foreign Fund. The proclamation of new

holidays, the treatment by market participants of certain days as “informal holidays” (*e.g.*, days on which no or limited securities transactions occur, as a result of substantially shortened trading hours), the elimination of existing holidays, or changes in local securities delivery practices, could affect the information set forth herein at some time in the future.

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In calendar year 2017, the dates of regular holidays affecting the relevant securities markets in which the Foreign Funds invest are as follows (please note these holiday schedules are subject to potential changes in the relevant securities markets):

2017

**AUSTRALIA**

|            |          |             |             |
|------------|----------|-------------|-------------|
| January 2  | April 17 | August 7    | December 26 |
| January 26 | April 25 | October 2   |             |
| April 14   | June 12  | December 25 |             |

**BELGIUM**

|           |        |            |             |
|-----------|--------|------------|-------------|
| January 1 | May 1  | July 21    | November 11 |
| April 16  | May 25 | August 15  | December 25 |
| April 17  | June 5 | November 1 |             |

**BRAZIL**

|             |          |             |             |
|-------------|----------|-------------|-------------|
| January 1   | April 14 | June 15     | November 2  |
| February 27 | April 21 | September 7 | November 15 |
| February 28 | May 1    | October 12  | December 25 |

**CANADA**

|             |          |             |             |
|-------------|----------|-------------|-------------|
| January 2   | May 22   | September 4 | December 25 |
| February 20 | July 3   | October 9   | December 26 |
| April 14    | August 7 | November 13 |             |

**DENMARK**

|           |          |             |             |
|-----------|----------|-------------|-------------|
| January 1 | April 17 | June 5      | December 31 |
| April 13  | May 12   | December 24 |             |
| April 14  | May 25   | December 25 |             |
| April 16  | May 26   | December 26 |             |

**FINLAND**

|           |         |             |             |
|-----------|---------|-------------|-------------|
| January 1 | May 1   | December 6  | December 31 |
| January 6 | May 25  | December 24 |             |
| April 14  | June 23 | December 25 |             |
| April 17  | June 24 | December 26 |             |

**FRANCE**





**IRELAND**

|          |            |             |             |
|----------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| August 7 | October 30 | December 25 | December 26 |
|----------|------------|-------------|-------------|

**ITALY**

|           |          |             |             |
|-----------|----------|-------------|-------------|
| January 1 | April 17 | December 25 | December 26 |
| April 14  | May 1    |             |             |

**JAPAN**

|             |          |              |             |
|-------------|----------|--------------|-------------|
| January 1   | March 20 | July 17      | November 3  |
| January 2   | April 29 | August 11    | November 23 |
| January 3   | May 3    | September 18 | December 23 |
| January 9   | May 4    | September 23 |             |
| February 11 | May 5    | October 9    |             |

**MALAYSIA**

|            |           |              |             |
|------------|-----------|--------------|-------------|
| January 1  | May 1     | September 16 | December 25 |
| February 1 | August 31 |              |             |

**MEXICO**

|            |          |              |             |
|------------|----------|--------------|-------------|
| January 1  | April 13 | September 16 | December 12 |
| February 6 | April 14 | November 2   | December 25 |
| March 20   | May 1    | November 20  |             |

**NETHERLANDS**

|           |          |            |             |
|-----------|----------|------------|-------------|
| January 1 | April 14 | June 5     | December 25 |
| March 26  | April 17 | October 29 | December 26 |

**NEW ZEALAND**

|            |            |          |             |
|------------|------------|----------|-------------|
| January 2  | January 30 | April 17 | October 23  |
| January 3  | February 6 | April 25 | December 25 |
| January 23 | April 14   | June 5   | December 26 |

**NORWAY**

|          |        |        |             |
|----------|--------|--------|-------------|
| April 13 | May 1  | May 25 | December 25 |
| April 14 | May 17 | June 5 | December 26 |
| April 17 |        |        |             |

**RUSSIA**

|           |             |       |            |
|-----------|-------------|-------|------------|
| January 1 | February 23 | May 1 | June 12    |
| January 2 | March 8     | May 9 | November 6 |
| January 7 |             |       |            |

**SINGAPORE**

|           |          |          |             |
|-----------|----------|----------|-------------|
| January 1 | April 14 | August 9 | December 25 |
| January 2 | May 1    |          |             |

**SOUTH AFRICA**

|           |          |              |             |
|-----------|----------|--------------|-------------|
| January 1 | April 17 | August 9     | December 16 |
| January 2 | April 27 | September 24 | December 25 |
| March 21  | May 1    | September 25 | December 26 |
| April 14  | June 16  |              |             |

**SOUTH KOREA**

|            |         |           |             |
|------------|---------|-----------|-------------|
| January 1  | March 1 | August 15 | October 9   |
| January 27 | May 1   | October 3 | December 20 |
| January 28 | May 3   | October 4 | December 25 |
| January 29 | May 5   | October 5 |             |
| January 30 | June 6  | October 6 |             |

**SPAIN**

|          |           |            |             |
|----------|-----------|------------|-------------|
| April 13 | June 15   | October 12 | December 25 |
| April 14 | July 25   | November 1 |             |
| May 1    | August 15 | December 8 |             |

**SWEDEN**

|           |        |         |             |
|-----------|--------|---------|-------------|
| January 6 | May 1  | June 6  | December 25 |
| April 14  | May 25 | June 23 | December 26 |
| April 17  |        |         |             |

**SWITZERLAND**

|           |          |          |             |
|-----------|----------|----------|-------------|
| January 2 | April 17 | June 5   | December 25 |
| April 14  | May 25   | August 1 | December 26 |

**TAIWAN**

|             |         |       |            |
|-------------|---------|-------|------------|
| January 1   | April 5 | May 1 | October 10 |
| February 28 |         |       |            |

**UNITED KINGDOM**

|           |          |             |             |
|-----------|----------|-------------|-------------|
| January 2 | April 17 | August 28   | December 26 |
| March 26  | May 1    | October 29  |             |
| April 14  | May 29   | December 25 |             |

**UNITED STATES**

|             |          |             |             |
|-------------|----------|-------------|-------------|
| January 2   | April 14 | September 4 | November 23 |
| January 16  | May 29   | October 9   | December 25 |
| February 20 | July 4   | November 10 |             |

2018

**AUSTRALIA**

|            |          |           |             |
|------------|----------|-----------|-------------|
| January 1  | April 2  | August 6  | December 25 |
| January 26 | April 25 | October 1 | December 26 |
| March 30   | June 11  |           |             |

**BELGIUM**

|           |         |            |             |
|-----------|---------|------------|-------------|
| January 1 | May 10  | August 15  | November 11 |
| April 2   | May 11  | November 1 | December 25 |
| May 1     | July 21 |            |             |

**BRAZIL**

|             |          |             |             |
|-------------|----------|-------------|-------------|
| January 1   | March 30 | May 31      | November 2  |
| February 12 | April 21 | September 7 | November 15 |
| February 13 | May 1    | October 12  | December 25 |

**CANADA**

|             |          |             |             |
|-------------|----------|-------------|-------------|
| January 1   | May 21   | September 3 | December 25 |
| February 19 | July 2   | October 8   | December 26 |
| March 30    | August 6 | November 11 |             |

**DENMARK**

|           |          |             |             |
|-----------|----------|-------------|-------------|
| January 1 | April 1  | May 10      | December 25 |
| March 29  | April 2  | June 5      | December 26 |
| March 30  | April 27 | December 24 |             |

December  
31

**FINLAND**

|           |         |             |             |
|-----------|---------|-------------|-------------|
| January 1 | May 1   | December 6  | December 31 |
| January 6 | May 10  | December 24 |             |
| March 30  | June 22 | December 25 |             |
| April 2   | June 23 | December 26 |             |

**FRANCE**

|          |            |             |             |
|----------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| March 25 | October 28 | December 25 | December 26 |
| May 1    |            |             |             |

**GERMANY**

|           |         |            |             |
|-----------|---------|------------|-------------|
| January 1 | April 2 | October 28 | December 25 |
| March 25  | May 1   | October 31 | December 26 |
| March 30  |         |            |             |

**GREECE**

|             |         |           |             |
|-------------|---------|-----------|-------------|
| January 6   | April 9 | May 28    | December 25 |
| February 19 | May 1   | August 15 | December 26 |
| April 6     |         |           |             |

**HONG KONG**

|           |         |             |             |
|-----------|---------|-------------|-------------|
| January 1 | April 2 | December 25 | December 26 |
| March 30  |         |             |             |

**HUNGARY**

|           |          |           |            |
|-----------|----------|-----------|------------|
| January 1 | March 16 | August 20 | October 23 |
| March 15  |          |           |            |

**INDIA**

|            |           |           |             |
|------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| January 26 | May 1     | October 2 | December 25 |
| March 30   | August 15 |           |             |

**INDONESIA**

|           |           |             |  |
|-----------|-----------|-------------|--|
| January 1 | August 17 | December 25 |  |
|-----------|-----------|-------------|--|

**IRELAND**

|           |             |             |             |
|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| January 1 | October 29  | December 26 | December 27 |
| August 6  | December 25 |             |             |

**ITALY**

|           |         |             |             |
|-----------|---------|-------------|-------------|
| January 1 | April 2 | December 25 | December 26 |
| March 30  | May 1   |             |             |

**JAPAN**

|             |          |              |             |
|-------------|----------|--------------|-------------|
| January 1   | April 30 | July 16      | October 8   |
| January 8   | May 3    | August 11    | November 3  |
| February 11 | May 4    | September 17 | November 23 |
| March 21    | May 5    | September 24 | December 23 |

**MALAYSIA**

|            |           |              |             |
|------------|-----------|--------------|-------------|
| January 1  | May 1     | September 16 | December 25 |
| February 1 | August 31 |              |             |

**MEXICO**

|            |          |              |             |
|------------|----------|--------------|-------------|
| January 1  | March 29 | September 16 | December 12 |
| February 5 | March 30 | November 2   | December 25 |
| March 19   | May 1    | November 19  |             |

**NETHERLANDS**

|           |          |            |             |
|-----------|----------|------------|-------------|
| January 1 | March 30 | May 21     | December 25 |
| March 25  | April 2  | October 28 | December 26 |

**NEW ZEALAND**

|            |            |          |             |
|------------|------------|----------|-------------|
| January 1  | January 29 | April 2  | October 22  |
| January 2  | February 6 | April 25 | December 25 |
| January 22 | March 30   | June 4   | December 26 |

**NORWAY**

|           |         |        |             |
|-----------|---------|--------|-------------|
| January 1 | April 2 | May 17 | December 25 |
| March 29  | May 1   | May 21 | December 26 |
| March 30  | May 10  |        |             |

**RUSSIA**

|           |             |          |            |
|-----------|-------------|----------|------------|
| January 1 | January 5   | April 30 | November 5 |
| January 2 | January 7   | May 1    |            |
| January 3 | February 23 | May 9    |            |

January 4            March 8            June 12

**SINGAPORE**

January 1            May 1            August 9            December 25  
 March 30

**SOUTH AFRICA**

January 1            April 2            June 16            December 16  
 March 21            April 27            August 9            December 25  
 March 30            May 1            September 24            December 26

**SOUTH KOREA**

January 1            March 1            July 17            September 25  
 February 16            May 1            August 15            October 3  
 February 17            May 5            September 23            October 9  
 February 18            May 22            September 24            December 25  
 February 19            June 6

**SPAIN**

March 29            May 31            October 12            December 8  
 March 30            July 25            November 1            December 25  
 May 1            August 15

**SWEDEN**

|           |         |         |             |
|-----------|---------|---------|-------------|
| January 1 | April 2 | June 6  | December 25 |
| January 6 | May 1   | June 22 | December 26 |
| March 30  | May 10  | June 23 |             |

**SWITZERLAND**

|           |         |          |             |
|-----------|---------|----------|-------------|
| January 1 | April 2 | May 21   | December 25 |
| January 2 | May 10  | August 1 | December 26 |
| March 30  |         |          |             |

**TAIWAN**

|             |         |       |            |
|-------------|---------|-------|------------|
| January 1   | April 5 | May 1 | October 10 |
| February 28 |         |       |            |

**UNITED KINGDOM**

|           |         |            |             |
|-----------|---------|------------|-------------|
| January 1 | April 2 | August 27  | December 25 |
| March 25  | May 7   | October 28 | December 26 |
| March 30  | May 28  |            |             |

**UNITED STATES**

|             |          |             |             |
|-------------|----------|-------------|-------------|
| January 2   | March 30 | September 3 | November 22 |
| January 15  | May 28   | October 8   | December 25 |
| February 19 | July 4   | November 12 |             |

The longest redemption cycle for Foreign Funds is a function of the longest redemption cycle among the countries whose securities comprise the Funds. In the calendar year 2017, the dates of regular holidays affecting the following securities markets present the worst-case (longest) redemption cycle\* for Foreign Funds as follows:

| SETTLEMENT PERIODS GREATER THAN<br>SEVEN DAYS FOR YEAR 2017 | Beginning<br>of<br>Settlement<br>Period | End of<br>Settlement<br>Period | Number of<br>Days in<br>Settlement<br>Period |
|---|---|--------------------------------|--|
| Japan   | 4/28/2017                               | 5/8/2017                       | 9  |
|   | 5/1/2017                                | 5/9/2017                       | 8  |
|   | 5/2/2017                                | 5/10/2017                      | 8  |
| South Africa  | 4/7/2017                                | 4/18/2017                      | 11   |
|   | 4/10/2017                               | 4/19/2017                      | 9  |
|   | 4/11/2017                               | 4/20/2017                      | 9  |
|   | 4/12/2017                               | 4/21/2017                      | 9  |
|   | 4/13/2017                               | 4/24/2017                      | 11   |
|   | 4/20/2017                               | 4/28/2017                      | 8  |
|   | 4/21/2017                               | 5/2/2017                       | 10   |
|   | 4/24/2017                               | 5/3/2017                       | 9  |
|   | 4/25/2017                               | 5/4/2017                       | 9  |
|   | 4/26/2017                               | 5/5/2017                       | 9  |



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4/28/2017 5/10/2017 10  
6/12/2017 6/20/2017 8

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| SETTLEMENT PERIODS GREATER THAN SEVEN DAYS FOR YEAR 2017 | Beginning of Settlement Period | End of Settlement Period | Number of Days in Settlement Period |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|  | 6/13/2017                      | 6/21/2017                | 8                                   |
|  | 6/14/2017                      | 6/22/2017                | 8                                   |
|  | 6/15/2017                      | 6/23/2017                | 8                                   |
|  | 8/2/2017                       | 8/10/2017                | 8                                   |
|  | 8/3/2017                       | 8/11/2017                | 8                                   |
|  | 8/4/2017                       | 8/14/2017                | 10                                  |
|  | 8/7/2017                       | 8/15/2017                | 8                                   |
|  | 8/8/2017                       | 8/16/2017                | 8                                   |
|  | 9/18/2017                      | 9/26/2017                | 8                                   |
|  | 9/19/2017                      | 9/27/2017                | 8                                   |
|  | 9/20/2017                      | 9/28/2017                | 8                                   |
|  | 9/21/2017                      | 9/29/2017                | 8                                   |
|  | 9/22/2017                      | 10/2/2017                | 10                                  |
|  | 12/18/2017                     | 12/27/2017               | 9                                   |
|  | 12/19/2017                     | 12/28/2017               | 9                                   |
|  | 12/20/2017                     | 12/29/2017               | 9                                   |
|  | 12/21/2017                     | 1/1/2017                 | 11                                  |
|  | 12/22/2017                     | 1/2/2017                 | 11                                  |
| South Korea  | 9/29/2017                      | 10/10/2017               | 10                                  |
|  | 10/2/2017                      | 10/11/2017               | 9                                   |

\* These worst-case redemption cycles are based on information regarding regular holidays, which may be out of date. Based on changes in holidays, longer (worse) redemption cycles are possible.

The right of redemption may be suspended or the date of payment postponed (1) for any period during which the relevant Exchange is closed (other than customary weekend and holiday closings); (2) for any period during which trading on the relevant Exchange is suspended or restricted; (3) for any period during which an emergency exists as a result of which disposal of the Shares of a Fund or determination of its NAV is not reasonably practicable; or (4) in such other circumstance as is permitted by the SEC.

## DETERMINATION OF NET ASSET VALUE

The following information supplements and should be read in conjunction with the section in each Fund's Prospectus entitled "Shareholder Information—Determination of NAV."

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, including the management fee, are accrued daily and taken into account for purposes of determining NAV. The NAV of each Fund is determined each business day as of the close of trading (ordinarily 4:00 p.m., Eastern time) on the relevant Exchange.

The values of each Fund's portfolio securities are based on the securities' closing prices on the markets on which the securities trade, when available. Due to the time differences between the United States and certain countries in which certain Funds invest, securities on these exchanges may not trade at times when Shares of the Fund will trade. In the absence of a last reported sales price, or if no sales were reported, and for other assets for which market quotes are not readily available, values may be based on quotes obtained from a quotation reporting system, established market makers or by an outside independent pricing service. Debt instruments with remaining maturities of more than 60 days are valued at the evaluated mean price provided by an outside independent pricing service. If an outside independent pricing service is unable to provide a valuation, the instrument is valued at the mean of the highest bid and the lowest asked quotes obtained from one or more brokers or dealers selected by the Adviser. Prices obtained by an outside independent pricing service may use information provided by market makers or estimates of market values obtained from yield data related to investments or securities with similar characteristics and may use a computerized grid matrix of securities and its evaluations in determining what it believes is the fair value of the portfolio securities. Short-term debt instruments having a maturity of 60 days or less are valued at amortized cost. 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. If a market quotation for a security or other asset is not readily available or the Adviser believes it does not otherwise accurately reflect the market value of the security or asset at the time a Fund calculates its NAV, the security or asset will be fair valued by the Adviser in accordance with the Trust's valuation policies and procedures approved by the Board of Trustees. Each Fund may also use fair value pricing in a variety of circumstances, including but not limited to, situations when the value of a security in the Fund's portfolio has been materially affected by events occurring after the close of the market on which the security is principally traded (such as a corporate action or other news that may materially affect the price of a security) or trading in a security has been suspended or halted. In addition, each Fund that holds foreign equity securities currently expects that it will fair value certain of the foreign equity securities held by the Fund each day the Fund calculates its NAV, except those securities principally traded on exchanges that close at the same time the Fund calculates its NAV.

Accordingly, a Fund's NAV is expected to reflect certain portfolio securities' fair values rather than their market prices at the time the exchanges on which they principally trade close. Fair value pricing involves subjective judgments and it is possible that a fair value determination for a security or other asset is materially different than the value that could be realized upon the sale of such security or asset. In addition, fair value pricing could result in a difference between the prices used to calculate a Fund's NAV and the prices used by such Fund's Index. This may adversely affect a Fund's ability to track its Index. With respect to securities that are principally traded on foreign exchanges, the value of a Fund's portfolio securities may change on days when you will not be able to purchase or sell your Shares.



## **DIVIDENDS AND DISTRIBUTIONS**

The following information supplements and should be read in conjunction with the section in each Fund's Prospectus entitled "Shareholder Information—Distributions."

### General Policies

Dividends from net investment income, if any, are declared and paid quarterly for VanEck Vectors Pharmaceutical ETF and at least annually by each other Fund. Distributions of net realized capital gains, if any, generally are declared and paid once a year, but the Trust may make distributions on a more frequent basis for each Fund to improve its Index tracking or to comply with the distribution requirements of the Internal Revenue Code, in all events in a manner consistent with the provisions of the 1940 Act. It is currently expected that each Fund will distribute virtually all of its net income (interest less expenses) annually while capital gains distributions will generally occur annually in December. In addition, in situations where a Fund acquired investment securities after the beginning of the dividend period, the Fund may elect to distribute at least annually amounts representing the full dividend yield on the underlying portfolio securities of the Fund, net of expenses of the Fund, as if the Fund owned such underlying portfolio securities for the entire dividend period. If the Fund so elects, some portion of each distribution may result in a return of capital, which, for tax purposes, is treated as a return of your investment in Shares.

Dividends and other distributions on Shares are distributed, as described below, on a pro rata basis to Beneficial Owners of such Shares. Dividend payments are made through DTC Participants and Indirect Participants to Beneficial Owners then of record with proceeds received from the Trust. The Trust makes additional distributions to the minimum extent necessary (i) to distribute the entire annual taxable income of the Trust, plus any net capital gains and (ii) to avoid imposition of the excise tax imposed by Section 4982 of the Internal Revenue Code. Management of the Trust reserves the right to declare special dividends if, in its reasonable discretion, such action is necessary or advisable to preserve the status of each Fund as a regulated investment company ("RIC") or to avoid imposition of income or excise taxes on undistributed income.

### DIVIDEND REINVESTMENT SERVICE

No reinvestment service is provided by the Trust. Broker-dealers may make available the DTC book-entry Dividend Reinvestment Service for use by Beneficial Owners of the Funds through DTC Participants for reinvestment of their dividend distributions. If this service is used, dividend distributions of both income and realized gains will be automatically reinvested in additional whole Shares of the Funds. Beneficial Owners should contact their broker to determine the availability and costs of the service and the details of participation therein. Brokers may require Beneficial Owners to adhere to specific procedures and timetables.

**CONTROL PERSONS AND PRINCIPAL SHAREHOLDERS**

Although the Trust does not have information concerning the beneficial ownership of shares held in the names of DTC Participants, as of December 31, 2016, the name and percentage ownership of each DTC Participant that owned of record 5% or more of the outstanding shares of a Fund were as follows:

**VanEck Vectors Biotech ETF**

| <u>Name and Address of Beneficial Owner</u>   | <u>Percentage Owned</u> |
|---|-------------------------|
| National Financial Services LLC<br>200 Liberty Street, New York, NY 10281                             | 15.12%                  |
| Charles Schwab & Co., Inc.<br>101 Montgomery Street, San Francisco, CA 94104                          | 13.89%                  |
| Brown Brothers Harriman & Co.<br>50 Milk Street, Boston, MA 02109                                     | 12.88%                  |
| TD Ameritrade Clearing, Inc.<br>4211 South 102 <sup>nd</sup> Street, Omaha, NE 68127-1031             | 6.03%                   |
| Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Inc.<br>World Financial Center, North Tower, New York, NY 10080 | 5.82%                   |
| JP Morgan Chase Bank, National Associate<br>14201 Dallas PKWY Floor 12, Dallas, TX 75254              | 5.25%                   |

**VanEck Vectors Environmental Services ETF**

| <u>Name and Address of Beneficial Owner</u>   | <u>Percentage Owned</u> |
|---|-------------------------|
| National Financial Services LLC<br>200 Liberty Street, New York, NY 10281                             | 14.78%                  |
| Merrill Lynch Professional Clearing Corp.<br>101 Hudson Street, Jersey City, NJ 07302                 | 11.91%                  |
| Charles Schwab & Co., Inc.<br>101 Montgomery Street, San Francisco, CA 94104                          | 10.10%                  |
| TD Ameritrade Clearing, Inc.<br>4211 South 102 <sup>nd</sup> Street, Omaha, NE 68127-1031             | 8.65%                   |
| Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC<br>1 Harborside Financial Center, Plaza II, Jersey City, NJ 07311     | 6.72%                   |
| Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Inc.<br>World Financial Center, North Tower, New York, NY 10080 | 5.74%                   |

**VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF**

| <u>Name and Address of Beneficial Owner</u>                                  | <u>Percentage Owned</u> |
|--|-------------------------|
| National Financial Services LLC<br>200 Liberty Street, New York, NY 10281    | 13.66%                  |
| Charles Schwab & Co., Inc.<br>101 Montgomery Street, San Francisco, CA 94104 | 9.79%                   |
|  | 8.73%                   |

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|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Inc.<br>World Financial Center, North Tower, New York, NY 10080<br>TD Ameritrade Clearing, Inc.<br>4211 South 102nd Street, Omaha, NE 68127-1031 | 8.36% |
| First Clearing LLC<br>Riverfront Plaza 901 East Byrd Street, Richmond, VA 23219  | 5.61% |
| Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC<br>1 Harborside Financial Center, Plaza II, Jersey City, NJ 07311  | 5.30% |

**VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF**

| <u>Name and Address of Beneficial Owner</u>               | <u>Percentage Owned</u> |
|---|-------------------------|
| Pershing LLC<br>One Pershing Plaza, Jersey City, NJ 07399 | 5.20%                   |

**VanEck Vectors Generic Drugs ETF**

| <u>Name and Address of Beneficial Owner</u>                                   | <u>Percentage Owned</u> |
|---|-------------------------|
| Goldman, Sachs & Co.<br>30 Hudson Street, Jersey City, NJ 07302               | 41.83%                  |
| National Financial Services LLC<br>200 Liberty Street, New York, NY 10281     | 10.72%                  |
| TD Ameritrade Clearing, Inc.<br>4211 South 102nd Street, Omaha, NE 68127-1031 | 10.46%                  |
| Pershing LLC<br>One Pershing Plaza, Jersey City, NJ 07399                     | 8.57%                   |
| Charles Schwab & Co., Inc.<br>101 Montgomery Street, San Francisco, CA 94104  | 7.09%                   |

**VanEck Vectors Global Spin-Off ETF**

| <u>Name and Address of Beneficial Owner</u>  | <u>Percentage Owned</u> |
|--|-------------------------|
| National Financial Services LLC<br>200 Liberty Street, New York, NY 10281                            | 47.11%                  |
| Brown Brothers Harriman & Co.<br>50 Milk Street, Boston, MA 02109                                    | 14.26%                  |
| J.P. Morgan Clearing Corp.<br>3 Chase Metrotech Center, Proxy Dept./NY1-H034, Brooklyn NY 11245-0001 | 10.96%                  |
| Vanguard Marketing Corp.<br>100 Vanguard Blvd Malvern PA 19355                                       | 6.80%                   |
| Charles Schwab & Co., Inc.<br>101 Montgomery Street, San Francisco, CA 94104                         | 5.80%                   |

**VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF**

| <u>Name and Address of Beneficial Owner</u>                                    | <u>Percentage Owned</u> |
|--|-------------------------|
| National Financial Services LLC<br>200 Liberty Street, New York, NY 10281      | 35.06%                  |
| UBS Financial Services Inc.<br>1000 Harbor Boulevard, Weehawken, NJ 07086-6790 | 29.88%                  |
| Charles Schwab & Co., Inc.<br>101 Montgomery Street, San Francisco, CA 94104   | 16.34%                  |
| RBC Capital Markets Corporation<br>1 Liberty St, New York, NY 10006            | 10.91%                  |

**VanEck Vectors Morningstar Wide Moat ETF**



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| <u>Name and Address of Beneficial Owner</u>                                  | <u>Percentage Owned</u> |
|--|-------------------------|
| Charles Schwab & Co., Inc.<br>101 Montgomery Street, San Francisco, CA 94104 | 17.88%                  |
| National Financial Services LLC<br>200 Liberty Street, New York, NY 10281    | 16.26%                  |

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**VanEck Vectors Morningstar Wide Moat ETF**

| <u>Name and Address of Beneficial Owner</u>   | <u>Percentage Owned</u> |
|---|-------------------------|
| TD Ameritrade Clearing, Inc.<br>4211 South 102nd Street, Omaha, NE 68127-1031                     | 9.29%                   |
| Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC<br>1 Harborside Financial Center, Plaza II, Jersey City, NJ 07311 | 7.08%                   |
| UBS Financial Services Inc.<br>1000 Harbor Boulevard, Weehawken, NJ 07086-6790                    | 6.71%                   |
| Pershing LLC<br>One Pershing Plaza, Jersey City, NJ 07399   | 6.18%                   |

**VanEck Vectors Pharmaceutical ETF**

| <u>Name and Address of Beneficial Owner</u>   | <u>Percentage Owned</u> |
|---|-------------------------|
| JP Morgan Chase Bank, National Associate<br>14201 Dallas PKWY Floor 12, Dallas, TX 75254          | 11.34%                  |
| The Bank of New York Mellon<br>One Wall Street, 5th Floor, New York, NY 10286-0001                | 9.48%                   |
| Citibank<br>3801 Citibank Center B/3RD Floor/Zone 12, Tampa, FL 33610                             | 7.05%                   |
| National Financial Services LLC<br>200 Liberty Street, New York, NY 10281                         | 6.88%                   |
| The Northern Trust Company/United Nation<br>801 S Canal Street, Chicago, IL 60607                 | 6.49%                   |
| Charles Schwab & Co., Inc.<br>101 Montgomery Street, San Francisco, CA 94104                      | 5.64%                   |
| Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC<br>1 Harborside Financial Center, Plaza II, Jersey City, NJ 07311 | 5.23%                   |

**VanEck Vectors Retail ETF**

| <u>Name and Address of Beneficial Owner</u>   | <u>Percentage Owned</u> |
|---|-------------------------|
| Janney Montgomery Scott LLC<br>1717 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103                           | 13.01%                  |
| Charles Schwab & Co., Inc.<br>101 Montgomery Street, San Francisco, CA 94104                      | 12.74%                  |
| National Financial Services LLC<br>200 Liberty Street, New York, NY 10281                         | 11.59%                  |
| UBS Financial Services Inc.<br>1000 Harbor Boulevard, Weehawken, NJ 07086-6790                    | 6.70%                   |
| The Bank of New York Mellon<br>One Wall Street, 5th Floor, New York, NY 10286-0001                | 6.19%                   |
| Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC<br>1 Harborside Financial Center, Plaza II, Jersey City, NJ 07311 | 5.31%                   |

**VanEck Vectors Semiconductor ETF**

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| <u>Name and Address of Beneficial Owner</u>                                  | <u>Percentage Owned</u> |
|--|-------------------------|
| National Financial Services LLC<br>200 Liberty Street, New York, NY 10281    | 25.79%                  |
| Charles Schwab & Co., Inc.<br>101 Montgomery Street, San Francisco, CA 94104 | 12.61%                  |

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**VanEck Vectors Semiconductor ETF**

| <u>Name and Address of Beneficial Owner</u>   | <u>Percentage Owned</u> |
|---|-------------------------|
| TD Ameritrade Clearing, Inc.<br>4211 South 102nd Street, Omaha, NE 68127-1031                   | 8.58%                   |
| The Bank of New York Mellon<br>111 Sanders Creek Parkway, 1st FL UIT/ETF TA, Syracuse, NY 13057 | 5.89%                   |
| Pershing LLC<br>One Pershing Plaza, Jersey City, NJ 07399                                       | 5.32%                   |
| Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC<br>1585 Broadway, New York, NY 10036                                   | 5.31%                   |

## TAXES

The following information also supplements and should be read in conjunction with the section in each Fund's Prospectus entitled "Shareholder Information—Tax Information" and the section in this Statement of Additional Information entitled "Special Considerations and Risks." The following summary of certain relevant tax provisions is subject to change, and does not constitute legal or tax advice.

Each Fund intends to qualify for and to elect treatment as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code. As a RIC, each Fund will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax on the portion of its taxable investment income and capital gains that it distributes to its shareholders. To qualify for treatment as a RIC, a company must annually distribute at least 90% of its investment company taxable income (which includes dividends, interest and net short-term capital gains) and meet several other requirements relating to the nature of its income and the diversification of its assets, among others. If a Fund fails to qualify for any taxable year as a RIC, all of its taxable income will be subject to tax at regular corporate income tax rates without any deduction for distributions to shareholders, and such distributions generally will be taxable to shareholders as ordinary dividends to the extent of the Fund's current and accumulated earnings and profits.

Each Fund will be subject to a 4% excise tax on certain undistributed income if it does not distribute to its shareholders in each calendar year an amount at least equal to the sum of 98% of its ordinary income (taking into account certain deferrals and elections) for the calendar year, 98.2% of its capital gain net income for the twelve months ended October 31 of such year, and 100% of any undistributed amounts from the prior years. Although each Fund generally intends to declare and distribute dividends and distributions in the amounts and at the times necessary to avoid the application of this 4% excise tax the Fund may elect to retain a portion of its income and gains, and in such a case, the Fund may be subject to excise tax.

As a result of U.S. federal income tax requirements, the Trust on behalf of the Funds, has the right to reject an order for a creation of Shares if the creator (or group of creators) would, upon obtaining the Shares so ordered, own 80% or more of the outstanding Shares of a Fund and if, pursuant to Section 351 of the Internal Revenue Code, the Funds would have a basis in the Deposit Securities different from the market value of such securities on the date of deposit. The Trust also has the right to require information necessary to determine beneficial share ownership for purposes of the 80% determination. See "Creation and Redemption of Creation Units—Procedures for Creation of Creation Units."

Dividends, interest and gains received by a Fund from a non-U.S. investment may give rise to withholding and other taxes imposed by foreign countries. Tax conventions between certain countries and the United States may reduce or eliminate such taxes. If more than 50% of a Fund's total assets at the end of its taxable year consist of foreign stock or securities or if at least 50% of the value of a Fund's total assets at the close of each quarter of its taxable year is represented by interests in RICs, the Fund may elect to "pass through" to its investors certain foreign income taxes paid by the Fund, with the result that each investor will (i) include in gross income, as an additional dividend, even though not actually received, the investor's pro rata share of the Fund's foreign income taxes, and (ii) either deduct (in calculating U.S. taxable income) or credit (in calculating U.S. federal income), subject to certain holding period and other limitations, the investor's pro rata share of the Fund's foreign income taxes. It is expected that more than 50% of

VanEck Vectors Gaming ETF's, VanEck Vectors Generic Drug ETF's and VanEck Vectors Morningstar International Moat ETF's assets will consist of foreign securities that are foreign-listed companies and/or foreign-domiciled companies.

Each Fund may make investments in which it recognizes income or gain prior to receiving cash with respect to such investment. For example, under certain tax rules, a Fund may be required to accrue a portion of any discount at which certain securities are purchased as income each year even though the Fund receives no payments in cash on the security during the year. To the extent that a Fund makes such investments, it generally would be required to pay out such income or gain as a distribution in each year to avoid taxation at the Fund level.

Special tax rules may change the normal treatment of gains and losses recognized by a Fund if the Fund makes certain investments such as investments in structured notes, swaps, options, futures transactions, futures transactions and non-U.S. corporations classified as passive foreign investment companies (“PFICs”). Those special tax rules can, among other things, affect the treatment of capital gain or loss as long-term or short-term and may result in ordinary income or loss rather than capital gain or loss and may accelerate when a Fund has to take these items into account for U.S. federal income tax purposes. The application of these special rules would therefore also affect the timing and character of distributions made by a Fund. See “U.S. Federal Tax Treatment of Futures Contracts” for certain federal income tax rules regarding futures contracts.

Investments in PFICs are subject to special tax rules which may result in adverse tax consequences to a Fund and its shareholders. To the extent a Fund invests in PFICs, it generally intends to elect to “mark to market” these investments at the end of each taxable year. By making this election, the Fund will recognize as ordinary income any increase in the value of such shares as of the close of the taxable year over their adjusted basis and as ordinary loss any decrease in such investment (but only to the extent of prior income from such investment under the mark to market rules). Gains realized with respect to a disposition of a PFIC that a Fund has elected to mark to market will be ordinary income. By making the mark to market election, a Fund may recognize income in excess of the distributions that it receives from its investments. Accordingly, a Fund may need to borrow money or dispose of some of its investments in order to meet its distribution requirements. If a Fund does not make the mark to market election with respect to an investment in a PFIC, the Fund could become subject to U.S. federal income tax with respect to certain distributions from, and gain on the dispositions of, the PFIC which cannot be avoided by distributing such amounts to the Fund’s shareholders.

Under Section 988 of the Internal Revenue Code, special rules are provided for certain transactions in a foreign currency other than the taxpayer’s functional currency (i.e., unless certain special rules apply, currencies other than the U.S. dollar). In general, foreign currency gains or losses from forward contracts, from futures contracts that are not “regulated futures contracts,” and from unlisted options will be treated as ordinary income or loss under Section 988 of the Internal Revenue Code. Also, certain foreign exchange gains or losses derived with respect to foreign fixed income securities are also subject to Section 988 treatment. In general, therefore, Section 988 gains or losses will increase or decrease the amount of each Fund’s investment company taxable income available to be distributed to shareholders as ordinary income, rather than increasing or decreasing the amount of each Fund’s net capital gain. If a portion of each Fund’s investment income may be received in foreign currencies, the Funds will be required to compute its income in U.S. dollars for distribution to shareholders. After the Funds have distributed income, subsequent foreign currency losses may result in the Funds having distributed more income in a particular fiscal period than was available from investment income, which could result in a return of capital to shareholders.

Each Fund will report to shareholders annually the amounts of dividends received from ordinary income, the amount of distributions received from capital gains and the portion of dividends, if any, which may qualify for the dividends

received deduction. Certain ordinary dividends paid to non-corporate shareholders may qualify for taxation at a lower tax rate applicable to long-term capital gains provided holding period and other requirements are met at both the shareholder and Fund levels. In the event that



the Funds receive such a dividend and designate the distribution of such dividend as a qualified dividend, the dividend may be taxed at maximum capital gains rates of 15% or 20%, provided holding period and other requirements are met at both the shareholder and each Fund level.

In general, a sale of Shares results in capital gain or loss, and for individual shareholders, is taxable at a federal rate dependent upon the length of time the Shares were held. A redemption of a shareholder's Fund Shares is normally treated as a sale for tax purposes. Fund Shares held for a period of one year or less at the time of such sale or redemption will, for tax purposes, generally result in short-term capital gains or losses, and those held for more than one year will generally result in long-term capital gains or losses. The maximum tax rate on long-term capital gains available to a non-corporate shareholder generally is 15% or 20% depending on whether the shareholder's income exceeds certain threshold amounts.

Gain or loss on the sale or redemption of Fund Shares is measured by the difference between the amount of cash received (or the fair market value of any property received) and the adjusted tax basis of the Shares. Shareholders should keep records of investments made (including Shares acquired through reinvestment of dividends and distributions) so they can compute the tax basis of their Fund Shares. Legislation passed by Congress requires reporting of adjusted cost basis information for covered securities, which generally include shares of a regulated investment company acquired after January 1, 2012, to the Internal Revenue Service and to taxpayers. Shareholders should contact their financial intermediaries with respect to reporting of cost basis and available elections for their accounts.

A loss realized on a sale or exchange of Shares of a Fund may be disallowed if other Fund Shares or substantially identical shares are acquired (whether through the automatic reinvestment of dividends or otherwise) within a sixty-one (61) day period beginning thirty (30) days before and ending thirty (30) days after the date that the Shares are disposed of. In such a case, the basis of the Shares acquired will be adjusted to reflect the disallowed loss. Any loss upon the sale or exchange of Shares held for six (6) months or less will be treated as long-term capital loss to the extent of any capital gain dividends received by the shareholders. Distribution of ordinary income and capital gains may also be subject to foreign, state and local taxes.

Distributions reinvested in additional Fund Shares through the means of a dividend reinvestment service (see "Dividend Reinvestment Service") will nevertheless be taxable dividends to Beneficial Owners acquiring such additional Shares to the same extent as if such dividends had been received in cash.

An additional 3.8% Medicare tax is imposed on certain net investment income (including ordinary dividends and capital gain distributions received from a Fund and net gains from redemptions or other taxable dispositions of Fund Shares) of U.S. individuals, estates and trusts to the extent that such person's "modified adjusted gross income" (in the case of an individual) or "adjusted gross income" (in the case of an estate or trust) exceeds certain threshold amounts.

Some shareholders may be subject to a withholding tax on distributions of ordinary income, capital gains and any cash received on redemption of Creation Units (“backup withholding”). The backup withholding rate for individuals is currently 28%. Generally, shareholders subject to backup withholding will be those for whom no certified taxpayer identification number is on file with a Fund or who, to the Fund’s knowledge, have furnished an incorrect number. When establishing an account, an investor must certify under penalty of perjury that such number is correct and that such investor is not otherwise subject to backup withholding. Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Any amounts withheld will be allowed as a credit against shareholders’ U.S. federal income tax liabilities, and may entitle them to a refund, provided that the required information is timely furnished to the Internal Revenue Service.

Distributions of ordinary income paid to shareholders who are nonresident aliens or foreign entities will generally be subject to a 30% U.S. withholding tax unless a reduced rate of withholding or a withholding exemption is provided under applicable treaty law. Prospective investors are urged to consult their tax advisors regarding such withholding.

Under an exemption recently made permanent by Congress, properly designated dividends received by a nonresident alien or foreign entity are generally exempt from U.S. federal withholding tax when they (i) are paid in respect of the Fund's "qualified net interest income" (generally, the Fund's U.S. source interest income, reduced by expenses that are allocable to such income), or (ii) are paid in connection with the Fund's "qualified short-term capital gains" (generally, the excess of the Fund's net short-term capital gain over the Fund's long-term capital loss for such taxable year). However, depending on the circumstances, the Fund may designate all, some or none of the Fund's potentially eligible dividends as such qualified net interest income or as qualified short-term capital gains, and a portion of the Fund's distributions (*e.g.* interest from non-U.S. sources or any foreign currency gains) would be ineligible for this potential exemption from withholding.

As part of the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act, ("FATCA"), the Funds may be required to withhold 30% on certain types of U.S. sourced income (*e.g.*, dividends, interest, and other types of passive income) and after January 1, 2019, proceeds from the sale or other disposition of property producing U.S. sourced income and certain capital gain dividends to (i) foreign financial institutions ("FFIs"), including non-U.S. investment funds, unless they agree to collect and disclose to the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") information regarding their direct and indirect U.S. account holders and (ii) certain nonfinancial foreign entities ("NFFEs"), unless they certify certain information regarding their direct and indirect U.S. owners. To avoid possible withholding, FFIs will need to enter into agreements with the IRS which state that they will provide the IRS information, including the names, account numbers and balances, addresses and taxpayer identification numbers of U.S. account holders and comply with due diligence procedures with respect to the identification of U.S. accounts as well as agree to withhold tax on certain types of withholdable payments made to non-compliant foreign financial institutions or to applicable foreign account holders who fail to provide the required information to the IRS, or similar account information and required documentation to a local revenue authority, should an applicable intergovernmental agreement be implemented. NFFEs will need to provide certain information regarding each substantial U.S. owner or certifications of no substantial U.S. ownership, unless certain exceptions apply, or agree to provide certain information to the IRS.

While some parts of the FATCA rules have not been finalized, the Funds may be subject to the FATCA withholding obligation, and also will be required to perform due diligence reviews to classify foreign entity investors for FATCA purposes. Investors are required to agree to provide information necessary to allow the Funds to comply with the FATCA rules. If the Funds are required to withhold amounts from payments pursuant to FATCA, investors will receive distributions that are reduced by such withholding amounts.

Non-U.S. shareholders are advised to consult their tax advisors with respect to the particular tax consequences to them of an investment in the Fund, including the possible applicability of the U.S. estate tax.

The foregoing discussion is a summary only and is not intended as a substitute for careful tax planning. Purchasers of Shares of the Trust should consult their own tax advisers as to the tax consequences of investing in such Shares,

including under state, local and other tax laws. Finally, the foregoing discussion is based on applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, regulations, judicial authority and administrative interpretations in effect on the date hereof. Changes in applicable authority could materially affect the conclusions discussed above, and such changes often occur.

Reportable Transactions

Under promulgated Treasury regulations, if a shareholder recognizes a loss on disposition of a Fund's Shares of \$2 million or more in any one taxable year (or \$4 million or more over a period of six taxable years) for an individual shareholder or \$10 million or more in any taxable year (or \$20 million or more over a period of six taxable years) for a corporate shareholder, the shareholder must file with the IRS a disclosure statement on Form 8886. Direct shareholders of portfolio securities are in many cases excepted from this reporting requirement, but under current guidance, shareholders of a RIC that engaged in a reportable transaction are not excepted. Future guidance may extend the current exception from this reporting requirement to shareholders of most or all RICs. In addition, significant penalties may be imposed for the failure to comply with the reporting requirements. The fact that a loss is reportable under these regulations does not affect the legal determination of whether the taxpayer's treatment of the loss is proper. Shareholders should consult their tax advisors to determine the applicability of these regulations in light of their individual circumstances.

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