Background Information on the Security

As more fully set forth in the Prospectus Supplement, the Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. (“Merrill Lynch”), the Accelerated Return Bear Market Notes Linked to the S&P 500 Index due January 21, 2010 (the “Notes” or “Securities”) are senior, unsecured debt securities of Merrill Lynch designed. Notes are 100% principal protection on their investment at maturity provide 1-to-1 upside exposure to increases in the level of the S&P 500 Index (index symbol “SPX”) (the “Index”) from the starting value of the Index (954.09), determined on October 30, 2008, the date the Notes were priced for initial sale to the public, to the ending value of the Index, determined on a calculation day shortly before the maturity date, provided that the ending value of the Index does not exceed a value equal to 20.20% above the starting value of the Index (the “Threshold Level” or 1,146.82). If the ending value of the Index exceeds the Threshold Level, the Notes will pay a fixed return of $0.30 per unit (or 3% of the principal amount per unit). The Notes will not pay interest, the repayment of the Notes is capped.

For additional information regarding the Securities, including the applicable risk factors, please consult the Prospectus Supplement, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission by Merrill Lynch on November 7, 2008.

Trading in the shares on ISE is on a UTP basis and is subject to ISE equity trading rules. The shares will trade from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time. Equity Electronic Access Members (“Equity EAMs”) trading the shares during the Extended Market Sessions are exposed to the risk of the lack of the calculation or dissemination of underlying index value or intraday indicative value (“IIV”). For certain derivative securities products, an updated underlying index value or IIV may not be calculated or publicly disseminated in the Extended Market hours. Since the underlying index value and IIV are not calculated or widely disseminated during Extended Market hours, an investor who is unable to calculate implied values for certain derivative securities products during Extended Market hours may be at a disadvantage to market professionals.

Equity EAMs also should review NASD Notice to Members 03-71 for guidance on trading these products. The Notice reminds members of their obligations to: (1) conduct adequate due diligence to understand the features of the product; (2) perform a
reasonable-basis suitability analysis; (3) perform customer-specific suitability analysis in connection with any recommended transactions; (4) provide a balanced disclosure of both the risks and rewards associated with the particular product, especially when selling to retail investors; (5) implement appropriate internal controls; and (6) train registered persons regarding the features, risk and suitability of these products.

This Regulatory Information Circular is not a statutory Prospectus. Equity EAMs should consult the Trust's Registration Statement, SAI, Prospectus and the Fund's website for relevant information.
**Appendix A**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Ticker</th>
<th>Fund Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SXC</td>
<td>100% Principal Protected Conditional Participation Notes Linked to the S&amp;P 500® Index due November 9, 2009</td>
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