

iShares Silver Trust
Form S-3ASR
April 12, 2019
Table of Contents

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 12, 2019

Registration No. 333-

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM S-3

REGISTRATION STATEMENT

UNDER

THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

iSHARES® SILVER TRUST

SPONSORED BY iSHARES DELAWARE TRUST SPONSOR LLC

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

New York **13-7474456**
(State or other jurisdiction of **(I.R.S. Employer**

incorporation or organization) Identification Number)

c/o iShares Delaware Trust Sponsor LLC

400 Howard Street, San Francisco, CA 94105

Attn: Product Management Team,

iShares Product Research & Development

(415) 670-2000

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)

iShares Delaware Trust Sponsor LLC

400 Howard Street, San Francisco, CA 94105

Attn: Product Management Team,

iShares Product Research & Development

(415) 670-2000

(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

Copies to:

Clifford R. Cone, Esq.

Deepa Damre, Esq.

Larry P. Medvinsky, Esq.

BlackRock, Inc.

Clifford Chance US LLP

400 Howard Street

31 West 52nd Street

San Francisco, CA

New York, NY 10019

94105

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: As soon as practicable after this Registration Statement becomes effective.

If the only securities being registered on this Form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box:

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box:

Edgar Filing: iShares Silver Trust - Form S-3ASR

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

Table of Contents

If this Form is a registration statement pursuant to General Instruction I.D. or a post-effective amendment thereto that shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462(e) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment to a registration statement filed pursuant to General Instruction I.D. filed to register additional securities or additional classes of securities pursuant to Rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of “large accelerated filer,” “accelerated filer,” “smaller reporting company” and “emerging growth company” in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer
 Smaller reporting company
 Non-accelerated filer Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 7(a)(2)(B) of Securities Act.

CALCULATION OF THE REGISTRATION FEE

Title of each Class of Securities to be Registered	Amount to be registered	Proposed maximum offering price per unit	Proposed maximum aggregate offering price	Amount of registration fee
iShares	247,300,000 (1)	N/A	N/A	\$431,635.79 (2)
iShares	63,900,000	\$ 14.2775	(3) \$ 912,332,250	110,574.67
Total	311,200,000	N/A	N/A	\$542,210.46

Unsold securities previously registered under Registration Statement No. 333-224414, filed with the Commission on April 24, 2018 (the “Unsold Securities”). This Registration Statement is filed pursuant to Rule 415(a)(6) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “Securities Act”), and the securities being registered hereunder include (1) 247,300,000 Unsold Securities.

Edgar Filing: iShares Silver Trust - Form S-3ASR

- Previously paid. In accordance with Rule 415(a)(6) under the Securities Act, the filing fee of \$431,635.79 previously paid for the registration of the Unsold Securities will continue to apply to such unsold securities.
- (2) Registration Statement No. 333-224414 will be deemed terminated as of the date of effectiveness of this Registration Statement.
- (3) Estimated solely for purposes of calculating the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457(c) under the Securities Act, based on an average of the high and low price of the Shares on NYSE Arca of \$14.2775 on April 8, 2019.
-

Table of Contents

311,200,000 Shares

iShares® Silver Trust

The iShares Silver Trust (the “Trust”) issues shares (“Shares”) representing fractional undivided beneficial interests in its net assets. The assets of the Trust consist primarily of silver held by a custodian on behalf of the Trust. The Trust seeks to reflect generally the performance of the price of silver. The Trust seeks to reflect such performance before payment of the Trust’s expenses and liabilities. The Shares are listed and trade on NYSE Arca, Inc. (“NYSE Arca”) under the ticker symbol SLV. Market prices for the Shares may be different from the net asset value per Share. iShares Delaware Trust Sponsor LLC (the “Sponsor”) is the sponsor of the Trust, The Bank of New York Mellon (the “Trustee”) is the trustee of the Trust, and JPMorgan Chase Bank N.A., London branch (the “Custodian”), is the custodian of the Trust. The Trust is not an investment company registered under the United States Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “Investment Company Act”). The Trust is not a commodity pool for purposes of the United States Commodity Exchange Act of 1936, as amended (the “Commodity Exchange Act” or “CEA”).

The Trust intends to issue Shares on a continuous basis. The Trust issues and redeems Shares only in blocks of 50,000 or integral multiples thereof. A block of 50,000 Shares is called a “Basket.” These transactions take place in exchange for silver. Only registered broker-dealers that become authorized participants by entering into a contract with the Sponsor and the Trustee (“Authorized Participants”) may purchase or redeem Baskets. Shares will be offered to the public from time to time at prices that will reflect the price of silver and the trading price of the Shares on NYSE Arca at the time of the offer.

On April 11, 2019, the Shares closed on NYSE Arca at \$14.02 and the LBMA Silver Price was \$15.16 per ounce.

Except when aggregated in Baskets, Shares are not redeemable securities.

Investing in the Shares involves significant risks. See “Risk Factors” starting on page 6.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of the securities offered in this prospectus, or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

Edgar Filing: iShares Silver Trust - Form S-3ASR

The Shares are not interests in nor obligations of either the Sponsor or the Trustee.

“iShares” is a registered trademark of BlackRock, Inc. or its affiliates.

The date of this prospectus is April 12, 2019.

Table of Contents**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

	Page
<u>PROSPECTUS SUMMARY</u>	1
<u>Trust Structure, the Sponsor, the Trustee and the Custodian</u>	1
<u>Trust Objective</u>	2
<u>Principal Offices</u>	3
<u>THE OFFERING</u>	3
<u>SUMMARY FINANCIAL CONDITION</u>	5
<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	6
<u>STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u>	13
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	14
<u>THE SILVER INDUSTRY</u>	14
<u>Introduction</u>	14
<u>Market Participants</u>	14
<u>World Silver Supply and Demand (2008-2017)</u>	15
<u>Historical Chart of the Price of Silver</u>	15
<u>OPERATION OF THE SILVER MARKET</u>	16
<u>Over-the-Counter Market</u>	16
<u>Futures Exchanges</u>	17
<u>Exchange Regulation</u>	17
<u>London Good Delivery Bar</u>	17
<u>Settlement and Delivery</u>	17
<u>Allocated Accounts</u>	17
<u>Unallocated Accounts</u>	18
<u>London Market Regulation</u>	18
<u>Not a Regulated Commodity Pool</u>	18
<u>Other Methods of Investing in Silver</u>	18
<u>BUSINESS OF THE TRUST</u>	18
<u>Trust Objective</u>	18
<u>Secondary Market Trading</u>	19
<u>Valuation of Silver; Computation of Net Asset Value</u>	19
<u>Trust Expenses</u>	20
<u>Impact of Trust Expenses on the Trust's Net Asset Value</u>	21
<u>DESCRIPTION OF THE SHARES AND THE TRUST AGREEMENT</u>	21
<u>Deposit of Silver; Issuance of Baskets</u>	22
<u>Redemption of Baskets; Withdrawal of Silver</u>	23
<u>Certificates Evidencing the Shares</u>	23
<u>Cash and Other Distributions</u>	23
<u>Voting Rights</u>	24
<u>Share Splits</u>	24
<u>Management of the Trust</u>	24
<u>Fees and Expenses of the Trustee</u>	24
<u>Trust Expenses and Silver Sales</u>	24

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

(continued)

	Page
<u>Payment of Taxes</u>	25
<u>Evaluation of Silver and the Trust Assets</u>	25
<u>Amendment and Termination</u>	25
<u>Limitations on Obligations and Liability</u>	25
<u>Requirements for Trustee Actions</u>	26
<u>THE SECURITIES DEPOSITORY; BOOK-ENTRY-ONLY SYSTEM; GLOBAL SECURITY</u>	26
<u>THE SPONSOR</u>	27
<u>The Sponsor's Role</u>	27
<u>Key Personnel of the Sponsor</u>	27
<u>The Sponsor's Fee</u>	28
<u>THE TRUSTEE</u>	29
<u>The Trustee's Role</u>	29
<u>THE CUSTODIAN</u>	29
<u>The Custodian's Role</u>	29
<u>Custody of the Trust's Silver</u>	30
<u>UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES</u>	31
<u>Taxation of the Trust</u>	32
<u>Taxation of U.S. Shareholders</u>	32
<u>Maximum 28% Long-Term Capital Gains Tax Rate for U.S. Shareholders Who Are Individuals</u>	33
<u>3.8% Tax on Net Investment Income</u>	33
<u>Brokerage Fees and Trust Expenses</u>	33
<u>Investment by U.S. Tax-Exempt Shareholders</u>	33
<u>Investment by Regulated Investment Companies</u>	33
<u>Investment by Certain Retirement Plans</u>	34
<u>Taxation of Non-U.S. Shareholders</u>	34
<u>United States Information Reporting and Backup Withholding</u>	34
<u>Taxation in Jurisdictions Other Than the United States</u>	34
<u>ERISA AND RELATED CONSIDERATIONS</u>	34
<u>PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION</u>	35
<u>LEGAL MATTERS</u>	35
<u>License Agreement</u>	36
<u>EXPERTS</u>	36
<u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION; INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE</u>	36
<u>GLOSSARY</u>	37

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

Although the Sponsor believes that this summary is materially complete, you should read the entire prospectus, including “Risk Factors” beginning on page 6, before making an investment decision about the Shares.

Trust Structure, the Sponsor, the Trustee and the Custodian

The Trust was formed on April 21, 2006 when an initial deposit of silver was made in exchange for the issuance of three Baskets. The purpose of the Trust is to own silver transferred to the Trust in exchange for Shares issued by the Trust. Each Share represents a fractional undivided beneficial interest in the net assets of the Trust. The assets of the Trust consist primarily of silver held by the Custodian on behalf of the Trust. However, there may be situations where the Trust will unexpectedly hold cash. For example, a claim may arise against a third party, which is settled in cash. In situations where the Trust unexpectedly receives cash or other assets, no new Shares will be issued until after the record date for the distribution of such cash or other property has passed.

The Sponsor of the Trust is iShares Delaware Trust Sponsor LLC, a Delaware limited liability company and an indirect subsidiary of BlackRock, Inc. (“BlackRock”). ***The Shares are not obligations of, and are not guaranteed by, iShares Delaware Trust Sponsor LLC, or any of its subsidiaries or affiliates.***

The Trust is governed by the provisions of the Second Amended and Restated Depositary Trust Agreement (as amended from time to time, the “Trust Agreement”) executed as of December 22, 2016 by the Sponsor and the Trustee.

The Trust issues Shares only in Baskets of 50,000 or integral multiples thereof. Baskets may be redeemed by the Trust in exchange for the amount of silver corresponding to their redemption value. Individual Shares are not redeemed by the Trust, but are listed and trade on NYSE Arca under the ticker symbol SLV. The Trust seeks to reflect generally the performance of the price of silver. The Trust seeks to reflect such performance before payment of the Trust’s expenses and liabilities. The material terms of the Trust are discussed in greater detail under the section “Description of the Shares and the Trust Agreement.” The Trust is not a registered investment company under the Investment Company Act and is not required to register under such act. The Trust is not a commodity pool for purposes of the CEA, and its sponsor is not subject to regulation by the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission (the “CFTC”) as a commodity pool operator or a commodity trading advisor with respect to the Trust.

The Sponsor has agreed to assume the following administrative and marketing expenses incurred by the Trust: the Trustee’s fee (the “Trustee’s Fee”), the Custodian’s fee (the “Custodian’s Fee”), NYSE Arca listing fees, SEC registration

fees, printing and mailing costs, audit fees and expenses and up to \$100,000 per annum in legal fees and expenses.

The Sponsor does not exercise day-to-day oversight over the Trustee or the Custodian. The Sponsor may remove the Trustee and appoint a successor trustee if the Trustee ceases to meet certain objective requirements (including the requirement that it have capital, surplus and undivided profits of at least \$150 million) or if, having received written notice of a material breach of its obligations under the Trust Agreement, the Trustee has not cured the breach within thirty days or fails to implement certain controls and procedures requested by the Sponsor. The Sponsor also has the right to replace the Trustee during the ninety days following any merger, consolidation or conversion in which the Trustee is not the surviving entity or, in its discretion, on the fifth anniversary of the creation of the Trust or on any subsequent third anniversary thereafter. The Sponsor also has the right to approve any new or additional custodian that the Trustee may wish to appoint.

The Trustee is The Bank of New York Mellon and the Custodian is JPMorgan Chase Bank N.A., London branch. The agreement between the Trust and the Custodian (the “Custodian Agreement”) is governed by English law.

The Trustee is responsible for the day-to-day administration of the Trust. The responsibilities of the Trustee include (1) processing orders for the creation and redemption of Baskets; (2) coordinating with the Custodian the receipt and delivery of silver transferred to, or by, the Trust in connection with each issuance and redemption of Baskets; (3) calculating the net asset value of the Trust on each business day; and (4) selling the Trust’s silver as needed to cover the Trust’s expenses. For a more detailed description of the role and responsibilities of the Trustee see “Description of the Shares and the Trust Agreement” and “The Trustee.”

Table of Contents

The Custodian is responsible for safekeeping the Trust's silver. The Custodian is appointed by the Trustee and is responsible for any loss of silver to the Trustee only. The general role and responsibilities of the Custodian are further described in "The Custodian." The Custodian has no obligation to accept any additional delivery on behalf of the Trust if, after giving effect to such delivery, the total amount of the Trust's silver held by the Custodian exceeds 500,000,000 troy ounces. If this limit is exceeded, it is anticipated that the Trustee, with the consent of the Sponsor, will retain an additional custodian. If an additional custodian becomes necessary, the Trustee will seek to hire the additional custodian under terms and conditions substantially similar to those in the Custodian Agreement with JPMorgan Chase Bank N.A., London branch. However, because the agreement with the additional custodian will only be negotiated when the need for the additional custodian arises, it may not be possible for the Trustee to locate at that time an additional custodian that agrees to exactly the same terms of the agreement with JPMorgan Chase Bank N.A., London branch. As a result, the new agreement may differ from the current one with JPMorgan Chase Bank N.A., London branch, with respect to issues like duration, fees, maximum amount of silver that the additional custodian will hold on behalf of the Trust, scope of the additional custodian's liability and the additional custodian's standard of care.

Trust Objective

The Trust seeks to reflect generally the performance of the price of silver. The Trust seeks to reflect such performance before payment of the Trust's expenses and liabilities. The Shares are intended to constitute a simple and cost-effective means of making an investment similar to an investment in silver. An investment in physical silver requires expensive and sometimes complicated arrangements in connection with the assay, transportation, warehousing and insurance of the metal. Traditionally, such expense and complications have resulted in investments in physical silver being efficient only in amounts beyond the reach of many investors. The Shares have been designed to remove the obstacles represented by the expense and complications involved in an investment in physical silver, while at the same time having an intrinsic value that reflects, at any given time, the price of the silver owned by the Trust at such time, less the Trust's expenses and liabilities. Although the Shares are not the exact equivalent of an investment in silver, they provide investors with an alternative that allows a level of participation in the silver market through the securities market.

An investment in Shares is:

Backed by silver held by the Custodian on behalf of the Trust.

The Shares are backed by the assets of the Trust. The Trustee's arrangements with the Custodian contemplate that at the end of each business day there can be in the Trust account maintained by the Custodian no more than 1,100 ounces of silver in an unallocated form. The bulk of the Trust's silver holdings are represented by physical silver, are identified on the Custodian's or, if applicable, sub-custodian's, books in allocated and unallocated accounts on behalf of the Trust, and are held by the Custodian in England, New York and other locations that may be authorized in the future.

As accessible and easy to handle as any other investment in shares.

Retail investors may purchase and sell Shares through traditional brokerage accounts. Because the intrinsic value of each Share is a function of the price of the silver held by the Trust, the cash outlay necessary for an investment in Shares should be less than the amount required for currently existing means of investing in physical silver. Shares are eligible for margin accounts.

Listed.

The Shares are listed and trade on NYSE Arca under the ticker symbol SLV.

Table of Contents

Relatively cost-efficient.

Because the expenses involved in an investment in physical silver are dispersed among all holders of Shares, an investment in Shares may represent a cost-efficient alternative to investments in physical silver for investors not otherwise in a position to participate directly in the market for physical silver. See “Business of the Trust—Trust Objective.”

Principal Offices

The Sponsor’s office is located at 400 Howard Street, San Francisco, CA 94105 and its phone number is (415) 670-2000. The Trustee has a Trust office at 2 Hanson Place, 9th Floor, Brooklyn, New York 11217. The Custodian’s office is located at 125 London Wall, London, EC2Y 5AJ, England.

THE OFFERING

Offering	The Shares represent units of fractional undivided beneficial interest in the net assets of the Trust.
Use of proceeds	Proceeds received by the Trust from the issuance and sale of Baskets consist of silver deposits. Such deposits are held by the Custodian on behalf of the Trust until (i) delivered to Authorized Participants in connection with a redemption of Baskets or (ii) sold to pay the fee due to the Sponsor and Trust expenses or liabilities not assumed by the Sponsor.
NYSE Arca ticker symbol	SLV
CUSIP	46428Q109

Creation and redemption The Trust issues and redeems Baskets on a continuous basis. Baskets are only issued or redeemed in exchange for an amount of silver determined by the Trustee on each day that NYSE Arca is open for regular trading. No Shares are issued unless the Custodian has allocated to the Trust’s account (except for an unallocated amount of silver not in excess of 1,100 ounces), the corresponding amount of silver. At the creation of the Trust, a Basket required delivery of 500,000 ounces of silver. The amount of silver necessary for the creation of a Basket, or to be received upon redemption of a Basket, will decrease over the life of the Trust, due to the payment or accrual of fees and other expenses or liabilities payable by the Trust. Baskets may be created or redeemed only by Authorized Participants, who pay the Trustee a transaction fee for each order to create or redeem Baskets. See “Description of the Shares and the Trust Agreement” for more details.

Net Asset
Value

The net asset value of the Trust is obtained by subtracting all accrued fees, expenses and other liabilities of the Trust on any day from the total value of the silver and all other assets of the Trust on that day; the net asset value per Share (the “NAV”) is obtained by dividing the net asset value of the Trust on a given day by the number of Shares outstanding on that day. On each day on which NYSE Arca is open for regular trading, the Trustee determines the NAV as promptly as practicable after 4:00 p.m. (New York time). The Trustee values the Trust’s silver on the basis of that day’s announced LBMA Silver Price. If there is no LBMA Silver Price on any day, the Trustee is authorized to use the most recently announced LBMA Silver Price unless the Trustee, in consultation with the Sponsor, determines that such price is inappropriate as a basis for evaluation. See “Business of the Trust—Valuation of Silver; Computation of Net Asset Value.”

Table of Contents

Trust expenses	<p>The Trust’s only ordinary recurring expense is expected to be the remuneration due to the Sponsor (the “Sponsor’s Fee”). In exchange for the Sponsor’s Fee, the Sponsor has agreed to assume the following administrative and marketing expenses of the Trust: the Trustee’s Fee, the Custodian’s Fee, NYSE Arca listing fees, SEC registration fees, printing and mailing costs, audit fees and expenses and up to \$100,000 per annum in legal fees and expenses.</p>
Tax Considerations	<p>The Sponsor’s Fee is accrued daily at an annualized rate equal to 0.50% of the net asset value of the Trust and is payable monthly in arrears. The Trustee from time to time sells silver in such quantity as is necessary to permit payment of the Sponsor’s Fee and may also sell silver in such quantities as may be necessary to permit the payment of Trust expenses and liabilities not assumed by the Sponsor. The Trustee is authorized to sell silver at such times and in the smallest amounts required to permit such payments as they become due, it being the intention to avoid or minimize the Trust’s holdings of assets other than silver. Accordingly, the amount of silver to be sold may vary from time to time depending on the level of the Trust’s expenses and liabilities and the market price of silver. See “Business of the Trust—Trust Expenses” and “Description of the Shares and the Trust Agreement—Trust Expenses and Silver Sales.”</p> <p>Owners of Shares are treated, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, as if they owned a corresponding share of the assets of the Trust. They are also viewed as if they directly received a corresponding share of any income of the Trust, or as if they had incurred a corresponding share of the expenses of the Trust. Consequently, each sale of silver by the Trust constitutes a taxable event to owners of beneficial interests in the Shares (the “Shareholders”). See “United States Federal Income Tax Consequences— Taxation of U.S. Shareholders” and “ERISA and Related Considerations.”</p>
Voting Rights	<p>Owners of Shares do not have any voting rights. See “Description of the Shares and the Trust Agreement—Voting Rights.”</p>
Suspension of Issuance, Transfers and Redemptions	<p>The Trustee may suspend the delivery or registration of transfers of Shares, or may refuse a particular deposit or transfer at any time, if the Trustee or the Sponsor think it advisable for any reason. Redemptions may be suspended only (i) during any period in which regular trading on NYSE Arca is suspended or restricted, or the exchange is closed, or (ii) during an emergency as a result of which delivery, disposal or evaluation of silver is not reasonably practicable. See “Description of the Shares and the Trust Agreement—Requirements for Trustee Actions.”</p>
Limitation on Liability	<p>The Sponsor and the Trustee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •are only obligated to take the actions specifically set forth in the Trust Agreement without negligence or bad faith; •are not liable for the exercise of discretion permitted under the Trust Agreement; and •have no obligation to prosecute any lawsuit or other proceeding on behalf of the Shareholders or any other person.

See “Description of the Shares and the Trust Agreement—Limitations on Obligations and Liability.”

Termination events The Trustee will terminate the Trust Agreement if:

the Trustee is notified that the Shares are delisted from NYSE Arca and are not approved for listing on another national securities exchange within five business days of their delisting;

4

Table of Contents

- holders of at least 75% of the outstanding Shares notify the Trustee that they elect to terminate the Trust;
- 60 days have elapsed since the Trustee notified the Sponsor of the Trustee’s election to resign and a successor trustee has not been appointed and accepted its appointment;
- the SEC determines that the Trust is an investment company under the Investment Company Act and the Trustee has actual knowledge of that determination;
- the aggregate market capitalization of the Trust, based on the closing price for the Shares, was less than \$350 million on each of five consecutive trading days and the Trustee receives, within six months from the last of those trading days, notice that the Sponsor has decided to terminate the Trust;
- the CFTC determines that the Trust is a commodity pool under the Commodity Exchange Act and the Trustee has actual knowledge of that determination; or
- the Trust fails to qualify for treatment, or ceases to be treated, as a grantor trust for United States federal income tax purposes and the Trustee receives notice that the Sponsor has determined that the termination of the Trust is advisable.

If not terminated earlier by the Trustee, the Trust will terminate on April 21, 2046. See “Description of the Shares and the Trust Agreement—Amendment and Termination.” After termination of the Trust, the Trustee will deliver Trust property upon surrender and cancellation of Shares and, ninety days after termination, may sell any remaining Trust property in a private or public sale, and hold the proceeds, uninvested and in a non-interest bearing account, for the benefit of the holders who have not surrendered their Shares for cancellation. See “Description of the Shares and the Trust Agreement—Amendment and Termination.”

Authorized Participants

Baskets may be created or redeemed only by Authorized Participants. Each Authorized Participant must be a registered broker-dealer, a participant in DTC, have entered into an agreement with the Sponsor and the Trustee (the “Authorized Participant Agreement”) and be in a position to transfer silver to, and take delivery of silver from, the Custodian through one or more silver accounts. The Authorized Participant Agreement provides the procedures for the creation and redemption of Baskets and for the delivery of silver in connection with such creations or redemptions. A list of the current Authorized Participants can be obtained from the Trustee or the Sponsor.

Clearance and settlement

The Shares are issued in book-entry form only. Transactions in Shares clear through the facilities of DTC. Investors may hold their Shares through DTC, if they are participants in DTC, or indirectly through entities that are participants in DTC.

SUMMARY FINANCIAL CONDITION

As of the close of business on April 11, 2019, the net asset value of the Trust was \$4,697,639,547 and the NAV was \$14.21.

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

Before making an investment decision, you should consider carefully the risks described below, as well as the other information included in this prospectus.

Actual or perceived disruptions in the processes used to determine the LBMA Silver Price, or lack of confidence in that benchmark, may adversely affect the return on your investment in the Shares (if any).

Because the objective of the Trust is to reflect the performance of the price of silver, any disruptions affecting the processes related to how the market determines the price of silver will have an effect on the value of the Shares.

The LBMA Silver Price is a silver price benchmark mechanism administered by ICE Benchmark Administration (“IBA”), an independent specialist benchmark administrator appointed by LBMA. Once daily during London business hours, IBA hosts an electronic auction consisting of one or more 30-second rounds.

Investors should keep in mind that electronic markets are not exempt from failures, as the experiences of the initial public offerings of Facebook and BATS Global Markets illustrate. In addition, electronic trading platforms may be subject to influence by high-frequency traders with results that are highly contested by the industry, regulators and market observers.

As of the date of this prospectus, the LBMA Silver Price has been subjected to the test of actual trading markets for over four years. As with any innovation, it is possible that electronic failures or other unanticipated events may occur that could result in delays in the announcement of, or the inability of the system to produce, an LBMA Silver Price on any given day. Furthermore, if a perception were to develop that the LBMA Silver Price is vulnerable to manipulation attempts, or if the proceedings surrounding the determination and publication of the LBMA Silver Price were seen as unfair, biased or otherwise compromised by the markets, the behavior of investors and traders in silver may change, and those changes may have an effect on the price of silver (and, consequently, the value of the Shares). In any of these circumstances, the intervention of extraneous events disruptive of the normal interaction of supply and demand of silver at any given time, may result in distorted prices and losses on an investment in the Shares that, but for such extraneous events, might not have occurred.

Other effects of disruptions in the determination of the LBMA Silver Price on the operations of the Trust include the potential for an incorrect valuation of the Trust’s silver, an inaccurate computation of the Sponsor’s Fee, and the sales of silver to cover Trust expenses at prices that do not accurately reflect the fundamentals of the silver market. Each of

these events could have an adverse effect on the value of the Shares. The operation of the auction process which determines the LBMA Silver Price is also dependent on the continued operation of the LBMA and the IBA and their applicable systems.

As of the date of this prospectus, the Sponsor has no reason to believe that the LBMA Silver Price (used by the Trust since August 15, 2014 for the daily valuation of its silver and the determination of the Sponsor's fee and the price of silver sold to cover Trust expenses) will not fairly represent the price of the silver held by the Trust. Should this situation change, the Sponsor expects to use the powers granted by the Trust's governing documents to seek to replace the LBMA Silver Price with a more reliable indicator of the value of the Trust's silver. There is no assurance that such alternative value indicator will be identified, or that the process of changing from the LBMA Silver Price to a new benchmark price will not adversely affect the price of the Shares.

Because the Shares are created to reflect the price of the silver held by the Trust, the market price of the Shares will be as unpredictable as the price of silver has historically been. This creates the potential for losses, regardless of whether you hold Shares for a short-, mid- or long-term period.

Shares are created to reflect, at any given time, the market price of silver owned by the Trust at that time less the Trust's expenses and liabilities. Because the value of Shares depends on the price of silver, it is subject to fluctuations similar to those affecting silver prices. The price of silver has fluctuated widely over the past several years. If silver markets continue to be characterized by the wide fluctuations that they have shown in the past several years, the price of the Shares will change widely and in an unpredictable manner. This exposes your investment in Shares to potential losses if you need to sell your Shares at a time when the price of silver is lower than it was when you made your investment in Shares. Even if you are able to hold Shares for the mid- or long-term you may never realize a profit, because silver markets have historically experienced extended periods of flat or declining prices.

Table of Contents

Following an investment in Shares, several factors may have the effect of causing a decline in the prices of silver and a corresponding decline in the price of Shares. Among them:

- a change in economic conditions, such as a recession, can adversely affect the price of silver. Silver is used in a wide range of industrial applications, and an economic downturn could have a negative impact on its demand and, consequently, its price and the price of the Shares;

- a significant increase in silver hedging activity by silver producers. Traditionally, silver producers have not hedged to the same extent that other producers of precious metals (gold, for example) have. Should there be an increase in the level of hedge activity of silver producing companies, it could cause a decline in world silver prices, adversely affecting the price of the Shares;

- a significant change in the attitude of speculators and investors towards silver. Should the speculative community take a negative view towards silver, a decline in world silver prices could occur, negatively impacting the price of the Shares;

- global silver supply and demand, which is influenced by such factors as silver's uses in jewelry, technology and industrial applications, purchases made by investors in the form of bars, coins and other silver products, forward selling by silver producers, purchases made by silver producers to unwind silver hedge positions, central bank purchases and sales, and production and cost levels in major silver-producing countries such as China, Mexico and Peru;

- global or regional political, economic or financial events and situations, especially those unexpected in nature;

- investors' expectations with respect to the rate of inflation;

- interest rates;

- investment and trading activities of hedge funds and commodity funds;

- other economic variables such as income growth, economic output, and monetary policies; and

- investor confidence.

Conversely, several factors may trigger a temporary increase in the price of silver prior to your investment in the Shares. If that is the case, you will be buying Shares at prices affected by the temporarily high prices of silver, and you may incur losses when the causes for the temporary increase disappear.

Investors should be aware that while silver is used to preserve wealth by investors around the world, there is no assurance that silver will maintain its long-term value in terms of future purchasing power. In the event the price of silver declines, the Sponsor expects the value of an investment in the Shares to decline proportionately.

Furthermore, although silver has been used as a portfolio diversifier due to its historically low-to-negative correlation with stocks and bonds, diversification does not ensure against, nor can it prevent against, risk of loss.

The amount of silver represented by each Share will decrease over the life of the Trust due to the sales of silver necessary to pay the Sponsor's Fee and other Trust expenses. Without increases in the price of silver sufficient to compensate for that decrease, the price of the Shares will also decline and you will lose money on your investment in Shares.

Although the Sponsor has agreed to assume all organizational and certain ordinary administrative and marketing expenses incurred by the Trust, not all Trust expenses have been assumed by the Sponsor. For example, any taxes and other governmental charges that may be imposed on the Trust's property will not be paid by the Sponsor. As part of its agreement to assume some of the Trust's ordinary administrative expenses, the Sponsor has agreed to pay legal fees and expenses of the Trust not in excess of \$100,000 per annum. Any legal fees and expenses in excess of that amount will be the responsibility of the Trust.

Because the Trust does not have any income, it needs to sell silver to cover the Sponsor's Fee and expenses not assumed by the Sponsor. The Trust may also be subject to other liabilities (for example, as a result of litigation) that have also not been assumed by the Sponsor. The only source of funds to cover those liabilities will be sales of silver held by the Trust. Even if there are no expenses other than those assumed by the Sponsor, and there are no other liabilities of the Trust, the Trustee will still need to sell silver to pay the Sponsor's Fee. The result of these sales is a decrease in the amount of silver represented by each Share. New deposits of silver, received in exchange for new Shares issued by the Trust, do not reverse this trend.

Table of Contents

A decrease in the amount of silver represented by each Share results in a decrease in its price even if the price of silver has not changed. To retain the Share's original price, the price of silver has to increase. Without that increase, the lesser amount of silver represented by the Share will have a correspondingly lower price. If these increases do not occur, or are not sufficient to counter the lesser amount of silver represented by each Share, you will sustain losses on your investment in Shares.

An increase in the Trust expenses not assumed by the Sponsor, or the existence of unexpected liabilities affecting the Trust, will force the Trustee to sell larger amounts of silver, and will result in a more rapid decrease of the amount of silver represented by each Share and a corresponding decrease in its value.

The Trust is a passive investment vehicle. This means that the value of your Shares may be adversely affected by Trust losses that, if the Trust had been actively managed, it might have been possible to avoid.

The Trustee does not actively manage the silver held by the Trust. This means that the Trustee does not sell silver at times when its price is high, or acquire silver at low prices in the expectation of future price increases. It also means that the Trustee does not make use of any of the hedging techniques available to professional silver investors to attempt to reduce the risks of losses resulting from price decreases. Any losses sustained by the Trust will adversely affect the value of your Shares.

The price received upon the sale of Shares may be less than the value of the silver represented by them.

The result obtained by subtracting the Trust's expenses and liabilities on any day from the price of the silver owned by the Trust on that day is the net asset value of the Trust which, when divided by the number of Shares outstanding on that day, results in the NAV.

Shares may trade at, above or below their NAV. The NAV will fluctuate with changes in the market value of the Trust's assets. The trading prices of Shares will fluctuate in accordance with changes in their NAVs as well as market supply and demand. The amount of the discount or premium in the trading price relative to the NAV may be influenced by non-concurrent trading hours between the major silver markets and NYSE Arca. While the Shares will trade on NYSE Arca until 4:00 p.m. (New York time), liquidity in the market for silver will be reduced after the close of the major world silver markets, including London, Zurich and the Commodity Exchange, Inc. ("COMEX") in Chicago. As a result, during this time, trading spreads, and the resulting premium or discount on Shares, may widen.

Future governmental decisions may have significant impact on the price of silver, which may result in a significant decrease or increase in the value of the net assets and the net asset value of the Trust.

Generally, silver prices reflect the supply and demand of available silver. Governmental decisions, such as the executive order issued by the President of the United States in 1934 requiring all persons in the United States to deliver silver to the Federal Reserve, have been viewed as having significant impact on the supply and demand of silver and the price of silver. Future governmental decisions may have an impact on the price of silver and may result in a significant decrease or increase in the value of the net assets and the net asset value of the Trust. Further regulations applicable to U.S. banks and non-U.S. bank entities operating in the United States with respect to their trading in physical commodities, such as precious metals, may further impact the price of silver in the United States.

The costs inherent in buying or selling the Shares may detract significantly from investment results.

Buying or selling the Shares on an exchange involves two types of costs that apply to all securities transactions effectuated on an exchange. When buying or selling Shares through a broker or other intermediary, you will likely incur a brokerage commission or other charges imposed by that broker or intermediary. In addition, you may incur the cost of the “spread,” that is, the difference between what investors or market makers are willing to pay for the Shares (the “bid” price) and the price at which they are willing to sell the Shares (the “ask” price). Because of the costs inherent in buying or selling the Shares, frequent trading may detract significantly from investment results and an investment in the Shares may not be advisable for investors who anticipate regularly making small investments.

Table of Contents

An investment in the Shares may be adversely affected by competition from other methods of investing in silver.

The Trust competes with other financial vehicles, including traditional debt and equity securities issued by companies in the silver industry and other securities backed by or linked to silver (including exchange-traded products), direct investments in silver and investment vehicles similar to the Trust. Market and financial conditions, and other conditions beyond the Sponsor's control, may make it more attractive to invest in other financial vehicles or to invest in silver directly, which could limit the market for the Shares and reduce the liquidity of the Shares.

The liquidation of the Trust may occur at a time when the disposition of the Trust's silver will result in losses to investors in Shares.

The Trust will have a limited duration. If certain events occur, at any time, the Trustee will have to terminate the Trust. Otherwise, the Trust will terminate automatically on April 21, 2046. See "Description of the Shares and the Trust Agreement—Amendment and Termination" for more information about the termination of the Trust, including when events outside the control of the Sponsor, the Trustee or the Shareholders may prompt the Trust's termination.

Upon termination of the Trust, the Trustee will sell silver in the amount necessary to cover all expenses of liquidation, and to pay any outstanding liabilities of the Trust. The remaining silver will be distributed among investors surrendering Shares. Any silver remaining in the possession of the Trustee after 90 days may be sold by the Trustee and the proceeds of the sale will be held by the Trustee until claimed by any remaining holders of Shares. Sales of silver in connection with the liquidation of the Trust at a time of low prices will likely result in losses, or adversely affect your gains, on your investment in Shares.

The liquidity of the Shares may also be affected by the withdrawal from participation of Authorized Participants.

In the event that one or more Authorized Participants that have substantial interests in Shares withdraw from participation, the liquidity of the Shares will likely decrease, which could adversely affect the market price of the Shares and result in your incurring a loss on your investment in Shares.

There may be situations where an Authorized Participant is unable to redeem a Basket. To the extent the value of silver decreases, these delays may result in a decrease in the value of the silver the Authorized Participant will receive when the redemption occurs, as well as a reduction in liquidity for all Shareholders in the

secondary market.

Although Shares surrendered by Authorized Participants in Basket-size aggregations are redeemable in exchange for the underlying amount of silver, redemptions may be suspended during any period while regular trading on NYSE Arca is suspended or restricted, or in which an emergency exists that makes it reasonably impracticable to deliver, dispose of, or evaluate silver. If any of these events occurs at a time when an Authorized Participant intends to redeem Shares, and the price of silver decreases before such Authorized Participant is able again to surrender Baskets for redemption, such Authorized Participant will sustain a loss with respect to the amount that it would have been able to obtain in exchange for the silver received from the Trust upon the redemption of its Shares, had the redemption taken place when such Authorized Participant originally intended it to occur. As a consequence, Authorized Participants may reduce their trading in Shares during periods of suspension, decreasing the number of potential buyers of Shares in the secondary market and, therefore, decreasing the price a Shareholder may receive upon sale.

Authorized Participants with large holdings may choose to terminate the Trust.

Holders of 75% of the Shares have the power to terminate the Trust. This power may be exercised by a relatively small number of holders. If it is so exercised, investors who wished to continue to invest in silver through the vehicle of the Trust will have to find another vehicle, and may not be able to find another vehicle that offers the same features as the Trust.

The lack of an active trading market for the Shares may result in losses on your investment at the time of disposition of your Shares.

Although Shares are listed for trading on NYSE Arca, you should not assume that an active trading market for the Shares will be maintained. If you need to sell your Shares at a time when no active market for them exists, such lack of an active market will most likely adversely affect the price you receive for your Shares (assuming you are able to sell them).

Table of Contents

If the process of creation and redemption of Baskets encounters any unanticipated difficulties or is materially restricted due to any illiquidity in the market for physical silver, the possibility for arbitrage transactions by Authorized Participants, intended to keep the price of the Shares closely linked to the price of silver may not exist and, as a result, the price of the Shares may fall or otherwise diverge from NAV.

If the processes of creation and redemption of Shares (which depend on timely transfers of silver to and by the Custodian) encounter any unanticipated difficulties, potential market participants, such as the Authorized Participants and their customers, who would otherwise be willing to purchase or redeem Baskets to take advantage of any arbitrage opportunity arising from discrepancies between the price of the Shares and the price of the underlying silver may not take the risk that, as a result of those difficulties, they may not be able to realize the profit they expect. If this is the case, the liquidity of the Shares may decline and the price of the Shares may fluctuate independently of the price of silver and may fall or otherwise diverge from NAV. Furthermore, in the event that the London market for physical silver should become relatively illiquid and thereby materially restrict opportunities for arbitraging by delivering silver in return for Baskets, the price of Shares may diverge from the value of physical silver and may fall.

Because the Trust holds only silver, an investment in the Trust may be more volatile than an investment in a more broadly diversified portfolio.

The Trust holds only silver. As a result, the Trust's holdings are not diversified. Accordingly, the Trust's net asset value may be more volatile than another investment vehicle with a more broadly diversified portfolio and may fluctuate substantially over short or long periods of time. Fluctuations in the price of silver are expected to have a direct impact on the value of the Shares.

An investment in the Trust may be deemed speculative and is not intended as a complete investment program. An investment in Shares should be considered only by persons financially able to maintain their investment and who can bear the risk of loss associated with an investment in the Trust. Investors should review closely the objective and strategy of the Trust, and redemption rights, as discussed herein, and familiarize themselves with the risks associated with an investment in the Trust.

The Trust is exposed to various operational risks.

The Trust is exposed to various operational risks, including human error, information technology failures and failure to comply with formal procedures intended to mitigate these risks, and is particularly dependent on electronic means of communicating, record-keeping and otherwise conducting business. In addition, the Trust generally exculpates, and in some cases indemnifies, its service providers and agents with respect to losses arising from unforeseen circumstances and events, which may include the interruption, suspension or restriction of trading on or the closure of

NYSE Arca, power or other mechanical or technological failures or interruptions, computer viruses, communications disruptions, work stoppages, natural disasters, fire, war, terrorism, riots, rebellions or other circumstances beyond the control of the Trust or its service providers and agents. Accordingly, the Trust generally bears the risk of loss with respect to these unforeseen circumstances and events to the extent relating to the Trust or the Shares, which may limit or prevent the Trust from generating returns corresponding to those of the Index or otherwise expose it to loss.

Although it is generally expected that the Trust's direct service providers and agents will have disaster recovery or similar programs or safeguards in place to mitigate the effect of such unforeseen circumstances and events, there can be no assurance that these safeguards are in place for all parties whose activities may affect the performance of the Trust, or that these safeguards, even if implemented, will be successful in preventing losses associated with such unforeseen circumstances and events. Nor can there be any assurance that the systems and applications on which the Trust relies will continue to operate as intended. In addition to potentially causing performance failures at, or direct losses to, the Trust, any such unforeseen circumstances and events or operational failures may further distract the service providers, agents or personnel on which the Trust relies, reducing their ability to conduct the activities on which the Trust is dependent. These risks cannot be fully mitigated or prevented, and further efforts or expenditures to do so may not be cost-effective, whether due to reduced benefits from implementing additional or redundant safeguards or due to increases in associated maintenance requirements and other expenses that may make it more costly for the Trust to operate in more typical circumstances.

Table of Contents

As an owner of Shares, you will not have the rights normally associated with ownership of other types of shares.

Shares are not entitled to the same rights as shares issued by a corporation. By acquiring Shares, you are not acquiring the right to elect directors, to receive dividends, to vote on certain matters regarding the issuer of your Shares or to take other actions normally associated with the ownership of shares. You will only have the limited rights described under “Description of the Shares and the Trust Agreement.”

The Trust relies on the information and technology systems of the Custodian, the Trustee and, to a lesser degree, the Sponsor, which could be adversely affected by information systems interruptions, cybersecurity attacks or other disruptions which could have a material adverse effect on our record keeping and operations.

The Custodian, the Trustee and, to a lesser degree, the Sponsor, depend upon information technology infrastructure, including network, hardware and software systems to conduct their business as it relates to the Trust. A cybersecurity incident, or a failure to protect their computer systems, networks and information against cybersecurity threats, could result in loss or unintended disclosure of information or loss or theft of the Trust assets, and could adversely impact the ability of the Trust’s service providers to conduct their business, including their business on behalf of the Trust. Despite implementation of network and other cybersecurity measures, these security measures may not be adequate to protect against all cybersecurity threats.

As an owner of Shares, you will not have the protections normally associated with ownership of shares in an investment company registered under the Investment Company Act or the protections afforded by the CEA.

The Trust is not registered as an investment company and is not required to be registered under the Investment Company Act. Consequently, the owners of Shares do not have the protections under the Investment Company Act applicable to investors in registered investment companies. For example, the provisions of the Investment Company Act that limit transactions with affiliates, prohibit the suspension of redemptions (except under certain limited circumstances) or limit sales loads, among others, do not apply to the Trust.

The Trust does not hold or trade in commodity futures contracts or any other instruments regulated by the CEA, as administered by the CFTC. Furthermore, the Trust is not a commodity pool for purposes of the CEA. Consequently, the Trustee and the Sponsor are not subject to registration as commodity pool operators with respect to the Trust. The owners of Shares do not receive the CEA disclosure document and certified annual report required to be delivered by the registered commodity pool operator with respect to a commodity pool, and the owners of Shares do not have the regulatory protections provided to investors in commodity pools operated by registered commodity pool operators.

The silver bullion custody operations of the Custodian are not subject to specific governmental regulatory supervision.

The Custodian is responsible for the safekeeping of the Trust's silver bullion and also facilitates the transfer of silver bullion into and out of the Trust. Although the Custodian is a market maker, clearer and approved weigher under the rules of the LBMA (which sets out good practices for participants in the bullion market), the LBMA is not an official or governmental regulatory body. Furthermore, although the Custodian is generally regulated in the UK by the Prudential Regulatory Authority and the Financial Conduct Authority, such regulations do not directly cover the Custodian's silver bullion custody operations in the UK. Accordingly, the Trust is dependent on the Custodian to comply with the best practices of the LBMA and to implement satisfactory internal controls for its silver bullion custody operations in order to keep the Trust's silver bullion secure.

The value of the Shares will be adversely affected if silver owned by the Trust is lost or damaged in circumstances in which the Trust is not in a position to recover the corresponding loss.

The Custodian is responsible to the Trust for loss or damage to the Trust's silver only under limited circumstances. The Custodian Agreement contemplates that the Custodian will be responsible to the Trust only if it acts with negligence, fraud or in willful default of its obligations under the Custodian Agreement. In addition, the Custodian has agreed to indemnify the Trust for any loss or liability directly resulting from a breach of the Custodian's representations and warranties in the Custodian Agreement, a failure of the Custodian to act in accordance with the Trustee's instructions or any physical loss, destruction or damage to the silver held for the Trust's account, except for losses due to nuclear accidents, terrorism, riots, acts of God, insurrections, strikes and similar causes beyond the control of the Custodian for which the Custodian will not be responsible to the Trust. The Custodian has no obligation to replace any silver lost under circumstances for which the Custodian is liable to the Trust. The Custodian's liability to the Trust, if any, will be limited to the value of any silver lost, or the amount of any balance held on an unallocated basis, at the time of the Custodian's negligence, fraud or willful default, or at the time of the act or omission giving rise to the claim for indemnification.

Table of Contents

In addition, because the Custodian Agreement is governed by English law, any rights which the holders of the Shares may have against the Custodian will be different from, and may be more limited than, those that could have been available to them under the laws of a different jurisdiction. The choice of English law to govern the Custodian Agreement, however, is not expected to affect any rights that the holders of the Shares may have against the Trust or the Trustee.

Any loss of silver owned by the Trust will result in a corresponding loss in the NAV and it is reasonable to expect that such loss will also result in a decrease in the value at which the Shares are traded on NYSE Arca.

Although the relationship between the Custodian and the Trustee concerning the Trust's allocated silver is expressly governed by English law, a court hearing any legal dispute concerning that arrangement may disregard that choice of law and apply U.S. law, in which case the ability of the Trust to seek legal redress against the Custodian may be frustrated.

The obligations of the Custodian under the Custody Agreements are governed by English law. The Trust is a New York common law trust. Any U.S., New York or other court situated in the United States may have difficulty interpreting English law (which, insofar as it relates to custody arrangements, is largely derived from court rulings rather than statute), LBMA rules or the customs and practices in the London custody market. It may be difficult or impossible for the Trust to sue the Custodian in a U.S., New York or other court situated in the United States. In addition, it may be difficult, time consuming and/or expensive for the Trust to enforce in a foreign court a judgment rendered by a U.S., New York or other court situated in the United States.

Shareholders and Authorized Participants lack the right under the Custodian Agreement to assert claims directly against the Custodian, which significantly limits their options for recourse.

Neither the Shareholders nor any Authorized Participant have a right under the Custodian Agreement to assert a claim of the Trustee against the Custodian. Claims under the Custodian Agreement may only be asserted by the Trustee on behalf of the Trust.

Silver transferred to the Trust in connection with the creation of Baskets may not be of the quality required under the Trust Agreement. The Trust will sustain a loss if the Trustee issues Shares in exchange for silver of inferior quality and that loss will adversely affect the value of all existing Shares.

The procedures agreed to with the Custodian contemplate that the Custodian must undertake certain tasks in connection with the inspection of silver delivered by Authorized Participants in exchange for Baskets. The Custodian's inspection includes review of the corresponding bar list to ensure that it accurately describes the weight, fineness, refiner marks and bar numbers appearing on the silver bars, but does not include any chemical or other tests designed to verify that the silver received does, in fact, meet the purity requirements referred to in the Trust Agreement. Accordingly, such inspection procedures may not prevent the deposit of silver that fails to meet these purity standards. Each Authorized Participant that deposits silver in the Trust is liable to the Trust if that silver does not meet the requirements of the Trust Agreement. The Custodian will not be responsible or liable to the Trust or to any investor in the event any silver otherwise properly inspected by it does not meet the purity requirements contained in the Trust Agreement. To the extent that Baskets are issued in exchange for silver of inferior quality and the Trust is not able to recover damages from the Authorized Participant that deposited that silver, the total value of the assets of the Trust will be adversely affected and, with it, the NAV. In these circumstances, it is reasonable to expect that the value at which the Shares trade on NYSE Arca will also be adversely affected.

The value of the Shares will be adversely affected if the Trust is required to indemnify the Sponsor or the Custodian as contemplated in the Trust Agreement and the Custodian Agreement.

Under the Trust Agreement, the Sponsor has a right to be indemnified from the Trust for any liability or expense it incurs without negligence, bad faith or willful misconduct on its part. Similarly, the Custodian Agreement provides for indemnification of the Custodian by the Trust under certain circumstances. This means that it may be necessary to sell assets of the Trust in order to cover losses or liability suffered by the Sponsor or the Custodian. Any sale of that kind would reduce the net asset value of the Trust and the value of the Shares.

Table of Contents

The Trust's lack of insurance protection and the Shareholders' limited rights of legal recourse against the Trust, the Trustee, the Sponsor, the Custodian and any sub-custodian expose the Shareholders to the risk of loss of the Trust's silver for which no person is liable.

The Trust does not insure its silver. The Custodian maintains insurance on such terms and conditions as it considers appropriate in connection with its custodial obligations under the Custodian Agreement and is responsible for all costs, fees and expenses arising from the insurance policy or policies. The Trust is not a beneficiary of any such insurance and does not have the ability to dictate the existence, nature or amount of coverage. Therefore, Shareholders cannot be assured that the Custodian maintains adequate insurance or any insurance with respect to the silver held by the Custodian on behalf of the Trust. In addition, the Custodian Agreement does not require any direct or indirect sub-custodians to be insured or bonded with respect to their custodial activities or in respect of the silver held by them on behalf of the Trust. Further, Shareholders' legal recourse against the Trust, the Trustee, the Sponsor, the Custodian, and any sub-custodians is limited. Consequently, a loss may be suffered with respect to the Trust's silver which is not covered by insurance and for which no person is liable in damages.

The Sponsor and its affiliates manage other accounts, funds or trusts, including those that invest in physical silver bullion or other precious metals, and conflicts of interest may occur, which may reduce the value of the net assets of the Trust, the NAV and the trading price of the Shares.

The Sponsor or its affiliates and associates currently engage in, and may in the future engage, in the promotion, management or investment management of other accounts, funds or trusts that invest primarily in physical silver bullion or other precious metals. Although officers and professional staff of the Sponsor's management intend to devote as much time to the Trust as is deemed appropriate to perform their duties, the Sponsor's management may allocate their time and services among the Trust and the other accounts, funds or trusts. The Sponsor will provide any such services to the Trust on terms not less favorable to the Trust than would be available from a non-affiliated party.

The Sponsor and the Trustee may agree to amend the Trust Agreement without the consent of the Shareholders.

The Sponsor and the Trustee may agree to amend the Trust Agreement, including to increase the Sponsor's Fee, without Shareholder consent. The Sponsor shall determine the contents and manner of delivery of any notice of any Trust Agreement amendment. If an amendment imposes new fees and charges or increases existing fees or charges, including the Sponsor's Fee (except for taxes and other governmental charges, registration fees or other such expenses), or prejudices a substantial right of Shareholders, it will become effective for outstanding Shares 30 days after notice of such amendment is given to registered owners. Shareholders that are not registered owners (which most shareholders will not be) may not receive specific notice of a fee increase other than through an amendment to the prospectus. Moreover, at the time an amendment becomes effective, by continuing to hold Shares, Shareholders are deemed to agree to the amendment and to be bound by the Trust Agreement as amended without specific agreement to

such increase (other than through the “negative consent” procedure described above).

STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus includes statements which relate to future events or future performance. In some cases, you can identify such forward-looking statements by terminology such as “may,” “should,” “could,” “expect,” “plan,” “anticipate,” “be,” “estimate,” “predict,” “potential” or the negative of these terms or other comparable terminology. All statements (other than statements of historical fact) included in this prospectus that address activities, events or developments that may occur in the future, including such matters as changes in commodity prices and market conditions (for silver and the Shares), the Trust’s operations, the Sponsor’s plans and references to the Trust’s future success and other similar matters are forward-looking statements. These statements are only predictions. Actual events or results may differ materially. These statements are based upon certain assumptions and analyses made by the Sponsor on the basis of its perception of historical trends, current conditions and expected future developments, as well as other factors it believes are appropriate in the circumstances. Whether or not actual results and developments will conform to the Sponsor’s expectations and predictions, however, is subject to a number of risks and uncertainties, including the special considerations discussed in this prospectus, general economic, market and business conditions, changes in laws or regulations, including those concerning taxes, made by governmental authorities or regulatory bodies, and other world economic and political developments. See “Risk Factors.” Consequently, all the forward-looking statements made in this prospectus are qualified by these cautionary statements, and there can be no assurance that the actual results or developments the Sponsor anticipates will be realized or, even if substantially realized, will result in the expected consequences to, or have the expected effects on, the Trust’s operations or the value of the Shares. Neither the Trust nor the Sponsor is under any duty to update any of the forward looking statements to conform such statements to actual results or to a change in the Sponsor’s expectations or predictions.

Table of Contents

USE OF PROCEEDS

Proceeds received by the Trust from the issuance and sale of Baskets consist of silver deposits. Such deposits are held by the Custodian on behalf of the Trust until (1) delivered to Authorized Participants in connection with redemptions of Baskets or (2) sold to pay fees due to the Sponsor and Trust expenses and liabilities not assumed by the Sponsor. See “Business of the Trust—Trust Expenses.”

THE SILVER INDUSTRY

Introduction

This section provides a brief introduction to the silver industry by looking at some of the key participants, detailing the primary sources of demand and supply and outlining the role of the “official” sector (*i.e.*, central banks) in the market.

Market Participants

The participants in the world silver industry may be classified in the following sectors: the mining and producer sector, the banking sector, the official sector, the investment sector, and the manufacturing sector. A brief description of each follows.

The Mining and Producer Sector

This group includes mining companies that specialize in silver and silver production; mining companies that produce silver as a by-product of other production (such as lead, zinc, copper or gold mine production); scrap merchants and recyclers.

The Banking Sector

Bullion banks provide a variety of services to the silver market and its participants, thereby facilitating interactions between other parties. Services provided by the bullion banking community include traditional banking products as well as mine financing, physical silver purchases and sales, hedging and risk management, inventory management for industrial users and consumers, and silver leasing.

The Official Sector

Unlike gold, there are no official statistics published by the International Monetary Fund, Bank of International Settlements, or national banks on silver holdings by national governments. The main reason for this is that silver is generally not recognized as a reserve asset. Consequently, there are very limited silver stocks held by governments. According to GFMS Limited in *World Silver Survey 2018*, at the end of 2017, governments held silver bullion stocks totaling 89.1 Moz.

The Investment Sector

This sector includes the investment and trading activities of both professional and private investors and speculators. These participants range from large hedge and mutual funds to day-traders on futures exchanges and retail-level coin collectors.

The Manufacturing Sector

The fabrication and manufacturing sector represents all the commercial and industrial users of silver. Industrial applications comprise the largest use of silver. The jewelry and silverware sector is the second largest, followed by the photographic industry (although the latter has been declining over the past several years as a result of the spread of digital photography).

Table of Contents**World Silver Supply and Demand (2008-2017)**

The following table sets forth a summary of the world silver supply and demand from 2008 to 2017:

(table values displayed in million ounces)	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Supply										
Mine Production	684.7	717.3	753.0	758.3	791.7	823.3	867.8	895.1	888.6	852.1
Net Government Sales	30.5	15.6	44.2	12.0	7.4	7.9	0	0	0	0
Scrap	200.7	200.6	227.2	261.2	253.8	191.0	165.4	141.1	139.7	138.1
Net Hedging Supply	-8.7	-17.4	50.4	12.2	-47.1	-34.8	16.8	7.8	-18.9	1.4
Total Supply	907.2	916.1	1,074.8	1,043.8	1,005.8	987.4	1,050.0	1,044.0	1,009.4	991.6
Demand										
Jewelry	177.6	176.9	190.0	191.5	187.4	220.6	226.4	226.7	205.0	209.1
Coins & Bars	197.9	94.9	150.3	212.7	159.7	241.1	234.1	292.1	207.8	151.1
Silverware	58.4	53.2	51.9	47.5	43.8	59.3	61.2	63.2	52.4	58.4
Industrial Fabrication	641.9	528.2	633.8	661.5	600.1	604.6	596.3	583.2	576.8	599.0
...of which Electrical & Electronics	271.7	227.4	301.2	290.8	266.7	266.0	263.9	246.0	233.9	242.9
...of which Brazing Alloys & Solders	61.8	53.8	61.2	63.2	61.1	63.7	66.7	61.5	55.3	57.5
...of which Photography	98.2	76.4	67.5	61.2	54.2	50.5	48.5	46.6	45.2	44.0
...of which Photovoltaic*	0	0	0	75.8	58.2	55.9	51.8	59.2	79.3	94.1
...of which Ethylene Oxide	7.4	4.8	8.7	6.2	4.7	7.7	5.0	10.2	10.2	6.9
...of which Other Industrial*	202.8	165.8	195.2	164.2	155.1	160.8	160.6	159.8	152.9	153.7
Physical Demand	1,075.8	853.1	1,026.0	1,113.1	990.9	1,125.6	1,118.0	1,165.3	1,041.9	1,017.6
Physical Surplus/ Deficit	-168.6	63.0	48.9	-69.4	14.9	-138.2	-68.0	-121.3	-32.5	-26.0
ETP Inventory Build	101.3	156.9	129.5	-24.0	55.3	2.5	1.4	-17.8	49.8	2.4
Exchange Inventory Build	-7.1	-15.3	-7.4	12.2	62.2	8.8	-5.3	12.6	79.8	6.8
Net Balance	-262.8	-78.6	-73.2	-57.5	-102.6	-149.5	-64.0	-116.1	-162.1	-35.2
Silver Price (US\$/oz.)	14.99	14.67	20.19	35.12	31.15	23.79	19.08	15.68	17.14	17.05

*Photovoltaic demand included in “Other Industrial” prior to 2011.

Note: Totals may not add due to independent rounding.

Source: *World Silver Survey 2018*, GFMS, Thomson Reuters/The Silver Institute.

Historical Chart of the Price of Silver

The price of silver is volatile and fluctuations are expected to have a direct impact on the value of the Shares. However, movements in the price of silver in the past are not a reliable indicator of future movements. Movements may be influenced by various factors, including supply and demand, geo-political uncertainties, economic concerns such as inflation, and real or speculative investor interest.

Table of Contents

The following chart illustrates the changes in the price of silver from December 2004 through March 2019:

* London Fix until August 14, 2014; LBMA Silver Price thereafter.

Source: LBMA

OPERATION OF THE SILVER MARKET

The global trade in silver consists of over-the-counter (“OTC”) transactions in spot, forwards, and options and other derivatives, together with exchange-traded futures and options.

Over-the-Counter Market

The OTC silver market includes spot, forward, and option and other derivative transactions conducted on a principal-to-principal basis. While this is a global, nearly 24-hour per day market, its main centers are London (the biggest venue), New York and Zurich.

According to the London Bullion Market Association (“LBMA”), the trade association that acts as the coordinator for activities conducted on behalf of its members and other participants in the London bullion market, members of the LBMA act as OTC market makers and it is believed that most OTC market trades are cleared through London. The LBMA plays an important role in setting OTC silver trading industry standards. Members of the London bullion market typically trade with each other and with their clients on a principal-to-principal basis. All risks, including those of credit, are between the two parties to a transaction. This is known as an OTC market, as opposed to an exchange-traded environment.

Unlike a futures exchange, where trading is based around standard contract units, settlement dates and delivery specifications, the OTC market allows flexibility. It also provides confidentiality, as transactions are conducted solely between the two principals involved.

Table of Contents

Futures Exchanges

The most significant silver futures exchanges are the COMEX, operated by Commodities Exchange, Inc., a subsidiary of New York Mercantile Exchange, Inc., and the Tokyo Commodity Exchange.

Futures exchanges seek to provide a neutral, regulated marketplace for the trading of derivatives contracts for commodities. The terms of futures contracts are defined by the applicable exchange for each commodity. For each commodity traded, this contract specifies the precise quality and quantity standards. The contract's terms and conditions also define the location and timing of physical delivery.

An exchange does not buy or sell those contracts, but seeks to offer a transparent forum where members, on their own behalf or on the behalf of customers, can trade the contracts in a safe, efficient and orderly manner. During regular trading hours at COMEX, the commodity contracts are traded through open outcry; a verbal auction in which all bids, offers and trades must be publicly announced to all members. Electronic trading is offered by the exchange after regular market hours. Except for brief breaks to switch between open outcry and electronic trading in the evening and the morning, silver futures trade almost 24 hours a day, five business days a week.

Exchange Regulation

In addition to the public nature of the pricing, futures exchanges in the United States are regulated at two levels, internal and external governmental supervision. The internal is performed through self-regulation and consists of regular monitoring of the following: the open-outcry process to ensure that it is conducted in conformance with all exchange rules; the financial condition of all exchange member firms to ensure that they continuously meet financial commitments; and the positions of commercial and non-commercial customers to ensure that physical delivery and other commercial commitments can be met, and that pricing is not being improperly affected by the size of any particular customer positions. External governmental oversight is performed by the CFTC, which reviews all the rules and regulations of U.S. futures exchanges and monitors their enforcement. The CFTC oversees the operation of the U.S. commodity futures markets, including COMEX. One of the principal public policy objectives of the Commodity Exchange Act is to ensure the integrity of the markets it oversees and the reliability of the prices of trades on those markets. The Commodity Exchange Act and CFTC require markets, including COMEX, to have rules and procedures to prevent market manipulation, abusive trade practice and fraud and the CFTC conducts regular review of the markets' rule enforcement programs.

London Good Delivery Bar

According to the LBMA, the LBMA's "London Good Delivery List" identifies approved refiners of silver. In the OTC market, silver that meets the specifications for weight, dimensions, fineness (or purity), identifying marks (including the assay stamp of an LBMA-acceptable refiner) and appearance set forth in "The Good Delivery Rules for Gold and Silver Bars" published by the LBMA are "London Good Delivery Bars." A London Good Delivery must contain between 750 ounces and 1,100 ounces of silver with a minimum fineness (or purity) of 999.0 parts per 1000. A London Good Delivery Bar must also bear the stamp of one of the refiners who are on the LBMA-approved list. A London Good Delivery Bar that is acceptable for settlement of any OTC transaction is acceptable for delivery to the Trust in connection with the issuance of Baskets.

Settlement and Delivery

The basis for settlement of a sale of silver in the LBMA market is delivery of a standard London Good Delivery Bar at the London vault nominated by the dealer who made the sale, by credit to an allocated account, or through a LBMA clearing member to the unallocated account of any third party, according to the LBMA.

Allocated Accounts

According to the LBMA, these accounts are opened when a customer requires metal to be physically segregated and needs a detailed list of weights and assays. The customer has full title to the metal in the account, with the dealer holding it on the client's behalf as a custodian. Customers' holdings are identified in a weight list of bars showing the unique bar number, gross weight, the assay or fineness of each bar and its fine weight. Credits or debits to the holding will be effected by physical movements of bars to or from the customer's physical holding.

Table of Contents

Unallocated Accounts

An unallocated account does not have specific bars set aside and the customer only has a general entitlement to the metal. It is the most convenient, cheapest and most commonly used method of holding metal. Transactions may be settled by credits or debits to the account while the balance represents the indebtedness between the two parties. Credit balances on the account do not entitle the creditor to specific silver bars, but are backed by the general stock of the bullion dealer with whom the account is held. The client is an unsecured creditor. Should the client wish to receive actual metal, this is done by ‘allocating’ specific bars or equivalent bullion product.

London Market Regulation

Following the enactment of the Financial Markets Act 2012, the Prudential Regulation Authority of the Bank of England is responsible for regulating most of the financial firms that are active in the bullion market, and the FCA is responsible for consumer and competition issues. Trading in spot, forwards and wholesale deposits in the bullion market is subject to the Non-Investment Products Code adopted by market participants.

Not a Regulated Commodity Pool

The Trust does not trade in silver futures contracts on COMEX or on any other futures exchange. The Trust takes delivery of physical silver that complies with the LBMA silver delivery rules. Because the Trust does not trade in silver futures contracts on any futures exchange, the Trust is not regulated by the CFTC under the Commodity Exchange Act as a “commodity pool,” and is not operated by a CFTC-regulated commodity pool operator. Investors in the Trust do not receive the regulatory protections afforded to investors in commodity pools operated by registered commodity pool operators, nor may COMEX or any futures exchange enforce its rules with respect to the Trust’s activities. In addition, investors in the Trust do not benefit from the protections afforded to investors in silver futures contracts on regulated futures exchanges.

Other Methods of Investing in Silver

The Trust competes with other financial vehicles, including traditional debt and equity securities issued by companies in the silver industry and other securities backed by or linked to silver, direct investments in silver and investment vehicles similar to the Trust.

BUSINESS OF THE TRUST

The activities of the Trust are limited to (1) issuing Baskets in exchange for the silver deposited with the Custodian as consideration, (2) selling silver as necessary to cover the Sponsor's Fee, Trust expenses not assumed by the Sponsor and other liabilities and (3) delivering silver in exchange for Baskets surrendered for redemption. The Trust is not actively managed. It does not engage in any activities designed to obtain a profit from, or to ameliorate losses caused by, changes in the price of silver.

Trust Objective

The Trust seeks to reflect generally the performance of the price of silver. The Trust seeks to reflect such performance before payment of the Trust's expenses and liabilities. The Shares are intended to constitute a simple and cost-effective means of making an investment similar to an investment in silver. An investment in physical silver requires expensive and sometimes complicated arrangements in connection with the assay, transportation, warehousing and insurance of the metal. Traditionally, such expense and complications have resulted in investments in physical silver being efficient only in amounts beyond the reach of many investors. The Shares have been designed to remove the obstacles represented by the expense and complications involved in an investment in physical silver, while at the same time having an intrinsic value that reflects, at any given time, the price of the silver owned by the Trust at such time less the Trust's expenses and liabilities. Although the Shares are not the exact equivalent of an investment in silver, they provide investors with an alternative that allows a level of participation in the silver market through the securities market.

Table of Contents

An investment in Shares is:

Backed by silver held by the Custodian on behalf of the Trust.

The Shares are backed by the assets of the Trust. The Trustee's arrangements with the Custodian contemplate that at the end of each business day there can be in the Trust account maintained by the Custodian no more than 1,100 ounces of silver in an unallocated form. The bulk of the Trust's silver holdings is represented by physical silver, identified on the Custodian's or, if applicable, sub-custodian's, books in allocated and unallocated accounts on behalf of the Trust and are held by the Custodian in England, New York and other locations that may be authorized in the future.

As accessible and easy to handle as any other investment in shares.

Retail investors may purchase and sell Shares through traditional brokerage accounts. Because the intrinsic value of each Share is a function of the price of the silver held by the Trust, the cash outlay necessary for an investment in Shares should be less than the amount required for currently existing means of investing in physical silver. Shares are eligible for margin accounts.

Listed.

The Shares are listed and trade on NYSE Arca under the ticker symbol SLV.

Relatively cost-efficient.

Because the expenses involved in an investment in physical silver are dispersed among all holders of Shares, an investment in Shares may represent a cost-efficient alternative to investments in physical silver for investors not otherwise in a position to participate directly in the market for physical silver.

Secondary Market Trading

While the Trust seeks to reflect generally the performance of the price of silver less the Trust's expenses and liabilities, Shares may trade at, above or below their NAV. The NAV of the Shares will fluctuate with changes in the market value of the Trust's assets. The trading prices of Shares will fluctuate in accordance with changes in their NAV as well as market supply and demand. The amount of the discount or premium in the trading price relative to the NAV may be influenced by non-concurrent trading hours between the major silver markets and NYSE Arca. While the Shares trade on NYSE Arca until 4:00 p.m. (New York time), liquidity in the market for silver may be reduced after the close of the major world silver markets, including London, Zurich and COMEX. As a result, during this time, trading spreads, and the resulting premium or discount, on Shares may widen. However, given that Baskets can be created and redeemed in exchange for the underlying amount of silver, the Sponsor believes that the arbitrage opportunities may provide a mechanism to mitigate the effect of such premium or discount.

The Trust is not registered as an investment company for purposes of United States federal securities laws, and is not subject to regulation by the SEC as an investment company. Consequently, the owners of Shares do not have the regulatory protections provided to investors in registered investment companies. For example, the provisions of the Investment Company Act that limit transactions with affiliates, prohibit the suspension of redemptions (except under certain limited circumstances) or limit sales loads, among others, do not apply to the Trust.

The Trust does not hold or trade in commodity futures contracts or any other instruments regulated by the Commodity Exchange Act as administered by the CFTC. Furthermore, the Trust is not a commodity pool for purposes of the CEA. Consequently, the Trustee and the Sponsor are not subject to registration as commodity pool operators with respect to the Trust. The owners of Shares do not receive the CEA disclosure document and certified annual report required to be delivered by the registered commodity pool operator with respect to a commodity pool, and the owners of shares do not have the regulatory protections provided to investors in commodity pools operated by registered commodity pool operators.

Valuation of Silver; Computation of Net Asset Value

On each business day, as soon as practicable after 4:00 p.m. (New York time), the Trustee evaluates the silver held by the Trust and determines the net asset value of the Trust and the NAV. For purposes of making these calculations, a business day means any day other than a day when NYSE Arca is closed for regular trading.

Table of Contents

The Trustee values the silver held by the Trust using that day's LBMA silver price. "LBMA silver Price" is the price per ounce of silver, stated in U.S. dollars, determined by IBA following an electronic auction consisting of one or more 30-second rounds starting at approximately 12:00 p.m. (London time), on each day that the London silver market is open for business and published shortly thereafter. If there is no LBMA Silver Price PM on any day the Trustee is authorized to use the most recently announced LBMA Silver Price unless the Trustee, in consultation with the Sponsor, determines that such price is inappropriate as a basis for evaluation.

LBMA Silver Price is the price per ounce, in U.S. dollars, of unallocated silver delivered in London determined by the IBA following an electronic auction consisting of one or more 30-second rounds conducted starting at 12:00 p.m. (London time). At the start of each round of auction, IBA publishes a price for that round. Participants then have 30 seconds to enter, change or cancel their orders (*i.e.*, how much silver they want to buy or sell at that price). At the end of each round, order entry is frozen, and the system checks to see if the imbalance (*i.e.*, the difference between buying and selling) is within the threshold (normally 500,000 ounces for silver). If the imbalance is outside the threshold at the end of a round, then the auction is not balanced, the price is adjusted and a new round starts. If the imbalance is within the threshold then the auction is finished, and the price is set as the LBMA Silver Price for that day. Any imbalance is shared equally between all direct participants (even if they did not place orders or did not log in), and the net volume for each participant trades at the final price. The prices during the auction are determined by an algorithm that takes into account current market conditions and activity in the auction. Each auction is actively supervised by IBA staff. As of the date of this prospectus, information publicly available on IBA's website indicates that the direct participants currently qualified to submit orders during the electronic auctions used for the daily determination of the LBMA Silver Price are Coins 'N Things Inc., Goldman Sachs International, HSBC Bank USA NA, INTL FCStone, Jane Street Global Trading LLC, JP Morgan Chase Bank, N.A. London Branch, Koch Supply and Trading LP, Morgan Stanley, Standard Chartered Bank, The Bank of Nova Scotia – ScotiaMocatta and The Toronto-Dominion Bank.

Prior to October 2, 2017, the LBMA Silver Price was determined using an electronic auction administered by CME Group and published by Thomson Reuters. Effective as of October 2, 2017, IBA replaced CME Group and Thomson Reuters as the administrator for the LBMA Silver Price and began administering the electronic auction for the LBMA Silver Price.

Once the value of the Trust's silver has been determined, the Trustee subtracts all accrued fees, expenses and other liabilities of the Trust from the total value of the silver and all other assets of the Trust. The resulting figure is the net asset value of the Trust. The Trustee determines the NAV by dividing the net asset value of the Trust by the number of Shares outstanding on the day the computation is made.

Trust Expenses

Edgar Filing: iShares Silver Trust - Form S-3ASR

The Trust's only ordinary recurring expense is expected to be the Sponsor's Fee. In exchange for the Sponsor's Fee, the Sponsor has agreed to assume the following administrative and marketing expenses incurred by the Trust: the Trustee's Fee, the Custodian's Fee, NYSE Arca listing fees, SEC registration fees, printing and mailing costs, audit fees and expenses and up to \$100,000 per annum in legal fees and expenses.

The Sponsor's Fee is accrued daily at an annualized rate equal to 0.50% of the net asset value of the Trust and is payable monthly in arrears. The Trustee will, when directed by the Sponsor, and, in the absence of such direction, may, in its discretion, sell silver in such quantity and at such times, as may be necessary to permit payment of the Sponsor's Fee and of Trust expenses or liabilities not assumed by the Sponsor. The Trustee is authorized to sell silver at such times and in the smallest amounts required to permit such payments as they become due, it being the intention to avoid or minimize the Trust's holdings of assets other than silver. Accordingly, the amount of silver to be sold will vary from time to time depending on the level of the Trust's expenses and the market price of silver. The Custodian has agreed to purchase from the Trust, at the request of the Trustee, silver needed to cover Trust expenses at a price equal to the price used by the Trustee to determine the value of the silver held by the Trust on the date of the sale.

Cash held by the Trustee pending payment of the Trust's expenses will not bear any interest. Each sale of silver by the Trust will be a taxable event to Shareholders. See "United States Federal Income Tax Consequences—Taxation of U.S. Shareholders."

Table of Contents**Impact of Trust Expenses on the Trust's Net Asset Value**

The Trust sells silver to raise the funds needed for the payment of the Sponsor's Fee and all Trust expenses or liabilities not assumed by the Sponsor. See "The Sponsor—The Sponsor's Fee." The purchase price received as consideration for such sales is the Trust's sole source of funds to cover its liabilities. The Trust does not engage in any activity designed to derive a profit from changes in the price of silver. Silver not needed to redeem Baskets, or to cover the Sponsor's Fee and Trust expenses or liabilities not assumed by the Trustee, will be held in physical form by the Custodian (except for residual amounts not exceeding 1,100 ounces which will be held in unallocated form by the custodian on behalf of the Trust). As a result of the recurring sales of silver necessary to pay the Sponsor's Fee and the Trust expenses or liabilities not assumed by the Sponsor, the net asset value of the Trust and, correspondingly, the fractional amount of silver represented by each Share will decrease over the life of the Trust. New deposits of silver, received in exchange for additional new Baskets issued by the Trust, do not reverse this trend.

The following table, prepared by the Sponsor, illustrates the anticipated impact of the sales of silver discussed above on the fractional amount of silver represented by each outstanding Share. It assumes that the only sales of silver will be those needed to pay the Sponsor's Fee and that the price of silver and the number of Shares remain constant during the three-year period covered. The table does not show the impact of any extraordinary expenses the Trust may incur. Any such extraordinary expenses, if and when incurred, will accelerate the decrease in the fractional amount of silver represented by each Share.

Calculation of NAV:

	Year 1		Year 2		Year 3	
Hypothetical silver price per ounce	\$17.00		\$17.00		\$17.00	
Sponsor's Fee	0.50	%	0.50	%	0.50	%
Shares of Trust, beginning	100,000		100,000		100,000	
Ounces of silver in Trust, beginning	100,000		99,500		99,002	
Beginning net asset value of the Trust	\$1,700,000		\$1,691,500		\$1,683,034	
Ounces of silver to be sold to cover the Sponsor's Fee*	500		498		495	
Ounces of silver in Trust, ending	99,500		99,002		98,507	
Ending net asset value of the Trust	\$1,691,500		\$1,683,034		\$1,674,619	
Ending NAV	\$16.92		\$16.83		\$16.75	

This calculation assumes that the sale of silver and the payment of the Sponsor's Fee occur only at the end of each *year even though in actuality sales occur monthly to cover the Sponsor's Fee, which is accrued daily and payable monthly in arrears.

DESCRIPTION OF THE SHARES AND THE TRUST AGREEMENT

The Trust was formed on April 21, 2006 when an initial deposit of silver was made in exchange for the issuance of three Baskets. The purpose of the Trust is to own silver transferred to the Trust in exchange for Shares issued by the Trust. The Trust is governed by the Trust Agreement among the Sponsor, the Trustee, the registered holders and beneficial owners of Shares and all persons that deposit silver for the purpose of creating Shares. The Trust Agreement sets out the rights of depositors of silver and registered holders of Shares and the rights and obligations of the Sponsor and the Trustee. New York law governs the Trust Agreement, the Trust and the Shares. The following is a summary of material provisions of the Trust Agreement. It is qualified by reference to the entire Trust Agreement, which is incorporated by reference as an exhibit to the registration statement of which the prospectus is a part.

Each Share represents a fractional undivided beneficial interest in the net assets of the Trust. Upon redemption of the Shares, the applicable Authorized Participant shall be paid solely out of the funds and property of the Trust. All Shares are transferable, fully paid and non-assessable. The assets of the Trust consist primarily of silver held by the Custodian on behalf of the Trust. However, the Trust is expected to make sales of silver to pay the Sponsor's Fee and to cover expenses and liabilities not assumed by the Sponsor. Such sales result in the Trust holding cash for brief periods of time. In addition, there may be other situations where the Trust may hold cash. For example, a claim may arise against the Custodian, an Authorized Participant, or any other third party, which is settled in cash. In those situations where the Trust unexpectedly receives cash or any other assets, the Trust Agreement provides that no deposits of silver will be accepted (*i.e.*, there will be no issuance of new Shares) until after the record date for the distribution of such cash or other property has passed. The Trust issues Shares only in Baskets of 50,000 or integral multiples thereof. Baskets may be redeemed by the Trust in exchange for the amount of silver represented by the aggregate number of Shares redeemed. The Trust is not a registered investment company under the Investment Company Act and is not required to register under such act.

Table of Contents

Deposit of Silver; Issuance of Baskets

The Trust creates and redeems Shares on a continuous basis but only in Baskets of 50,000 Shares. Only Authorized Participants, which are registered broker-dealers who have entered into written agreements with the Sponsor and the Trustee, can deposit silver and receive Baskets in exchange. Upon the deposit of the corresponding amount of silver with the Custodian, and the payment of the Trustee's applicable fee and of any expenses, taxes or charges (such as stamp taxes or stock transfer taxes or fees), the Trustee will deliver the appropriate number of Baskets to the DTC account of the depositing Authorized Participant. As of the date of this prospectus, ABN AMRO Clearing Chicago LLC, Barclays Capital Inc., Citigroup Global Markets, Inc., Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC, Goldman Sachs & Co., HSBC Securities (USA) Inc., J.P. Morgan Securities, Inc., Merrill Lynch Professional Clearing Corp., Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC, Scotia Capital (USA) Inc., UBS Securities LLC, and Virtu Financial BD LLC are the only Authorized Participants. The Sponsor and the Trustee maintain a current list of Authorized Participants. Silver deposited with the Custodian must meet the specifications for weight, dimensions, fineness (or purity), identifying marks and appearance of silver bars as set forth in "The Good Delivery Rules for Gold and Silver Bars" published by the LBMA.

Before making a deposit, the Authorized Participant must deliver to the Trustee a written purchase order or submit a purchase order through the Trustee's electronic order entry system, indicating the number of Baskets it intends to acquire and the location or locations where it expects to make the corresponding deposit of silver with the Custodian. The Trustee will acknowledge the purchase order unless it or the Sponsor decides to refuse the deposit as described below under "Requirements for Trustee Actions." The date the Trustee receives that order determines the Basket Silver Amount (as defined below) the Authorized Participant needs to deposit. However, orders received by the Trustee after 3:59 p.m. (New York time) on a business day will not be accepted and should be resubmitted on the next following business day. The Trustee has entered into an agreement with the Custodian which contains arrangements so that silver can be delivered to the Custodian in England, New York or at other locations that may be authorized in the future.

If the Trustee accepts the purchase order, it transmits to the Authorized Participant, via facsimile or electronic mail message, no later than 5:00 p.m. (New York time) on the date such purchase order is received, or deemed received, a copy of the purchase order endorsed "Accepted" by the Trustee and indicating the Basket Silver Amount that the Authorized Participant must deliver to the Custodian in exchange for each Basket. In the case of purchase orders submitted via the Trustee's electronic order system, the Authorized Participant will receive an automated email indicating the acceptance of the purchase order and the purchase order will be marked "Accepted" in the Trustee's electronic order system. Prior to the Trustee's acceptance as specified above, a purchase order only represents the Authorized Participant's unilateral offer to deposit silver in exchange for Baskets and has no binding effect upon the Trust, the Trustee, the Custodian or any other party.

The Basket Silver Amount necessary for the creation of a Basket changes from day to day. At the creation of the Trust, the initial Basket Silver Amount was 500,000 ounces of silver. On each day that NYSE Arca is open for regular trading, the Trustee adjusts the quantity of silver constituting the Basket Silver Amount as appropriate to reflect sales

of silver, any loss of silver that may occur, and accrued expenses. The computation is made by the Trustee as promptly as practicable after 4:00 p.m. (New York time). The Basket Silver Amount so determined is communicated via facsimile or electronic mail message to all Authorized Participants, and made available on the Sponsor's website for the Shares. NYSE Arca also publishes the Basket Silver Amount determined by the Trustee as indicated above.

Because the Sponsor has assumed what are expected to be most of the Trust's expenses, and the Sponsor's Fee accrues daily at the same rate, in the absence of any extraordinary expenses or liabilities, the amount of silver by which the Basket Silver Amount decreases each day is predictable. The Trustee intends to make available on each business day, through the same channels used to disseminate the actual Basket Silver Amount determined by the Trustee as indicated above, an indicative Basket Silver Amount for the next business day. Authorized Participants may use that indicative Basket Silver Amount as guidance regarding the amount of silver that they may expect to have to deposit with the Custodian in respect of purchase orders placed by them on such next business day and accepted by the Trustee. The agreement entered into with each Authorized Participant provides, however, that once a purchase order has been accepted by the Trustee, the Authorized Participant will be required to deposit with the Custodian the Basket Silver Amount determined by the Trustee on the effective date of the purchase order.

No Shares are issued unless and until the Custodian has informed the Trustee that it has allocated to the Trust's account (except that any amounts of less than 1,100 ounces may be held in the Trust account on an unallocated basis) the corresponding amount of silver. In accordance with the procedures that the Custodian has agreed to follow in connection with the creation of Shares, silver received by the Custodian no later than 11:30 a.m. (London time) is required to be allocated to the Trust's account no later than 9:00 a.m. (New York time) on the next day that the Custodian is open for business at the place of delivery. All taxes incurred in connection with the delivery of silver to the Custodian in exchange for Baskets (including any applicable value added tax) will be the sole responsibility of the Authorized Participant making such delivery.

Table of Contents

Redemption of Baskets; Withdrawal of Silver

Authorized Participants, acting on authority of the registered holder of Shares, may surrender Baskets in exchange for the corresponding Basket Silver Amount announced by the Trustee. Upon the surrender of such Shares and the payment of the Trustee's applicable fee and of any expenses, taxes or charges (such as stamp taxes or stock transfer taxes or fees), the Trustee will deliver to the order of the redeeming Authorized Participant the amount of silver corresponding to the redeemed Baskets. Shares can only be surrendered for redemption in Baskets of 50,000 Shares each.

Before surrendering Baskets for redemption, an Authorized Participant must deliver to the Trustee a written request, or submit a redemption order through the Trustee's electronic order entry system, indicating the number of Baskets it intends to redeem and the location where it would like to take delivery of the silver represented by such Baskets. The date the Trustee receives that order determines the Basket Silver Amount to be received in exchange. However, orders received by the Trustee after 3:59 p.m. (New York time) on a business day will not be accepted and should be resubmitted on the next following business day.

The Custodian may make the silver available for collection at its office or at the office of a sub-custodian if the silver is being held by a sub-custodian. Silver is delivered at the locations designated by the Trustee, in consultation with the Custodian. All taxes incurred in connection with the delivery of silver to an Authorized Participant in exchange for Baskets (including any applicable value added tax) will be the sole responsibility of the Authorized Participant taking such delivery.

Unless otherwise agreed to by the Custodian, silver is delivered to the redeeming Authorized Participants in the form of physical bars only (except that any amount of less than 1,100 ounces may be transferred to an unallocated account of or as ordered by, the redeeming Authorized Participant).

Redemptions may be suspended only (1) during any period in which regular trading on NYSE Arca is suspended or restricted or the exchange is closed (other than scheduled holiday or weekend closings), or (2) during an emergency as a result of which delivery, disposal or evaluation of silver is not reasonably practicable.

Certificates Evidencing the Shares

The Shares are evidenced by certificates executed and delivered by the Trustee on behalf of the Trust. DTC has accepted the Shares for settlement through its book-entry settlement system. So long as the Shares are eligible for

DTC settlement, there will be only one global certificate evidencing shares that will be registered in the name of a nominee of DTC. Investors will be able to own Shares only in the form of book-entry security entitlements with DTC or direct or indirect participants in DTC. No investor will be entitled to receive a separate certificate evidencing Shares. Because Shares can only be held in the form of book-entries through DTC and its participants, investors must rely on DTC, a DTC Participant and any other financial intermediary through which they hold Shares to receive the benefits and exercise the rights described in this section. Investors should consult with their broker or financial institution to find out about the procedures and requirements for securities held in DTC book-entry form.

Cash and Other Distributions

If the Sponsor and Trustee determine that there is more cash being held in the Trust than is needed to pay the Trust's expenses for the next month, the Trustee will distribute the extra cash to DTC.

If the Trust receives any property other than silver or cash, the Trustee will distribute that property to DTC by any means it thinks is lawful, equitable and feasible. If it cannot make the distribution in that way, the Trustee will sell the property and distribute the net proceeds, in the same way as it does with cash.

Table of Contents

Registered holders of Shares are entitled to receive these distributions in proportion to the number of Shares owned. Before making a distribution, the Trustee may deduct any applicable withholding taxes and any fees and expenses of the Trust that have not been paid. The Trustee distributes only whole U.S. dollars and cents and is not required to round fractional cents to the nearest whole cent. The Trustee is not responsible if it decides that it is unlawful or impractical to make a distribution available to registered holders.

Voting Rights

Owners of Shares do not generally have any voting rights. However, registered holders of at least 25% of the Shares have the right to require the Trustee to cure any material breach by it of the Trust Agreement, and registered holders of at least 75% of the Shares have the right to require the Trustee to terminate the Trust Agreement as described below. The Shares do not represent a traditional investment and are not similar to shares of a corporation operating a business enterprise with management and a board of directors. All Shares are of the same class with equal rights and privileges. Each Share entitles the holder to vote on the limited matters upon which Shareholders may vote under the Trust Agreement. The Shares do not entitle their holders to any conversion or pre-emptive rights or any redemption rights.

Share Splits

If the Sponsor believes that the per Share price in the secondary market for Shares has fallen outside a desirable trading price range or if the Sponsor determines that it is advisable for any reason, the Sponsor may cause the Trust to declare a split or reverse split in the number of Shares outstanding and to make a corresponding change in the number of Shares constituting a Basket.

Management of the Trust

The Trust does not have a board of directors or an audit committee but does have oversight from the Board of Directors and audit committee of the Sponsor. See “The Sponsor—Key Personnel of the Sponsor.”

Fees and Expenses of the Trustee

Each deposit of silver for the creation of Baskets and each surrender of Baskets for the purpose of withdrawing Trust property (including if the Trust Agreement terminates) must be accompanied by a payment to the Trustee of a fee of

\$500 (or such other fee as the Trustee, with the prior written consent of the Sponsor, may from time to time announce).

The Trustee is entitled to reimburse itself from the assets of the Trust for all expenses and disbursements incurred by it for extraordinary services it may provide to the Trust or in connection with any discretionary action the Trustee may take to protect the Trust or the interests of the holders.

Trust Expenses and Silver Sales

In addition to the fee payable to the Sponsor (See “The Sponsor—The Sponsor’s Fee”), the following expenses are paid out of the assets of the Trust:

- any expenses or liabilities of the Trust that are not assumed by the Sponsor;
- any taxes and other governmental charges that may fall on the Trust or its property;
- expenses and costs of any action taken by the Trustee or the Sponsor to protect the Trust and the rights and interests of holders of Shares; and
- any indemnification of the Sponsor as described below.

The Trustee will, when directed by the Sponsor, and, in the absence of such direction, may, in its discretion, sell the Trust’s silver from time to time as necessary to permit payment of the fees and expenses that the Trust is required to pay. See “Business of the Trust—Trust Expenses.”

The Trustee is not responsible for any depreciation or loss incurred by reason of sales of silver made in compliance with the Trust Agreement.

Table of Contents

Payment of Taxes

The Trustee may deduct the amount of any taxes owed from any distributions it makes. It may also sell trust assets, by public or private sale, to pay any taxes owed. Registered holders of Shares will remain liable if the proceeds of the sale are not enough to pay the taxes.

Evaluation of Silver and the Trust Assets

See “Business of the Trust—Valuation of Silver; Computation of Net Asset Value.”

Amendment and Termination

The Sponsor and the Trustee may agree to amend the Trust Agreement without the consent of the holders of Shares. If an amendment imposes or increases fees or charges, except for taxes and other governmental charges, or prejudices a substantial right of holders of Shares, it will not become effective for outstanding Shares until 30 days after the Trustee notifies DTC of the amendment. *At the time an amendment becomes effective, by continuing to hold Shares or an interest therein, investors are deemed to agree to the amendment and to be bound by the Trust Agreement as amended.*

The Trustee will terminate the Trust Agreement if:

- the Trustee is notified that the Shares are delisted from NYSE Arca and are not approved for listing on another national securities exchange within five business days of their delisting;
- holders of at least 75% of the outstanding Shares notify the Trustee that they elect to terminate the Trust;
- 60 days have elapsed since the Trustee notified the Sponsor of the Trustee’s election to resign and a successor trustee has not been appointed and accepted its appointment;
- the SEC determines that the Trust is an investment company under the Investment Company Act, and the Trustee has actual knowledge of that determination;
- the aggregate market capitalization of the Trust, based on the closing price for the Shares, was less than \$350 million on each of five consecutive trading days and the Trustee receives, within six months from the last of those trading

days, notice that the Sponsor has decided to terminate the Trust;

- the CFTC determines that the Trust is a commodity pool under the Commodity Exchange Act and the Trustee has actual knowledge of that determination; or

- the Trust fails to qualify for treatment, or ceases to be treated, as a grantor trust for United States federal income tax purposes and the Trustee receives notice that the Sponsor has determined that the termination of the Trust is advisable.

If not terminated earlier by the Trustee, the Trust will terminate on April 21, 2046. The Trustee will notify DTC at least 30 days before the date for termination of the Trust Agreement. After termination, the Trustee and its agents will do the following under the Trust Agreement but nothing else: (i) collect distributions pertaining to Trust property; (ii) pay the Trust's expenses and sell silver as necessary to meet those expenses; and (iii) deliver Trust property upon surrender and cancellation of Shares. Ninety days or more after termination, the Trustee may sell any remaining Trust property by public or private sale. After that, the Trustee will hold the money it received on the sale, as well as any other cash it is holding under the Trust Agreement, for the pro rata benefit of the registered holders that have not surrendered their Shares. It will not invest the money and has no liability for interest. The Trustee's only obligations will be to account for the money and other cash, after deduction of applicable fees, Trust expenses and taxes and governmental charges.

Limitations on Obligations and Liability

The Trust Agreement expressly limits the obligations and liabilities of the Sponsor and the Trustee. The Sponsor and the Trustee:

- are obligated to take only the actions specifically set forth in the Trust Agreement without negligence or bad faith;
- are not liable if either of them is prevented or delayed by law or circumstances beyond their control from performing their respective obligations under the Trust Agreement;

Table of Contents

- are not liable if they exercise or fail to exercise discretion permitted under the Trust Agreement;
- have no obligation to prosecute a lawsuit or other proceeding related to the Shares or the Trust's property on behalf of any holders of Shares or on behalf of any other person; and
- may rely upon any advice or information from other persons they believe in good faith to be competent to provide such advice or information.

In addition, under the Trust Agreement, the Trust is obligated to indemnify the Sponsor and its shareholders, directors, officers, employees, affiliates and subsidiaries for any loss, liability or expense incurred by any such person that arises out of or in connection with the performance of obligations under the Trust Agreement or any actions taken in accordance with the provisions of the Trust Agreement, absent such person's negligence, bad faith, willful misconduct, willful malfeasance or reckless disregard of such person's duties and obligations.

Requirements for Trustee Actions

Before the Trustee delivers or registers a transfer of Shares, makes a distribution on Shares, or permits withdrawal of Trust property, the Trustee may require:

- payment of stock transfer or other taxes or other governmental charges and transfer or registration fees charged by third parties for the transfer of any Shares or Trust property;
- satisfactory proof of the identity and genuineness of any signature or other information it deems necessary; and
- compliance with regulations it may establish, from time to time, consistent with the Trust Agreement, including presentation of transfer documents.

The Trustee may suspend the delivery or registration of transfers of Shares, or may refuse a particular deposit or transfer, at any time when the transfer books of the Trustee are closed or if the Trustee or the Sponsor thinks it necessary or advisable for any reason. Redemptions may be suspended only (i) during any period in which regular trading on NYSE Arca is suspended or restricted or the exchange is closed (other than scheduled holiday or weekend closings), or (ii) during an emergency as a result of which delivery, disposal or evaluation of silver is not reasonably practicable.

THE SECURITIES DEPOSITORY; BOOK-ENTRY-ONLY SYSTEM; GLOBAL SECURITY

DTC acts as securities depository for the Shares. DTC is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the laws of the State of New York, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a “clearing corporation” within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code, and a “clearing agency” registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Exchange Act. DTC was created to hold securities of its participants and to facilitate the clearance and settlement of transactions in those securities among DTC Participants through electronic book-entry changes. This eliminates 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. 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. DTC agrees with and represents to its participants that it will administer its book-entry system in accordance with its rules and by-laws and requirements of law.

Individual certificates are not issued for the Shares. Instead, a global certificate is signed by the Trustee on behalf of the Trust, registered in the name of Cede & Co., as nominee for DTC, and deposited with the Trustee on behalf of DTC. The global certificate represents all of the Shares outstanding at any time.

Upon the settlement date of any creation, transfer or redemption of Shares, DTC will credit or debit, on its book-entry registration and transfer system, the number of Shares so created, transferred or redeemed to the accounts of the appropriate DTC Participants. The Trustee and the DTC Participants will designate the accounts to be credited and charged in the case of creation or redemption of Shares.

Beneficial ownership of the Shares is limited to DTC Participants, Indirect Participants and persons holding interests through DTC Participants and Indirect Participants. Owners of beneficial interests in the Shares will be shown on, and the transfer of ownership is effected only through, records maintained by DTC, with respect to DTC Participants; the records of DTC Participants, with respect to Indirect Participants; and the records of Indirect Participants, with respect to beneficial owners that are not DTC Participants or Indirect Participants. Beneficial owners are expected to receive from or through a DTC Participant a written confirmation relating to their purchase of the Shares.

Table of Contents

Investors may transfer Shares through DTC by instructing the DTC Participant or Indirect Participant through which they hold their Shares to transfer the Shares. Transfers will be made in accordance with standard securities industry practice.

DTC may decide to discontinue providing its service for the Shares by giving notice to the Trustee and the Sponsor. Under these circumstances, the Trustee and the Sponsor will either find a replacement for DTC to perform its functions at a comparable cost or, if a replacement is unavailable, deliver separate certificates for Shares to the DTC Participants having Shares credited to their accounts.

The rights of the Shareholders generally must be exercised by DTC Participants acting on their behalf in accordance with the rules and procedures of DTC.

The Trust Agreement provides that, as long as the Shares are represented by a global certificate registered in the name of DTC or its nominee, the Trustee will be entitled to treat DTC as the holder of the Shares.

THE SPONSOR

The Sponsor of the Trust is iShares Delaware Trust Sponsor LLC, a Delaware limited liability company and an indirect subsidiary of BlackRock. The Sponsor's principal office is located at 400 Howard Street, San Francisco, CA 94105.

The Sponsor's Role

The Sponsor has agreed to assume the following administrative and marketing expe