

# PROSPECTUS

MAY 1, 2012



## Van Eck Funds

### CM Commodity Index Fund

Class A: CMCAX / Class I: COMIX / Class Y: CMCYX



These securities have not been approved or disapproved either by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) or by any State Securities Commission. Neither the SEC nor any State Commission has passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this prospectus. Any claim to the contrary is a criminal offense.

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## SUMMARY INFORMATION

**INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE**

The CM Commodity Index Fund seeks to track, before fees and expenses, the performance of the UBS Bloomberg Constant Maturity Commodity Total Return Index.

**FUND FEES AND EXPENSES**

This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy and hold shares of the Fund. You may qualify for Class A sales charge discounts if you and your family (includes spouse and children under age 21) invest, or agree to invest in the future, at least \$25,000, in the aggregate, in Classes A and C of the Van Eck Funds. More information about these and other discounts is available from your financial professional and in the "Shareholder Information" section of the Fund's prospectus and in the "Availability of Discounts" and "Breakpoint Linkage Rules for Discounts" sections of the Fund's Statement of Additional Information ("SAI").

**Shareholder Fees**

*(fees paid directly from your investment)*

	Class A	Class I	Class Y
Maximum Sales Charge (load) imposed on purchases (as a percentage of offering price)	5.75%	0.00%	0.00%
Maximum Deferred Sales Charge (load) (as a percentage of the lesser of the net asset value or purchase price)	0.00% <sup>1</sup>	0.00%	0.00%

<sup>1</sup> A contingent deferred sales charge for Class A shares of 1.00% for one year applies to redemptions of qualified commissionable shares purchased after April 30, 2012 at or above the \$1 million breakpoint level.

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

	Class A	Class I	Class Y
Management Fees	0.75%	0.75%	0.75%
Distribution and/or Service (12b-1) Fees	0.25%	0.00%	0.00%
Other Expenses	0.66%	0.96%	0.81%
<b>Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses</b>	<b>1.66%</b>	<b>1.71%</b>	<b>1.56%</b>
Fees/Expenses Waived or Reimbursed <sup>1</sup>	(0.71)%	(1.06)%	(0.86)%
<b>Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waiver and/or Expense Reimbursement</b>	<b>0.95%</b>	<b>0.65%</b>	<b>0.70%</b>

<sup>1</sup> Van Eck Associates Corporation (the "Adviser") has agreed to waive fees and/or pay Fund expenses to the extent necessary to prevent the operating expenses of the Fund (excluding acquired fund fees and expenses, interest expense, trading expenses, dividends on securities sold short, taxes and extraordinary expenses) from exceeding 0.95% for Class A, 0.65% for Class I, and 0.70% for Class Y of the Fund's average daily net assets per year until May 1, 2013. During such time, the expense limitation is expected to continue until the Board of Trustees acts to discontinue all or a portion of such expense limitation.

**Expense Example**

The following example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other mutual funds. The example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then either redeem all of your shares at the end of these periods or continue to hold them. The example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same. Although your actual expenses may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions, your costs would be:

	Share Status	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
Class A	Sold or Held	\$666	\$1,003	\$1,362	\$2,371
Class I	Sold or Held	\$ 66	\$ 435	\$ 829	\$1,931
Class Y	Sold or Held	\$ 72	\$ 408	\$ 768	\$1,783

## PORTFOLIO TURNOVER

The Fund pays transaction costs, such as commissions, when it buys and sells securities (or “turns over” its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover rate may indicate higher transaction costs and may result in higher taxes when Fund shares are held in a taxable account. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the example, affect the Fund’s performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Fund’s portfolio turnover rate was 0% of the average value of its portfolio.

## PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES

The Fund seeks to achieve its investment objective by investing in instruments that derive their value from the performance of the UBS Bloomberg Constant Maturity Commodity Total Return Index (the “CMCI”), as described below, and in bonds, debt securities and other fixed income instruments (“Fixed Income Instruments”) issued by various U.S. public- or private-sector entities. The Fund invests in commodity-linked derivative instruments, including commodity index-linked notes, swap agreements, commodity futures contracts and options on futures contracts that provide economic exposure to the investment returns of the commodities markets, as represented by the CMCI and its constituents. Commodities are assets that have tangible properties, such as oil, metals, and agricultural products. A commodity-linked derivative is a derivative instrument whose value is linked to the movement of a commodity, commodity index, commodity option or futures contract. The value of commodity-linked derivative instruments may be affected by overall market movements and other factors affecting the value of a particular industry or commodity, such as weather, disease, embargoes, or political and regulatory developments.

The CMCI is a rules-based, composite benchmark index diversified across 28 commodity components from the following five sectors: energy, precious metals, industrial metals, agriculture and livestock. The CMCI is comprised of futures contracts with maturities ranging from around three months to over three years for each commodity, depending on liquidity. The overall return of the CMCI reflects a combination of (i) the returns on the futures contracts comprising the CMCI; and (ii) the daily fixed-income return that would be earned on a hypothetical portfolio of 91-day U.S. Treasury bills theoretically deposited as margin for the hypothetical positions in the futures contracts comprising the CMCI. The selection and relative weightings of the components of the CMCI are designed to reflect the economic significance and market liquidity of each commodity, as determined based on global economic data, consumption data, commodity futures prices, open interest and volume data. The maturity of each commodity component in the CMCI remains fixed at a predefined time interval at all times by means of a continuous rolling process, in which a weighted percentage of shorter dated contracts for each commodity are swapped for longer dated contracts on a daily basis. The CMCI is rebalanced monthly back to the target weightings of the commodity components of the CMCI and the target weightings of all commodity components are revised twice per year. A more detailed description of the CMCI is contained in Appendix A to the prospectus.

The Fund will seek to track the returns of the CMCI by entering into swap contracts and commodity index-linked notes with one or more counterparties, which contracts and notes will rise and fall in value in response to changes in the value of the CMCI. As of the date of this prospectus, UBS was the only available counterparty with which the Fund may enter into such swap contracts on the CMCI. The Fund may enter into such contracts and notes directly or indirectly through a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Fund (the “Subsidiary”). Commodity index-linked notes are derivative debt instruments with principal and/or coupon payments linked to the performance of commodity indices (such as the CMCI). These commodity index-linked notes are sometimes referred to as “structured notes” because the terms of these notes may be structured by the issuer and the purchaser of the note. The Fund may also seek to gain exposure to the individual commodity components of the CMCI by investing in futures contracts that comprise the CMCI, either directly or indirectly through the Subsidiary.

For tax reasons, it may be advantageous for the Fund to create and maintain its exposure to the commodity markets, in whole or in part, by investing in the Subsidiary. The Subsidiary is managed by the Adviser for the exclusive benefit of the Fund. As discussed in greater detail elsewhere in this prospectus, the Subsidiary (unlike the Fund) may invest without limitation in commodity-linked swap agreements and other commodity-linked derivative instruments including futures. The Fund may invest up to 25% of its assets in the Subsidiary.

The derivative instruments in which the Fund and the Subsidiary primarily intend to invest are instruments linked to commodity indices, such as the CMCI, and instruments linked to the value of a particular commodity or commodity futures contract, or a subset of commodities or commodity futures contracts. These instruments may specify exposure to commodity futures with different roll dates, reset dates or contract months than those specified by a particular commodity index. As a result, the commodity-linked derivatives component of the Fund’s portfolio may deviate from the returns of any particular commodity index. The Fund or the Subsidiary may over-weight or under-weight its exposure to a particular commodity index, or a subset of commodities, such that the Fund has greater or lesser exposure to that index than the value of the Fund’s net assets, or greater or lesser exposure to a subset of commodities than is represented by a particular commodity index. Such deviations may be the result of temporary market fluctuations, and under normal circumstances, the Fund will seek to maintain notional exposure to one or more commodity indices within 5% (plus or

minus) of the value of the Fund's net assets. To the extent the CMCI is concentrated in a particular industry (or one or more commodities that comprise an industry) the Fund will necessarily be concentrated in that industry.

Assets not invested in commodity-linked derivative instruments or the Subsidiary may be invested in Fixed Income Instruments, including derivative Fixed Income Instruments. The Fund is non-diversified, which means that it may invest its assets in a smaller number of issuers than a diversified fund.

The average duration of the portfolio of Fixed Income Instruments will vary based on interest rates and, under normal market conditions, is not expected to exceed five years. Duration is a measure of the expected life of a fixed income security that is used to determine the sensitivity of a security's price to changes in interest rates. The longer a security's duration, the more sensitive it will be to changes in interest rates. Similarly, a fund with a longer average portfolio duration will be more sensitive to changes in interest rates than a fund with a shorter average portfolio duration. By way of example, the price of a bond fund with an average duration of five years would be expected to fall approximately 5% if interest rates rose by one percentage point. The Fund will invest primarily in securities of the U.S. Government and its agencies and investment grade bonds of private issuers rated Baa or higher or, if unrated, determined by the Adviser to be of comparable quality. The Fund may, without limitation, seek to obtain market exposure to the securities in which it primarily invests by entering into a series of purchase and sale contracts or by using other investment techniques (such as buy back or dollar rolls, repurchase agreements or reverse repurchase agreements). The Fund may also invest, without limitation, in money market funds.

The Adviser may hire and terminate sub-advisers in accordance with the terms of an exemptive order obtained by the Fund and the Adviser from the SEC, under which the Adviser is permitted, subject to supervision and approval of the Board of Trustees, to enter into and materially amend sub-advisory agreements without seeking shareholder approval. The Adviser will furnish shareholders of the Fund with information regarding a new sub-adviser within 90 days of the hiring of the new sub-adviser. Currently, the Adviser has not hired a sub-adviser to assist with the portfolio management of the Fund.

## PRINCIPAL RISKS

There is no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objective. The Fund's share price and return will fluctuate with changes in the market value of the Fund's portfolio securities. Accordingly, an investment in the Fund involves the risk of losing money.

**Commodities and Commodity-Linked Derivatives.** Exposure to the commodities markets, such as precious metals, industrial metals, gas and other energy products and natural resources, may subject the Fund to greater volatility than investments in traditional securities. The commodities markets may fluctuate widely based on a variety of factors including changes in overall market movements, political and economic events and policies, war, acts of terrorism, natural disasters and changes in interest rates or inflation rates. Because the value of a commodity-linked derivative instrument and structured note typically are based upon the price movements of physical commodities, the value of these securities will rise or fall in response to changes in the underlying commodities or related index of investment.

**Counterparty.** A loss may be sustained as a result of the failure of another party to a contract (usually referred to as a "counterparty") to make required payments or otherwise comply with a contract's terms. The Fund also bears the risk of loss of the amount expected to be received under a swap agreement in the event of the default or bankruptcy of a swap agreement counterparty. In addition, the Fund may enter into swap agreements with a limited number of counterparties, and as of the date of this prospectus, UBS was the only available counterparty with which the Fund may enter into such swap contracts on the CMCI. The Fund may invest in commodity-linked structured notes issued by a limited number of issuers that will act as counterparties. The Fund's use of one or a limited number of counterparties and its investments in commodity-linked structured notes issued by only a limited number of issuers increases the Fund's exposure to counterparty credit risk. Swap agreements also may be considered to be illiquid. Further, there is a risk that no suitable counterparties are willing to enter into, or continue to enter into, transactions with the Fund and, as a result, the Fund may not be able to achieve its investment objective.

**Debt Securities.** Debt securities are subject to credit risk and interest rate risk. Credit risk refers to the possibility that the issuer of a debt security will be unable to make interest payments or repay principal when it becomes due. Interest rate risk refers to fluctuations in the value of a debt security resulting from changes in the general level of interest rates.

**Derivatives.** The use of swap agreements, options, futures contracts and structured notes, presents risks different from, and possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in traditional securities. The use of derivatives can lead to losses because of adverse movements in the price or value of the underlying security, commodity, asset, index or reference rate. Derivative strategies often involve leverage, which may exaggerate a loss, potentially causing the Fund to lose more money than it would have lost had it invested in the underlying security. Also, a liquid secondary market may not always exist for the Fund's derivative positions at times when the Fund might wish to terminate or sell such positions and over the counter instruments may be illiquid.

**Industry Concentration.** The Fund may be subject to greater risks and market fluctuations than a fund whose portfolio has exposure to a broader range of industries. The Fund may be susceptible to financial, economic, political or market events, as well as government regulation, impacting a particular industry.

**Market.** Market risk refers to the risk that the market prices of securities, commodities and related instruments that the Fund holds will rise or fall, sometimes rapidly or unpredictably. In general, equity securities and commodities tend to have greater price volatility than debt securities.

**Non-Diversification.** A non-diversified fund's greater investment in a single issuer makes the fund more susceptible to financial, economic or market events impacting such issuer. A decline in the value of or default by a single security in the non-diversified fund's portfolio may have a greater negative effect than a similar decline or default by a single security in a diversified portfolio.

**Regulatory.** Changes in the laws or regulations of the United States or the Cayman Islands, including any changes to applicable tax laws and regulations, could impair the ability of the Fund to achieve its investment objective and could increase the operating expenses of the Fund or the Subsidiary. For example, the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC") recently adopted amendments to existing regulations that, upon effectiveness, may subject activities of the Fund or the Subsidiary involving investments in futures contracts and similar instruments to regulation by the CFTC, including a variety of registration, disclosure and operational obligations.

**Repurchase and Reverse Repurchase Agreements.** A repurchase agreement exposes the Fund to the risk that the party that sells the security may default on its obligation to repurchase it. The Fund may lose money if it cannot sell the security at the agreed-upon time and price or the security loses value before it can be sold. A reverse repurchase agreement involves the risk that the market value of the securities the Fund is obligated to repurchase under the agreement may decline below the repurchase price.

**Subsidiary.** By investing in the Subsidiary, the Fund is indirectly exposed to the risks associated with the Subsidiary's investments.

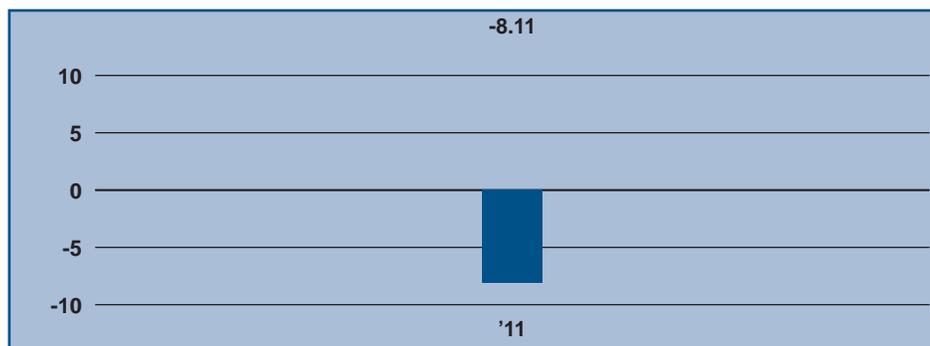
**Tracking Error.** The Fund's return may not match the return of the CMCI due to, among other factors, the Fund incurring operating expenses, and not being fully invested at all times as a result of cash inflows and cash reserves to meet redemptions.

## PERFORMANCE

The following chart and table provide some indication of the risks of investing in the Fund by showing changes in the Fund's performance from year to year and by showing how the Fund's average annual total returns compare with those of a broad measure of market performance and one or more other performance measures. For instance, the UBS Bloomberg Constant Maturity Commodity Total Return Index ("CMCI") is a rules-based, composite benchmark index diversified across 28 commodity components from within five sectors, specifically energy, precious metals, industrial metals, agriculture and livestock. The Fund's past performance is not necessarily an indication of how the Fund will perform in the future. The annual returns in the bar chart are for the Fund's Class A shares and do not reflect sales loads. If sales loads were reflected, returns would be less than those shown.

Additionally, large purchases and/or redemptions of shares of a class, relative to the amount of assets represented by the class, may cause the annual returns for each class to differ. Updated performance information for the Fund is available on the Van Eck website at [vaneck.com](http://vaneck.com).

### Class A: Annual Total Returns (%) as of 12/31



**Best Quarter:** 6.98% 1Q '11

**Worst Quarter:** -12.11% 3Q '11

Average Annual Total Returns as of 12/31/11	1 Year	Life of Class
<b>Class A Shares</b> (12/31/10)		
Before Taxes	-13.38%	-13.38%
After Taxes on Distributions <sup>1</sup>	-13.38%	-13.38%
After Taxes on Distributions and Sale of Fund Shares <sup>1</sup>	-8.69%	-8.69%
<b>Class I Shares</b> (12/31/10)		
Before Taxes	-7.77%	-7.77%
<b>Class Y Shares</b> (12/31/10)		
Before Taxes	-7.88%	-7.88%
<b>UBS Bloomberg Constant Maturity Commodity Total Return Index</b> (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)	-6.90%	-6.90%

<sup>1</sup> After tax returns are calculated using the historical highest individual federal marginal income tax rates and do not reflect the impact of state and local taxes. These returns are shown for one class of shares only; after tax-returns for the other classes may vary. Actual after-tax returns depend on your individual tax situation and may differ from those shown in the preceding table. The after-tax return information shown above does not apply to Fund shares held through a tax-deferred account, such as a 401(k) plan or Investment Retirement Account.

## PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT

**Investment Adviser.** Van Eck Associates Corporation

**Portfolio Manager.**

**Michael Mazier**, Portfolio Manager, 2007

## PURCHASE AND SALE OF FUND SHARES

In general, shares of the Fund may be purchased or redeemed on any business day, primarily through financial representatives such as brokers or advisers, or directly by eligible investors through the Fund's transfer agent. Purchase minimums for Classes A and Y shares are \$1000 for an initial purchase and \$100 for a subsequent purchase, with no purchase minimums for any purchase through a retirement or pension plan account, for any "wrap fee" account and similar programs offered without a sales charge by certain financial institutions and third-party recordkeepers and/or administrators, and for any account using the Automatic Investment Plan, or for any other periodic purchase program. Purchase minimums for Class I shares are \$1 million for an initial purchase and no minimum for a subsequent purchase; the initial minimum may be reduced or waived at the Fund's discretion.

## TAX INFORMATION

The Fund normally distributes net investment income and net realized capital gains, if any, to shareholders. These distributions are generally taxable to you as ordinary income or capital gains, unless you are investing through a tax-deferred retirement account that will be taxed at a later date, such as a 401(k) plan or an individual retirement account (IRA).

## PAYMENTS TO BROKER-DEALERS AND OTHER FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

If you purchase the Fund through a broker-dealer or other financial intermediary (such as a bank), the Fund and/or its affiliates may pay the intermediary for the sale of Fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the broker-dealer or other intermediary and your financial professional to recommend the Fund over another investment. Ask your financial professional or visit your financial intermediary's website for more information.

## II. INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE, STRATEGIES, POLICIES, RISKS AND OTHER INFORMATION

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This section states the Fund's investment objective and describes certain strategies and policies that the Fund may utilize in pursuit of its investment objective. This section also provides additional information about the principal risks associated with investing in the Fund.

### 1. INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE

The CM Commodity Index Fund seeks to track, before fees and expenses, the performance of the UBS Bloomberg Constant Maturity Commodity Total Return Index.

The Fund's investment objective is non-fundamental and may be changed by the Board of Trustees without shareholder approval. The Fund has adopted a policy that requires the Fund to provide shareholders with 60 days' prior written notice before its investment objective can be changed (to the extent practicable).

### 2. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES AND RISKS

#### COMMODITIES AND COMMODITY-LINKED DERIVATIVES

##### **Definition**

Commodities include precious metals (such as gold, silver, platinum and palladium in the form of bullion and coins), industrial metals, gas and other energy products and natural resources. The value of a commodity-linked derivative investment generally is based upon the price movements of a physical commodity (such as energy, mineral, or agricultural products), a commodity futures contract or commodity index, or other economic variable based upon changes in the value of commodities or the commodities markets. The Fund may seek exposure to the commodity markets through investments in leveraged or unleveraged commodity-linked or index-linked notes, which are derivative debt instruments with principal and/or coupon payments linked to the value of commodities, commodity futures contracts or the performance of commodity indices. These notes are sometimes referred to as "structured notes" because the terms of these notes may be structured by the issuer and the purchaser of the note.

##### **Risk**

Exposure to the commodities markets may subject the Fund to greater volatility than investments in traditional securities. The commodities markets may fluctuate widely based on a variety of factors including changes in overall market movements, political and economic events and policies, war, acts of terrorism, natural disasters and changes in interest rates or inflation rates. Prices of various commodities may also be affected by factors such as drought, floods, weather, embargoes, tariffs and other regulatory developments. The prices of commodities can also fluctuate widely due to supply and demand disruptions in major producing or consuming regions. Certain commodities may be produced in a limited number of countries and may be controlled by a small number of producers. As a result, political, economic and supply related events in such countries could have a disproportionate impact on the prices of such commodities.

**Commodity-Linked "Structured" Securities.** Because the value of a commodity-linked derivative instrument typically is based upon the price movements of a physical commodity, the value of the commodity-linked derivative instrument may be affected by changes in overall market movements, commodity index volatility, changes in interest rates, or factors affecting a particular industry. The value of these securities will rise or fall in response to changes in the underlying commodity or related index of investment.

**Structured Notes.** Structured notes expose the Fund economically to movements in commodity prices. The performance of a structured note is determined by the price movement of the commodity underlying the note. A highly liquid secondary market may not exist for structured notes, and there can be no assurance that one will develop. These notes are often leveraged, increasing the volatility of each note's market value relative to changes in the underlying commodity, commodity futures contract or commodity index.

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## COUNTERPARTY

**Definition** A counterparty is the other party that participates in a transaction, e.g. the other party to a contract.

**Risk** The Fund may invest in financial instruments involving counterparties for the purpose of attempting to gain exposure to a particular group of securities, commodities or asset class without actually purchasing those securities or investments, or to hedge a position. Such financial instruments include, but are not limited to total return, index, interest rate, and credit default swap agreements, and structured notes. The Fund will use counterparty agreements to exchange the returns (or differentials in rates of return) earned or realized in particular predetermined investments or instruments. The Fund will not enter into any agreement involving a counterparty unless the Adviser believes that the other party to the transaction is creditworthy. A loss may be sustained as a result of the failure of a counterparty to make required payments or otherwise comply with a contract's terms.

The use of swap agreements and structured notes involves risks that are different from those associated with ordinary portfolio securities transactions. For example, the Fund bears the risk of loss of the amount expected to be received under a swap agreement in the event of the default or bankruptcy of a swap agreement counterparty. The Fund may enter into swap agreements with a limited number of counterparties, and as of the date of this prospectus, UBS was the only available counterparty with which the Fund may enter into such swap agreements on the CMCI. The Fund may invest in commodity-linked structured notes issued by a limited number of issuers that will act as counterparties. The Fund's use of one or a limited number of counterparties and its investments in commodity-linked structured notes issued by only a limited number of issuers increases the Fund's exposure to counterparty credit risk. Swap agreements also may be considered to be illiquid. Further, there is a risk that no suitable counterparties are willing to enter into, or continue to enter into, transactions with the Fund and, as a result, the Fund may not be able to achieve its investment objective.

## DEBT SECURITIES

**Definition** Debt securities may include bonds and other forms of debentures or obligations. When an issuer sells debt securities, it sells them for a certain price, and for a certain term. Over the term of the security, the issuer promises to pay the buyer a certain rate of interest, then to repay the principal at maturity. Debt securities are also bought and sold in the a "secondary market"—that is, they are traded by people other than their original issuers.

**Risk** Debt securities are subject to credit risk and interest rate risk. Credit risk refers to the possibility that the issuer of a debt security will be unable to make interest payments or repay principal when it becomes due. Various factors could affect the issuer's ability to make timely interest or principal payments, including changes in the issuer's financial condition or in general economic conditions. Interest rate risk refers to fluctuations in the value of a debt security resulting from changes in the general level of interest rates. When the general level of interest rates rise, the value of debt securities will tend to fall, and if interest rates fall, the values of debt securities will tend to rise. Changes in the value of a debt security usually will not affect the amount of income the Fund receives from it but may affect the value of the Fund's shares.

## DERIVATIVES

**Definition** The term “derivatives” covers a broad range of financial instruments, including swap agreements, options, warrants, futures contracts, currency forwards and structured notes, whose values are derived, at least in part, from the value of one or more indicators, such as a security, asset, index or reference rate.

**Risk** The use of derivatives presents risks different from, and possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in traditional securities. The use of derivatives can lead to losses because of adverse movements in the price or value of the underlying security, commodity, asset, index or reference rate, which may be magnified by certain features of the derivatives. Derivative strategies often involve leverage, which may exaggerate a loss, potentially causing the Fund to lose more money than it would have lost had it invested in the underlying security. The values of derivatives may move in unexpected ways, especially in unusual market conditions, and may result in increased volatility, among other consequences. The use of derivatives may also increase the amount of taxes payable by shareholders. Other risks arise from the Fund’s potential inability to terminate or sell derivative positions. A liquid secondary market may not always exist for the Fund’s derivative positions at times when the Fund might wish to terminate or sell such positions. Over the counter instruments (investments not traded on an exchange) may be illiquid, and transactions in derivatives traded in the over-the counter market are subject to the risk that the other party will not meet its obligations. The use of derivatives also involves the risk of mispricing or improper valuation and that changes in the value of the derivative may not correlate perfectly with the underlying security, asset, index or reference rate.

**Futures Contracts.** Futures contracts and options on futures contracts provide for the future sale by one party and purchase by another party of a specified amount of a specific security at a specified future time and at a specified price. An option on a futures contract gives the purchaser the right, in exchange for a premium, to assume a position in a futures contract at a specified exercise price during the term of the option. Index futures are futures contracts for various indices that are traded on registered securities exchanges.

**Options.** The buyer of an option acquires the right to buy (a call option) or sell (a put option) a certain quantity of a security (the underlying security) or instrument at a certain price up to a specified point in time. The seller or writer of an option is obligated to sell (a call option) or buy (a put option) the underlying security. When writing (selling) call options on securities, the Fund may cover its positions by owning the underlying security on which the option is written or by owning a call option on the underlying security. Alternatively, the Fund may cover its positions by maintaining, in a segregated account, cash or liquid securities equal in value to the exercise price of the call options written by the Fund.

The risks associated with the Fund’s use of futures and options contracts include:

- The Fund experiencing losses that exceed losses experienced by funds that do not use futures contracts and options.
- There may be an imperfect correlation between the changes in market value of the securities held by the Fund and the prices of futures and options on futures.
- Due to market conditions, there may not always be a liquid secondary market for a futures contract. As a result, the Fund may be unable to close out its futures contracts at a time which is advantageous.
- Trading restrictions or limitations may be imposed by an exchange, and government regulations may restrict trading in futures contracts and options.
- Because option premiums paid or received by the Fund are small in relation to the market value of the investments underlying the options, buying and selling put and call options can be more speculative than investing directly in securities.

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## INDUSTRY CONCENTRATION

**Definition** To the extent the CMCI is concentrated in a particular industry the Fund will necessarily be concentrated in that industry.

**Risk** The Fund may be subject to greater risks and market fluctuations than a fund whose portfolio has exposure to a broader range of industries. The Fund may be susceptible to financial, economic, political or market events, as well as government regulation, impacting a particular industry.

## MARKET

**Definition** An investment in the Fund involves “market risk”—the risk that the prices of securities, commodities and related instruments will rise or fall.

**Risk** Market risk refers to the risk that the market prices of securities, commodities and related instruments that the Fund holds will rise or fall, sometimes rapidly or unpredictably. Security prices may decline over short or even extended periods not only because of company-specific developments but also due to an economic downturn, a change in interest or currency rates or a change in investor sentiment. In general, equity securities and commodities tend to have greater price volatility than debt securities.

## NON-DIVERSIFICATION

**Definition** A non-diversified fund may invest a larger portion of its assets in a single issuer. A “diversified” fund is required by the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “1940 Act”), generally, with respect to 75% of its total assets, to invest not more than 5% of such assets in the securities of a single issuer.

**Risk** A non-diversified fund’s greater investment in a single issuer makes the fund more susceptible to financial, economic or market events impacting such issuer. A decline in the value of or default by a single security in the non-diversified fund’s portfolio may have a greater negative effect than a similar decline or default by a single security in a diversified portfolio.

## REGULATORY

**Definition** The Fund and the Subsidiary are subject to the laws and regulated by the governments of the United States and/or the Cayman Islands, respectively.

**Risk** Changes in the laws or regulations of the United States or the Cayman Islands, including any changes to applicable tax laws and regulations, could impair the ability of the Fund to achieve its investment objective and could increase the operating expenses of the Fund or the Subsidiary. For example, the CFTC recently adopted amendments to existing regulations that, upon effectiveness, may subject activities of the Fund or the Subsidiary involving investments in futures contracts and similar instruments to regulation by the CFTC, including a variety of registration, disclosure and operational obligations. It is expected that additional regulations will be adopted by the CFTC in the future. The likely impact of such existing and future regulations on the Fund or the Subsidiary is unclear as of the date of this prospectus.

Investment in the Subsidiary is expected to provide the Fund with exposure to the commodities markets within the limitations of the federal income tax requirements of Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. Subchapter M requires, among other things, that at least 90% of the Fund's gross income be derived from securities or derived with respect to its business of investing in securities (typically referred to as "qualifying income"). Income from certain of the commodity-linked derivatives in which the Fund invests may not be treated as "qualifying income" for purposes of the 90% income requirement. The Fund has received private letter rulings from the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") confirming that income from the Fund's investment in the Subsidiary and income derived from certain commodity-linked notes will constitute "qualifying income" for purposes of Subchapter M. However, the IRS has announced an internal review of its position with respect to the tax treatment of a regulated investment company subsidiary that invests in commodities or commodity-related investments, and a moratorium on the issuance of new private letter rulings with respect to them. Although the Fund's private letter rulings remain in effect, it is possible that a change in the IRS's position with respect to the Subsidiary could cause the IRS to withdraw those private letter rulings and limit the Fund's ability to pursue its investment objective as described.

### REPURCHASE AND REVERSE REPURCHASE AGREEMENTS

- Definition** In a repurchase agreement, the Fund acquires a security for a short time while agreeing to sell it back at a designated price and time. The agreement creates a fixed rate of return not subject to market fluctuations. In a reverse repurchase agreement, the Fund sells a security subject to the obligation of a buyer to resell and the Fund to repurchase such security at a fixed time and price. The Fund enters into these agreements generally with member banks of the Federal Reserve System or certain non-bank dealers; these counterparties collateralize the transaction.
- Risk** A repurchase agreement exposes the Fund to the risk that the party that sells the security may default on its obligation to repurchase it. The Fund may lose money if it cannot sell the security at the agreed-upon time and price or the security loses value before it can be sold. A reverse repurchase agreement involves the risk that the market value of the securities the Fund is obligated to repurchase under the agreement may decline below the repurchase price. In the event the buyer of securities under a reverse repurchase agreement files for bankruptcy or becomes insolvent, the Fund's use of proceeds of the agreement may be restricted pending a determination by the other party, or its trustee or receiver, whether to enforce the Fund's obligation to repurchase the securities.

### SUBSIDIARY

- Definition** By investing in the Subsidiary, the Fund is indirectly exposed to the risks associated with the Subsidiary's investments. The derivatives and other investments held by the Subsidiary are generally similar to those that are permitted to be held by the Fund and are subject to the same risks that apply to similar investments if held directly by the Fund. These risks are described elsewhere in this prospectus.
- Risk** The Subsidiary is not registered under the 1940 Act, and, unless otherwise noted in this prospectus, is not subject to all the investor protections of the 1940 Act. In addition, changes in the laws of the United States and/or the Cayman Islands could result in the inability of the Fund and/or the Subsidiary to operate as described in this prospectus and the SAI and could eliminate or severely limit the Fund's ability to invest in the Subsidiary which may adversely affect the Fund and its shareholders.

### TRACKING ERROR

- Definition** The Fund's investment objective is to seek to track, before fees and expenses, the performance of the CMCI.
- Risks** The Fund's return may not match the return of the CMCI due to, among other factors, the Fund incurring operating expenses, and not being fully invested at all times as a result of cash inflows and cash reserves to meet redemptions.

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### 3. ADDITIONAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES

#### INVESTING DEFENSIVELY

**Strategy** The Fund may take temporary defensive positions in anticipation of or in an attempt to respond to adverse market, economic, political or other conditions. Such a position could have the effect of reducing any benefit the Fund may receive from a market increase.

#### SECURITIES LENDING

**Strategy** The Fund may lend its securities as permitted under the 1940 Act, including by participating in securities lending programs managed by broker-dealers or other institutions. Securities lending allows the Fund to retain ownership of the securities loaned and, at the same time, earn additional income. The borrowings must be collateralized in full with cash, U.S. government securities or high-quality letters of credit.

The Fund could experience delays and costs in recovering the securities loaned or in gaining access to the securities lending collateral. If the Fund is not able to recover the securities loaned, the Fund may sell the collateral and purchase a replacement investment in the market. The value of the collateral could decrease below the value of the replacement investment by the time the replacement investment is purchased. Cash received as collateral and which is invested is subject to market appreciation and depreciation.

### 4. OTHER INFORMATION AND POLICIES

#### OVERVIEW OF THE CMCI

The CMCI represents a basket of commodity futures contracts with 28 components, representing 24 underlying commodities (as of February 1, 2012). Exposure to each component is allocated across a range of maturities ranging from three months to three years. In contrast, traditional commodity indices typically invest in front-month futures contracts with shorter tenors (time to maturity).

The CMCI also employs a “constant maturity” approach by relying on a continuous roll methodology in which the CMCI invests in and out of future contracts on a daily basis. This methodology differs from traditional commodity indices, which usually are pre-defined to roll on a monthly or bi-monthly basis. The CMCI represents commodities in five primary sectors including Energy, Agriculture, Industrial Metals, Precious Metals and Livestock. The relevant exchanges on which the underlying commodities trade include the New York Mercantile Exchange (including the COMEX division), Chicago Board of Trade, London Metal Exchange, New York Board of Trade, Chicago Mercantile Exchange, Kansas City Board of Trade, ICE Futures and Euronext.Liffe.

The overall return of the CMCI is generated by two components: (i) uncollateralized returns from holding and rolling of futures contracts comprising the CMCI and (ii) a daily fixed-income return, which reflects the interest earned on a hypothetical 91-day Treasury Bill portfolio theoretically deposited as margin for hypothetical positions in the futures contracts comprising the CMCI.

#### PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS INFORMATION

Generally, it is the Fund’s and Adviser’s policy that no current or potential investor, including any Fund shareholder, shall be provided information about the Funds’ portfolio on a preferential basis in advance of the provision of that information to other investors. A complete description of the Fund’s policies and procedures with respect to the disclosure of the Fund’s portfolio securities is available in the Fund’s SAI.

Limited portfolio holdings information for the Fund is available to all investors on the Van Eck website at [vaneck.com](http://vaneck.com). This information regarding the Fund’s top holdings and country and sector weightings, updated as of each month-end, is located on this website. Generally, this information is posted to the website within 30 days of the end of the applicable month. This information generally remains available on the website until new information is posted. The Fund reserves the right to exclude any portion of these portfolio holdings from publication when deemed in the best interest of the Fund, and to discontinue the posting of portfolio holdings information at any time, without prior notice.

#### PORTFOLIO INVESTMENTS

The percentage limitations relating to the composition of the Fund’s portfolio apply at the time the Fund acquires an investment. A subsequent increase or decrease in percentage resulting from a change in the value of portfolio securities or the total or net assets of the Fund will not be considered a violation of the restriction.

## 1. HOW TO BUY, SELL, EXCHANGE OR TRANSFER SHARES

The Fund offers Class A, Class I and Class Y shares. Information related to how to buy, sell, exchange and transfer shares is discussed below. See the “Minimum Purchase” section for information related to initial and subsequent minimum investment amounts. The minimum investment amounts vary by share class.

### Through a Financial Intermediary

Primarily, accounts are opened through a financial intermediary (broker, bank, adviser or agent). Please contact your representative for details.

### Through the Transfer Agent, DST Systems, Inc. (DST)

You may buy (purchase), sell (redeem), exchange, or transfer ownership of Class A and Class I shares directly through DST by mail or telephone, as stated below. For Class Y shares, shareholders must open accounts and transact business through a financial intermediary.

The Fund’s mailing address at DST is:

Van Eck Global  
P.O. Box 218407  
Kansas City, MO 64121-8407

For overnight delivery:

Van Eck Global  
210 W. 10th St., 8th Fl.  
Kansas City, MO 64105-1802

Non-resident aliens cannot make a direct investment to establish a new account in the Fund, but may invest through their broker or agent and certain foreign financial institutions that have agreements with Van Eck.

To telephone the Fund at DST, call Van Eck’s Account Assistance at 800-544-4653.

### Purchase by Mail

To make an initial purchase, complete the Van Eck Account Application and mail it with your check made payable to Van Eck Funds. Subsequent purchases can be made by check with the remittance stub of your account statement. You cannot make a purchase by telephone. We cannot accept third party checks, starter checks, money orders, travelers checks, cashier checks, checks drawn on a foreign bank, or checks not in U.S. dollars. There are separate applications for Van Eck retirement accounts (see “Retirement Plans” for details). For further details, see the application or call Account Assistance.

### Telephone Redemption—Proceeds by Check 800-345-8506

If your account has the optional Telephone Redemption Privilege, you can redeem up to \$50,000 per day. The redemption check must be payable to the registered owner(s) at the address of record (which cannot have been changed within the past 30 days). You automatically get the Telephone Redemption Privilege (for eligible accounts) unless you specifically refuse it on your Account Application, on broker/agent settlement instructions, or by written notice to DST. All accounts are eligible for the privilege except those registered in street, nominee, or corporate name and custodial accounts held by a financial institution, including Van Eck sponsored retirement plans.

### Expedited Redemption—Proceeds by Wire 800-345-8506

If your account has the optional Expedited Redemption Privilege, you can redeem a minimum of \$1,000 or more per day by telephone or written request with the proceeds wired to your designated bank account. The Fund reserves the right to waive the minimum amount. This privilege must be established in advance by Application. For further details, see the Application or call Account Assistance.

### Written Redemption

Your written redemption (sale) request must include:

- Fund and account number.
- Number of shares or dollar amount to be redeemed, or a request to sell “all shares.”
- Signatures of all registered account holders, exactly as those names appear on the account registration, including any additional documents concerning authority and related matters in the case of estates, trusts, guardianships, custodianships, partnerships and corporations, as requested by DST.

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- Special instructions, including bank wire information or special payee or address.

A signature guarantee for each account holder will be required if:

- The redemption is for \$50,000 or more.
- The redemption amount is wired.
- The redemption amount is paid to someone other than the registered owner.
- The redemption amount is sent to an address other than the address of record.
- The address of record has been changed within the past 30 days.

Institutions eligible to provide signature guarantees include banks, brokerages, trust companies, and some credit unions.

### **Telephone Exchange 800-345-8506**

If your account has the optional Telephone Exchange Privilege, you can exchange between Funds of the same Class without any additional sales charge. (Shares originally purchased into the Van Eck Money Fund (the "Money Fund"), which paid no sales charge, may pay an initial sales charge the first time they are exchanged into another Class A fund. All accounts are eligible except for omnibus accounts or those registered in street name and certain custodial retirement accounts held by a financial institution other than Van Eck. For further details regarding exchanges, please see the application, "Limits and Restrictions" and "Unauthorized Telephone Requests" below, or call Account Assistance.

### **Written Exchange**

Written requests for exchange must include:

- The fund and account number to be exchanged out of.
- The fund to be exchanged into.
- Directions to exchange "all shares" or a specific number of shares or dollar amount.
- Signatures of all registered account holders, exactly as those names appear on the account registration, including any additional documents concerning authority and related matters in the case of estates, trusts, guardianships, custodianships, partnerships and corporations, as requested by DST.

For further details regarding exchanges, please see the applicable information in "Telephone Exchange."

### **Certificates**

Certificates are not issued for new or existing shares.

### **Transfer of Ownership**

Requests must be in writing and provide the same information and legal documentation necessary to redeem and establish an account, including the social security or tax identification number of the new owner.

### **Redemption in Kind**

The Fund reserves the right to satisfy redemption requests by making payment in securities (known as a redemption in kind). In such case, the Fund may pay all or part of the redemption in securities of equal value as permitted under the 1940 Act, and the rules thereunder. The redeeming shareholder should expect to incur transaction costs upon the disposition of the securities received.

## **LIMITS AND RESTRICTIONS**

### **Frequent Trading Policy**

The Board of Trustees has adopted policies and procedures reasonably designed to deter frequent trading in shares of the Fund, commonly referred to as "market timing," because such activities may be disruptive to the management of the Fund's portfolio and may increase the Fund's expenses and negatively impact the Fund's performance. As such, the Fund may reject a purchase or exchange transaction or restrict an account from investing in the Fund for any reason if the Adviser, in its sole discretion, believes that a shareholder is engaging in market timing activities that may be harmful to the Fund. The Fund discourages and does not accommodate frequent trading of shares by its shareholders.

The Fund invests portions of its assets in securities of foreign issuers, and consequently may be subject to an increased risk of frequent trading activities because frequent traders may attempt to take advantage of time zone differences between the foreign markets in which the Fund's portfolio securities trade and the time as of which the Fund's net asset value is calculated ("time-zone arbitrage"). The Fund's investments in other types of securities may also be susceptible to frequent trading strategies. These investments include securities that are, among other things, thinly traded, traded infrequently, or relatively illiquid, which have the risk that the current market price for the securities may not accurately

### III. SHAREHOLDER INFORMATION (continued)

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reflect current market values. The Fund has adopted fair valuation policies and procedures intended to reduce the Fund's exposure to potential price arbitrage. However, there is no guarantee that the Fund's net asset value will immediately reflect changes in market conditions.

The Fund uses a variety of techniques to monitor and detect abusive trading practices, such as monitoring purchases, redemptions and exchanges that meet certain criteria established by the Fund, and making inquiries with respect to such trades. If a transaction is rejected or an account restricted due to suspected market timing, the investor or his or her financial adviser will be notified.

With respect to trades that occur through omnibus accounts at intermediaries, such as broker-dealers and third party administrators, the Fund requires all such intermediaries to agree to cooperate in identifying and restricting market timers in accordance with the Fund's policies and will periodically request customer trading activity in the omnibus accounts based on certain criteria established by the Fund. There is no assurance that the Fund will request such information with sufficient frequency to detect or deter excessive trading or that review of such information will be sufficient to detect or deter excessive trading in omnibus accounts effectively.

Although the Fund will use reasonable efforts to prevent market timing activities in the Fund's shares, there can be no assurances that these efforts will be successful. As some investors may use various strategies to disguise their trading practices, the Fund's ability to detect frequent trading activities by investors that hold shares through financial intermediaries may be limited by the ability and/or willingness of such intermediaries to monitor for these activities.

For further details, contact Account Assistance.

#### **Unauthorized Telephone Requests**

Like most financial organizations, Van Eck, the Fund and DST may only be liable for losses resulting from unauthorized transactions if reasonable procedures designed to verify the caller's identity and authority to act on the account are not followed.

If you do not want to authorize the Telephone Exchange or Redemption privilege on your eligible account, you must refuse it on the Account Application, broker/agent settlement instructions, or by written notice to DST. Van Eck, the Fund, and DST reserve the right to reject a telephone redemption, exchange, or other request without prior notice either during or after the call. For further details, contact Account Assistance.

#### **AUTOMATIC SERVICES**

##### **Automatic Investment Plan**

You may authorize DST to periodically withdraw a specified dollar amount from your bank account and buy shares in your Fund account. For further details and to request an Application, contact Account Assistance.

##### **Automatic Exchange Plan**

You may authorize DST to periodically exchange a specified dollar amount for your account from one Fund to another Fund. For further details and to request an Application, contact Account Assistance.

##### **Automatic Withdrawal Plan**

You may authorize DST to periodically withdraw (redeem) a specified dollar amount from your Fund account and mail a check to you for the proceeds. Your Fund account must be valued at \$10,000 or more at the current offering price to establish the Plan. For further details and to request an Application, contact Account Assistance.

#### **MINIMUM PURCHASE**

Each class can set its own transaction minimums and may vary with respect to expenses for distribution, administration and shareholder services.

For Class A and Class Y shares, an initial purchase of \$1,000 and subsequent purchases of \$100 or more are required for non-retirement accounts. There are no purchase minimums for any retirement or pension plan account, for any account using the Automatic Investment Plan, or for any other periodic purchase program. Minimums may be waived for initial and subsequent purchases through "wrap fee" and similar programs offered without a sales charge by certain financial institutions and third-party recordkeepers and/or administrators.

For Class I shares, an initial purchase by an eligible investor of \$1 million is required. The minimum initial investment requirement may be waived or aggregated among investors, in the Adviser's discretion, for investors in certain fee-based, wrap or other no-load investment programs, and for an eligible Employer-Sponsored Retirement Plan with plan assets of \$3 million or more, sponsored by financial intermediaries that have entered into a Class I agreement with Van Eck, as well as for other categories of investors. An "Employer-Sponsored Retirement Plan" includes (a) an employer sponsored

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pension or profit sharing plan that qualifies (a “Qualified Plan”) under section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”), including Code section 401(k), money purchase pension, profit sharing and defined benefit plans; (b) an ERISA-covered 403(b) plan; and (c) certain non-qualified deferred compensation arrangements that operate in a similar manner to a Qualified Plan, such as 457 plans and executive deferred compensation arrangements, but not including employer-sponsored IRAs. In addition, members of the Boards of Trustees of Van Eck Funds and Van Eck VIP Trust and each officer, director and employee of Van Eck may purchase Class I shares without being subject to the \$1 million minimum initial investment requirement. There are no minimum investment requirements for subsequent purchases to existing accounts. To be eligible to purchase Class I shares, you must also qualify as specified in “How to Choose a Class of Shares.”

### **ACCOUNT VALUE AND REDEMPTION**

If the value of your account falls below \$1,000 for Class A and Class Y shares and below \$500,000 for Class I shares after the initial purchase, the Fund reserves the right to redeem your shares after 30 days notice to you. *This does not apply to accounts exempt from purchase minimums as described above.*

### **HOW FUND SHARES ARE PRICED**

The Fund buys or sells its shares at its net asset value, or NAV, per share next determined after receipt of a purchase or redemption plus any applicable sales charge. The Fund calculates its NAV every day the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) is open, as of the close of regular trading on the NYSE, which is normally 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

You may enter a buy or sell order when the NYSE is closed for weekends or holidays. If that happens, your price will be the NAV calculated as of the close of the next regular trading session of the NYSE. The Fund may invest in certain securities which are listed on foreign exchanges that trade on weekends or other days when the Fund does not price its shares. As a result, the NAV of the Fund’s shares may change on days when shareholders will not be able to purchase or redeem shares.

The Fund’s investments are generally valued based on market quotations. When market quotations are not readily available for a portfolio security, or in the opinion of the Adviser do not reflect the security’s value, the Fund will use the security’s “fair value” as determined in good faith in accordance with the Fund’s Fair Value Pricing Procedures, which have been approved by the Board of Trustees. As a general principle, the current fair value of a security is the amount which the Fund might reasonably expect to receive for the security upon its current sale. The Fund’s Pricing Committee, whose members are selected by the senior management of the Adviser, is responsible for recommending fair value procedures to the Board of Trustees and for administering the process used to arrive at fair value prices.

Factors that may cause the Fund to use the fair value of a portfolio security to calculate the Fund’s NAV include, but are not limited to: (1) market quotations are not readily available because a portfolio security is not traded in a public market or the principal market in which the security trades is closed, (2) trading in a portfolio security is limited or suspended and not resumed prior to the time at which the Fund calculates its NAV, (3) the market for the relevant security is thin, or the price is “stale” (e.g., because its price doesn’t change in five consecutive business days), (4) the Adviser determines that a market quotation is inaccurate, for example, because price movements are highly volatile and cannot be verified by a reliable alternative pricing source, or (5) where a significant event affecting the value of a portfolio security is determined to have occurred between the time of the market quotation provided for a portfolio security and the time at which the Fund calculates its NAV.

In determining the fair value of securities, the Pricing Committee will consider, among other factors, the fundamental analytical data relating to the security, the nature and duration of any restrictions on disposition of the security, and the forces influencing the market in which the security is traded.

Foreign securities in which the Fund invests may be traded in markets that close before the time that the Fund calculates its NAV. Foreign securities are normally priced based upon the market quotation of such securities as of the close of their respective principal markets, as adjusted to reflect the Adviser’s determination of the impact of events, such as a significant movement in the U.S. markets occurring subsequent to the close of such markets but prior to the time at which the Fund calculates its NAV.

Certain of the Fund’s portfolio securities are valued by an outside pricing service approved by the Board of Trustees. The pricing service may utilize an automated system incorporating a model based on multiple parameters, including a security’s local closing price (in the case of foreign securities), relevant general and sector indices, currency fluctuations, and trading in depository receipts and futures, if applicable, and/or research evaluations by its staff, in determining what it believes is the fair valuation of the portfolio securities valued by such pricing service.

There can be no assurance that the Fund could purchase or sell a portfolio security at the price used to calculate the Fund's NAV. Because of the inherent uncertainty in fair valuations, and the various factors considered in determining value pursuant to the Fund's fair value procedures, there can be significant deviations between a fair value price at which a portfolio security is being carried and the price at which it is purchased or sold. Furthermore, changes in the fair valuation of portfolio securities may be less frequent, and of greater magnitude, than changes in the price of portfolio securities valued by an independent pricing service, or based on market quotations.

## 2. HOW TO CHOOSE A CLASS OF SHARES

The Fund offers three classes of shares with different sales charges and 12b-1 fee schedules, designed to provide you with different purchase options according to your investment needs. Class A shares are offered to the general public. Shares of the Money Fund are not available for exchange with Class I or Class Y shares. Class I shares are offered to eligible investors primarily through certain financial intermediaries that have entered into a Class I Agreement with Van Eck. The Fund reserves the right to accept direct investments by eligible investors. Class Y shares are offered only to investors through "wrap fee" and similar programs offered without a sales charge by certain financial intermediaries and third-party recordkeepers and/or administrators that have entered into a Class Y agreement with Van Eck.

- **CLASS A Shares** are offered at net asset value plus an initial sales charge at time of purchase of up to 5.75% of the public offering price. The initial sales charge is reduced for purchases of \$25,000 or more. For further information regarding sales charges, breakpoints and other discounts, please see below. The 12b-1 fee is 0.25% annually.
- **CLASS I Shares** are offered with no sales charges on purchases, no contingent deferred redemption charge ("CDRC"), and no 12b-1 fee. To be eligible to purchase Class I (Institutional) shares, you must be an eligible investor that is making or has made a minimum initial investment of at least \$1 million (which may be reduced or waived under certain circumstances) in Class I shares of the Fund. Eligible investors in Class I shares include corporations, foundations, family offices and other institutional organizations; high net worth individuals; or a bank, trust company or similar institution investing for its own account or for the account of a client when such institution has entered into a Class I agreement with Van Eck and makes Class I shares available to the client's program or plan.
- **CLASS Y Shares** are offered with no sales charges on purchases, no CDRC, and no 12b-1 fee. To be eligible to purchase Class Y shares, you must be an eligible investor in a "wrap-fee" or other fee-based program, including an Employer-Sponsored Retirement Plan, offered through a financial intermediary that has entered into a Class Y Agreement with Van Eck, and makes Class Y shares available to that program or plan. An "Employer-Sponsored Retirement Plan" includes (a) an employer sponsored pension or profit sharing plan that qualifies (a "Qualified Plan") under section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), including Code section 401(k), money purchase pension, profit sharing and defined benefit plans; (b) an ERISA-covered 403(b) plan; and (c) certain non-qualified deferred compensation arrangements that operate in a similar manner to a Qualified Plan, such as 457 plans and executive deferred compensation arrangements, but not including employer-sponsored IRAs.

Financial intermediaries may offer their clients more than one class of shares of the Fund. Shareholders who own shares of one class of a Fund and who are eligible to invest in another class of the same Fund may be eligible to convert their shares from one class to the other. For additional information, please contact your financial intermediary or see "Class Conversions" in the SAI. Investors should consider carefully the Fund's share class expenses and applicable sales charges and fees plus any separate transaction and other fees charged by such intermediaries in connection with investing in each available share class before selecting a share class. It is the responsibility of the financial intermediary and the investor to choose the proper share class and notify DST or Van Eck of that share class at the time of each purchase. More information regarding share class eligibility is available in the "How to Buy, Sell, Exchange, or Transfer Shares" section of the prospectus and in "Purchase of Shares" in the SAI.

## 3. SALES CHARGES

Unless you are eligible for a waiver, the public offering price you pay when you buy Class A shares of the Fund is the Net Asset Value (NAV) of the shares plus an initial sales charge. The initial sales charge varies depending upon the size of your purchase, as set forth below. No sales charge is imposed where Class A shares are issued to you pursuant to the automatic investment of income dividends or capital gains distribution. It is the responsibility of the financial intermediary to ensure that the investor obtains the proper "breakpoint" discount. Class I and Class Y do not have an initial sales charge; however, Class A does charge a contingent deferred sales charge as set forth below.

## Class A Shares Sales Charges

Dollar Amount of Purchase	Sales Charge as a Percentage of		
	Offering Price	Net Amount Invested	Percentage to Brokers or Agents <sup>1</sup>
Less than \$25,000	5.75%	6.10%	5.00%
\$25,000 to less than \$50,000	5.00%	5.30%	4.25%
\$50,000 to less than \$100,000	4.50%	4.70%	3.90%
\$100,000 to less than \$250,000	3.00%	3.10%	2.60%
\$250,000 to less than \$500,000	2.50%	2.60%	2.20%
\$500,000 to less than \$1,000,000	2.00%	2.00%	1.75%
\$1,000,000 and over	None <sup>2</sup>		

- (1) Brokers or Agents who receive substantially all of the sales charge for shares they sell may be deemed to be statutory underwriters.
- (2) The Distributor may pay a Finder's Fee of 1.00% to eligible brokers and agents on qualified commissionable shares purchased after April 30, 2012 at or above the \$1 million breakpoint level. Such shares may be subject to a 1.00% contingent deferred sales charge if redeemed within one year from the date of purchase. For additional information, see "Contingent Deferred Sales Charge for Class A Shares" below or contact the Distributor or your financial intermediary.

### CONTINGENT DEFERRED SALES CHARGE FOR CLASS A SHARES

Class A shares purchased after April 30, 2012 at or above the \$1 million breakpoint in accordance with the sales load schedule identified above (referred to as "commissionable" shares) that are redeemed within one year of purchase will be subject to a contingent deferred sales charge ("CDSC") in the amount of 1.00% of the lesser of the current value of the shares redeemed or the original purchase price of such shares. The CDSC will be paid to the Distributor as reimbursement for any Finder's Fee previously paid by the Distributor to an eligible broker or agent at the time the commissionable shares were purchased and may be waived by the Distributor if the original purchase did not result in the payment of a Finder's Fee. For purposes of calculating the CDSC, shares will be redeemed in the following order: (1) first shares that are not subject to the CDSC (e.g., dividend reinvestment shares and other non-commissionable shares) and (2) then other shares on a first in, first out basis. A CDSC will not be charged in connection with an exchange of Class A shares into Class A shares (including the Money Fund) of another Van Eck Fund; however, the shares received upon an exchange will be subject to the CDSC if they are subsequently redeemed within one year of the date of the original purchase (subject to the same terms and conditions described above). For further details regarding eligibility for the \$1 million breakpoint, please see Section 3. "Sales Charges," "Reduced or Waived Sales Charges" below.

### REDUCED OR WAIVED SALES CHARGES

You may qualify for a reduced or waived sales charge as stated below, or under other appropriate circumstances. You (or your broker or agent) must notify DST or Van Eck at the time of each purchase or redemption whenever a reduced or waived sales charge is applicable. The term "purchase" refers to a single purchase by an individual (including spouse and children under age 21), corporation, partnership, trustee, or other fiduciary for a single trust, estate, or fiduciary account. For further details, see the SAI. The value of shares owned by an individual in Class A and Class C of each of the Van Eck Funds may be combined for a reduced sales charge in Class A shares only. (The Money Fund cannot be combined for a reduced sales charge in Class A shares.)

In order to obtain a reduced sales charge (i.e., breakpoint discount) or to meet an eligibility minimum, it will be necessary at the time of purchase for you to inform your broker or agent (or DST or Van Eck), of the existence of other accounts in which there are holdings eligible to be aggregated to meet the sales load breakpoints or eligibility minimums.

The Fund makes available information regarding applicable sales loads, breakpoint discounts, reduced or waived sales charges and eligibility minimums, on their website at [vaneck.com](http://vaneck.com), free of charge.

### FOR CLASS A SHARES

#### Right of Accumulation

When you buy shares, the amount you purchase will be combined with the value, at current offering price, of any existing Fund shares you own. This total will determine the sales charge level for which you qualify.

#### Combined Purchases

The combined amounts of your multiple purchases in the Fund on a single day determines the sales charge level for which you qualify.

#### **Letter of Intent**

If you plan to make purchases in the Fund within a 13 month period that total an amount equal to a reduced sales charge level, you can establish a Letter of Intent (LOI) for that amount. Under the LOI, your initial and subsequent purchases during that period receive the sales charge level applicable to that total amount. For escrow provisions and details, see the Application and the SAI.

#### **Persons Affiliated with Van Eck**

Trustees, officers, and full-time employees (and their families) of the Fund, Adviser or Distributor may buy without a sales charge. Also, employees (and their spouses and children under age 21) of a brokerage firm or bank that has a selling agreement with Van Eck, and other affiliates and agents, may buy without a sales charge.

#### **Load-waived Programs Through Financial Intermediaries**

Financial intermediaries that meet certain requirements and: (i) are compensated by their clients on a fee-only basis, including but not limited to Investment Advisors, Financial Planners, and Bank Trust Departments; or (ii) have entered into an agreement with Van Eck to offer Class A shares through a no-load network or platform, may buy without a sales charge on behalf of their clients.

#### **Foreign Financial Institutions**

Certain foreign financial institutions that have international selling agreements with Van Eck may buy shares with a reduced or waived sales charge for their omnibus accounts on behalf of foreign investors. Shareholders who purchase shares through a foreign financial institution at a fixed breakpoint may pay a greater or lesser sales charge than if they purchased directly through a U.S. dealer.

#### **Institutional Retirement Programs**

Certain financial institutions and third-party recordkeepers and/or administrators who have agreements with Van Eck may buy shares without a sales charge for their accounts on behalf of investors in retirement plans and deferred compensation plans other than IRAs.

#### **Buy-back Privilege**

You have the right, once a year, to reinvest proceeds of a redemption from Class A shares of the Fund into that Fund or Class A shares of another Fund within 30 days without a sales charge (excluding the Money Fund). If you invest into the same Fund within 30 days before or after you redeem your shares at a loss, the "wash sale" rules apply to disallow for tax purposes a loss realized upon redemption.

#### **FOR CLASS I AND CLASS Y SHARES**

No initial sales charge, or CDRC fee is imposed on Class I or Class Y shares. Class I and Class Y are no-load share classes.

### **4. HOUSEHOLDING OF REPORTS AND PROSPECTUSES**

If more than one member of your household is a shareholder of any of the funds in the Van Eck Family of Funds, regulations allow us to deliver single copies of your shareholder reports, prospectuses and prospectus supplements to a shared address for multiple shareholders. For example, a husband and wife with separate accounts in the same fund who have the same shared address generally receive two separate envelopes containing the same report or prospectus. Under the system, known as "householding," only one envelope containing one copy of the same report or prospectus will be mailed to the shared address for the household. You may benefit from this system in two ways, a reduction in mail you receive and a reduction in fund expenses due to lower fund printing and mailing costs. However, if you prefer to continue to receive separate shareholder reports and prospectuses for each shareholder living in your household now or at any time in the future, please call Account Assistance at 800-544-4653.

### **5. RETIREMENT PLANS**

Fund shares may be invested in tax-advantaged retirement plans sponsored by Van Eck or other financial organizations. Retirement plans sponsored by Van Eck use State Street Bank and Trust Company as custodian and must receive investments directly by check or wire using the appropriate Van Eck retirement plan application. Confirmed trades through a broker or agent cannot be accepted. To obtain applications and helpful information on Van Eck retirement plans, contact your broker or agent or Account Assistance.

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## Retirement Plans Sponsored by Van Eck:

Traditional IRA

Roth IRA

SEP IRA

Qualified (Pension and Profit Sharing) Plans

## 6. FEDERAL INCOME TAXES

### TAXATION OF DIVIDENDS AND CAPITAL GAINS DISTRIBUTIONS YOU RECEIVE

For tax-reportable accounts, dividends and capital gains distributions are normally taxable even if they are reinvested. Certain dividends may be treated as qualified dividend income, taxable at long-term capital gain rates. Other dividends and short-term capital gains are taxed as ordinary income. Long-term capital gains are taxed at long-term capital gain rates. Tax laws and regulations are subject to change.

### TAXATION OF SHARES YOU SELL

For tax-reportable accounts, when you redeem your shares you may incur a capital gain or loss on the proceeds. The amount of gain or loss, if any, is the difference between the amount you paid for your shares (including reinvested dividends and capital gains distributions) and the amount you receive from your redemption. Be sure to keep your regular statements; they contain the information necessary to calculate the capital gain or loss. An exchange of shares from one Fund to another will be treated as a sale and purchase of Fund shares. It is therefore a taxable event.

### COST BASIS REPORTING

As required by law, for shares purchased on and after January 1, 2012 in accounts eligible for 1099-B tax reporting by Van Eck Funds for which tax basis information is available ("covered shares"), the Van Eck Funds will provide cost basis information to you and the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") for shares using the IRS Tax Form 1099-B. Generally, cost basis is the dollar amount paid to purchase shares, including purchases of shares made by reinvestment of dividends and capital gains distributions, adjusted for various items, such as sales charges and transaction fees, wash sales, and returns of capital.

The cost basis of your shares will be calculated using the Fund's default cost basis method of Average Cost, and the Fund will deplete your oldest shares first, unless you instruct the Fund to use a different cost basis method. You may elect the cost basis method that best fits your specific tax situation using Van Eck's Cost Basis Election Form. It is important that any such election be received in writing from you by the Van Eck Funds before you redeem any covered shares since the cost basis in effect at the time of redemption, as required by law, will be reported to you and the IRS. Particularly, any election or revocation of the Average Cost method must be received in writing by the Van Eck Funds before you redeem covered shares. The Van Eck Funds will process any of your future redemptions by depleting your oldest shares first (FIFO). If you elect a cost basis method other than Average Cost, the method you chose will not be utilized until shares held prior to January 1, 2012 are liquidated. Cost basis reporting for non-covered shares will be calculated and reported separately from covered shares. You should carefully review the cost basis information provided by the Fund and make any additional cost basis, holding period, or other adjustments that are required when reporting these amounts on your federal, state, and local income tax returns. For tax advice specific to your situation, please contact your tax advisor and visit the IRS website at [IRS.gov](http://IRS.gov). The Van Eck Funds cannot and do not provide any advice, including tax advice.

To obtain Van Eck's Cost Basis Election Form and to learn more about the cost basis elections offered by the Van Eck Funds, please go to our website at [vaneck.com](http://vaneck.com) or call Van Eck Account Services at 800-544-4653.

### NON-RESIDENT ALIENS

Dividends and short-term capital gains, if any, paid to non-resident aliens generally are subject to the maximum withholding tax (or lower tax treaty rates for certain countries). The IRS considers these dividends U.S. source income. Currently, the Fund is not required to withhold tax from distributions of long-term capital gains or redemption proceeds if non-resident alien status is properly certified.

## 7. DIVIDENDS AND CAPITAL GAINS DISTRIBUTIONS

Dividends and capital gains distributions are generally declared and paid annually in December. See your tax adviser for details. Short-term capital gains are treated like dividends and follow that schedule. Occasionally, a dividend and/or capital gain distribution may be made outside of the normal schedule.

**Dividends and Capital Gains Distribution Schedule**

Fund	Dividends and Short-Term Capital Gains	Distribution of Long-Term Capital Gains
CM Commodity Index Fund	December	December

**Dividends and Capital Gains Distributions Reinvestment Plan**

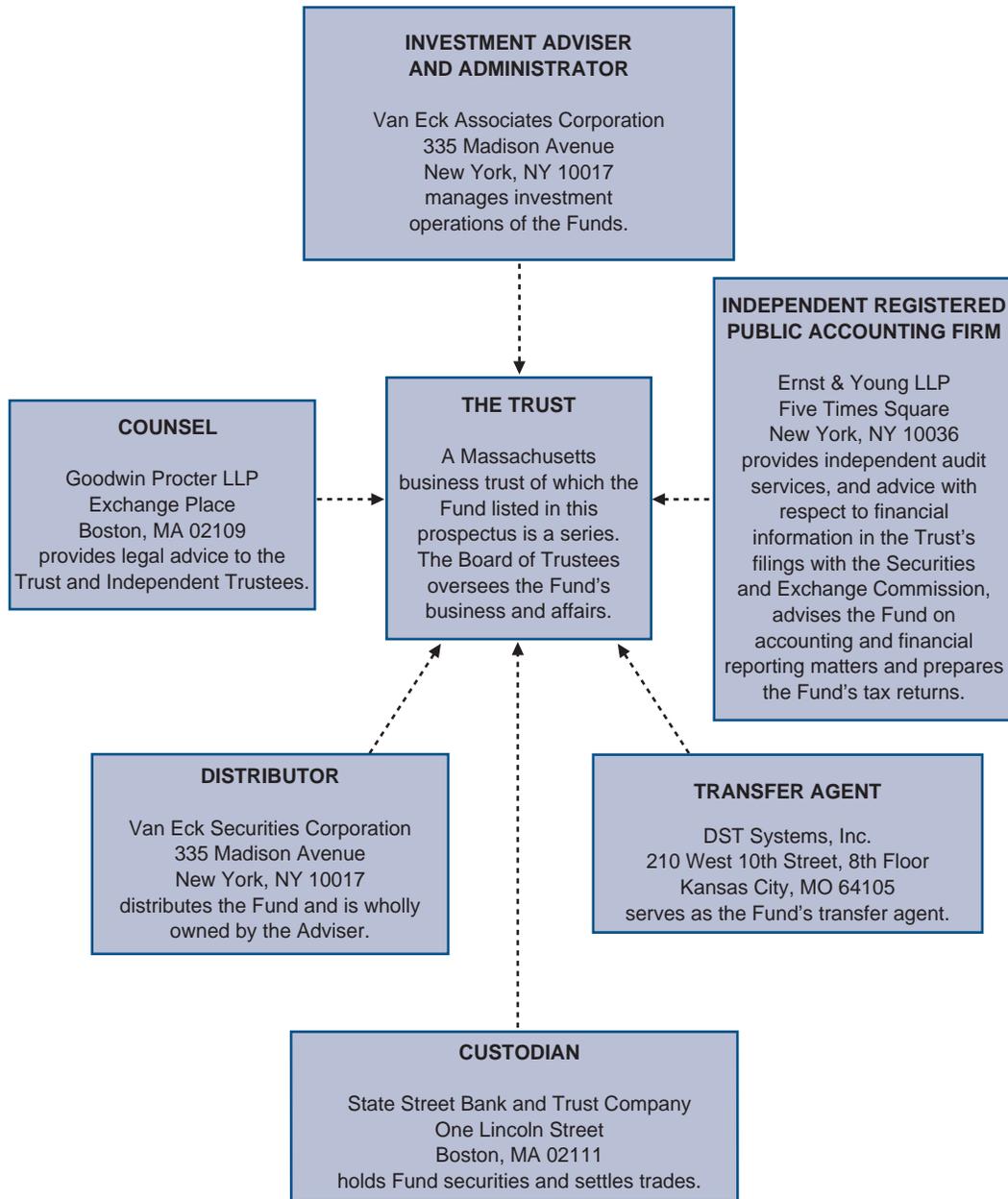
Dividends and/or distributions are automatically reinvested into your account without a sales charge, unless you elect a cash payment. You may elect cash payment either on your original Account Application, or by calling Account Assistance at 800-544-4653.

**Divmove**

You can have your cash dividends from a Class A Fund automatically invested in Class A shares of another Van Eck Fund. Cash dividends are invested on the payable date, without a sales charge. For details and an Application, call Account Assistance.

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## 8. MANAGEMENT OF THE FUND



**INFORMATION ABOUT FUND MANAGEMENT**

**INVESTMENT ADVISER**

Van Eck Associates Corporation (the “Adviser”), 335 Madison Avenue, New York, New York 10017 has been an investment adviser since 1955 and also acts as adviser or sub-adviser to other mutual funds, exchange-traded funds, other pooled investment vehicles and separate accounts.

John C. van Eck and members of his immediate family own 100% of the voting stock of the Adviser. As of December 31, 2011, the Adviser’s assets under management were approximately \$33.1 billion.

**Fees Paid To The Adviser:** Pursuant to the Advisory Agreement, the Fund pays the Adviser a monthly fee at the annual rate of 0.75% of the Fund’s average daily net assets. For purposes of calculating these fees for the Fund, the net assets of the Fund include the value of the Fund’s interest in the Subsidiary. The Subsidiary does not pay the Adviser a fee for managing the Subsidiary’s portfolio.

The Adviser has agreed to waive fees and/or pay expenses for the Fund to the extent necessary to prevent the operating expenses of the Fund (excluding acquired fund fees and expenses, interest expense, trading expenses, dividends on securities sold short, taxes and extraordinary expenses) from exceeding 0.95% for Class A, 0.65% for Class I, and 0.70% for Class Y of the Fund’s average daily net assets per year until May 1, 2013. During such time, the expense limitation is expected to continue until the Board of Trustees acts to discontinue all or a portion of such expense limitation. In addition, the Adviser may voluntarily reimburse the Fund for certain swap trading costs.

The Adviser also has agreed to waive fees and/or pay expenses for the Fund to the extent necessary to prevent the operating expenses of the Fund’s Class Y shares from exceeding the operating expenses of the Fund’s Class A shares.

A discussion regarding the basis for the Board’s approval of the investment advisory agreement of the Fund is available in the Fund’s semi-annual report to shareholders for the fiscal period ended June 30, 2011.

**PORTFOLIO MANAGER**

**CM COMMODITY INDEX FUND**

**Portfolio Manager**

The portfolio manager is responsible for the day-to-day portfolio management of the Fund.

**Michael Mazier.** Mr. Mazier has been employed by the Adviser since August 2007. Prior to joining the Adviser, Mr. Mazier served as a bond analyst in the Fixed Income Research department of Morgan Stanley. He was also Vice President at Merrill Lynch Global Research Department, where he covered closed-end funds. Mr. Mazier graduated from Syracuse University in 1983 with a Bachelor of Science majoring in Electrical Engineering; graduated from Villanova University in 1986 with a Master of Science in Computer Engineering; and graduated from Columbia Business School in 1990 with a Master of Business Administration. Mr. Mazier is on the investment team for another fund of the Trust and serves as portfolio manager for certain other investment companies advised by the Adviser. Mr. Mazier has served as the portfolio manager of the Fund since its inception.

The SAI provides additional information about the above Portfolio Manager, his compensation and other accounts he manages.

**PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION (12b-1 PLAN)**

The Fund has adopted a Plan of Distribution pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the Act that allows the Fund to pay distribution fees for the sale and distribution of its shares. Of the amounts expended under the plan for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011 for all Van Eck Funds, approximately 87% was paid to Brokers and Agents who sold shares or serviced accounts of Fund shareholders. The remaining 13% was retained by the Distributor to pay expenses such as printing and mailing prospectuses and sales material. Because these fees are paid out of the Fund’s assets on an on-going basis, over time these fees will increase the cost of your investment and may cost you more than paying other types of sales charges. Class I and Class Y shares do not have 12b-1 fees. For a complete description of the Plan of Distribution, please see “Plan of Distribution (12B-1 PLAN)” in the SAI.

**Van Eck Funds Annual 12b-1 Schedule**

	<b>Fee to Fund</b>	<b>Payment to Dealer</b>
CM Commodity Index Fund-A	0.25%	0.25%

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## THE TRUST

For more information on the Van Eck Funds (the “Trust”), the Trustees and the Officers of the Trust, see “General Information,” “Description of the Trust” and “Trustees and Officers” in the SAI.

## EXPENSES

The Fund bears all expenses of its operations other than those incurred by the Adviser or its affiliate under the Advisory and/or Administrative Agreement with the Trust. For a more complete description of Fund expenses, please see the SAI.

## THE DISTRIBUTOR

Van Eck Securities Corporation, 335 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10017 (the “Distributor”), a wholly owned subsidiary of the Adviser, has entered into a Distribution Agreement with the Trust.

The Distributor generally sells and markets shares of the Fund through intermediaries, such as broker-dealers. The intermediaries selling the Fund’s shares are compensated from sales charges and from 12b-1 fees and/or shareholder services fees paid directly and indirectly by the Fund.

In addition, the Distributor may pay certain intermediaries, out of its own resources and not as an expense of the Fund, additional cash or non-cash compensation as an incentive to intermediaries to promote and sell shares of the Fund and other mutual funds distributed by the Distributor. These payments are commonly known as “revenue sharing”. The benefits that the Distributor may receive when it makes these payments include, among other things, placing the Fund on the intermediary’s sales system and/or preferred or recommended fund list, offering the Fund through the intermediary’s advisory or other specialized programs, and/or access (in some cases on a preferential basis over other competitors) to individual members of the intermediary’s sales force. Such payments may also be used to compensate intermediaries for a variety of administrative and shareholder services relating to investments by their customers in the Fund. The fees paid by the Distributor to intermediaries may be calculated based on the gross sales price of shares sold by an intermediary, the net asset value of shares held by the customers of the intermediary, or otherwise. These fees, may, but are not normally expected to, exceed in the aggregate 0.50% of the average net assets of the funds attributable to a particular intermediary on an annual basis.

The Distributor may also provide intermediaries with additional cash and non-cash compensation, which may include financial assistance to intermediaries in connection with conferences, sales or training programs for their employees, seminars for the public and advertising campaigns, technical and systems support, attendance at sales meetings and reimbursement of ticket charges. In some instances, these incentives may be made available only to intermediaries whose representatives have sold or may sell a significant number of shares.

Intermediaries may receive different payments, based on a number of factors including, but not limited to, reputation in the industry, sales and asset retention rates, target markets, and customer relationships and quality of service. No one factor is determinative of the type or amount of additional compensation to be provided. Financial intermediaries that sell Fund shares may also act as a broker or dealer in connection with execution of transactions for the Fund’s portfolios. The Fund and the Adviser have adopted procedures to ensure that the sales of the Fund’s shares by an intermediary will not affect the selection of brokers for execution of portfolio transactions.

Not all intermediaries are paid the same to sell mutual funds. Differences in compensation to intermediaries may create a financial interest for an intermediary to sell shares of a particular mutual fund, or the mutual funds of a particular family of mutual funds. Before purchasing shares of any Fund, you should ask your intermediary or its representative about the compensation in connection with the purchase of such shares, including any revenue sharing payments it receives from the Distributor.

#### IV. FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

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

#### CM COMMODITY INDEX FUND

For a share outstanding throughout each period:

	<u>Class A</u> <u>Year Ended</u> <u>December 31,</u> <u>2011 (a)</u>
Net asset value, beginning of year .....	\$ 8.88
Income from investment operations:	
Net investment loss .....	(0.08)(c)
Net realized and unrealized loss on investments....	(0.68)
Payment by the Adviser.....	0.04(d)
Total from investment operations.....	(0.72)
Net asset value, end of period.....	\$ 8.16
Total return (b).....	(8.11)%
<b>Ratios/Supplemental Data</b>	
Net assets, end of period (000's) .....	\$36,031
Ratio of gross expenses to average net assets.....	1.66%
Ratio of net expenses to average net assets .....	0.96%
Ratio of net expenses, excluding interest expense, to average net assets.....	0.95%
Ratio of net investment loss to average net assets .....	(0.91)%
Portfolio turnover rate .....	0%

	<u>Class I</u> <u>Year Ended</u> <u>December 31,</u> <u>2011 (a)</u>
Net asset value, beginning of period .....	\$ 8.88
Income from investment operations:	
Net investment loss .....	(0.05)(c)
Net realized and unrealized loss on investments....	(0.68)
Payment by the Adviser.....	0.04(d)
Total from investment operations.....	(0.69)
Net asset value, end of period.....	\$ 8.19
Total return (b).....	(7.77)%
<b>Ratios/Supplemental Data</b>	
Net assets, end of period (000's) .....	\$11,245
Ratio of gross expenses to average net assets.....	1.71%
Ratio of net expenses to average net assets .....	0.65%
Ratio of net expenses, excluding interest expense, to average net assets.....	0.65%
Ratio of net investment loss to average net assets .....	(0.61)%
Portfolio turnover rate .....	0%

(a) Inception date for the Fund was December 31, 2010.

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

(c) Calculation based upon average shares outstanding.

(d) For the year ended December 31, 2011, 0.49% of the Class A and Class I total return, representing \$0.04 per share for Class A and Class I, consisted of a payment by the Adviser.

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	<u>Class Y</u> <u>Year Ended</u> <u>December 31,</u> <u>2011 (a)</u>
Net asset value, beginning of period .....	<u>\$ 8.88</u>
Income from investment operations:	
Net investment loss .....	(0.06)(c)
Net realized and loss on investments .....	(0.69)
Payment by the Adviser.....	<u>0.05(d)</u>
Total from investment operations.....	<u>(0.70)</u>
Net asset value, end of period .....	<u>\$ 8.18</u>
Total return (b).....	<u>(7.88)%</u>

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**Ratios/Supplemental Data**

Net assets, end of period (000's) .....	\$7,448
Ratio of gross expenses to average net assets .....	1.56%
Ratio of net expenses to average net assets .....	0.70%
Ratio of net expenses, excluding interest expense, to average net assets.....	0.70%
Ratio of net investment loss to average net assets .....	(0.66)%
Portfolio turnover rate .....	0%

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(a) Inception date for the Fund was December 31, 2010.

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

(c) Calculated based upon average shares outstanding.

(d) For the year ended December 31, 2011, 0.61% of the Class Y total return, representing \$0.05 per share, consisted of a payment by the Adviser.

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## Appendix A: Description of the CMCI

The following is a more complete description of the UBS Bloomberg Constant Maturity Commodity Total Return Index (the “CMCI” or the “Index”), including, without limitation, information about the composition, weighting, method of calculation and procedures for changes in components and weights.

### Overview of the CMCI

The CMCI represents a basket of commodity futures contracts with 28 components, representing 24 underlying commodities (as of February 1, 2012). Exposure to each component is allocated across a range of maturities ranging from three months to three years. In contrast, traditional commodity indices typically invest in front-month futures contracts with shorter tenors (time to maturity).

The Index also employs a “constant maturity” approach by relying on a continuous roll methodology in which the Index invests in and out of future contracts on a daily basis. This methodology differs from traditional commodity indices, which usually are pre-defined to roll on a monthly or bi-monthly basis. The CMCI represents commodities in five primary sectors including Energy, Agriculture, Industrial Metals, Precious Metals and Livestock. The relevant exchanges on which the underlying commodities trade include the New York Mercantile Exchange (including the COMEX division), Chicago Board of Trade, London Metal Exchange, New York Board of Trade, Chicago Mercantile Exchange, Kansas City Board of Trade, ICE Futures and Euronext.Liffe.

The overall return of the Index is generated by two components: (i) uncollateralized returns from holding and rolling of futures contracts comprising the Index and (ii) a daily fixed-income return, which reflects the interest earned on a hypothetical 91-day Treasury Bill portfolio theoretically deposited as margin for hypothetical positions in the futures contracts comprising the Index.

As of February 1, 2012, the CMCI consisted of the following commodity sectors with the following relative Target Weights: Energy (35.1%), Agriculture (28.7%), Industrial Metals (26.3%), Precious Metals (6.0%) and Livestock (3.9%).

### Component Selection and Target Weights

For a commodity contract to be included in the Index, the following primary and secondary requirements have to be satisfied:

- The “primary requirements” involve satisfying certain criteria related to the nature of the instrument as well as some technical characteristics including country of origin, trading characteristics, foreign exchange controls, availability and accuracy of contract, price and volume data.
- The “secondary requirements” involve satisfying a series of purely financial thresholds based on liquidity, including, among other things, open interest and market volume. Open interest, which reflects positions in contracts that remain open on an overnight or multi-day basis, is used to assess past and future liquidity. Market volume, which reflects the number of contracts traded in a given period of time, indicates immediate interest, and over a period of time provides a usable measure of liquidity.

### Target Weights

The weighting process for the Index is designed to reflect the economic significance and market liquidity of each commodity. The Index sponsors use a two-step approach to determine Target Weights: first, economic indicators (regional Consumer Price Indexes (CPI), Producer Price Indexes (PPI) and Gross Domestic Products (GDP)), along with liquidity analysis, are used to determine the sector weights (Energy, Agriculture, Industrial Metals, Precious Metals and Livestock); secondly, global consumption data in conjunction with further liquidity analysis is used to calculate the individual component weights. In order to ensure a high level of diversification and avoid unnecessary dilution, the weight of any individual index component is limited to 20% and any commodity with a weight that is lower than 0.60% is excluded from the CMCI.

### Changes in the Target Weights and/or Index Composition

The CMCI Governance Committee (in consultation with the CMCI Advisory Committee) reviews the selection and weightings of the futures contracts in the Index bi-annually, in October and April, or at any special meeting called by the CMCI Advisory Committee. New Target Weights are therefore established on a bi-annual basis during the CMCI Governance Committee meetings, subject to ratification by the Index Sponsors.

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## Tenors of Contracts

The Index represents a weighted average of all available CMCI constant maturities (ranging from three months to over three years). The distribution of weights to available tenors (time to maturity) is a function of relative liquidity of the underlying futures contracts. As of February 1, 2012, the average tenor of the futures contracts comprising the Index is approximately 7.7 months. As with most asset classes, the liquidity of commodity futures contracts tends to reduce as time to maturity increases.

## Rebalancing of the Index Components

Due to price movements, the weight of each component in the Index will fluctuate from its Target Weight over time. The weight of each Index component is therefore rebalanced over the final three CMCI Business Days of each month in order to bring each underlying commodity and tenor back to its target. The process is automatic and is implemented via a pre-defined methodology.

In addition, twice annually in January and July there is a maintenance period at which time the Target Weights themselves are adjusted according to decisions of the CMCI Governance Committee as ratified by the Index Sponsors.

## Calculation of the Index

The Index is calculated and disseminated by UBS approximately every fifteen seconds (assuming the Index level has changed within such fifteen-second interval) from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., New York City time, and a daily closing Index level is published between 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m., New York City time, on each Trading Day. Index information is available via Bloomberg on pages CUBS, CMCN or CMCX and from Reuters on page UBSCMCI.

Index information is also available on the Bloomberg website: <http://www.bloomberg.com> (Select "COMMODITIES" from the drop-down menu entitled "Market Data"). For further information on CMCI, investors can go the <http://www.usb.com/cmci>. Index values can also be found at <http://www.ubs.com/keyinvest>, choose "United States," and then click on the "Commodities" tab.

## Total Return

The Index is a "total return" index. In addition to uncollateralized returns generated from the futures contracts comprising the Index, a daily fixed-income return is added, which reflects the interest earned on a hypothetical 91-day Treasury Bill portfolio theoretically deposited as margin for hypothetical positions in the futures contracts comprising the Index. The rate used to calculate the daily fixed-income return is the 91-day U.S. Treasury Bill auction rate, as published by the "Treasury Security Auction Results" report, published by the Bureau of the Public Debt currently available on the website: <http://www.treasurydirect.gov/anncceresult/press/press.htm>. The rate is generally published once per week on Monday and generally made effective with respect to the Index on the following Trading Day.

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## Appendix B: Licensing Agreement and Disclaimer

Van Eck Associates Corporation (“the Adviser”) has entered into a licensing agreement with UBS AG, London and Bloomberg Finance L.P. to use the UBS Bloomberg Constant Maturity Commodity Total Return Index (the “CMCI”). The CM Commodity Index Fund is entitled to use the CMCI pursuant to a sub-licensing arrangement with the Adviser.

UBS and Bloomberg own or exclusively license, solely or jointly as agreed between them all proprietary rights with respect to the CMCI. Any third-party product based on or related to the CMCI (“Product”) may only be issued upon the prior joint written approval of UBS and Bloomberg and upon the execution of a license agreement between UBS, Bloomberg and the party intending to launch a Product (a “Licensee”). In no way do UBS or Bloomberg sponsor or endorse, nor are they otherwise involved in the issuance and offering of a Product nor do either of them make any representation or warranty, express or implied, to the holders of the Product or any member of the public regarding the advisability of investing in the Product or commodities generally or in futures particularly, or as to results to be obtained from the use of the CMCI or from the Product. Further, neither UBS nor Bloomberg provides investment advice to any Licensee specific to the Product, other than providing the CMCI as agreed in the license agreement with the Licensee, and which will be done without consideration of the particular needs of the Product or the Licensee. UBS and Bloomberg each specifically disclaim any liability to any party for any inaccuracy in the data on which the CMCI is based, for any mistakes, errors, omissions or interruptions in the calculation and/or dissemination of the CMCI, or for the manner in which such is applied in connection with the issuance and offering of a Product. In no event shall UBS or Bloomberg have any liability to any party for any lost profits or indirect, punitive, special or consequential damages or losses.

THIS IS NOT AN OFFER OR SOLICITATION BY UBS OR BLOOMBERG OF AN OFFER TO BUY OR SELL ANY SECURITY OR INVESTMENT. PAST PERFORMANCE OF THE UBS BLOOMBERG CONSTANT MATURITY COMMODITY INDEX IS NOT NECESSARILY INDICATIVE OF FUTURE RESULTS.



For more detailed information, see the Statement of Additional Information (SAI), which is legally a part of and is incorporated by reference into this prospectus.

Additional information about the investments is available in the Fund's annual and semi-annual reports to shareholders. In the Fund's annual reports, you will find a discussion of the market conditions and investment strategies that significantly affected the Fund's performance during its last fiscal year.

- Call Van Eck at 800.826.1115, or visit the Van Eck website at [vaneck.com](http://vaneck.com) to request, free of charge, the annual or semi-annual reports, the SAI, information regarding applicable sales loads, breakpoint discounts, reduced or waived sales charges and eligibility minimums, or other information about the Fund.
- Information about the Fund (including the SAI) can also be reviewed and copied at the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C. Information about the operation of the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling 202.551.8090.
- Reports and other information about the Fund are available on the EDGAR Database on the SEC's Internet site at <http://www.sec.gov>. In addition, copies of this information may be obtained, after paying a duplicating fee, by electronic request at the following e-mail address: [publicinfo@sec.gov](mailto:publicinfo@sec.gov), or by writing the SEC's Public Reference Section, Washington, D.C. 20549-1520.



Transfer Agent:  
DST Systems, Inc.  
P.O. Box 218407  
Kansas City, Missouri 64121-8407

**800.544.4653**  
**[vaneck.com](http://vaneck.com)**

SEC REGISTRATION NUMBER: 811-04297

CMCIPRO