

**PRICING SUPPLEMENT**

(To MTN prospectus supplement,  
general prospectus supplement and  
prospectus, each dated March 31, 2006)  
Pricing Supplement Number:



Units  
**Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc.**

Medium-Term Notes, Series C  
Accelerated Return Notes<sup>SM</sup>

Linked to the Merrill Lynch Commodity Index eXtra<sup>SM</sup> – Excess Return  
due May , 2008  
(the “Notes”)

\$10 original public offering price per unit

**The Notes:**

- The Notes are designed for investors who are seeking exposure to the Merrill Lynch Commodity Index eXtra<sup>SM</sup> – Excess Return (Bloomberg index symbol “MLCXER”) (the “Index”), willing to forego interest payments on the Notes and willing to accept a repayment that may be less than the original public offering price of the Notes and that will not be more than the limit described in this pricing supplement.
- There will be no payments on the Notes prior to the maturity date and we cannot redeem the Notes prior to the maturity date.
- There is no principal protection on these Notes, and therefore you will not receive a minimum fixed amount at maturity, and your return on the Notes is capped.
- The Notes will not be listed on any securities exchange.
- The Notes will be senior unsecured debt securities of Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. and part of a series entitled “Medium-Term Notes, Series C”. The Notes will have the CUSIP No.: .
- The settlement date for the Notes is expected to be March , 2007.

Information included in this pricing supplement supersedes information in the accompanying MTN prospectus supplement, general prospectus supplement and prospectus to the extent that it is different from that information.

Investing in the Notes involves risks that are described in the “[Risk Factors](#)” section beginning on page PS-7 of this pricing supplement and beginning on page S-3 of the accompanying MTN prospectus supplement.

**Payment on the maturity date:**

- The amount you receive on the maturity date will be based upon the direction of and percentage change from the starting value to the ending value of the Index on a valuation date shortly before the maturity date. If the level of the Index:
  - has increased or is unchanged, on the maturity date you will receive a payment per unit equal to \$10.00 plus an amount equal to \$10.00 multiplied by triple the percentage increase of the Index, up to a maximum total payment which will be between \$12.00 and \$12.40 per unit, as described in this pricing supplement; or
  - has decreased, on the maturity date you will receive a payment per unit based upon that percentage decrease and, as a result, you may receive less, and possibly significantly less, than the \$10.00 original public offering price per unit.

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	<u>Per Unit</u>	<u>Total</u>
Public offering price (1)	\$10.00	\$
Underwriting discount (1)	\$.20	\$
Proceeds, before expenses, to Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc.	\$9.80	\$

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- (1) The public offering price and the underwriting discount for any single transaction to purchase between 100,000 to 299,999 units will be \$9.95 per unit and \$.15 per unit, respectively, for any single transaction to purchase between 300,000 to 499,999 units will be \$9.90 per unit and \$.10 per unit, respectively, and for any single transaction to purchase 500,000 units or more will be \$9.85 per unit and \$.05 per unit, respectively.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this pricing supplement or the accompanying MTN prospectus supplement, general prospectus supplement and prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

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## Merrill Lynch & Co.

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The date of this pricing supplement is February , 2007.

"Accelerated Return Notes<sup>SM</sup>" is a service mark of Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc.

"Merrill Lynch Commodity index eXtra<sup>SM</sup> - Excess Return" is a service mark and trademark of Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc.

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**Pricing Supplement**

<a href="#">SUMMARY INFORMATION—Q&amp;A</a>	PS-3
<a href="#">RISK FACTORS</a>	PS-7
<a href="#">DESCRIPTION OF THE NOTES</a>	PS-13
<a href="#">THE INDEX</a>	PS-18
<a href="#">UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAXATION</a>	PS-24
<a href="#">ERISA CONSIDERATIONS</a>	PS-27
<a href="#">USE OF PROCEEDS AND HEDGING</a>	PS-28
<a href="#">SUPPLEMENTAL PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION</a>	PS-28
<a href="#">EXPERTS</a>	PS-28
<a href="#">INDEX OF CERTAIN DEFINED TERMS</a>	PS-29

**Medium-Term Notes, Series C Prospectus Supplement  
(the “MTN prospectus supplement”)**

RISK FACTORS	S-3
DESCRIPTION OF THE NOTES	S-4
UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAXATION	S-22
PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION	S-29
VALIDITY OF THE NOTES	S-30

**Debt Securities, Warrants, Preferred Stock,  
Depository Shares and Common Stock Prospectus Supplement  
(the “general prospectus supplement”)**

MERRILL LYNCH & CO., INC	S-3
USE OF PROCEEDS	S-3
RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES AND RATIO OF EARNINGS TO COMBINED FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERRED STOCK DIVIDENDS	
	S-4
THE SECURITIES	S-4
DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES	S-5
DESCRIPTION OF DEBT WARRANTS	S-16
DESCRIPTION OF CURRENCY WARRANTS	S-18
DESCRIPTION OF INDEX WARRANTS	S-20
DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED STOCK	S-25
DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSITARY SHARES	S-32
DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED STOCK WARRANTS	S-36
DESCRIPTION OF COMMON STOCK	S-38
DESCRIPTION OF COMMON STOCK WARRANTS	S-42
PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION	S-44
WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION	S-45
INCORPORATION OF INFORMATION WE FILE WITH THE SEC	S-46
EXPERTS	S-46

**Prospectus**

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION	2
INCORPORATION OF INFORMATION WE FILE WITH THE SEC	2
EXPERTS	2

## SUMMARY INFORMATION—Q&A

This summary includes questions and answers that highlight selected information from this pricing supplement and the accompanying MTN prospectus supplement, general prospectus supplement and prospectus to help you understand the Accelerated Return Notes<sup>SM</sup> Linked to the Merrill Lynch Commodity index eXtra<sup>SM</sup> – Excess Return due May 1, 2008 (the “Notes”). You should carefully read this pricing supplement and the accompanying MTN prospectus supplement, general prospectus supplement and prospectus to fully understand the terms of the Notes, the Merrill Lynch Commodity index eXtra<sup>SM</sup> – Excess Return (the “Index”) and the tax and other considerations that are important to you in making a decision about whether to invest in the Notes. You should carefully review the “Risk Factors” sections in this pricing supplement and the accompanying MTN prospectus supplement, which highlight certain risks associated with an investment in the Notes, to determine whether an investment in the Notes is appropriate for you.

References in this pricing supplement to “ML&Co.,” “we,” “us” and “our” are to Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. and references to “MLPF&S” are to Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated. References in this pricing supplement to “Index” are to the Merrill Lynch Commodity index eXtra<sup>SM</sup> – Excess Return.

### **What are the Notes?**

The Notes will be part of a series of senior debt securities issued by ML&Co. entitled “Medium-Term Notes, Series C” and will not be secured by collateral. The Notes will rank equally with all of our other unsecured and unsubordinated debt. The Notes are expected to mature in May 2008. *Depending on the date the Notes are priced for initial sale to the public (the “Pricing Date”), which may be in February or March, the settlement date may occur in February or March and the maturity date may occur in May or June. Any reference in this pricing supplement to the month in which the settlement date or maturity date will occur is subject to change as specified above.* We cannot redeem the Notes prior to the maturity date and we will not make any payments on the Notes until the maturity date.

Each unit will represent a single Note with a \$10 original public offering price. You may transfer the Notes only in whole units. You will not have the right to receive physical certificates evidencing your ownership except under limited circumstances. Instead, we will issue the Notes in the form of a global certificate, which will be held by The Depository Trust Company, also known as DTC, or its nominee. Direct and indirect participants in DTC will record your ownership of the Notes. You should refer to the section entitled “Description of Debt Securities—Depository” in the accompanying general prospectus supplement.

### **Are there any risks associated with my investment?**

Yes, an investment in the Notes is subject to risks, including the risk of loss of principal. Please refer to the section entitled “Risk Factors” in this pricing supplement and the accompanying MTN prospectus supplement.

### **Who publishes the Index and what does the Index measure?**

The Merrill Lynch Commodity index eXtra – Excess Return (Bloomberg symbol “MLCXER”), (the “Index”), was created by Merrill Lynch Commodities, Inc. (the “Index Manager”) in conjunction with Merrill Lynch Pierce Fenner & Smith Limited (the “Index Publisher”) in 2006. The Index is designed to provide a benchmark for commodity market performance and for investment in commodities as an asset class. The Index is comprised of commodity futures contracts (each an “Index Component”) on physical commodities (each an “Index Commodity”). Currently eighteen Index Components comprise the Index. The Index Components are traded on U.S. futures exchanges, with the current exception of all base metal Index Components, which are traded on the London Metal Exchange. The Index contains six market sectors identified by the Index Manager: (1) energy; (2) base metals; (3) precious metals; (4) grains & oil seeds; (5) livestock; and (6) soft commodities & others (each a “Market Sector”). Each Market Sector contains a minimum of two and a maximum of four Index Components, selected on the basis of the liquidity of the underlying contracts. The weight of an Index Component is determined on the basis of the global production of the corresponding Index Commodity, and the Index Component reflects global prices for the Index Commodity. To avoid “double counting” of certain Index Commodities, the Index Manager differentiates between “upstream” and “downstream” commodities and adjusts the global production quantity of the upstream Index Commodities accordingly. The Index Components are rolled during a fifteen day period in an attempt to limit the market impact that such contract rolls could have. The Index Manager retains the right to adjust the Index or make changes to the Index. The Index Publisher calculates the Index on a continuing basis and published the Index on Bloomberg.

## Table of Contents

Please note that an investment in the Notes does not entitle you to any ownership interest in the Index Components or the Index Commodities.

### **How has the Index performed historically?**

The Index did not exist until June 2006. We have, however, included a table and a graph showing historical and hypothetical historical month-end closing levels of the Index from January 2001 through December 2006 in the section entitled "The Index – Hypothetical Historical Data on the Index" in this pricing supplement. Such hypothetical historical information is based on the historical prices of the Index Components and has been produced based on current calculation principles of the Index. We have provided this historical and hypothetical historical information to help you evaluate the behavior of the Index in various economic environments. However, the historical and hypothetical historical performance of the Index is not necessarily indicative of how the Index will perform in the future. The Index Manager, our affiliate, may modify the calculation principles of the Index in a manner that could adversely affect the level of the Index in the future.

### **What will I receive on the maturity date of the Notes?**

On the maturity date, you will receive a cash payment per unit equal to the Redemption Amount.

The "Redemption Amount" per unit to which you will be entitled will depend on the direction of and percentage change in the level of the Index and will equal:

(i) If the Ending Value is greater than the Starting Value:

$$\$10 + \left( \$30 \times \left( \frac{\text{Ending Value} - \text{Starting Value}}{\text{Starting Value}} \right) \right) ;$$

provided, however, the Redemption Amount will not exceed an amount which will be between \$12.00 and \$12.40 per unit (the "Capped Value"). The actual Capped Value will be determined on the Pricing Date and will be set forth in the final pricing supplement made available in connection with sales of the Notes.

(ii) If the Ending Value is equal to or less than the Starting Value:

$$\$10 \times \left( \frac{\text{Ending Value}}{\text{Starting Value}} \right)$$

The "Starting Value" will equal the closing level of the Index on the Pricing Date. The actual Starting Value will be set forth in the final pricing supplement made available in connection with sales of the Notes.

The "Ending Value" will equal the closing level of the Index on the Valuation Date. If there is a disruption in the trading of futures contracts included in the Index on the Valuation Date, the Ending Value will be determined based on the prices of the Index Components on the first day after the disruption related to such commodities has ceased, as more fully described herein.

The "Valuation Date" will be the fifth scheduled Index Business Day (as defined herein) prior to the maturity date.

The opportunity to participate in the possible increases in the level of the Index through an investment in the Notes is limited because the amount that you receive on the maturity date will never exceed the Capped Value, which will represent an appreciation of 20% to 24% over the \$10 original public offering price per unit of the Notes, depending on the Capped Value. However, in the event that the level of the Index declines from the Starting Value to the Ending Value, the amount you receive on the maturity date will be proportionately less than the \$10 original public offering price of the Notes. As a result, you may receive less, and possibly significantly less, than the \$10 original public offering price per unit.

For more specific information about the Redemption Amount, please see the section entitled "Description of the Notes" in this pricing supplement.

## Table of Contents

### *Examples:*

Set forth below are three examples of Redemption Amount calculations, assuming a hypothetical Starting Value of 427.63, the closing level of the Index on January 29, 2007, and assuming a Capped Value of \$12.20, the midpoint of the range of \$12.00 and \$12.40.

**Example 1**—The hypothetical Ending Value is 80% of the hypothetical Starting Value:

Hypothetical Starting Value: 427.63

Hypothetical Ending Value: 342.10

$$\$10 \times \left( \frac{342.10}{427.63} \right) = \$8.00$$

**Redemption Amount (per unit) = \$8.00**

**Example 2**—The hypothetical Ending Value is 103% of the hypothetical Starting Value:

Hypothetical Starting Value: 427.63

Hypothetical Ending Value: 440.46

$$\$10 + \left( \$30 \times \left( \frac{440.46 - 427.63}{427.63} \right) \right) = \$10.90$$

**Redemption Amount (per unit) = \$10.90**

**Example 3**—The hypothetical Ending Value is 140% of the hypothetical Starting Value:

Hypothetical Starting Value: 427.63

Hypothetical Ending Value: 598.68

$$\$10 + \left( \$30 \times \left( \frac{598.68 - 427.63}{427.63} \right) \right) = \$22.00$$

**Redemption Amount (per unit) = \$12.20**

(Redemption Amount cannot be greater than the Capped Value)

### **Will I receive interest payments on the Notes?**

You will not receive any interest payments on the Notes, but you will instead receive the Redemption Amount per unit on the maturity date. We have designed the Notes for investors who are willing to forego interest payments on the Notes, such as fixed or floating interest rates paid on traditional interest bearing debt securities, and willing to accept a return that will not exceed the Capped Value and that may be less than the \$10 original public offering price per unit, in exchange for the ability to participate in changes in the level of the Index from the Starting Value to the Ending Value.

### **What about taxes?**

The United States federal income tax consequences of an investment in the Notes are complex and uncertain. By purchasing a Note, you and ML&Co. agree, in the absence of an administrative determination, judicial ruling or other authoritative guidance to the contrary, to characterize and treat a Note for all tax purposes as a pre-paid cash-settled forward contract linked to the level of the Index. Under this characterization and tax treatment of the Notes, you should be required to recognize gain or loss to the extent that you receive cash on the maturity date or upon a sale or exchange of a Note prior to the maturity date. You should review the discussion under the section entitled "United States Federal Income Taxation" in this pricing supplement.

### **Will the Notes be listed on a securities exchange?**

The Notes will not be listed on any securities exchange and we do not expect a trading market for the Notes to develop, which may affect the price you receive for your Notes upon any sale prior to the maturity date. You should review the section entitled "Risk Factors—A trading market for

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## **Table of Contents**

the Notes is not expected to develop and, if trading does develop, the market price you may receive or be quoted for your Notes on a date prior to the stated maturity date will be affected by this and other important factors including our costs of developing, hedging and distributing the Notes” in this pricing supplement.

### **What price can I expect to receive if I sell the Notes prior to the stated maturity date?**

In determining the economic terms of the Notes, and consequently the potential return on the Notes to you, a number of factors are taken into account. Among these factors are certain costs associated with creating, hedging and offering the Notes. In structuring the economic terms of the Notes, we seek to provide investors with what we believe to be commercially reasonable terms and to provide MLPF&S with compensation for its services in developing the Notes.

If you sell your Notes prior to the stated maturity date, you will receive a price determined by market conditions for the Notes. This price may be influenced by many factors, such as interest rates, volatility and the prevailing level of the Index. In addition, the price, if any, at which you could sell your Notes in a secondary market transaction is expected to be affected by the factors that we considered in setting the economic terms of the Notes, namely the underwriting discount paid in respect of the Notes, and compensation for developing and hedging the product. Depending on the impact of these factors, you may receive significantly less than the \$10 principal amount per unit of your Notes if sold before the stated maturity date.

In a situation where there had been no movement in the level of the Index and no changes in the market conditions from those existing on the date of this pricing supplement, the price, if any, at which you could sell your Notes in a secondary market transaction is expected to be lower than the original issue price. This is due to, among other things, our costs of developing, hedging and distributing the Notes. Any potential purchasers of your Notes in the secondary market are unlikely to consider these factors.

### **What is the role of MLPF&S?**

MLPF&S, our subsidiary, is the underwriter for the offering and sale of the Notes. After the initial offering, MLPF&S intends to buy and sell Notes to create a secondary market for holders of the Notes, and may stabilize or maintain the market price of the Notes during their initial distribution. However, MLPF&S will not be obligated to engage in any of these market activities or continue them once it has started.

MLPF&S will also be our agent for purposes of determining, among other things, the Starting Value and the Ending Value, and calculating the Redemption Amount (in such capacity, the “Calculation Agent”). Under certain circumstances, these duties could result in a conflict of interest between MLPF&S as our subsidiary and its responsibilities as Calculation Agent.

### **What is the role of Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner and Smith Limited?**

Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner and Smith Limited, our affiliate and the Index Publisher, will be the index calculator of the Index. Because we control that affiliate, potential conflicts of interest could arise.

### **What is ML&Co.?**

Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. is a holding company with various subsidiaries and affiliated companies that provide investment, financing, insurance and related services on a global basis.

For information about ML&Co., see the section entitled “Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc.” in the accompanying general prospectus supplement. You should also read other documents ML&Co. has filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, which you can find by referring to the sections entitled “Where You Can Find More Information” and “Incorporation of Information We File with the SEC” in the accompanying general prospectus supplement and prospectus.

## RISK FACTORS

Your investment in the Notes will involve risks. You should carefully consider the following discussion of risks and the discussion of risks included in the accompanying MTN prospectus supplement before deciding whether an investment in the Notes is suitable for you.

### **Your investment may result in a loss**

We will not repay you a fixed amount of principal on the Notes on the maturity date. The Redemption Amount will depend on the direction of and percentage change in the level of the Index. Because the level of the Index is subject to market fluctuations, the Redemption Amount you receive may be less than the \$10 original public offering price per unit of the Notes. If the Ending Value is less than the Starting Value the Redemption Amount will be less than the \$10 original public offering price per unit of the Notes. As a result, you may receive less, and possibly significantly less, than the \$10 original public offering price per unit.

### **Your return is limited and will not reflect the return on a direct investment in the Index Components included in the Index**

The opportunity to participate in the possible increases in the level of the Index through an investment in the Notes is limited because the Redemption Amount will never exceed the Capped Value, which will represent an appreciation of between 20% and 24% over the \$10 original public offering price per unit of the Notes. However, in the event that the level of the Index declines from the Starting Value, you will realize the entire decline. As a result, you may receive less, and possibly significantly less, than the \$10 original public offering price per unit.

### **Your yield may be lower than the yield on other debt securities of comparable maturity**

The yield that you will receive on your Notes, which could be negative, may be less than the return you could earn on other investments. Your yield may be less than the yield you would earn if you bought a traditional interest bearing debt security of ML&Co. with the same stated maturity date. Your investment may not reflect the full opportunity cost to you when you take into account factors that affect the time value of money. Unlike traditional interest bearing debt securities, the Notes do not guarantee the return of a principal amount on the maturity date.

### **Ownership of the Notes does not entitle you to any rights with respect to any futures contracts or commodities tracked by the Index**

You will not own or have any beneficial or other legal interest in, and will not be entitled to any rights with respect to, any of the commodities or commodity futures included in the Index. ML&Co. will not invest in any of the commodities or commodity futures contracts included in the Index on behalf or for the benefit of holders of the Notes.

### **A trading market for the Notes is not expected to develop and, if trading does develop, the market price you may receive or be quoted for your Notes on a date prior to the stated maturity date will be affected by this and other important factors including our costs of developing, hedging and distributing the Notes**

The Notes will not be listed on any futures or securities exchange and we do not expect a trading market for the Notes to develop. Although MLPF&S, our subsidiary, has indicated that it currently expects to bid for Notes offered for sale to it by holders of the Notes, it is not required to do so and may cease making those bids at any time. The limited trading market for your Notes may affect the price that you receive for your Notes if you do not wish to hold your investment until the stated maturity date.

If MLPF&S makes a market in the Notes, the price it quotes would reflect any changes in market conditions and other relevant factors. In addition, the price, if any, at which you could sell your Notes in a secondary market transaction is expected to be affected by the factors that we considered in setting the economic terms of the Notes, namely the underwriting discount paid in respect of the Notes and other costs associated with the Notes, and compensation for developing and hedging the product. This quoted price could be higher or lower than the original issue price. Furthermore, there is no assurance that MLPF&S or any other party will be willing to buy the Notes. MLPF&S is not obligated to make a market in the Notes.

Assuming there is no change in the level of the Index and no change in market conditions or any other relevant factors, the price, if any, at which MLPF&S or another purchaser might be willing to purchase your Notes in a secondary market transaction is expected to be lower than the original issue price. This is due to, among other



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## **Table of Contents**

things, the fact that the original issue price included, and secondary market prices are likely to exclude, the underwriting discount paid with respect to, and the developing and hedging costs associated with, the Notes.

### **The Notes are not regulated by the CFTC**

Unlike an investment in the Notes, an investment in a collective investment vehicle that invests in futures contracts on behalf of its participants may be regulated as a commodity pool and its operator may be required to be registered with and regulated by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (the “CFTC”) as a “commodity pool operator” (a “CPO”). Because the Notes are not interests in a commodity pool, the Notes will not be regulated by the CFTC as a commodity pool, ML&Co. will not be registered with the CFTC as a CPO and you will not benefit from the CFTC’s or any non-United States regulatory authority’s regulatory protections afforded to persons who trade in futures contracts or who invest in regulated commodity pools. The Notes do not constitute investments by you or by ML&Co. on your behalf in futures contracts traded on regulated futures exchanges, which may only be transacted through a person registered with the CFTC as a “futures commission merchant” (“FCM”). ML&Co. is not registered with the CFTC as an FCM and you will not benefit from the CFTC’s or any other non-United States regulatory authority’s regulatory protections afforded to persons who trade in futures contracts on a regulated futures exchange through a registered FCM.

### **There is no assurance that the calculation principles of the Index will result in the Index accurately reflecting commodity market performance**

The methodology and criteria used to determine the composition of the Index, the weights of the various Index Components and the calculation of the level of the Index are designed to allow the Index to serve as a measure of commodity market performance. However, the Index has only recently been introduced and has a limited history. It is possible that the methodology and criteria applied in connection with the Index will not accurately reflect commodity market performance and that the trading of or investments in products based on or related to the Index, such as the Notes, will not correlate with commodity market performance generally.

### **Certain commodity prices have recently been at historical highs and there is no assurance that such price levels will be sustained or repeated.**

The price levels of certain types of commodities, particularly energy products, have recently been at historic highs, which tends to increase the level of the Index. There can be no assurance that these price levels will be sustained or repeated in future periods, and the level of the Index could decline in the future.

### **The Index is a rolling index**

The Index is composed of futures contracts on physical commodities. Unlike equities, which typically entitle the holder to a continuing stake in a corporation, commodity futures contracts have a set expiration date and normally specify a certain date for delivery of the underlying physical commodity. In the case of the Index, as the exchange-traded futures contracts that comprise the Index approach the month before expiration, they are replaced by contracts that have a later expiration. This process is referred to as “rolling”. If the market for these contracts is (putting aside other considerations) in “backwardation”, where the prices are lower in the distant delivery months than in the nearer delivery months, the sale of the nearer delivery month contract would take place at a price that is higher than the price of the distant delivery month contract, thereby creating a positive “roll yield”. There is no indication that these markets will consistently be in backwardation or that there will be roll yield in future performance. Instead, these markets may trade in “contango.” Contango markets are those in which the prices of contracts are higher in the distant delivery months than in the nearer delivery months. Certain of the commodities included in the Index have historically traded in contango markets. Contango (or the absence of backwardation) in the commodity markets would result in negative “roll yields” which would adversely affect the level of the Index and the value of the Notes.

### **Trading in the Index Components can be volatile based on a number of factors that we cannot control**

Trading in the Index Components is speculative and can be extremely volatile. Market prices of the Index Components may fluctuate rapidly based on numerous factors, including: changes in supply and demand relationships; weather; agriculture; trade; fiscal, monetary, and exchange control programs; domestic and foreign political and economic events and policies; disease; technological developments; and changes in interest rates. These factors may affect the level of the Index and the value of the Notes in varying ways, and different factors may cause the value of the Index Components, and the volatilities of their prices, to move in inconsistent directions at inconsistent rates.

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## [Table of Contents](#)

### **The return on the Notes will not be adjusted for changes in exchange rates that might affect the futures contracts underlying the Index**

Although some of the commodities composing the Index are traded in currencies other than U.S. dollars, and the Notes, which are linked to the Index, are denominated in U.S. dollars, the amount payable on the Notes on the maturity date will not be adjusted for changes in the exchange rate between the U.S. dollar and each of the currencies in which the Index Components composing the Index are denominated. Changes in exchange rates, however, may reflect changes in various non-U.S. economies that in turn may affect the return on the Notes. The amount we pay in respect on the Notes on the maturity date will be determined solely in accordance with the procedures described in “Description of the Notes—Payment on the Maturity Date”.

### **Suspension or disruptions of market trading in the commodity and related futures markets may adversely affect the value of the Notes**

The commodity markets are subject to disruptions due to various factors, including the lack of liquidity in the markets and government regulation and intervention. In addition, U.S. futures exchanges and some foreign exchanges have regulations that limit the amount of fluctuation in futures contract prices that may occur during a single business day. These limits are generally referred to as “daily price fluctuation limits” and the maximum or minimum price of a contract on any given day as a result of these limits is referred to as a “limit price.” Once the limit price has been reached in a particular contract, no trades may be made at a different price. Limit prices have the effect of precluding trading in a particular contract or forcing the liquidation of contracts at disadvantageous times or prices. There can be no assurance that any such disruption or any other *force majeure* (such as an act of God, fire, flood, severe weather conditions, act of governmental authority, labor difficulty, etc.) will not have an adverse effect on the level of the Index or the manner in which it is calculated and therefore, the value of the Notes.

### **The Index will include futures contracts on foreign exchanges that are less regulated than U.S. markets**

Currently all base metal Index Components are traded on the London Metal Exchange, and in the future other Index Components may trade on foreign exchanges. The regulations of the CFTC do not apply to trading on foreign exchanges, and trading on foreign exchanges may involve different and greater risks than trading on United States exchanges. Certain foreign markets may be more susceptible to disruption than United States exchanges due to the lack of a government-regulated clearinghouse system. Trading on foreign exchanges also involves certain other risks that are not applicable to trading on United States exchanges. Those risks include: (a) exchange rate risk relative to the U.S. dollar; (b) exchange controls; (c) expropriation; (d) burdensome or confiscatory taxation; and (e) moratoriums, and political or diplomatic events. It will also likely be more costly and difficult for the Index Manager to enforce the laws or regulations of a foreign country or exchange, and it is possible that the foreign country or exchange may not have laws or regulations which adequately protect the rights and interests of investors in the Index.

### **The Index is concentrated in a limited number of market sectors**

The Index is designed as a broad-based index of commodity market performance. The current calculation principles applicable to the Index prohibit any market sector from comprising more than 60% of the weight of the index at any time, in order to promote the diversification of the Index Commodities. However, the energy sector currently accounts for approximately 60% of the Index and base and precious metals account for over 18%. Accordingly, a decline in value in such raw materials would adversely affect the performance of the Index.

Technological advances or the discovery of new oil reserves could lead to increases in worldwide production of oil and corresponding decreases in the price of crude oil. In addition, further development and commercial exploitation of alternative energy sources, including solar, wind or geothermal energy, could lessen the demand for crude oil products and result in lower prices. Absent amendment of the Index to lessen or eliminate the concentration of existing energy contracts in the Index or to broaden the Index to account for such developments, the level of the Index and hence the value of the Notes could decline.

### **The Index Manager, an affiliate of the ML&Co., may from time to time modify the methodology for determining the composition and calculation of the Index**

The Index Manager retains the discretion to modify the methodology for determining the composition and the level, of the Index, at any time. The Index Manager expects to make such modifications from time to time. It is possible that certain of these modifications will adversely affect the level of the Index.

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## [Table of Contents](#)

### **The Notes are linked to the Merrill Lynch Commodity index eXtra – Excess Return (Bloomberg symbol “MLCXER”), not the Merrill Lynch Commodity index eXtra – Spot Return (Bloomberg symbol “MLCXSP”) or the Merrill Lynch Commodity index eXtra – Total Return (Bloomberg symbol “MLCXTR”)**

The Notes are linked to the Merrill Lynch Commodity index eXtra – Excess Return (Bloomberg symbol “MLCXER”), which we refer to in this pricing supplement as the “Index.” The Index reflects both price movements as well as roll yields. By comparison, the Merrill Lynch Commodity index eXtra – Spot Return tracks only price movements of the Index Components, and the Merrill Lynch Commodity index eXtra – Total Return includes commodity price movements, a roll-return component and a U.S. Treasury-bill return component to measure fully collateralized commodity futures investment. Because the Notes are linked to the Index and not the Merrill Lynch Commodity index eXtra – Total Return, the value of the Notes will not reflect the total return feature.

### **Many factors affect the trading value of the Notes; these factors interrelate in complex ways and the effect of any one factor may offset or magnify the effect of another factor**

The trading value of the Notes will be affected by factors that interrelate in complex ways. The effect of one factor may offset the increase in the trading value of the Notes caused by another factor and the effect of one factor may exacerbate the decrease in the trading value of the Notes caused by another factor. For example, an increase in United States interest rates may offset some or all of any increase in the trading value of the Notes attributable to another factor, such as an increase in the level of the Index. The following paragraphs describe the expected impact on the trading value of the Notes given a change in a specific factor, assuming all other conditions remain constant.

*The level of the Index is expected to affect the trading value of the Notes.* We expect that the trading value of the Notes will depend substantially on the amount, if any, by which the level of the Index exceeds or does not exceed the Starting Value. However, if you choose to sell your Notes when the level of the Index exceeds the Starting Value, you may receive substantially less than the amount that would be payable on the maturity date based on this value because of the expectation that the level of the Index will continue to fluctuate until the Ending Value is determined. In addition, because the payment on the maturity date on the Notes will not exceed the Capped Value, we do not expect that the Notes will trade in the secondary market above the Capped Value.

*Changes in the volatility of the Index are expected to affect the trading value of the Notes.* Volatility is the term used to describe the size and frequency of price and/or market fluctuations. If the volatility of the Index increases or decreases, the trading value of the Notes may be adversely affected.

*Discontinuance of the Index may adversely affect trading in the Notes.* Notwithstanding the alternative arrangements that are in place with respect to any discontinuation of the publication of the Index by the Index Manager or Index Publisher, if the publication of the Index is discontinued, trading in the Notes may be adversely affected.

*Changes in the levels of interest rates are expected to affect the trading value of the Notes.* We expect that changes in interest rates will affect the trading value of the Notes. Generally, if United States interest rates increase, we expect the trading value of the Notes will decrease and, conversely, if United States interest rates decrease, we expect the trading value of the Notes will increase. If interest rates increase or decrease in markets related to the Index Components, the trading value of the Notes may be affected. The level of interest rates in the United States, Australia, Europe or Asia may also affect the applicable economies and in turn the value of the related Index Components and, thus, the trading value of the Notes.

*As the time remaining to the stated maturity date of the Notes decreases, the “time premium” associated with the Notes is expected to decrease.* We anticipate that before their stated maturity date, the Notes may trade at a value above that which would be expected based on the level of interest rates and the level of the Index. This difference will reflect a “time premium” due to expectations concerning the level of the Index during the period before the stated maturity date of the Notes. However, as the time remaining to the stated maturity date of the Notes decreases, we expect that this time premium will decrease, lowering the trading value of the Notes.

*Changes in our credit ratings may affect the trading value of the Notes.* Our credit ratings are an assessment of our ability to pay our obligations. Consequently, real or anticipated changes in our credit ratings may affect the trading value of the Notes. However, because the return on your Notes is dependent upon factors in addition to our ability to pay our obligations under the Notes, such as the percentage increase, if any, in the level of the Index from the Starting Value to the Ending Value, an improvement in our credit ratings will not reduce the other investment risks related to the Notes.

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## **Table of Contents**

In general, assuming all relevant factors are held constant, we expect that the effect on the trading value of the Notes of a given change in some of the factors listed above will be less if it occurs later in the term of the Notes than if it occurs earlier in the term of the Notes. We expect, however, that the effect on the trading value of the Notes of a given change in the level of the Index will be greater if it occurs later in the term of the Notes than if it occurs earlier in the term of the Notes.

### **Trading in the Index Commodities, Index Components and options on Index Commodities and Index Components by us and our affiliates may affect your return**

Merrill Lynch Commodities, Inc., an affiliate of ours, and certain of our other affiliates will, from time to time, trade in some or all of the Index Commodities on a spot and forward basis and in other contracts and products in or related to the Index Commodities (including futures contracts and options on futures contracts traded on futures exchanges in the United States and other countries, and commodity options and swaps). Also, we may issue or our affiliates may underwrite other financial instruments with returns indexed to the prices of the Index Commodities or the Index Components and derivative commodities. These trading and underwriting activities could affect the level of the Index in a manner that would be adverse to your investment in the Notes. With respect to any such activities, neither Merrill Lynch Commodities, Inc. nor any of our other affiliates has any obligation to take the needs of any buyers, sellers or holders of the Notes into consideration at any time.

### **Amounts payable on the Notes may be limited by state law**

New York State law governs the 1983 Indenture under which the Notes will be issued. New York has usury laws that limit the amount of interest that can be charged and paid on loans, which includes debt securities like the Notes. Under present New York law, the maximum rate of interest is 25% per annum on a simple interest basis. This limit may not apply to debt securities in which \$2,500,000 or more has been invested.

While we believe that New York law would be given effect by a state or federal court sitting outside of New York, many other states also have laws that regulate the amount of interest that may be charged to and paid by a borrower. We will promise, for the benefit of the holders of the Notes, to the extent permitted by law, not to voluntarily claim the benefits of any laws concerning usurious rates of interest.

### **Potential conflicts of interest could arise**

MLPF&S, our subsidiary, is our agent for the purposes of determining, among other things, the Starting Value and the Ending Value, and calculating the Redemption Amount. Under certain circumstances, MLPF&S as our subsidiary and in its responsibilities as Calculation Agent for the Notes could give rise to conflicts of interests. These conflicts could occur, for instance, in connection with its determination as to whether a level of the Index can be calculated, or in connection with judgments that it would be required to make in the event of a discontinuance or unavailability of the Index. See the sections entitled "Description of the Notes—Payment on the Maturity Date", "Description of the Notes—Adjustments to the Index" and "Description of the Notes—Discontinuance of the Index" in this pricing supplement. MLPF&S is required to carry out its duties as Calculation Agent in good faith and using its reasonable judgment. Because we control MLPF&S and Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner and Smith Limited, potential conflicts of interest could arise.

In addition, one of our affiliates, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner and Smith Limited, is the Index Publisher, and another of our affiliates, Merrill Lynch Commodities, Inc., is the Index Manager. In certain circumstances, the Index Publisher's and the Index Manager's roles as affiliates of ML&Co. and their responsibilities with respect to the Index could give rise to conflicts of interest. Even though the Index will be calculated in accordance with certain principles, its calculation and maintenance require that certain judgments and decisions be made. Our affiliates, Merrill Lynch Pierce Fenner & Smith Limited, as Index Publisher and, thus, calculation agent of the Index, and Merrill Lynch Commodities, Inc., as Index Manager, will be responsible for these judgments and decisions. As a result, the determinations made by the Index Publisher and/or the Index Manager could affect the level of the Index.

Further, the Merrill Lynch Commodities, Inc. faces a potential conflict of interest between its role as Index Manager and its active role in trading commodities and derivatives instruments based upon the Index Commodities.

We expect to enter into arrangements to hedge the market risks associated with our obligation to pay the Redemption Amount due on the maturity date on the Notes. We may seek competitive terms in entering into the hedging arrangements for the Notes, but are not required to do so, and we may enter into such hedging arrangements with one of our subsidiaries or affiliated companies. Such hedging activity is expected to result in a profit to those engaging in the hedging activity, which could be more or less than initially expected, but which could also result in a loss for the hedging counterparty.

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[Table of Contents](#)

**Tax consequences are uncertain**

You should consider the tax consequences of investing in the Notes, aspects of which are uncertain. See the section entitled “United States Federal Income Taxation” in this pricing supplement.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE NOTES

ML&Co. will issue the Notes as part of a series of senior, unsecured debt securities entitled “Medium-Term Notes, Series C,” which is more fully described in the MTN prospectus supplement, under the 1983 Indenture, which is more fully described in the accompanying general prospectus supplement. The Bank of New York has succeeded JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. as the trustee under such indenture. The Notes will mature on May , 2008. Information included in this pricing supplement supersedes information in the accompanying MTN prospectus supplement, general prospectus supplement and prospectus to the extent that it is different from that information. The CUSIP number for the Notes is .

On the maturity date, a holder of a Note will receive an amount equal to the Redemption Amount per unit of Notes. There will be no other payment of interest, periodic or otherwise, on the Notes prior to the maturity date. See the section entitled “—Payment on the Maturity Date” in this pricing supplement.

The Notes will not be subject to redemption by ML&Co. or repayment at the option of any holder of the Notes before the maturity date.

ML&Co. will issue the Notes in denominations of whole units each with a \$10 original public offering price per unit. You may transfer the Notes only in whole units. You will not have the right to receive physical certificates evidencing your ownership except under limited circumstances. Instead, we will issue the Notes in the form of a global certificate, which will be held by The Depository Trust Company, also known as DTC, or its nominee. Direct and indirect participants in DTC will record your ownership of the Notes. You should refer to the section entitled “Description of Debt Securities—Depository” in the accompanying general prospectus supplement.

The Notes will not have the benefit of any sinking fund and there is no principal protection on the Notes.

### Payment on the Maturity Date

On the maturity date, you will be entitled to receive a cash payment per unit equal to the Redemption Amount, as provided below.

#### *Determination of the Redemption Amount*

The “Redemption Amount” per unit, denominated in U.S. dollars, will be determined by the Calculation Agent and will equal:

(i) If the Ending Value is greater than the Starting Value:

$$\$10 + \left( \$30 \times \left( \frac{\text{Ending Value} - \text{Starting Value}}{\text{Starting Value}} \right) \right) ;$$

provided, however, the Redemption Amount will not exceed an amount which will be between \$12.00 and \$12.40 per unit (the “Capped Value”). The actual Capped Value will be determined on the date the Notes are priced for initial sale to the public (the “Pricing Date”) and will be set forth in the final pricing supplement made available in connection with sales of the Notes.

(ii) If the Ending Value is equal to or less than the Starting Value:

$$\$10 \times \left( \frac{\text{Ending Value}}{\text{Starting Value}} \right)$$

The “Starting Value” will equal the closing level of the Index on the Pricing Date and will be set forth in the final pricing supplement made available in connection with sales of the Notes.

The “Ending Value” with respect to the Redemption Amount payable on the stated maturity date will equal the closing level of the Index on the fifth scheduled Index Business Day immediately preceding the maturity date (the “Valuation Date”), provided that if a Market Disruption Event occurs on that date, the Ending Value will be determined according to the Market Disruption Calculation (as described below).

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## Table of Contents

An “Index Business Day” means a day on which the Index or any successor index is calculated and published.

“Market Disruption Event” means one or more of the following events as determined by the Calculation Agent:

(1) A material limitation, suspension, or disruption of trading in one or more Index Components which results in a failure by the exchange on which each applicable Index Component is traded to report an exchange published settlement price for such contract on the day on which such event occurs or any succeeding day on which it continues.

(2) The exchange published settlement price for any Index Component is a “limit price”, which means that the exchange published settlement price for such contract for a day has increased or decreased from the previous day’s exchange published settlement price by the maximum amount permitted under applicable exchange rules.

(3) Failure by the applicable exchange or other price source to announce or publish the exchange published settlement price for any Index Component.

(4) A suspension of trading in one or more Index Components, for which the trading does not resume at least ten (10) minutes prior to the scheduled or rescheduled closing time.

(5) Any other event, if the Calculation Agent determines in its sole discretion that the event materially interferes with our ability or the ability of any of our affiliates to unwind all or a material portion of a hedge with respect to the Notes that we or our affiliates have effected or may effect as described below under “Use of Proceeds and Hedging.”

In the event a Market Disruption Event has occurred on the Valuation Date, the Index level will be determined by the Calculation Agent pursuant to the following “Market Disruption Calculation”:

(1) With respect to each Index Component, which is not affected by the Market Disruption Event, the Index level will be based on the exchange published settlement price on the Valuation Date.

(2) With respect to each Index Component, which is affected by the Market Disruption Event, the Index level will be based on the exchange published settlement price of each such contract on the first day following the Valuation Date on which no Market Disruption Event occurs with respect to such contract. In the event that a Market Disruption Event occurs with respect to any contract included in the Index on the Valuation Date and on each day to and including the second scheduled Index Business Day prior to maturity (the “Cut-Off Date”), the price of such contract used to determine the Ending Value will be estimated by the Calculation Agent in a manner which the Calculation Agent considers commercially reasonable under the circumstances.

(3) The Calculation Agent shall determine the Index by reference to the exchange published settlement prices or other prices determined in clauses (1) and (2), above, using the then current method for calculating the Index. The exchange on which a futures contract included in the Index is traded for purposes of the foregoing definition means the exchange used to value such future contract for the calculation of the Index.

All determinations made by the Calculation Agent, absent a determination of a manifest error, will be conclusive for all purposes and binding on ML&Co. and the holders and beneficial owners of the Notes.

[Table of Contents](#)

**Hypothetical Returns**

The following table illustrates, for a hypothetical Starting Value of 427.63 and a range of hypothetical Ending Values of the Index:

- the percentage change from the hypothetical Starting Value to the hypothetical Ending Value;
- the total amount payable on the maturity date per unit;
- the total rate of return to holders of the Notes;
- the pretax annualized rate of return to holders of the Notes; and
- the pretax annualized rate of return of an investment in the commodity futures contracts included in the Index.

The table below assumes a Capped Value of \$12.20, the midpoint of the range of \$12.00 and \$12.40.

Hypothetical Ending Value	Percentage change from the hypothetical Starting Value to the hypothetical Ending Value	Total amount payable on the maturity date per unit	Total rate of return on the Notes	Pretax annualized rate of return on the Notes (1)	Pretax annualized rate of return of the Index Components included in the Index (1)(2)
213.81	-50.00%	\$5.00	-50.00%	-51.49%	-51.49%
256.58	-40.00%	\$6.00	-40.00%	-39.39%	-39.39%
299.34	-30.00%	\$7.00	-30.00%	-28.40%	-28.40%
342.10	-20.00%	\$8.00	-20.00%	-18.27%	-18.27%
384.86	-10.00%	\$9.00	-10.00%	-8.85%	-8.85%
393.42	-8.00%	\$9.20	-8.00%	-7.03%	-7.03%
401.97	-6.00%	\$9.40	-6.00%	-5.24%	-5.24%
410.52	-4.00%	\$9.60	-4.00%	-3.48%	-3.48%
419.07	-2.00%	\$9.80	-2.00%	-1.73%	-1.73%
427.63 (3)	0.00%	\$10.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
436.18	2.00%	\$10.60	6.00%	5.07%	1.71%
444.73	4.00%	\$11.20	12.00%	9.97%	3.40%
453.29	6.00%	\$11.80	18.00%	14.73%	5.07%
461.84	8.00%	\$12.20 (4)	22.00%	17.83%	6.72%
470.39	10.00%	\$12.20	22.00%	17.83%	8.36%
513.15	20.00%	\$12.20	22.00%	17.83%	16.29%
555.92	30.00%	\$12.20	22.00%	17.83%	23.85%

- (1) The annualized rates of return specified in this column are calculated on a semiannual bond equivalent basis and assume an investment term from January 30, 2007 to March 30, 2008, a term expected to be equal to that of the Notes.
- (2) This rate of return assumes:
  - (a) a percentage change in the aggregate price of the Index Components included in the Index that equals the percentage change in the Index from the hypothetical Starting Value to the relevant hypothetical Ending Value; and
  - (b) no transaction fees or expenses.
- (3) This is also the hypothetical Starting Value, the closing level of the Index on January 29, 2007. The actual Starting Value will be determined on the Pricing Date and will be set forth in the final pricing supplement made available in connection with sales of the Notes.
- (4) The total amount payable on the maturity date per unit of the Notes cannot exceed the Capped Value, which for purposes of calculating these hypothetical returns has been assumed to equal \$12.20 (the midpoint of the range of \$12.00 and \$12.40).



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## Table of Contents

The above figures are for purposes of illustration only. The actual amount received by you and the resulting total and pretax annualized rates of return will depend on the actual Starting Value, Ending Value, Capped Value and term of your investment.

### **Adjustments to the Index**

If at any time the Index Manager makes a material change in the methodology or criteria used to determine the composition of the Index, the weights of the various Index Components, the method of calculating the Index or in any other way materially modifies the Index so that the Index does not, in the opinion of the Calculation Agent, fairly represent the level of the Index had those changes or modifications not been made, then, from and after that time, the Calculation Agent will, at the close of business in New York, New York, on each date that the closing level of the Index is to be calculated, make any adjustments as, in the good faith judgment of the Calculation Agent, may be necessary in order to arrive at a calculation of a level of a commodity futures index comparable to the Index as if those changes or modifications had not been made, and calculate the closing level with reference to the Index, as so adjusted.

### **Discontinuance of the Index**

If the Index Manager or Index Publisher discontinues publication of the Index and the Index Publisher or another entity maintains a successor or substitute index that the Calculation Agent determines, in its sole discretion, to be comparable to the Index (a "successor index"), then, upon the Calculation Agent's notification of that determination to the trustee and ML&Co., the Calculation Agent will substitute the successor index as calculated by the Index Manager or any other entity for the Index and calculate the Ending Value as described above under "—Payment on the Maturity Date". Upon any selection by the Calculation Agent of a successor index, ML&Co. will cause notice to be given to holders of the Notes.

In the event that the Index Manager or Index Publisher discontinues publication of the Index and:

- the Calculation Agent does not select a successor index; or
- the successor index is not maintained on the Valuation Date,

the Calculation Agent will compute a substitute level for the Index in accordance with the procedures last used to calculate the Index before any discontinuance. If a successor index is selected or the Calculation Agent calculates a level as a substitute for the Index as described below, the successor index or level will be used as a substitute for the Index for all purposes, including the purpose of determining whether a Market Disruption Event exists.

If the Index Manager or Index Publisher discontinues publication of the Index before the Valuation Date and the Calculation Agent determines that no successor index is available at that time, then on each Business Day until the earlier to occur of:

- the determination of the Ending Value; and
- a determination by the Calculation Agent that a successor index is available,

the Calculation Agent will determine the value that would be used in computing the Redemption Amount as described in the preceding paragraph as if that day were the Valuation Date. The Calculation Agent will cause notice of each value to be published not less often than once each month in *The Wall Street Journal* or another newspaper of general circulation and arrange for information with respect to these values to be made available by telephone.

A "Business Day" is any day that is either (i) an Index Business Day or (ii) a day on which the applicable exchanges quoting the commodities futures contracts used to calculate a substitute level for the Index following a discontinuance, as discussed above, are open for trading.

Notwithstanding these alternative arrangements, discontinuance of the Index may adversely affect trading in the Notes.

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[Table of Contents](#)

**Events of Default and Acceleration**

In case an Event of Default with respect to any Notes has occurred and is continuing, the amount payable to a holder of a Note upon any acceleration permitted by the Notes, with respect to each \$10 original public offering price per unit, will be equal to the Redemption Amount, calculated as though the date of acceleration were the stated maturity date of the Notes.

In case of default in payment of the Notes, whether on the stated maturity date or upon acceleration, from and after that date the Notes will bear interest, payable upon demand of their holders, at the then current Federal Funds Rate, reset daily, as determined by reference to Reuters page H15FED1, to the extent that payment of such interest shall be legally enforceable, on the unpaid amount due and payable on that date in accordance with the terms of the Notes to the date payment of that amount has been made or duly provided for. "Reuters page H15FED1" means such page or any successor page, or page on a successor service, displaying such rate. If the Federal Funds Rate cannot be determined by reference to Reuters page H15FED1, such rate will be determined in accordance with the procedures set forth in the accompanying MTN prospectus supplement relating to the determination of the Federal Funds Rate in the event of the unavailability of Moneyline Telerate page 120 (the predecessor of Reuters page H15FED1).

## THE INDEX

All the disclosure in this pricing supplement regarding the Index, including without limitation, its make-up, method of calculation and changes in its components, is derived from information made available by the Index Manager and Index Publisher, each an affiliate of MLPF&S and ML&Co. This information reflects the policies of the Index Manager and Index Publisher and is subject to change by the Index Manager and Index Publisher at their discretion. The Index Manager and Index Publisher have no obligation to continue to publish, and may discontinue publication of, the Index.

### Overview

The Index was launched in June 2006 and is designed to provide a benchmark for commodity market performance and for investment in commodities as an asset class. The Index is comprised of futures contracts on physical commodities. A commodity futures contract is an agreement that provides for the purchase and sale of a specified type and quantity of a commodity during a stated delivery month for a fixed price. In the case of the Index, as the exchange traded futures contracts that comprise the Index (the "Index Components") approach the month before expiration, they are replaced by contracts that have later expiration. For example, as of January 1, 2007 the Crude Oil (WTI) contract included in the Index is the March 2007 contract, which is a contract for delivery of light, sweet crude oil in March 2007. This process is referred to as "rolling". The Index rolls over a 15 day period each month. The Index is an excess return index that factors in both price movements as well as roll yields.

The Index Manager constructed the Index based primarily on the liquidity of the Index Components and the value of the global production of each Index Commodity. The Index Manager believes that these criteria allow the Index to reflect the general significance of the Index Commodities in the global economy, differentiating between "upstream" and "downstream" commodities, with a particular emphasis on downstream commodities (i.e., those that are derived from other Index Commodities). The Index composition and weights are typically determined once a year and applied once at the start of each year in January. See the section entitled "Construction—Contract Selection—Weighting". The methodology for determining the composition, weighting or value of the Index and for calculating its level is subject to modification by the Index Manager and Index Publisher, respectively, at any time. The Index Manager has indicated that it expects to modify the Index only in rare occasions in order to maintain stability and comparability.

### Construction

The Index was created using the following four main principles:

1. *Liquidity* – The Index Components should be sufficiently liquid to accommodate the level of trading needed to support the Index. The selection mechanism is therefore based primarily on liquidity.
2. *Weighting* – The weight of each Index Component should reflect the value of the global production of the related Index Commodity, as a measure of the significance of the commodity in the global economy, with appropriate adjustments to avoid "double counting".
3. *Market Sectors* – Each Market Sector should be adequately represented in the Index and the weights should be adjusted to maintain the integrity of the Market Sectors.
4. *Rolling* – Index Components are rolled during a fifteen day period in an attempt to limit the market impact that such contract rolls could have.

The Index contains six market sectors identified by the Index Manager: (1) energy; (2) base metals; (3) precious metals; (4) grains & oil seeds; (5) livestock; and (6) soft commodities & others (each a "Market Sector"). Each Market Sector contains a minimum of two and a maximum of four Index Components, selected by liquidity.

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## Table of Contents

### **Exchange Selection**

The Index Manager initially selected six exchanges, on the basis of liquidity, geographical location and commodity type (the “Selected Exchanges”). To be considered for selection, an exchange must be located in a country that is a member of the Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development. The exchange must also be a principal trading forum, based on relative liquidity, for U.S. dollar-denominated futures contracts on major physical commodities. The six exchanges currently are: (1) the (a) Nymex and (b) Comex divisions of the NYMEX; (2) CME; (3) CBOT; (4) the LME; (5) ICE Futures (formerly known as the International Petroleum Exchange); and (6) the NYBOT.

### **Contract Selection**

#### *Eligibility*

To be an “Eligible Contract”, a commodity futures contract must not only be traded on a Selected Exchange, it must also satisfy the requirements for inclusion. In order to be an Eligible Contract, a contract must generally satisfy all of the following requirements:

- it must be denominated in U.S. dollars;
- it must be based on a physical commodity (or the price of a physical commodity) and provide for cash settlement or physical delivery at a specified time, or during a specified period, in the future;
- detailed trading volume data regarding the contract must be available for at least two years prior to the initial inclusion of the contract in the Index;
- the contract must have a Total Trading Volume, or TTV (as defined below), of at least 500,000 contracts for each twelve-month period beginning on July 1 and ending on June 30 being evaluated; and
- Reference Prices must be publicly available on a daily basis either directly from the Selected Exchange or, if available through an external data vendor, on any day on which the relevant exchange is open for business. “Reference Prices” are the official settlement or similar prices posted by the relevant Selected Exchange (or its clearing house) with respect to a contract and against which positions in such contract are margined or settled.

An Eligible Contract is selected for inclusion in the Index only after application of the requirements for a minimum and maximum number of contracts from each Market Sector. A contract that does not otherwise satisfy all of the foregoing requirements may nevertheless be determined by the Index Manager to be an Eligible Contract and included in the Index if the inclusion of the contract is, in the judgment of the Index Manager, necessary or appropriate to maintain the integrity of the Index and/or to realize the objectives of the Index. Every year the Index Manager will compile a list of all commodity futures contracts traded on the Selected Exchanges and a list of the Eligible Contracts that satisfy the foregoing criteria. This list will be used to determine the commodities futures contracts which will be included in the Index.

#### *Liquidity*

The Index Manager distinguishes the Eligible Contracts by their liquidity. Liquidity is measured by a contract’s Total Trading Volume and the value of that trading volume. The “Total Trading Volume” (“TTV”) with respect to each contract traded on a Selected Exchange is equal to the sum of the daily trading volumes in all expiration months of the contract on each day during the most recent twelve-month period beginning on July 1 and ending on June 30. The “Contract Size” (“CS”) is the number of standard physical units of the underlying commodity represented by one contract. For example, the Contract Size of a crude oil futures contract is 1,000 barrels. The “Average Reference Price” (“ARP”), which is used to determine the value of the Total Trading Volume, is the average of the Reference Prices of the Front-Month Contract for an Index Component on each Trading Day during the twelve month period beginning on July 1 and ending on June 30 of each year. A “Front-Month Contract” on any given day is the futures contract expiring on the first available contract expiration month after the date on which the determination is made. A “Trading Day” means any day on which the relevant Selected Exchange is open for trading. “Liquidity” (“LIQ”) is therefore equal to the Total Trading Volume, multiplied by the Contract Size with respect to each contract, multiplied by the Average Reference Price for each contract:

$$LIQ = TTV \times CS \times ARP$$

## Table of Contents

Once the Liquidity is determined, the Eligible Contracts are listed in order of their Liquidity, from highest to lowest. All six Index Market Sectors must be represented by a minimum of two and a maximum of four Eligible Contracts. “Redundant Contracts” are less liquid Eligible Contracts representing a similar commodity and are excluded. For instance, the list of Index Components includes an Eligible Contract on WTI crude oil but excludes Brent crude oil as a Redundant Contract.

The selection of Eligible Contracts and determination of the Index Components occurs once a year and the results for the following calendar year will be announced before the first NYMEX Business Day of November. Based on this selection process, the Index may include from 12 to 22 commodity futures contracts. The Index includes the following 18 contracts:

MLCX Contract	Total Trading Volume (July 05 – June 06)	Average Reference Price in USD <sup>1</sup>	Contract Size in Units	Liquidity in USD
Crude Oil (WTI)	63,061,443	64.41	1,000	4,061,551,377,270
Copper - Grade A	20,433,442	5,020.28	25	2,564,538,987,661
High Grade Primary Aluminum	34,925,282	2,249.84	25	1,964,406,737,002
Natural Gas	20,765,310	9.27	10,000	1,924,293,149,392
No. 2 Heating Oil, NY	13,223,407	1.84	42,000	1,023,643,396,932
Gasoline <sup>2</sup>	12,882,583	1.83	42,000	992,107,487,232
Gold	18,051,791	527.21	100	951,715,593,340
Special High Grade Zinc	12,448,768	2,104.54	25	654,972,509,271
Soybeans	20,019,592	5.94	5,000	594,458,746,021
Primary Nickel	4,158,644	15,492.07	6	386,555,933,643
Corn	34,493,449	2.19	5,000	378,368,839,549
Live Cattle	7,261,365	0.86	40,000	248,925,067,039
Sugar #11	14,718,097	0.14	112,000	230,061,283,275
Wheat	12,698,194	3.42	5,000	216,907,324,970
Silver	6,379,619	6.69	5,000	213,359,055,481
Coffee “C”	4,082,109	1.03	37,500	157,371,705,657
Soybean Meal	8,002,512	182.26	100	145,856,260,680
Lean Hogs	5,410,721	0.64	40,000	138,593,256,592

For purposes of the preceding paragraph only, a “NYMEX Business Day” is any day that the New York Mercantile Exchange rules define as a trading day.

### Weighting

The Index Manager determines the weight of each Index Component on the basis of the global production of the related Index Commodity, provided that the contract reflects global prices for that Index Commodity. In some cases, however, the Index Components only have pricing links to a limited number of markets around the world. For instance, the NYMEX natural gas contract primarily represents the U.S. market and the surrounding North American markets in Canada and Mexico. In addition, some European gas markets, such as the U.K., are developing an increasing link to U.S. natural gas prices through the liquefied natural gas market. As a result, rather than using production of natural gas in the world or in the U.S. to assign a weight to the natural gas contract in the Index, the Index Manager has aggregated U.S., Canadian, Mexican and U.K. natural gas production. Similarly, the Index Manager found that U.S. livestock prices can be affected by local issues such as disease and trade restrictions, so it limited the livestock component of the Index to production of cattle and hogs in the United States, instead of using global production weights.

Also, certain commodities are derived from other commodities in various forms. For example, gasoline and heating oil are produced from crude oil, and, because livestock feed on corn and other grains, they are to an extent derived from agricultural commodities. To avoid “double counting” of such commodities like crude oil or grains used as livestock feed, the Index Manager differentiates between “upstream” and “downstream” commodities and adjusts the global production quantity of the Index Commodities accordingly.

<sup>1</sup> The Average Reference Price in USD used to calculate LIQ is based on four decimals to reflect the fact that some commodities are quoted in US cents.

## Table of Contents

### Market Sectors

The weight of any given Market Sector in the Index is capped at 60% of the overall Index and a minimum weight of 3% is applicable to each Market Sector. Even though the Index is designed to reflect the significance of the underlying commodities in the global economy, each Market Sector maintains these limits in an attempt to control volatility.

The weights of the Market Sectors and Index Components for 2007, announced December 7, 2006, were:

<u>Market Sector</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>Index Component</u>	<u>Market Sector</u>	<u>Weight</u>
Energy	60.01%	Crude Oil (WTI)	Energy	28.34%
Base Metals	14.43%	Gasoline – RBOB	Energy	12.29%
Grains & Oil Seeds	12.47%	No. 2 Heating Oil, NY	Energy	11.70%
Soft Commodities & Others	4.83%	Natural Gas	Energy	7.68%
Live Stock	4.54%	Copper - Grade A	Base Metals	6.23%
Precious Metals	3.72%	Wheat	Grains & Oil Seeds	5.86%
		High Grade Primary Aluminum	Base Metals	5.03%
		Corn	Grains & Oil Seeds	3.83%
		Sugar #11	Soft Commodities & Others	3.54%
		Gold	Precious Metals	3.40%
		Live Cattle	Live Stock	3.17%
		Special High Grade Zinc	Base metals	1.66%
		Soybean Meal	Grains & Oil Seeds	1.60%
		Primary Nickel	Base Metals	1.51%
		Lean Hogs	Live Stock	1.37%
		Coffee “C”	Soft Commodities & Others	1.29%
		Soybeans	Grains & Oil Seeds	1.18%
		Silver	Precious Metals	0.32%

### Rolling

Each Index Component is rolled into the next available contract month in advance of the month in which expiration of the contract occurs. The rolling process takes place over a fifteen day period during each month prior to the relevant expiration month for each contract. The rolling process is spread out to limit the effect it might have on the market through the purchase and sale of contracts by investors who might attempt to replicate the performance of the Index. The rolling of contracts is effected on the same days for all Index Components, regardless of exchange holiday schedules, emergency closures or other events that could prevent trading in such contracts. If an Index Component is rolled on a day on which the relevant contract is not available for trading, the roll will be effected on the basis of the most recent available settlement price.

### Index Oversight

The Merrill Lynch Commodity Index Advisory Committee (the “Advisory Committee”), comprised of individuals internal and external to Merrill Lynch, is expected to assist the Index Manager and Index Publisher in connection with the application of the Index principles, advise the Index Manager and Index Publisher on the administration and operation of the Index, and make recommendations to the Index Manager and Index Publisher as to any modifications to the Index methodology that may be necessary or appropriate.

The Advisory Committee is scheduled to meet once a year and may meet more often at the request of the Index Manager and Index Publisher. The Advisory Committee will advise the Index Manager and Index Publisher with respect to the inclusion/exclusion of any of the exchanges and contracts in the Index, any changes to the composition of the Index or in the weights of the Index Components, and any changes to the calculation procedures applicable to the Index. The Advisory Committee will act solely in an advisory and consulting capacity. All decisions relating to the composition, weighting or value of the Index are made by the Index Manager and Index Publisher.

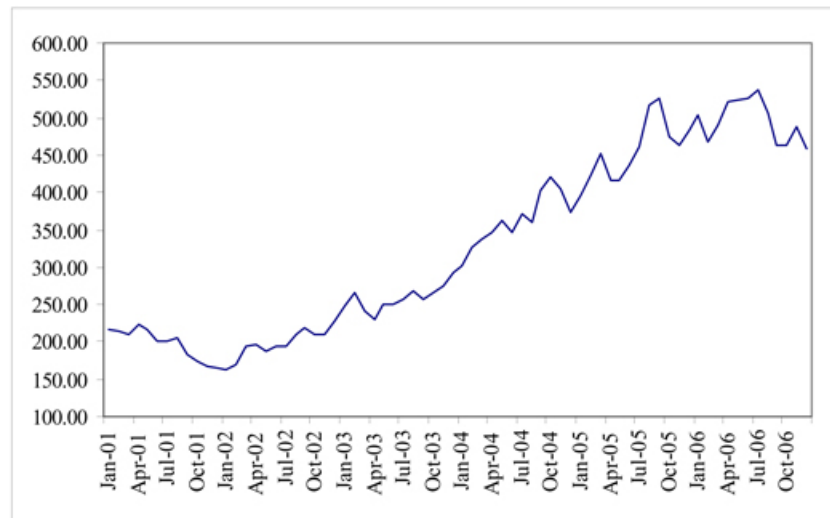
[Table of Contents](#)

**Hypothetical Historical Data on the Index**

The Index was launched in June 2006 and, accordingly, there is no actual historical data on the Index prior to June 2006. The following table sets forth the historical and hypothetical historical closing levels of the Index at the end of each month, in the period from January 2001 through December 2006. Such hypothetical historical information is based on the historical prices of the Index Components and has been produced based on current calculation principles of the Index. We have provided this historical and hypothetical historical information to help you evaluate the behavior of the Index in various economic environments. This historical and hypothetical historical data on the Index is not necessarily indicative of how the Index will perform in the future or what the value of the Notes may be. Any historical upward or downward trend in the level of the Index during any period set forth below is not an indication that the Index is more or less likely to increase or decrease at any time during the term of the Notes.

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
January	215.73	163.43	248.69	301.53	395.92	504.21
February	214.61	170.56	266.33	325.46	422.60	467.25
March	208.81	194.31	240.40	337.45	452.08	489.56
April	222.66	196.34	229.01	346.03	416.34	521.68
May	217.04	188.48	251.20	361.49	415.33	524.77
June	201.05	195.20	250.27	346.91	435.49	526.01
July	200.41	195.18	256.59	371.29	459.90	536.14
August	206.28	208.85	268.12	358.97	517.02	505.01
September	183.96	217.86	257.59	403.72	525.35	464.23
October	173.60	208.88	266.71	420.61	474.62	463.60
November	166.95	208.75	274.06	404.93	462.97	487.87
December	166.11	228.01	293.68	372.76	482.73	459.38

The following graph sets forth the hypothetical historical and historical performance of the Index presented in the preceding table. Past movements of the Index are not necessarily indicative of future levels of the Index. On January 29, 2007, the closing level of the Index was 427.63.



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## [Table of Contents](#)

### **License Agreement**

Merrill Lynch Pierce Fenner & Smith Limited, the Index Publisher, has entered into a license agreement granting to Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. a non-exclusive license to use the Index in connection with certain financial products. Merrill Lynch & Co. is an authorized sub-licensee.

Merrill Lynch Pierce Fenner & Smith Limited, as Index Publisher, and Merrill Lynch Commodities, Inc., as Index Manager, make no representation or warranty, express or implied, to depositors or any member of the public regarding the advisability of purchasing Notes, particularly, or the ability of the Index to track general commodity market performance. The Index is determined, composed and calculated by the Index Publisher and the Index Manager without regard to the Notes. The Index Publisher and the Index Manager have no obligation to take the needs of the depositors into consideration in determining, composing or calculating the Index. The Index Publisher and the Index Manager are not responsible for and have not participated in the determination of the timing of, prices at or quantities of the Notes to be issued. The Index Publisher and the Index Manager have no obligation or liability in connection with the administration and marketing of the Notes.

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## UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAXATION

Set forth in full below is the opinion of Sidley Austin LLP, counsel to ML&Co. (“Tax Counsel”). As the law applicable to the United States federal income taxation of instruments such as the Notes is technical and complex, the discussion below necessarily represents only a general summary. The following discussion is based upon laws, regulations, rulings and decisions now in effect, all of which are subject to change (including changes in effective dates) or possible differing interpretations. The discussion below supplements the discussion set forth under the section entitled “United States Federal Income Taxation” that is contained in the accompanying MTN prospectus supplement and supersedes that discussion to the extent that it contains information that is inconsistent with that contained in the accompanying MTN prospectus supplement. The discussion below deals only with Notes held as capital assets and does not purport to deal with persons in special tax situations, such as financial institutions, insurance companies, regulated investment companies, real estate investment trusts, tax-exempt entities or persons holding Notes in a tax-deferred or tax-advantaged account (except to the extent specifically discussed below), dealers in securities or currencies, traders in securities that elect to mark to market, persons subject to the alternative minimum tax, persons holding Notes as a hedge against currency risks, as a position in a “straddle” or as part of a “hedging”, “conversion” or “integrated” transaction for tax purposes, or persons whose functional currency is not the United States dollar. It also does not deal with holders other than original purchasers. If a partnership holds the Notes, the tax treatment of a partner in the partnership will generally depend upon the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. Thus, persons who are partners in a partnership holding the Notes should consult their own tax advisors. Moreover, all persons considering the purchase of the Notes should consult their own tax advisors concerning the application of United States federal income tax laws to their particular situations as well as any consequences of the purchase, ownership and disposition of the Notes arising under the laws of any other taxing jurisdiction.

As used herein, the term “U.S. Holder” means a beneficial owner of a Note that is for United States federal income tax purposes (i) a citizen or resident of the United States, (ii) a corporation or a partnership (including an entity treated as a corporation or a partnership for United States federal income tax purposes) that is created or organized in or under the laws of the United States, any state thereof or the District of Columbia (unless, in the case of a partnership, Treasury regulations are adopted that provide otherwise), (iii) an estate the income of which is subject to United States federal income tax regardless of its source, (iv) a trust if a court within the United States is able to exercise primary supervision over the administration of the trust and one or more United States persons have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust or (v) any other person whose income or gain in respect of a Note is effectively connected with the conduct of a United States trade or business. Certain trusts not described in clause (iv) above in existence on August 20, 1996, that elect to be treated as United States persons will also be U.S. Holders for purposes of the following discussion. As used herein, the term “non-U.S. Holder” means a beneficial owner of a Note that is not a U.S. Holder.

### General

There are no statutory provisions, regulations, published rulings or judicial decisions addressing or involving the characterization and treatment, for United States federal income tax purposes, of the Notes or securities with terms substantially the same as the Notes. Accordingly, the proper United States federal income tax characterization and treatment of the Notes is uncertain. Pursuant to the terms of the Notes, ML&Co. and every holder of a Note agree (in the absence of an administrative determination, judicial ruling or other authoritative guidance to the contrary) to characterize and treat a Note for all tax purposes as a pre-paid cash-settled forward contract linked to the level of the Index. In the opinion of Tax Counsel, this characterization and tax treatment of the Notes, although not the only reasonable characterization and tax treatment, is based on reasonable interpretations of law currently in effect and, even if successfully challenged by the Internal Revenue Service (the “IRS”), will not result in the imposition of penalties. The characterization and tax treatment of the Notes described above is not, however, binding on the IRS or the courts. No statutory, judicial or administrative authority directly addresses the characterization and treatment of the Notes or instruments similar to the Notes for United States federal income tax purposes, and no ruling is being requested from the IRS with respect to the Notes.

Due to the absence of authorities that directly address instruments that are similar to the Notes, significant aspects of the United States federal income tax consequences of an investment in the Notes are not certain, and no assurance can be given that the IRS or the courts will agree with the characterization and tax treatment described above. Accordingly, prospective purchasers are urged to consult their own tax advisors regarding the United States federal income tax consequences of an investment in the Notes (including alternative characterizations and tax treatments of the Notes) and with respect to any tax consequences arising under the laws of any state, local or

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## **Table of Contents**

foreign taxing jurisdiction. Unless otherwise stated, the following discussion is based on the assumption that the characterization and treatment described above is accepted for United States federal income tax purposes.

### **Tax Treatment of the Notes**

Assuming the characterization and tax treatment of the Notes as set forth above, Tax Counsel believes that the following United States federal income tax consequences should result.

*Tax Basis.* A U.S. Holder's tax basis in a Note will equal the amount paid by the U.S. Holder to acquire the Note.

*Payment on the Maturity Date.* Upon the receipt of cash on the maturity date of the Notes, a U.S. Holder will recognize gain or loss. The amount of that gain or loss will be the extent to which the amount of the cash received differs from the U.S. Holder's tax basis in the Note. It is uncertain whether any such gain or loss would be treated as ordinary income or loss or capital gain or loss. Absent a future clarification in current law (by an administrative determination, judicial ruling or otherwise), where required, ML&Co. intends to report any such gain or loss to the IRS in a manner consistent with the treatment of that gain or loss as capital gain or loss. If any gain or loss is treated as capital gain or loss, then that gain or loss will generally be short-term or long-term capital gain or loss, depending upon the U.S. Holder's holding period for the Note as of the maturity date. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to certain limitations.

*Sale or Exchange of the Notes.* Upon a sale or exchange of a Note prior to the maturity date of the Notes, a U.S. Holder will generally recognize capital gain or loss in an amount equal to the difference between the amount realized on the sale or exchange and the U.S. Holder's tax basis in the Note so sold or exchanged. Any such capital gain or loss will generally be short-term or long-term capital gain or loss, depending upon the U.S. Holder's holding period for the Note at the time of disposition. As discussed above, the deductibility of capital losses is subject to certain limitations.

### **Possible Alternative Tax Treatments of an Investment in the Notes**

Due to the absence of authorities that directly address the proper characterization and tax treatment of the Notes, no assurance can be given that the IRS will accept, or that a court will uphold, the characterization and tax treatment of the Notes described above. In particular, the IRS could seek to analyze the United States federal income tax consequences of owning the Notes under Treasury regulations governing contingent payment debt instruments (the "CPDI Regulations").

If the IRS were successful in asserting that the CPDI Regulations applied to the Notes, the timing and character of income thereon would be significantly affected. Among other things, a U.S. Holder would be required to accrue original issue discount on the Notes every year at a "comparable yield" for us, determined at the time of issuance of the Notes. Furthermore, any gain realized on the maturity date or upon a sale or other disposition of the Notes would generally be treated as ordinary income, and any loss realized on the maturity date or upon a sale or other disposition of the Notes would be treated as ordinary loss to the extent of the U.S. Holder's prior accruals of original issue discount and capital loss thereafter.

Even if the CPDI Regulations do not apply to the Notes, other alternative United States federal income tax characterizations or treatments of the Notes may also be possible, and if applied could also affect the timing and the character of the income or loss with respect to the Notes. Accordingly, prospective purchasers are urged to consult their tax advisors regarding the United States federal income tax consequences of an investment in the Notes.

### **Unrelated Business Taxable Income**

Section 511 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 as amended (the "Code") generally imposes a tax, at regular corporate or trust income tax rates, on the "unrelated business taxable income" of certain tax-exempt organizations, including qualified pension and profit sharing plan trusts and individual retirement accounts. As discussed above, the United States federal income tax characterization and treatment of the Notes is uncertain. Nevertheless, in general, if the Notes are held for investment purposes, the amount of income or gain, if any, realized on the maturity date or upon a sale or exchange of a Note prior to the maturity date, or any income that would accrue to a holder of a Note if the Notes were characterized as contingent payment debt instruments (as discussed above), will not constitute unrelated business taxable income. However, if a Note constitutes debt-financed property (as defined in Section 514(b) of the Code) by reason of indebtedness incurred by a holder of a Note to purchase the Note, all or a portion of any income or gain realized with respect to such Note may be

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## **Table of Contents**

classified as unrelated business taxable income pursuant to Section 514 of the Code. Moreover, prospective investors in the Notes should be aware that whether or not any income or gain realized with respect to a Note which is owned by an organization that is generally exempt from United States federal income taxation pursuant to Section 501(a) of the Code constitutes unrelated business taxable income will depend upon the specific facts and circumstances applicable to such organization. Accordingly, any potential investors in the Notes that are generally exempt from United States federal income taxation pursuant to Section 501(a) of the Code are urged to consult with their own tax advisors concerning the United States federal income tax consequences to them of investing in the Notes.

### **Non-U.S. Holders**

Based on the characterization and tax treatment of each Note as a pre-paid cash-settled forward contract linked to the level of the Index, in the case of a non-U.S. Holder, a payment made with respect to a Note on the maturity date will not be subject to United States withholding tax, provided that the non-U.S. Holder complies with applicable certification requirements and that the payment is not effectively connected with a United States trade or business of the non-U.S. Holder. Any capital gain realized upon the sale or other disposition of a Note by a non-U.S. Holder will generally not be subject to United States federal income tax if (i) that gain is not effectively connected with a United States trade or business of the non-U.S. Holder and (ii) in the case of an individual non-U.S. Holder, the individual is not present in the United States for 183 days or more in the taxable year of the sale or other disposition, or the gain is not attributable to a fixed place of business maintained by the individual in the United States, and the individual does not have a “tax home” (as defined for United States federal income tax purposes) in the United States.

As discussed above, alternative characterizations and treatments of the Notes for United States federal income tax purposes are possible. Should an alternative characterization and tax treatment of the Notes, by reason of a change or clarification of the law, by regulation or otherwise, cause payments with respect to the Notes to become subject to withholding tax, ML&Co. will withhold tax at the applicable statutory rate. Prospective non-U.S. Holders of the Notes should consult their own tax advisors in this regard.

### **Backup Withholding**

A beneficial owner of a Note may be subject to backup withholding at the applicable statutory rate of United States federal income tax on certain amounts paid to the beneficial owner unless the beneficial owner provides proof of an applicable exemption or a correct taxpayer identification number, and otherwise complies with applicable requirements of the backup withholding rules.

Any amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules from a payment to a beneficial owner would be allowed as a refund or a credit against the beneficial owner’s United States federal income tax provided the required information is furnished to the IRS.

## ERISA CONSIDERATIONS

Each fiduciary of a pension, profit-sharing or other employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (“ERISA”) (a “Plan”), should consider the fiduciary standards of ERISA in the context of the Plan’s particular circumstances before authorizing an investment in the Notes. Accordingly, among other factors, the fiduciary should consider whether the investment would satisfy the prudence and diversification requirements of ERISA and would be consistent with the documents and instruments governing the Plan.

In addition, we and certain of our subsidiaries and affiliates, including MLPF&S, may be each considered a party in interest within the meaning of ERISA, or a disqualified person within the meaning of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”), with respect to many Plans, as well as many individual retirement accounts and Keogh plans (also “Plans”). Prohibited transactions within the meaning of ERISA or the Code would likely arise, for example, if the securities are acquired by or with the assets of a Plan with respect to which MLPF&S or any of its affiliates is a party in interest, unless the securities are acquired pursuant to an exemption from the prohibited transaction rules. A violation of these prohibited transaction rules could result in an excise tax or other liabilities under ERISA and/or Section 4975 of the Code for such persons, unless exemptive relief is available under an applicable statutory or administrative exemption.

Under ERISA and various prohibited transaction class exemptions (“PTCEs”) issued by the U.S. Department of Labor, exemptive relief may be available for direct or indirect prohibited transactions resulting from the purchase, holding or disposition of the securities. Those exemptions are PTCE 96-23 (for certain transactions determined by in-house asset managers), PTCE 95-60 (for certain transactions involving insurance company general accounts), PTCE 91-38 (for certain transactions involving bank collective investment funds), PTCE 90-1 (for certain transactions involving insurance company separate accounts), PTCE 84-14 (for certain transactions determined by independent qualified asset managers), and the exemption under new Section 408(b)(17) of ERISA and new Section 4975(d)(20) of the Code for certain arm’s-length transactions with a person that is a party in interest solely by reason of providing services to Plans or being an affiliate of such a service provider (the “Service Provider Exemption”).

Because we may be considered a party in interest with respect to many Plans, the securities may not be purchased, held or disposed of by any Plan, any entity whose underlying assets include plan assets by reason of any Plan’s investment in the entity (a “Plan Asset Entity”) or any person investing plan assets of any Plan, unless such purchase, holding or disposition is eligible for exemptive relief, including relief available under PTCE 96-23, 95-60, 91-38, 90-1, or 84-14 or the Service Provider Exemption, or such purchase, holding or disposition is otherwise not prohibited. Any purchaser, including any fiduciary purchasing on behalf of a Plan, transferee or holder of the securities will be deemed to have represented, in its corporate and its fiduciary capacity, by its purchase and holding of the securities that either (a) it is not a Plan or a Plan Asset Entity and is not purchasing such securities on behalf of or with plan assets of any Plan or with any assets of a governmental, church or foreign plan that is subject to any federal, state, local or foreign law that is substantially similar to the provisions of Section 406 of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code or (b) its purchase, holding and disposition are eligible for exemptive relief or such purchase, holding and disposition are not prohibited by ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code (or in the case of a governmental, church or foreign plan, any substantially similar federal, state, local or foreign law).

Under ERISA, assets of a Plan may include assets held in the general account of an insurance company which has issued an insurance policy to such plan or assets of an entity in which the Plan has invested. Accordingly, insurance company general accounts that include assets of a Plan must ensure that one of the foregoing exemptions is available. Due to the complexity of these rules and the penalties that may be imposed upon persons involved in non-exempt prohibited transactions, it is particularly important that fiduciaries or other persons considering purchasing the securities on behalf of or with “plan assets” of any Plan consult with their counsel regarding the availability of exemptive relief under PTCE 96-23, 95-60, 91-38, 90-1 or 84-14 or the Service Provider Exemption.

Purchasers of the securities have exclusive responsibility for ensuring that their purchase, holding and disposition of the securities do not violate the prohibited transaction rules of ERISA or the Code or any similar regulations applicable to governmental or church plans, as described above.

#### **USE OF PROCEEDS AND HEDGING**

The net proceeds from the sale of the Notes will be used as described under “Use of Proceeds” in the accompanying general prospectus supplement and to hedge market risks of ML&Co. associated with its obligation to pay the Redemption Amount.

#### **SUPPLEMENTAL PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION**

MLPF&S has advised ML&Co. that it proposes initially to offer all or part of the Notes directly to the public on a fixed price basis at the offering prices set forth on the cover of this pricing supplement. After the initial public offering, the public offering prices may be changed. The obligations of MLPF&S are subject to certain conditions and it is committed to take and pay for all of the Notes if any are taken.

#### **EXPERTS**

The consolidated financial statements, the related financial statement schedule, and management’s report on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting incorporated in this pricing supplement by reference from Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc.’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 30, 2005 have been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their reports, which are incorporated herein by reference, and have been so incorporated in reliance upon the reports of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

With respect to the unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial information for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2006 and April 1, 2005, the three-month and six-month periods ended June 30, 2006 and July 1, 2005 and the three-month and nine-month periods ended September 29, 2006 and September 30, 2005 which is incorporated herein by reference, Deloitte & Touche LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, have applied limited procedures in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) for reviews of such information. However, as stated in their reports included in Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc.’s Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2006, June 30, 2006 and September 29, 2006 and incorporated by reference herein, they did not audit and they do not express opinions on that interim financial information. Accordingly, the degree of reliance on their reports on such information should be restricted in light of the limited nature of the review procedures applied. Deloitte & Touche LLP are not subject to the liability provisions of Section 11 of the Securities Act of 1933 for their reports on the unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial information because those reports are not “reports” or a “part” of the registration statement prepared or certified by an accountant within the meaning of Sections 7 and 11 of the Act.

**INDEX OF CERTAIN DEFINED TERMS**

	<u>Page</u>
Business Day	PS-16
Calculation Agent	PS-6
Capped Value	PS-4
Ending Value	PS-4
Index	PS-3
Index Business Day	PS-14
Index Manager	PS-3
Index Publisher	PS-3
Market Disruption Calculation	PS-14
Market Disruption Event	PS-14
Notes	PS-1
Pricing Date	PS-3
Redemption Amount	PS-4
Starting Value	PS-4
successor index	PS-16
Valuation Date	PS-4

Capitalized terms used in this pricing supplement and not otherwise defined shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the accompanying MTN prospectus supplement, general prospectus supplement and prospectus, as applicable.



**Units**

**Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc.**

**Medium-Term Notes, Series C  
Accelerated Return Notes<sup>SM</sup>  
Linked to the Merrill Lynch Commodity Index eXtra<sup>SM</sup> – Excess Return  
due May , 2008  
(the “Notes”)  
\$10 original public offering price per unit**

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**PRICING SUPPLEMENT**

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**Merrill Lynch & Co.**

**February , 2007**