# Market-Linked Investments

**Monthly Guidebook** 

**July 2013** 



A subsidiary of Bank of America Corporation

Investment products provided:

Are Not FDIC Insured Are Not Bank Guaranteed May Lose Value

Please see the final page for important information.

Market Downside Protection

Enhanced Income

Market Access

**Enhanced Return** 

## **MERRILL LYNCH MARKET-LINKED INVESTMENTS**

Market-Linked Investments are unsecured debt obligations of an issuing company that are different from conventional bonds. The return and value of Market-Linked Investments are based on the performance of one or more underlying market measures. These market measures may include equities or equity indices, commodities or commodity indices, currencies and interest rates. Market-Linked Investments are designed to meet specific investment objectives.

This Market-Linked Investments Monthly Guidebook describes certain preliminary terms of the Market-Linked Investments – as well as those of certain other notes, which are not Market-Linked Investments - offered during the month. It is not a preliminary prospectus and does not contain all of the material terms of, or risks related to, the Market-Linked Investments and other notes offered. You should read the preliminary term sheet for the specific Market-Linked Investment and the accompanying product supplement, prospectus supplement and prospectus and, in the case of the other notes, the preliminary term sheet and the accompanying prospectus supplement and prospectus (collectively referred to as the "preliminary offering documents") before investing.

The following pages contain hyperlinks to the preliminary offering documents for the Market-Linked Investments and other notes that we are offering this month. You may also find copies of all the preliminary offering documents for this month's offerings at: <a href="http://wealthmanagement.ml.com/publish/mkt/prospectus/prospectus/prospectus.htm">http://wealthmanagement.ml.com/publish/mkt/prospectus/prospectus.htm</a>







Enhanced Return

### FACTORS TO CONSIDER WHEN PURCHASING MARKET-LINKED INVESTMENTS

Market-Linked Investments ("MLIs") may not be suitable for all investors. MLIs differ in terms of complexity and have different payout characteristics, risks and rewards. You should understand the characteristics, risks and rewards of each MLI as well as those of the linked market measure (i.e. equity, commodity, currency, interest rates) before making a decision to invest. Prior to investing, you should carefully read the related preliminary offering documents, which contain a detailed explanation of the terms of the specific offering as well as the risks, tax treatment and other relevant information about the investment and the applicable issuer. Additionally, you should consult your investment, accounting, legal and tax advisors before investing.

#### **Risk considerations**

- Depending on the terms of the MLI and the performance of the linked market measure, you can lose some or all of your principal investment.
- Unlike conventional fixed or floating rate bonds, MLIs generally do not provide interest or coupon payments. Some MLIs may also cap or limit the upside participation in the linked market measure.
- Your return on the MLI may be less than the yield you could earn by owning a conventional fixed or floating rate debt security of comparable maturity. Also, your return, if any, may be less than a comparable investment directly in the linked market measure.
- Any payments due on MLIs, including Market Downside Protected MLIs, are subject to the credit risk of the applicable issuer. If the issuer goes bankrupt or is unable to make payments on its obligations, you could lose all of your investment. You should not invest in the MLI if you are not willing to assume the credit risk of the applicable issuer.
- The price at which you may be able to sell your MLI prior to maturity in the secondary market may be lower than the price you paid for it, due to a number of factors, including changes in the linked market measure's performance, the creditworthiness of the issuer and the initial costs of developing, hedging and distributing the MLIs.
- You may not be able to sell your MLIs in the secondary market, and the issuer or Merrill Lynch is not obligated to purchase them from you.
- The issuers, the selling agents, and their respective affiliates, may engage in business, hedging, and trading activities in the notes and the linked market measure, which may affect the market value and return of the notes and may create conflicts of interest with you. Additionally, there may be potential conflicts of interest involving the calculation agent for the notes.
- The U.S. federal income tax treatment for Market-Linked Investments will depend upon a variety of factors, including the structure of the specific investment and can be uncertain. You should consult your tax advisor before investing in the notes.
  - Market Downside Protection
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- Market Access
- Enhanced Return

## WHERE YOU CAN OBTAIN MORE INFORMATION

Each issuer has filed a registration statement (each of which includes a prospectus) with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) for its Market-Linked Investments and other notes that are described in this Monthly Guidebook. Before you invest, you should carefully read the prospectus in that registration statement and other documents that the applicable issuer has filed with the SEC for more complete information about that issuer and any offering described in this Monthly Guidebook. You may obtain these documents without cost by visiting EDGAR on the SEC Website at www.sec.gov. Alternatively, Merrill Lynch will arrange to send you the prospectus and other documents relating to any offering described in this document if you so request by calling toll-free 1-866-500-5408. Each of these issuers faces risks that are specific to its business, and we encourage you to carefully consider these risks before making an investment in their securities.

- For registered offerings of Bank of America Corporation: Bank of America Corporation's Central Index Key, or CIK, on the SEC website is 70858.
- For registered offerings of HSBC USA Inc.: HSBC USA Inc.'s CIK on the SEC website is 83246.
- For registered offerings of Barclays Bank PLC: Barclays Bank PLC's CIK on the SEC website is 312070.
- For registered offerings of Aktiebolaget Svensk Exportkredit (Publ) (Swedish Export Credit Corporation): Swedish Export Credit Corporation's CIK on the SEC website is 352960.
- For registered offerings of Royal Bank of Canada: Royal Bank of Canada's CIK on the SEC website is 1000275.
- For registered offerings of Credit Suisse: Credit Suisse's CIK on the SEC website is 1053092.

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE:

- If you received this document by e-mail, you may view a copy of the relevant preliminary offering document by clicking on the preliminary offering document hyperlink related to the specific Market-Linked Investment or other note on each of the following pages.
- If you received this document in hard copy, please call your Financial Advisor or call toll-free 1-866-500-5408, who will arrange to deliver copies of the relevant preliminary offering document to you.
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# STEP INCOME SECURITIES® (STEPS®)

	STEP Income Securities® Linked to the Common Stock of Toll Brothers, Inc.
Issuer	Bank of America Corporation ("BAC")
Original Offering Price	\$10.00 per unit
Term	Approximately one year and one week
Underlying Stock:	Common Stock of Toll Brothers, Inc. (NYSE symbol: "TOL")
Interest	8% per year, paid quarterly
Payout Profile at	<ul> <li>A payment of [\$0.10 to \$0.50] per unit if the Underlying Stock increases to or above 108% of the Starting Value</li> </ul>
Maturity	— 1-to-1 downside exposure to decreases in the Underlying Stock beyond a 5% decline, with up to 95% of your principal at risk
Step Level	108% of the starting value of the Underlying Stock
Step Payment	[\$0.10 - \$0.50], a [1% - 5%] return over the Original Offering Price, to be determined on the pricing date
Threshold Value	95% of the starting value of the Underlying Stock
Investment Considerations	This investment is designed for investors who anticipate that the value of the Underlying Stock will increase to or above the Step Level, are willing to forgo full upside participation above the Step Level in exchange for earning fixed interest payments and potentially a fixed Step Payment, and are willing to accept downside risk below a threshold.
Preliminary Offering	http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/70858/000119312513290633/d567823dfwp.htm
Documents	
Exchange Listing	No

You should read the relevant Preliminary Offering Documents before you invest.

Click on the Preliminary Offering Documents hyperlink above or call your Financial Advisor for a hard copy.

#### Risk Factors

Please see the Preliminary Offering Documents for a description of certain risks related to this investment, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Depending on the performance of the Underlying Stock as measured shortly before the maturity date, your investment may result in a loss; there is no guaranteed return of principal.
- Payments on the notes are subject to the credit risk of BAC, and actual or perceived changes in the creditworthiness of BAC are expected to affect the value of the notes. If BAC becomes insolvent or is unable to pay its obligations, you may lose your entire investment.
- Your investment return, if any, is limited to the return represented by the periodic interest payments over the term of the notes and the Step Payment, if any, and may be less than a comparable investment directly in the Underlying Stock.
- If you attempt to sell the notes prior to maturity, their market value may be lower than the price you paid for the notes due to, among other things, the inclusion of fees charged for developing, hedging and distributing the notes.
- You will have no rights of a holder of the Underlying Stock, and you will not be entitled to receive any shares of the Underlying Stock or dividends or other distributions by the issuer of the Underlying Stock.
- The issuer, MLPF&S and their respective affiliates do not control the Underlying Company and are not responsible for any disclosure made by the Underlying Company. The Underlying Company will have no obligation relating to the notes.
- The Redemption Amount will not be adjusted for all corporate events that could affect the Underlying Stock.
- The issuer, MLPF&S and their respective affiliates do not control the issuer of the Underlying Stock, and are not responsible for any disclosure made by such issuer. The issuer will have no obligations relating to the notes.
- The Redemption Amount will not be adjusted for all corporate events that could affect the Underlying Stock.

Final terms will be set on the pricing date within the given range for the specified Market-Linked Investment. Please see the Preliminary Offering Documents for complete product disclosure, including related risks and tax disclosure.



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