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New Emerging Markets ETF Removes Chinese Defense Firms, Human Rights Abusers

NSI meets public demand for global index funds without national security threats

Fredericksburg, VA – December 7, 2023 – National Security Index, in partnership with Tuttle Capital Management, today announced the launch of the National Security Emerging Markets Index ETF on the Nasdaq stock exchange under ticker NSI. NSI is the first index fund to systematically vet out companies that threaten the national security and human rights interests of the United States.

Wall Street's largest emerging markets index funds include Chinese defense firms that build aircraft carriers, advanced fighters, and even nuclear weapons that target the United States. They also hold companies sanctioned for human rights abuses under the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act.

Until now, investors shopping for a diversified emerging markets index fund faced a moral dilemma —an all-or-nothing choice between compromising national security or avoiding China altogether.

"American investors want emerging markets index funds," said NSI Chief Executive Officer Justin Bernier, "but not if it means selling out our national security or turning a blind eye to human rights abuses. The big fund managers have refused to fix the problem, so our team decided to do something about it. NSI is more than just an index fund; we believe it's an opportunity to revolutionize how Americans invest globally."

Mr. Bernier, a former naval intelligence officer and financial advisor at Morgan Stanley, left the firm three years ago to pioneer a "National Security Governance" investing process that filters out bad actors – companies that put American troops and values at risk.

Examples of bad actors include:

- **China CSSC Holdings**, owner-operator of Jiangnan Shipyard, where the Chinese navy's new aircraft carriers are built.
- **AECC Aviation Power**, whose parent company manufactures engines for China's nextgeneration aircraft, including the Chengdu J-20 "Mighty Dragon," a stealth air superiority fighter designed with technology stolen from the Joint Strike Fighter program.
- **China National Nuclear Corporation**, overseer of the Chinese military's nuclear weapons program, including the strategic forces aimed at U.S. territory.
- **Hoshine Silicon Industry,** a forced labor-user sanctioned for human rights abuses against the Uyghurs.

Details of these bad actors and others are available at https://www.nationalsecurityindex.com/

How NSI's screening process works

NSI seeks to track the results, before fees and expenses, of the Alerian National Security Emerging Markets Index. The Index is subject to a National Security Governance process that filters out companies that test positive for at least one of nine investment screens.

- 1. Subject to U.S. Government sanctions
- 2. Defense contractor in a country of concern
- 3. Provider of militarily useful items to hostile forces
- 4. Participant in state-sponsored influence operations against the U.S. or its allies
- 5. Strategic threat
- 6. Cybersecurity threat
- 7. Espionage threat
- 8. Human rights violator
- 9. Operator in disputed areas of the South China Sea or East China Sea

NSI's management team uses professional open-source intelligence tools and methods, coupled with U.S. Intelligence Community analytic standards, to vet out bad actor companies from a baseline emerging markets index. The remaining constituents are rebalanced, sector neutral, to produce the underlying index. The index is reconstituted semiannually to keep pace with national security and human rights developments.

About National Security Index and Tuttle Capital Management

National Security Index is an independent, majority veteran-owned business. The NSI management team includes professionals from the fields of finance, intelligence, national security, defense, and private equity.

Tuttle Capital Management is a leader in providing innovative and first of their kind ETFs.

Alerian National Security Emerging Markets Index is designed to exclude companies benefiting end-users that threaten the national security interests of the United States. The Index is calculated and sponsored by VettaFi, LLC, which is an organization that is independent of the Fund; Tuttle Capital Management, LLC; Northern Lights Distributors, LLC; and National Security Index, LLC.

Investors should consider the investment objective, risks, and charges and expenses of the Fund before investing. The prospectus and the summary prospectus contain this and other information about the Fund and should be read carefully before investing. The prospectus may be obtained at 833-906-5569 or http://www.nationalsecurityindex.com.

The National Security Emerging Markets Index ETF is distributed by Northern Lights Distributors, LLC, member FINRA/SIPC. The National Security Emerging Markets Index ETF is not affiliated entities with Northern Lights.

Important Risk Information

There is no guarantee that any investment strategy will achieve its objectives, generate profits or avoid losses.

While the shares of ETFs are tradeable on secondary markets, they may not readily trade in all market conditions and may trade at significant discounts in periods of market stress. ETFs trade like stocks, are subject to investment risk, fluctuate in market value and may trade at prices above or below the ETF's net asset value. Brokerage commissions and ETF expenses will reduce returns. There is no guarantee that the Fund will achieve its objectives.

17657873-NLD-12062023