VanEck Merk Gold Trust
Form 10-Q
September 12, 2016

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended July 31, 2016

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission file number: 001-36459

VANECK MERK GOLD TRUST

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

New York	**46-6582016**
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)	*(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)*

c/o Merk Investments LLC

44 Montgomery St #3730

San Francisco, California 94104

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

(650) 323-4341

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one)

Large Accelerated Filer Accelerated Filer Non- Accelerated Filer Smaller reporting company
(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Indicate by checkmark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes No

As of July 31, 2016, the issuer had 11,936,241 shares outstanding.

VANECK MERK GOLD TRUST

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VANECK MERK GOLD TRUST

CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, or Quarterly Report, includes statements which relate to future events or future performance. In some cases, you can identify such forward-looking statements by terminology such as “may,” “will,” “should,” “expect,” “plan,” “anticipate,” “believe,” “estimate,” “predict,” “potential” or the negative of these terms or other co terminology. All statements (other than statements of historical fact) included in this Quarterly Report that address activities, events or developments that may occur in the future, including such matters as changes in commodity prices and market conditions (for gold and the shares), the operations of VanEck Merk Gold Trust, or Trust, the plans of Merk Investments LLC, the sponsor of the Trust, or Sponsor, and references to the Trust’s future success and other similar matters are forward-looking statements. These statements are only predictions. Actual events or results may differ materially. These statements are based upon certain assumptions and analyses made by the Sponsor on the basis of its perception of historical trends, current conditions and expected future developments, as well as other factors it believes are appropriate in the circumstances. Whether or not actual results and developments will conform to the Sponsor’s expectations and predictions is subject to a number of risks and uncertainties, including the special considerations referenced in this Quarterly Report, general economic, market and business conditions, changes in laws or regulations, including those concerning taxes, made by governmental authorities or regulatory bodies, and other world economic and political developments. Consequently, all the forward-looking statements made in this Quarterly Report are qualified by these cautionary statements, and there can be no assurance that the actual results or developments the Sponsor anticipates will be realized or, even if substantially realized, that they will result in the expected consequences to, or have the expected effects on, the Trust’s operations or the value of the shares. Moreover, neither the Sponsor, nor any other person assumes responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of the forward-looking statements. Neither the Trust nor the Sponsor undertakes an obligation to publicly update or conform to actual results any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future developments or otherwise, except as required by law.

PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. Financial Statements (Unaudited)

VanEck Merk Gold Trust

Statements of Assets and Liabilities

	July 31, 2016 (unaudited)	January 31, 2016
Assets		
Investments in gold bullion (cost $ 146,155,649 and $ 92,530,080, respectively)	$158,773,377	$83,657,963
Total Assets	158,773,377	83,657,963
Liabilities		
Sponsor's fee payable	12	2
Total Liabilities	12	2
Net Assets	$158,773,365	$83,657,961
Net Assets Consists of:		
Paid-in-capital	$147,039,587	$93,178,688
Accumulated net investment loss	(668,561)	(431,835)
Accumulated net realized loss	(215,389)	(216,775)
Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investment in gold bullion	12,617,728	(8,872,117)
	$158,773,365	$83,657,961
Shares issued and outstanding (no par value)	11,936,241	7,576,528
Net asset value per share	$13.30	$11.04

See notes to unaudited financial statements.

VanEck Merk Gold Trust

Statements of Operations

	For the three months ended July 31, 2016 (unaudited)	For the three months ended July 31, 2015 (unaudited)	For the six months ended July 31, 2016 (unaudited)	For the six months ended July 31, 2015 (unaudited)
Expenses				
Sponsor's fees	$ 139,575	$ 61,286	$ 236,726	$ 122,735
Total Expenses	139,575	61,286	236,726	122,735
Net investment loss	(139,575)	(61,286)	(236,726)	(122,735)
Net Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)				
Net realized gain (loss) from gold bullion distributed for redemptions	—	(1,179)	1,386	(222,753)
Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investment in gold bullion	7,882,525	(4,378,839)	21,489,845	(8,292,146)
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) from operations	7,882,525	(4,380,018)	21,491,231	(8,514,899)
Net Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets resulting from operations	$ 7,742,950	$ (4,441,304)	$ 21,254,505	$ (8,637,634)

See notes to unaudited financial statements

VanEck Merk Gold Trust

Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	For the six months ended July 31, 2016 (unaudited)	For the Year ended January 31, 2016
Net Assets - beginning of period	$83,657,961	$64,750,583
Creations	53,971,666	30,707,737
Redemptions	(110,767)	(3,616,635)
Net Investment loss	(236,726)	(277,150)
Net realized gain (loss) from gold bullion distributed for redemptions	1,386	(222,753)
Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investment in gold bullion	21,489,845	(7,683,821)
Net Assets - end of period	$158,773,365	$83,657,961

See notes to unaudited financial statements.

VanEck Merk Gold Trust

Financial Highlights

Per Share Performance (for a share outstanding throughout each period)

	For the three months ended July 31, 2016 (unaudited)	For the three months ended July 31, 2015 (unaudited)	For the six months ended July 31, 2016 (unaudited)	For the six months ended July 31, 2015 (unaudited)
Net asset value per share, beginning of period	$ 12.76	$ 11.76	$ 11.04	$ 12.57
Net investment loss (a)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.02)	(0.02)
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investment in gold bullion	0.55	(0.82)	2.28	(1.62)
Net change in net assets from operations	0.54	(0.83)	2.26	(1.64)
Net asset value per share, end of period	$ 13.30	$ 10.93	$ 13.30	$ 10.93
Total return, at net asset value (b)	4.23%	(7.06)%	20.47%	(13.05)%
Ratio to average net assets (c)				
Net investment loss	(0.40)%	(0.40)%	(0.40)%	(0.40)%
Net expenses	0.40%	0.40%	0.40%	0.40%

(a) Calculated using average shares outstanding

(b) Not Annualized

(c) Annualized

See notes to unaudited financial statements.

VanEck Merk Gold Trust

Schedules of Investments

July 31, 2016 (unaudited)

	Fine Ounces	Cost	Value	% of Net Assets
Gold Bullion	118,311	$146,155,649	$158,773,377	100.00%
Total Investments		$146,155,649	$158,773,377	100.00%
Liabilities in excess of other assets			(12)	0.00 %(a)
Net Assets			$158,773,365	100.00%

January 31, 2016

	Fine Ounces	Cost	Value	% of Net Assets
Gold Bullion	75,245	$92,530,080	$83,657,963	100.00%
Total Investments		$92,530,080	$83,657,963	100.00%
Liabilities in excess of other assets			(2)	0.00 %(a)
Net Assets			$83,657,961	100.00%

(a) Amount is less than 0.005%

See notes to unaudited financial statements.

VanEck Merk Gold Trust

Notes to Unaudited Financial Statements

1. ORGANIZATION

The VanEck Merk Gold Trust (the "Trust"; known as the Merk Gold Trust prior to October 26, 2015 and then as the Van Eck Merk Gold Trust prior to April 28, 2016) is an investment trust formed on May 6, 2014 under New York law pursuant to a depositary trust agreement. After consideration of Financial Accounting Standards Topic 946, Merk Investments LLC (the "Sponsor") has concluded the Trust meets the fundamental characteristics of an investment company. In addition, while the Trust does not currently possess all of the typical characteristics of an investment company, it believes its activities are consistent with those of an investment company and will therefore apply the guidance in Financial Accounting Standards Topic 946, including disclosure of the financial support contractually required to be provided by an investment company to any of its investees. The Sponsor is responsible for, among other things, overseeing the performance of The Bank of New York Mellon (the "Trustee") and the Trust's principal service providers, including the preparation of financial statements. The Trustee is responsible for the day-to-day administration of the Trust.

Virtu Financial, also known as the Lead Market Maker, was the Initial Purchaser and contributed 1,000 ounces of Gold in exchange for 100,000 shares on May 6, 2014. At contribution, the value of the gold deposited with the Trust was based on the price of an ounce of Gold of $1,306.25. The Initial Purchaser is not affiliated with the Sponsor or the Trustee.

The Trust's primary objective is to provide investors with an opportunity to invest in gold through the shares and be able to take delivery of physical gold bullion and gold coins (physical gold) in exchange for their shares. The Trust's secondary objective is for the shares to reflect the performance of the price of gold less the expenses of the Trust's operations. The Trust is not actively managed.

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

In preparing financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP"), management makes estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, as well as the reported amount of revenue and expenses reported during the period. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

The accompanying audited and unaudited financial statements were prepared in accordance with GAAP for interim financial information and with the instructions for the Form 10-Q and the rules and regulations of the United States Securities and Exchange Commission. In the opinion of the Trust's management, all adjustments (which consists of normal recurring adjustments) necessary to present fairly the financial position and the results of operations, as presented, have been made.

The following is a summary of significant accounting policies followed by the Trust.

2.1. Valuation of Gold

FASB Accounting Standards Codification 820, "Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures" ("ASC 820"), provides a single definition of fair value, a hierarchy for measuring fair value and expanded disclosures about fair value adjustments.

Various inputs are used in determining the fair value of the Trust's assets or liabilities. These inputs are categorized into three broad levels. Level 1 includes unadjusted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities. Level 2 includes other significant observable market based inputs (including prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speed, and credit risk). Level 3 includes unobservable inputs, which may include management's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments. The Trust does not hold any derivative instruments, and its assets only consist of allocated gold bullion and gold receivable; representing gold covered by contractually binding orders for the creation of Shares where the gold has not yet been transferred to the Trust's account and, from time to time, cash, which is used to pay expenses.

The following table summarizes the inputs used as of July 31, 2016 in determining the Trust's investments at fair value for purposes of ASC 820:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Investment in Gold	$158,773,377	$ -	$ -
Total	$158,773,377	$ -	$ -

There were no transfers between levels during the period.

The following table summarizes the inputs used as of January 31, 2016 in determining the Trust's investments at fair value for purposes of ASC 820:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Investment in Gold	$83,657,963	$ -	$ -
Total	$83,657,963	$ -	$ -

There were no transfers between levels during the period.

London Gold Delivery Bars are held by JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. (the "Custodian"), on behalf of the Trust, at the London, United Kingdom vaulting premises. All gold is valued based on its Fine Ounce content, calculated by multiplying the weight of gold by its purity; the same methodology is applied independent of the type of gold held by the Trust; similarly, the value of up to 430 Fine Ounces of unallocated gold the Trust may hold is calculated by multiplying the number of Fine Ounces with the price of gold determined by the Trustee as follows. The Trustee determines the net asset value (the "NAV") of the Trust on each day that NYSE Arca is open for regular trading, as promptly as practical after 4:00 PM New York time. The NAV of the Trust is the aggregate value of the Trust's assets less its estimated accrued but unpaid liabilities (which include accrued expenses). The Trustee computes the NAV per Share by dividing the net assets of the Trust by the number of the shares outstanding on the date the computation is made.

In determining the Trust's NAV, the Trustee values the gold held by the Trust based on the afternoon session of the twice daily fix of the price of a Fine Ounce of gold which starts at 3:00 PM London, England time and is performed in London by the ICE Benchmark Administration as an independent third-party administrator (the "LBMA PM Gold Price"). The Trustee also determines the NAV per Share. If on a day when the Trust's NAV is being calculated the

LBMA PM Gold Price for that day is not available, the Trustee will value the gold held by the Trust based on that day's morning session of the twice daily fix of the price of a Fine Ounce of gold, which starts at 10:30 AM London, England time and is performed in London by the ICE Benchmark Administration as a independent third-party administrator (the "LBMA AM Gold Price"). If no fix is available for the day, the Trustee will value the Trust's gold based on the most recently announced LBMA AM Gold Price or LBMA PM Gold Price. Prior to March 20, 2015, the Trustee utilized the daily fix of the price of a Fine Ounce of golf as performed by the five members of the London gold fix, which has now been replaced by the ICE Benchmark Administration as an independent third-party administrator.

2.2. Expenses

The Trustee issues shares to pay the Sponsor's fee; the Sponsor pays the Trust's ordinary expenses. The NAV of the Trust is used to compute the Sponsor's fee, and the Trustee subtracts from the NAV of the Trust the amount of accrued Sponsor's fee. To the extent the Trust issues additional shares to pay the Sponsor's fee or sells gold to cover expenses or liabilities, the amount of gold represented by each share will decrease. New deposits of gold, received in exchange for new shares issued by the Trust, would not reverse this trend.

2.3. Creations & Redemptions of Shares

Shares are issued and redeemed by the Trust in blocks of 50,000 shares called "Baskets" in exchange for gold from certain registered broker-dealers or other securities market participants ("Authorized Participants"). Investors that are not Authorized Participants may also take delivery of physical gold in exchange for their shares ("Delivery Applicants").

Authorized Participants

The Trust issues and redeems Baskets only to Authorized Participants. The creation and redemption of Baskets will only be made in exchange for the delivery to the Trust or the distribution by the Trust of the amount of gold represented by the Baskets being created or redeemed, the amount of which will be based on the combined Fine Ounces represented by the number of shares included in the Baskets being created or redeemed determined on the day the order to create or redeem Baskets is properly received.

Orders to create and redeem Baskets may be placed only by Authorized Participants. An Authorized Participant must: (1) be a registered broker-dealer or other securities market participant, such as a bank or other financial institution, which, but for an exclusion from registration, would be required to register as a broker-dealer to engage in securities transactions, (2) be a participant in DTC, and (3) must have an agreement with the Custodian establishing an unallocated account in London or have an existing unallocated account meeting the standards described herein. To become an Authorized Participant, a person must enter into an Authorized Participant Agreement with the Sponsor and the Trustee. The Authorized Participant Agreement provides the procedures for the creation and redemption of Baskets and for the delivery of the gold required for such creations and redemptions. The Authorized Participant Agreement and the related procedures attached thereto may be amended by the Trustee and the Sponsor, without the consent of any investor or Authorized Participant. A transaction fee of $500 will be assessed on all creation and redemption transactions. Multiple Baskets may be created on the same day, provided each Basket meets the requirements described below and that the Custodian is able to allocate gold to the Trust Allocated Account such that the Trust Unallocated Account holds no more than 430 Fine Ounces of gold at the close of a business day.

Authorized Participants who make deposits with the Trust in exchange for Baskets will receive no fees, commissions or other form of compensation or inducement of any kind from either the Sponsor or the Trust, and no such person has any obligation or responsibility to the Sponsor or the Trust to affect any sale or resale of shares.

Delivery Applicants

In exchange for its shares and payment of a processing fee, a Delivery Applicant will be entitled to one or more bars or coins of physical gold having approximately the total Fine Ounces represented by the shares on the day on which the Delivery Applicant’s broker-dealer submits his or her shares to the Trust in exchange for physical gold (“Share Submission Day”). As it is unlikely that the total Fine Ounces of physical gold will exactly correspond to the Fine Ounces represented by a specific number of shares, a Delivery Applicant will likely receive some cash representing the net sale proceeds of any excess Fine Ounces (the “Cash Proceeds”). To minimize the Cash Proceeds of any exchange, the delivery application requires that the number of shares submitted closely correspond in Fine Ounces to the Fine Ounces of physical gold that is held or that is to be acquired by the Trust for which the delivery is sought. Share submissions are processed in the order approved.

Changes in the shares for the period ending July 31, 2016 are as follows:

	Shares	Amount
Shares, beginning of period at February 1, 2016	7,576,528	$93,178,688
Shares issued	4,368,680	53,971,666
Shares redeemed	(8,967)	(110,767)
Shares, end of period at July 31, 2016	11,936,241	$147,039,587

Changes in the shares for the year ending January 31, 2016 are as follows:

	Shares	Amount
Shares, beginning of period at February 1, 2015	5,152,630	$66,087,586
Shares issued	2,724,602	30,707,737
Shares redeemed	(300,704)	(3,616,635)
Shares, end of period at January 31, 2016	7,576,528	$93,178,688

2.4. Income Taxes

The Trust is treated as a “grantor trust” for US federal tax purposes. As a result, the Trust itself is not subject to US federal income tax. Instead, the Trust's income and expenses “flow through” to the shareholders and the Trustee reports the Trust's income, gains, losses and deductions to the Internal Revenue Service on that basis.

The Sponsor has evaluated whether or not there are uncertain tax positions that require financial statement recognition and has determined that no reserves for uncertain tax positions are required as of July 31, 2016.

2.5. Revenue Recognition Policy

A gain or loss is recognized based on the difference between the selling price and the average cost method of the gold sold on a trade date basis.

3. INVESTMENT IN GOLD

The following represents the changes in ounces of gold and the respective fair value at July 31, 2016:

	Ounces	Fair Value
Beginning balance as of February 1, 2016	75,245	$83,657,963
Gold bullion contributed	43,155	53,734,950
Gold bullion distributed	(89)	(110,767)
Change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	—	21,489,845
Realized gain from gold distributed from in-kind	—	1,386
Ending balance as of July 31, 2016	118,311	$158,773,377

The following represents the changes in ounces of gold and the respective fair value at January 31, 2016:

	Ounces	Fair Value

Beginning balance as of February 1, 2015	51,379	$64,750,586
Gold bullion contributed	26,862	30,430,586
Gold bullion distributed	(2,996)	(3,616,635)
Change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	—	(7,683,821)
Realized gain from gold distributed from in-kind	—	(222,753)
Ending balance as of January 31, 2016	75,245	$83,657,963

4. RELATED PARTIES - SPONSOR, TRUSTEE, CUSTODIAN AND MARKETING FEES

Fees paid are to the Sponsor as compensation for services performed under the Trust Agreement. The Sponsor's fee is payable at an annualized rate of 0.40% of the Trust’s NAV, accrued on a daily basis computed on the prior Business Day’s NAV and paid monthly in arrears.

The Sponsor has agreed to assume the following administrative and marketing expenses incurred by the Trust: the Trustee’s monthly fee and out-of-pocket expenses; the Custodian’s fee; the marketing support fees and expenses; expenses reimbursable under the Custody Agreement; the precious metals dealer’s fees and expenses reimbursable under its agreement with the Sponsor; exchange listing fees; Securities and Exchange Commission registration fees; printing and mailing costs; maintenance expenses for the Trust’s website; audit fees; and up to $100,000 per annum in legal expenses.

Affiliates of the Trustee, as well as affiliates of the Custodian may from time to time act as Authorized Participants to purchase or sell gold or shares for their own account, as agent for their customers and for accounts over which they exercise investment discretion.

On October 22, 2015, the Sponsor, for the benefit of the Trust, entered into a Marketing Agent Agreement (the "Marketing Agreement") with Van Eck Securities Corporation ("VanEck" or "Marketing Agent"). Pursuant to the Marketing Agreement, VanEck now provides assistance in the marketing of the Shares. The obligations created by the Marketing Agreement are obligations of the Sponsor of the Trust and any fees payable under the Marketing Agreement to VanEck are payable from the Sponsor's fee (as calculated and defined in the Trust Agreement). The Trust will not incur additional financial or other performance obligations pursuant to the Marketing Agreement.

5. SHAREHOLDER OWNERSHIP

Merk Hard Currency Fund owned a market value of $20,100,476 (1,497,800 shares) which equates to 12.55% ownership in the Trust as of July 31, 2016.

6. CONCENTRATION OF RISK

The Trust's sole business activity is the investment in gold bullion. Several factors could affect the price of gold: (i) global gold supply and demand, which is influenced by such factors as forward selling by gold producers, purchases made by gold producers to unwind gold hedge positions, central bank purchases and sales, and production and cost levels in major gold-producing countries; (ii) investors' expectations with respect to the rate of inflation; (iii) currency exchange rates; (iv) interest rates; (v) investment and trading activities of hedge funds and commodity funds; and (vi) global or regional political, economic or financial events and situations. In addition, there is no assurance that gold will maintain its long-term value in terms of purchasing power in the future. In the event that the price of gold declines, the Sponsor expects the value of an investment in the shares to decline proportionately. Each of these events could have a material adverse effect on the Trust's financial position and results of operations.

7. INDEMNIFICATION

Under the Trust's organizational documents, each of the Trustee (and its directors, employees and agents) and the Sponsor (and its members, managers, directors, officers, employees, affiliates) is indemnified against any liability, cost or expense it incurs without gross negligence, bad faith or willful misconduct on its part and without reckless disregard on its part of its obligations and duties under the Trust's organizational documents. The Trust's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown as this would involve future claims that may be made against the Trust that have not yet occurred. However, based on industry experience, management believes the risk of loss is remote.

8. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Management has evaluated the events and transactions that have occurred through the date the financial statements were issued and noted no items requiring adjustment of the financial statements or additional disclosures.

* * *

This report is submitted for the general information of the shareholders. It is not authorized for distribution to prospective investors unless preceded or accompanied by an effective prospectus, which includes information regarding the Trust's risks, objectives, fees and expenses and other information.

Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

This information should be read in conjunction with the unaudited financial statements and notes to the unaudited financial statements included in Item 1 of Part 1 of this Form 10-Q. The discussion and analysis that follows may contain forward-looking statements with respect to the VanEck Merk Gold Trust's financial conditions, operations, future performance and business. These statements can be identified by the use of the words "may," "should," "expect," "plan "anticipate," "believe," "estimate," "predict," "potential" or similar words and phrases. These statements are based upon ce assumptions and analyses Merk Investments LLC, the Sponsor, has made based on its perception of historical trends, current conditions and expected future developments. Neither the Trust nor the Sponsor is under a duty to update any of the forward looking statements, to conform such statements to actual results or to reflect a change in management's expectations or predictions.

Introduction

The VanEck Merk Gold Trust (the "Trust"; known as the Merk Gold Trust prior to October 26, 2015 and then as the Van Eck Merk Gold Trust prior to April 28, 2016) was formed pursuant to a depositary trust agreement (the "Trust Agreement") on May 6, 2014 under New York law. The Trust is not managed like a corporation or an active investment vehicle. It does not have any officers, directors, or employees and is administered by The Bank of New York Mellon (the "Trustee") pursuant to the Trust Agreement. The Trust is not registered as an investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, and is not required to register under such act. It will not hold or trade in commodity futures contracts, nor is it a commodity pool, or subject to regulation as a commodity pool operator or a commodity trading adviser in connection with issuing shares.

The Trust's primary objective is to provide investors with an opportunity to invest in gold through the shares and be able to take delivery of physical gold bullion and gold coins ("physical gold") in exchange for those shares. The Trust's secondary objective is for the shares to reflect the performance of the price of gold less the expenses of the Trust's operations. Each share represents a fractional undivided beneficial interest in the Trust's net assets. The Trust's assets consist principally of gold held on the Trust's behalf in financial institutions for safekeeping. Physical gold that the Trust will hold includes London Bars and, for the limited purposes described herein, other gold bars and coins, without numismatic value, having a minimum fineness (or purity) of 995 parts per 1,000 (99.5%) or, for American Gold Eagle gold coins, with a minimum fineness of 91.67%.

Shares are issued by the Trust only in blocks of 50,000 shares called "Baskets" in exchange for gold from certain registered broker-dealers or other securities market participants ("Authorized Participants"). See "Creation and Redemption of Shares - *Authorized Participants*" in the notes to our financial statements for requirements to qualify as an Authorized Participant. Baskets may be redeemed by the Trust in exchange for the amount of gold corresponding to their redemption value. The Trust issues and redeems Baskets on an ongoing basis at net asset value to Authorized

Participants who have entered into a contract with the Sponsor and the Trustee.

Shares of the Trust trade on the New York Stock Exchange (the "NYSE") Arca under the symbol "OUNZ".

Valuation of Gold and Computation of Net Asset Value

The Trustee determines the net asset value (the "NAV") of the Trust on each day that NYSE Arca is open for regular trading, as promptly as practical after 4:00 PM New York time. The net asset value of the Trust is the aggregate value of the Trust's assets less its estimated accrued but unpaid liabilities (which include accrued expenses).

In determining the Trust's net asset value, the Trustee values the gold held by the Trust based on the afternoon session of the twice daily fix of the price of a Fine Ounce of gold which starts at 3:00 PM London, England time and is performed in London by the ICE Benchmark Administration as an independent third-party administrator (the "LBMA PM Gold Price"). The Trustee also determines the net asset value per share. If on a day when the Trust's net asset value is being calculated the LBMA PM Gold Price for that day is not available, the Trustee will value the gold held by the Trust based on that day's morning session of the twice daily fix of the price of a Fine Ounce of gold, which starts at 10:30 AM London, England time and is performed in London by the ICE Benchmark Administration as an independent third-party administrator (the "LBMA AM Gold Price"). If no fix is available for the day, the Trustee will value the Trust's gold based on the most recently announced LBMA AM Gold Price or LBMA PM Gold Price. Prior to March 20, 2015, the Trustee utilized the daily fix of the price of a Fine Ounce of gold as performed by the five members of the London gold fix, which has now been replaced by the ICE Benchmark Administration as an independent third-party administrator.

If the Sponsor determines that such price is inappropriate to use, it shall identify an alternate basis for evaluation to be employed by the Trustee. The Sponsor may instruct the Trustee to use a different publicly available price which the Sponsor determines to fairly represent the commercial value of the Trust's gold.

Recent Events

On October 22, 2015, the Sponsor and the Trustee entered into a First Amendment To Depositary Trust Agreement (the "First Trust Amendment"), amending the Trust Agreement, dated as of May 6, 2014, to effectuate a change in the name of the Trust from "Merk Gold Trust" to "Van Eck Merk Gold Trust," effective as of October 26, 2015. As a result of the name change, all references to "Merk Gold Trust" in the Trust Agreement were amended to read "Van Eck Merk Gold Trust," and the shares offered by the Trust were known as the "Van Eck Merk Gold Shares" ("Shares").

On October 22, 2015, the Sponsor, for the benefit of the Trust, entered into a Marketing Agent Agreement (the "Marketing Agreement") with Van Eck Securities Corporation ("VanEck" or "Marketing Agent"). Pursuant to the Marketing Agreement, VanEck now provides assistance in the marketing of the Shares. The obligations created by the Marketing Agreement are obligations of the Sponsor of the Trust and any fees payable under the Marketing Agreement to VanEck are payable from the Sponsor's fee (as calculated and defined in the Trust Agreement). The Trust will not incur additional financial or other performance obligations pursuant to the Marketing Agreement.

The Sponsor entered into the First Trust Amendment and effectuated the name change of the Trust in satisfaction of a term of the Marketing Agreement. The Marketing Agreement further grants VanEck the right to elect to replace Merk as the sponsor of the Trust under specific qualifying circumstances, subject to the execution and consummation of definitive agreements addressing all regulatory requirements applicable to such transaction and satisfaction of such requirements, and announcement and related reporting at such time. Specifically, VanEck has a right of first refusal for the purchase of the sponsorship of the Trust, and all rights attributable thereto, upon the earlier of a commitment for a change of control of Merk or 15 years from the date of the Marketing Agreement. Additionally, VanEck may elect to replace Merk as the sponsor of the Trust upon the earlier of the average daily net assets of the Trust during a calendar quarter not attributable to Shares held by Merk or its affiliates ("Third Party Assets") equaling $500 million, or VanEck's compensation under the fee provisions of the Marketing Agreement reaching in aggregate 10% of the gross proceeds from sale of the Shares (the "Maximum Fee").

Merk further agreed that if the Third Party Assets equal or exceed $500 million, for such period as Merk remains sponsor of the Trust, VanEck may propose the rate of the Sponsor's fee to Merk, which Merk shall not unreasonably reject and shall timely adopt if reasonable, provided, VanEck acknowledges that only the formal named sponsor of the Trust shall have the right to set the Sponsor's fee at any time.

On April 28, 2016, the Sponsor and the Trustee entered into a Second Amendment to Depositary Trust Agreement (the "Second Trust Amendment"), amending the Trust Agreement to effectuate a second change in the name of the Trust from "Van Eck Merk Gold Trust" to "VanEck Merk Gold Trust," at the request of the Marketing Agent to reflect its rebranding as "VanEck". As a result of the name change, all references to "Van Eck Merk Gold Trust" in the Trust Agreement were amended to read "VanEck Merk Gold Trust," and the shares offered by the Trust are now known as the "VanEck Merk Gold Shares". Except for the name change effected pursuant to the Second Trust Amendment, the Trust Agreement remains in full force and effect on its existing terms.

Results from Operations

The Trust is a trust formed on May 6, 2014 under New York law pursuant to the Trust Agreement. After consideration of Financial Accounting Standards Topic 946, the Sponsor has concluded that for financial statement reporting purposes the Trust meets the fundamental characteristics of an investment company. In addition, while the Trust does not currently possess all of the typical characteristics of an investment company, the Sponsor believes the Trust's activities are consistent with those of an investment company and will therefore apply the guidance in Financial Accounting Standards Topic 946, including disclosure of the financial support contractually required to be provided by an investment company to any of its investees. The Sponsor is responsible for, among other things, overseeing the performance of The Bank of New York Mellon (the "Trustee") and the Trust's principal service providers, including the preparation of financial statements. The Trustee is responsible for the day-to-day administration of the Trust.

The Quarter Ended July 31, 2016 and 2015

The Trust's net asset value, or NAV, grew from $108,749,690 at April 30, 2016 to $158,773,365 at July 31, 2016, a 46% increase, compared to a 4.9% increase from $60,053,583 at April 30, 2015 to $62,987,480 at July 31, 2015. The increase in the Trust's NAV in the quarter ended July 31, 2016 resulted from an increase in the price per share tied to the increasing price of gold and an increase in the number of outstanding shares, which rose from 8,525,374 shares at April 30, 2016 to 11,936,241 shares at July 31, 2016; the number of outstanding shares at July 31, 2015 was 5,762,437. Additionally, 10,867 shares were created in the quarter ended July 31, 2016 for Sponsor's fees, compared to 5,345 shares for such purpose in the quarter ended July 31, 2015. The increase in Sponsor's fees shares is a result of the increased NAV of the Trust, as Sponsor's fees are payable at an annualized rate of 0.40% of the Trust's NAV, accrued on a daily basis computed on the prior business day's NAV and paid monthly in arrears.

The Trust's NAV per share increased approximately 4% during the quarter ended July 31, 2016, starting at $12.76 per share and ending at $13.30 per share, compared to a decrease of approximately 7%, from $11.76 to $10.93 during the quarter ended July 31, 2015. The Trust's NAV per share increased slightly less than the price per ounce of gold on a percentage basis due to the Sponsor's fees. The NAV per share of $13.55 on July 6, 2016 was the highest during the quarter, compared with a low of $12.02 on May 31, 2016.

The change in net assets from operations for the quarter ended July 31, 2016 was $7,742,950, resulting from the Sponsor's fees of $(139,575) and a net change in unrealized appreciation/depreciation on investments in gold bullion of $7,882,525. In comparison, the change in net assets from operations for the quarter ended July 31, 2015 was $(4,441,304) resulting from the sponsor fee of $(61,286), a net realized loss of $(1,179) on gold bullion distributed for the redemption of shares and a net change in unrealized appreciation/depreciation on investments in gold bullion of $(4,378,839).

Other than the Sponsor's fees, the Trust had no expenses during the quarter ended July 31, 2016 or the quarter ended July 31, 2015.

The Six Months Ended July 31, 2016 and 2015

The Trust's NAV grew from $83,657,961 at January 31, 2016 to $158,773,365 at July 31, 2016, a 90% increase. The increase in the Trust's NAV resulted primarily from an increase in the price per share tied to the increasing price of gold and an increase in the number of outstanding shares, which rose from 7,576,528 shares at January 31, 2016 to 11,936,241 shares at July 31, 2016. In comparison, the Trust's NAV decreased from $64,750,583 at January 31, 2015 to $62,987,480 at July 31, 2015, a 2.7% decrease, with an increase in the number of outstanding shares from

5,152,630 shares at January 31, 2015 to 5,762,437 shares at July 31, 2015. Additionally, 18,680 shares were created in the six months ended July 31, 2016 for Sponsor's fees, compared to 10,511 shares for such purpose in the six months ended July 31, 2015.

The Trust's NAV per share increased approximately 20% during the six months ended July 31, 2016, starting at $11.04 per share and ending at $13.30 per share, compared to a decrease of approximately 13%, from $12.57 to $10.93 during the six months ended July 31, 2015.

The Trust's NAV per share increased slightly less than the price of gold on a percentage basis due to the Sponsor's fees, which were $236,726 for the period, compared to $122,735 for the six months ended July 31, 2015. Other than the Sponsor's fees, the Trust had no expenses during the six months ended July 31, 2016 or the six months ended July 31, 2015.

Marketing Agent Fees

From October 22, 2015, the date of initiation of the Marketing Agent's efforts on behalf of the Trust, through July 31, 2016, the aggregate fees payable by the Sponsor to the Marketing Agent equaled $0, which represents 0% of the Maximum Fee potentially payable to the Marketing Agent pursuant to the Marketing Agent Agreement calculated as of July 31, 2016.

Liquidity & Capital Resources

The Trust is not aware of any trends, demands, commitments, events or uncertainties that are reasonably likely to result in material changes to its liquidity needs. In exchange for the Sponsor's fee, the Sponsor has agreed to assume most of the expenses incurred by the Trust. As a result, the only ordinary expense of the Trust during the period covered by this report was the Sponsor's fee.

The Trustee will, at the direction of the Sponsor or in its own discretion, sell the Trust's gold as necessary to pay the Trust's expenses not otherwise assumed by the Sponsor. The Trustee will not sell gold to pay the Sponsor's fee but will pay the Sponsor's fee in shares in lieu of cash. At July 31, 2016 and at July 31, 2015, the Trust did not have any cash balances.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

The Trust has no off-balance sheet arrangements.

Critical Accounting Policies

The unaudited financial statements and accompanying notes are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The preparation of these unaudited financial statements relies on estimates and assumptions that impact the Trust's financial position and results of operations. These estimates and assumptions affect the Trust's application of accounting policies. In addition, please refer to Note 2 to the unaudited financial statements for further discussion of accounting policies.

Effective May 6, 2014, the Trust has adopted the provisions of Topic 946, Investment Companies, and follows specialized accounting.

Investment by Certain Retirement Plans

Section 408(m) of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended (the "Code"), provides that the purchase of a "collectible" as an investment for an individual retirement account (an "IRA") or for an individually directed account maintained under a plan that is tax-qualified under Section 401(a) of the Code (a "Tax-Qualified Account") is treated as a taxable distribution from the account to the owner of the IRA, or to the participant for whom the Tax-Qualified Account is maintained, of an amount equal to the cost to the account of acquiring the collectible. The Trust has received a private letter ruling from the Internal Revenue Service which provides that the acquisition of shares by the trustee or custodian of an IRA or a Tax-Qualified Account will not constitute the acquisition of a collectible, and thus, a Tax-Qualified Account owning shares will not be treated as having made a distribution to the IRA owner or plan participant under Code section 408(m) solely by virtue of owning such shares. However, in the event any redemption of shares results in the distribution of gold coins or gold bullion to an IRA or a Tax-Qualified Account, such distribution would constitute the acquisition of a collectible and therefore a distribution from the account, except to the extent the those gold coins or gold bullion satisfies section 408(m)(3) of the Code.

Investors who are considering exchanging their shares for gold coins or gold bullion should consult with their tax advisors regarding the tax implications thereof before doing so.

ERISA and Related Considerations

The Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA"), and/or section 4975 of the Code impose certain requirements on employee benefit plans and certain other plans and arrangements, including IRAs and individual retirement annuities, Keogh plans, and certain collective investment funds or insurance company general or separate accounts in which such plans or arrangements are invested, that are subject to ERISA and/or the Code (collectively, "Plans"), and on persons who are fiduciaries with respect to the investment of assets treated as "plan assets" of a Plan. Investments by Plans are subject to the fiduciary requirements and the applicability of prohibited transaction restrictions under ERISA.

Government plans and some church plans are not subject to the fiduciary responsibility provisions of ERISA or the provisions of section 4975 of the Code, but may be subject to substantially similar rules under state or other federal law. Fiduciaries of any such plans are advised to consult with their counsel prior to an investment in shares.

In contemplating an investment of a portion of Plan assets in shares, the Plan fiduciary responsible for making such investment should carefully consider, taking into account the facts and circumstances of the Plan, the "Risk Factors" discussed below and whether such investment is consistent with its fiduciary responsibilities, including, but not limited to: (a) whether the fiduciary has the authority to make the investment under the appropriate governing plan instrument; (b) whether the investment would constitute a direct or indirect non-exempt prohibited transaction with a party in interest; (c) the Plan's funding objectives; and (d) whether under the general fiduciary standards of investment prudence and diversification such investment is appropriate for the Plan, taking into account the overall investment policy of the Plan, the composition of the Plan's investment portfolio and the Plan's need for sufficient liquidity to pay benefits when due.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

The Trust does not engage in transactions in foreign currencies which could expose the Trust or holders of shares to any foreign currency related market risk. The Trust does not invest in any derivative financial instruments or long-term debt instruments.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

The Trust maintains disclosure controls and procedures that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in its reports under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act") is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules and forms, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to the principal executive officer and principal financial officer of the Sponsor, and to the auditor, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

Under the supervision and with the participation of the principal executive officer and principal financial officer of the Sponsor, the Sponsor conducted an evaluation of the Trust's disclosure controls and procedures, as defined under Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e). Based on this evaluation, the principal executive officer and principal financial officer of the Sponsor concluded that, as of July 31, 2016, the Trust's disclosure controls and procedures were effective.

There have been no changes in the Trust's or Sponsor's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the Trust's fiscal quarter ended July 31, 2016 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Trust's or Sponsor's internal control over financial reporting.

PART II - OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

None.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

You should carefully consider the factors discussed under the caption "Risk Factors" beginning on page 25 of our Annual Report on Form 10-K/A (the "Annual Report"), filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 29, 2016, which could materially affect our business, financial condition or future results. There have been no material changes in our risk factors from those disclosed in the Annual Report.

Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds

a) None.

b) Not applicable.

c) No shares were redeemed during the quarter ended July 31, 2016.

Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities

None.

Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures

None.

Item 5. Other Information

None.

Item 6. Exhibits

Exhibits No.	Description
31.1	Certification by Principal Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32.1	Certification by Principal Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
101.INS	XBRL Instance Document
101.SCH	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document
101.CAL	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document
101.DEF	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document
101.LAB	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document
101.PRE	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned in its capacities* thereunto duly authorized.

MERK INVESTMENTS LLC
Sponsor of the VanEck Merk Gold Trust

Date: September 12, 2016 /s/ Axel Merk
Axel Merk
President and Chief Executive Officer
(Principal Executive Officer and

Principal Financial Officer)

* The Registrant is a trust and the person is signing in his capacities as officers of Merk Investments LLC, the Sponsor of the Registrant.