

FIRST TRUST/GALLATIN SPECIALTY FINANCE & FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES FUND  
Form DEFA14A  
July 29, 2008

SCHEDULE 14A  
INFORMATION REQUIRED IN PROXY STATEMENT

SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION  
Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities  
Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No. )

Filed by the registrant  [X]

Filed by a party other than the registrant  [ ]

Check the appropriate box:

[ ] Preliminary Proxy Statement

[ ] Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by  
Rule 14a-6(e)(2))

[ ] Definitive Proxy Statement

[ ] Definitive Additional Materials

[X] Soliciting Material under ss. 240.14a-12

First Trust/Gallatin Specialty Finance and Financial Opportunities Fund  
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(Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

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(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement)

Payment of filing fee (Check the appropriate box):

[X] No Fee Required.

[ ] Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(4) and 0-11.

(1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

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(2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

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(3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed  
pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11:(1)

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(4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

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(5) Total fee paid:

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[ ] Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.

[ ] Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the form or schedule and the date of its filing.

(1) Amount previously paid:

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(2) Form, schedule or registration statement no.:

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(3) Filing party:

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(4) Date filed:

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(1) Set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined.

PRESS RELEASE

SOURCE: First Trust/Gallatin Specialty Finance and Financial Opportunities Fund

FIRST TRUST/GALLATIN SPECIALTY FINANCE AND FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES FUND BOARD APPROVES CONFLUENCE INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LLC AS NEW INVESTMENT SUB-ADVISOR. FUND WILL ENTER INTO INTERIM SUB-ADVISORY AGREEMENT AND CHANGE ITS NAME.

LISLE, IL -- (BUSINESS WIRE) -- July 29, 2008 -- First Trust/Gallatin Specialty Finance and Financial Opportunities Fund (the "Fund") (NYSE: FGB) today announced that its Board of Trustees has voted to approve Confluence Investment Management LLC ("Confluence") as investment sub-advisor to the Fund, following the resignation of Gallatin Asset Management, Inc. The Fund will enter into an interim sub-advisory agreement among the Fund, First Trust Advisors L.P. ("FTA"), and Confluence, as investment sub-advisor which will be effective on August 1, 2008.

The Fund also announced today that it will change its name to First Trust Specialty Finance and Financial Opportunities Fund which will be effective on or about August 8, 2008. After the name change, the Fund will continue to trade under the same ticker symbol, "FGB."

A meeting of FGB shareholders to vote on a proposal to approve the new sub-advisory agreement with Confluence is expected to be scheduled on or before December 1, 2008. Any solicitation of proxies by FGB in connection with this

shareholder meeting will only be made pursuant to separate proxy materials filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") under applicable federal securities laws. There can be no assurance that the necessary percentage of the shareholders of FGB will vote to approve Confluence as new investment sub-advisor.

FGB is a non-diversified, closed-end management investment company that seeks to provide a high level of current income and, as a secondary objective, attractive total return. The Fund seeks to achieve its objectives by investing at least 80% of its managed assets in a portfolio of securities of specialty finance and other financial companies that the investment sub-advisor believes offer attractive opportunities for income and capital appreciation. Under normal market conditions, the Fund concentrates its investments in securities of companies within industries in the financial sector.

FTA has served as the Fund's investment advisor since the Fund's inception. FTA, along with its affiliate First Trust Portfolios L.P., are privately-held companies which provide a variety of investment services, including asset management, financial advisory services, and municipal and corporate investment banking, with collective assets under management or supervision of over \$32 billion as of June 30, 2008, through closed-end funds, unit investment trusts, mutual funds, separate managed accounts and exchange-traded funds.

Confluence is a newly-formed investment advisor registered with the SEC pursuant to the Investment Advisers Act of 1940. The investment professionals at Confluence have over 50 years of aggregate portfolio management experience. Confluence's professionals have invested, on behalf of their clients, in a wide range of specialty finance and other financial company securities during various

market cycles in their attempt to provide attractive risk-adjusted returns to their clients.

In connection with the solicitation of proxies, the Fund will file a proxy statement. Because the proxy statement will contain important information, FGB's shareholders are urged to read it carefully when it becomes available. When filed with the SEC, the proxy statement will be available free of charge at the SEC's website, [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). FGB's shareholders will also be able to obtain copies of these documents and other transaction-related documents, when available, by calling FTA toll-free at 800-621-1675. The foregoing is not an offer to sell, nor a solicitation of an offer to buy, shares of any fund, nor is it a solicitation of any proxy.

The Fund's daily closing New York Stock Exchange price and net asset value per share as well as other information can be found at [www.ftportfolios.com](http://www.ftportfolios.com) or by calling 1-800-988-5891.

Contact:

First Trust/Gallatin Specialty Finance and Financial Opportunities Fund  
(to be renamed First Trust Specialty Finance and Financial Opportunities Fund  
on or about August 8, 2008)

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