

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND

Form N-Q

November 26, 2008

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM N-Q

QUARTERLY SCHEDULE OF PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS OF REGISTERED  
MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANY

Investment Company Act file number 811-21905

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

120 East Liberty Drive  
WHEATON, IL 60187  
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip code)

W. Scott Jardine, Esq.  
First Trust Portfolios L.P.  
120 East Liberty Drive  
WHEATON, IL 60187  
(Name and address of agent for service)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (630) 765-8000  
-----

Date of fiscal year end: DECEMBER 31

Date of reporting period: SEPTEMBER 30, 2008

Form N-Q is to be used by management investment companies, other than small business investment companies registered on Form N-5 (ss.ss. 239.24 and 274.5 of this chapter), to file reports with the Commission, not later than 60 days after the close of the first and third fiscal quarters, pursuant to rule 30b1-5 under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (17 CFR 270.30b1-5). The Commission may use the information provided on Form N-Q in its regulatory, disclosure review, inspection, and policymaking roles.

A registrant is required to disclose the information specified by Form N-Q, and the Commission will make this information public. A registrant is not required to respond to the collection of information contained in Form N-Q unless the Form displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") control number. Please direct comments concerning the accuracy of the information collection burden estimate and any suggestions for reducing the burden to the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549. The OMB has reviewed this collection of information under the clearance requirements of 44 U.S.C. ss. 3507.

ITEM 1. SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS.

The Schedule(s) of Investments is attached herewith.

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND  
PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (a)

Edgar Filing: FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND - Form N-Q

SEPTEMBER 30, 2008 (UNAUDITED)

PRINCIPAL VALUE (LOCAL CURRENCY)	DESCRIPTION	COUPON	STATED MATURITY
BONDS AND NOTES (b) - 67.5%			
ARGENTINA - 1.4%			
2,230,000	Republic of Argentina (USD) .....	7.00%	04/17/1
169,615	Republic of Argentina (USD) .....	8.28%	12/31/3
BRAZIL - 7.5%			
3,420,000	Brazil NTN - B Note (BRL) .....	6.00%	08/15/1
580,000	Dasa Finance Corp. (USD) .....	8.75%	05/29/1
470,000	Independencia International Ltd. (USD) .....	9.88%	05/15/1
430,000	Independencia International Ltd. (USD) .....	9.88%	01/31/1
1,000,000	Isa Capital do Brasil S.A. (USD) .....	7.88%	01/30/1
970,000	Nota do Tesouro Nacional (BRL) .....	10.00%	01/01/1
630,000	Odebrecht Finance Ltd. (USD) .....	7.50%	10/18/1
1,450,000	Republic of Brazil (USD) .....	7.13%	01/20/3
CHINA - 1.0%			
470,000	Parkson Retail Group Ltd. (USD) .....	7.88%	11/14/1
540,000	Parkson Retail Group Ltd. (USD) .....	7.13%	05/30/1
COLOMBIA - 1.8%			
300,000	EEB International Ltd. (USD) .....	8.75%	10/31/1
3,140,000,000	Republic of Colombia (COP) .....	12.00%	10/22/1
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC - 2.8%			
820,000	Cerveceria Nacional Dominica (USD) (c) .....	16.00%	03/27/1
1,049,258	Dominican Republic (USD) .....	9.04%	01/23/1
1,310,000	Dominican Republic (USD) .....	8.63%	04/20/2
ECUADOR - 2.4%			
730,000	Republic of Ecuador (USD) .....	9.38%	12/15/1
1,460,000	Republic of Ecuador (USD) (d) .....	10.00%	08/15/3
811,920	Republic of Ecuador (USD) .....	12.00%	11/15/1
EGYPT - 2.0%			
2,140,000	Egypt Government Bond (EGP) .....	9.10%	09/20/1
4,500,000	Egypt Treasury Bill (EGP) .....	0.00%	11/18/0
4,900,000	Egypt Treasury Bill (EGP) .....	0.00%	05/05/0

Edgar Filing: FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND - Form N-Q

	EL SALVADOR - 2.1%			
450,000	Republic of El Salvador (USD) .....	8.25%	04/10/3	
1,710,000	Republic of El Salvador (USD) .....	7.65%	06/15/3	

See Notes to Quarterly Portfolio of Investments

Page 1

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND  
 PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (a) - (CONTINUED)  
 SEPTEMBER 30, 2008 (UNAUDITED)

PRINCIPAL VALUE (LOCAL CURRENCY)	DESCRIPTION	COUPON	STATED MATURITY
BONDS AND NOTES (b) - (CONTINUED)			
	GABON - 1.3%		
1,480,000	Gabonese Republic (USD) .....	8.20%	12/12/1
	GEORGIA - 1.2%		
1,510,000	Republic of Georgia (USD) .....	7.50%	04/15/1
	GHANA - 0.7%		
920,000	Republic of Ghana (USD) .....	8.50%	10/04/1
	INDONESIA - 6.9%		
380,000	Empire Capital Resources Pte. Ltd. (USD) .....	9.38%	12/15/1
7,400,000,000	Indonesian Government (IDR) .....	11.00%	12/15/1
650,000,000	Indonesian Government (IDR) .....	12.50%	03/15/1
4,900,000,000	Indonesian Government (IDR) .....	9.00%	09/15/1
1,740,000	Indonesian Government (IDR) .....	6.75%	03/10/1
1,850,000,000	Indonesian Recapitalization Bond (IDR) .....	13.40%	02/15/1
9,350,000,000	Indonesian Recapitalization Bond (IDR) .....	13.45%	08/15/1
2,500,000,000	Indonesian Recapitalization Bond (IDR) .....	13.18%	07/15/1
700,000	Majapahit Holding B.V. (USD) .....	7.75%	10/17/1
670,000	Majapahit Holding B.V. (USD) .....	7.25%	06/28/1
350,000	MGTI Finance Company, Ltd. (USD) .....	8.38%	09/15/1
210,000	Republic of Indonesia (USD) .....	6.88%	03/09/1
200,000	Republic of Indonesia (USD) .....	6.88%	01/17/1
370,000	Republic of Indonesia (USD) .....	8.50%	10/12/3
	KAZAKHSTAN - 0.9%		
1,000,000	Halyk Savings Bank of Kazakhstan (USD) .....	8.13%	10/07/0
	MEXICO - 5.3%		
140,000	Desarrolladora Homex SA (USD) .....	7.50%	09/28/1
941,460	Mexico Cetes (MXN) .....	0.00%	10/23/0
9,240,000	Mexico Cetes (MXN) .....	0.00%	11/06/0

Edgar Filing: FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND - Form N-Q

8,200,000	Mexican Bonos Desarr Fixed Rate Bond (MXN) .....	7.25%	12/15/1
6,090,000	Mexican Bonos Desarr Fixed Rate Bond (MXN) .....	10.00%	12/05/2
15,260,000	Mexican Bonos Desarr Fixed Rate Bond (MXN) .....	10.00%	11/20/3
600,000	Mexican Republic (USD) .....	8.30%	08/15/3
800,000	Pemex Project Funding Master Trust (USD) .....	6.63%	06/15/3
NIGERIA - 2.0%			
790,000	GTB Finance B.V. (USD) .....	8.50%	01/29/1
174,000,000	KfW International Finance (NGN) .....	8.50%	01/18/1

See Notes to Quarterly Portfolio of Investments

Page 2

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND  
 PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (a) - (CONTINUED)  
 SEPTEMBER 30, 2008 (UNAUDITED)

PRINCIPAL VALUE (LOCAL CURRENCY)	DESCRIPTION	COUPON	STATED MATURITY
BONDS AND NOTES (b) - (CONTINUED)			
PANAMA - 2.2%			
1,940,000	Republic of Panama (USD) .....	8.88%	09/30/2
PERU - 2.1%			
800,000	Peru Bono Soberano (PEN) .....	8.60%	08/12/1
6,040,000	Peru Bono Soberano (PEN) .....	7.84%	08/12/2
PHILIPPINES - 2.5%			
100,000	Republic of Philippines (USD) .....	8.00%	01/15/1
330,000	Republic of Philippines (USD) .....	9.38%	01/18/1
620,000	Republic of Philippines (USD) .....	10.63%	03/16/2
970,000	Republic of Philippines (USD) .....	9.50%	02/02/3
RUSSIA - 7.2%			
730,000	Alfa Bond ISS (USD) (c) .....	8.64%	02/22/1
390,000	Evrax Group S.A. (USD) .....	8.88%	04/24/1
780,000	Evrax Group S.A. (USD) .....	8.25%	11/10/1
10,400,000	GPB Eurobond Finance PLC (RUB) .....	7.25%	02/22/1
1,000,000	Mobile Telesystems Finance (USD) .....	8.38%	10/14/1
36,253,364	Red Arrow International Leasing PLC (RUB) .....	8.38%	06/30/1
350,000	RS Finance (RSB) (USD) .....	7.50%	10/07/1
2,070,000	RSHB Capital S.A. (USD) .....	7.75%	05/29/1

Edgar Filing: FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND - Form N-Q

560,000	Transcapitalinvest, Ltd. (USD) .....	8.70%	08/07/1
1,000,000	UBS Luxembourg (USD) .....	8.00%	02/11/1
SERBIA - 0.7%			
840,000	Republic of Serbia (USD) (d) .....	3.75%	11/01/2
TURKEY - 1.5%			
1,380,000	Turkey Government Bond, Inflation Adjusted Bond (TRY) (e) .....	10.00%	02/15/1
450,000	Turkey Government Bond (TRY) .....	16.00%	03/07/1
UKRAINE - 3.7%			
800,000	Alfa Bank Ukraine (USD) .....	9.75%	12/22/0
1,070,000	EX-IM Bank of Ukraine (USD) .....	7.65%	09/07/1
4,000,000	JSCB Ukrsotsbank, Credit Linked Note (USD) (f) .....	12.00%	10/15/1
500,000	UBS AG Jersey Branch (USD) .....	9.13%	06/21/1
1,480,000	Ukraine Government International Bond (USD) .....	6.75%	11/14/1
URUGUAY - 4.2%			
380,000	Republic of Uruguay (USD) .....	8.00%	11/18/2
570,000	Republic of Uruguay (USD) .....	7.88%	01/15/3
1,280,000	Republic Orient Uruguay (USD) .....	7.63%	03/21/3

See Notes to Quarterly Portfolio of Investments

Page 3

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND  
PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (a) - (CONTINUED)  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2008 (UNAUDITED)

PRINCIPAL VALUE (LOCAL CURRENCY)	DESCRIPTION	COUPON	STATED MATURITY
BONDS AND NOTES (b) - (CONTINUED)			
URUGUAY - (CONTINUED)			
37,710,000	Republic Orient Uruguay Inflation Adjusted Bond (UYU) (e) .....	5.00%	09/14/1
8,560,000	Republic Orient Uruguay Inflation Adjusted Bond (UYU) (e) .....	4.25%	04/05/2
VENEZUELA - 4.1%			
240,000	Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (USD) .....	9.00%	05/07/2
2,360,000	Petroleos de Venezuela S.A. (USD) .....	5.25%	04/12/1
191,000	Republic of Venezuela (USD) .....	10.75%	09/19/1

Edgar Filing: FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND - Form N-Q

1,045,000	Republic of Venezuela (USD) .....	8.50%	10/08/1
2,680,000	Republic of Venezuela (USD) .....	5.75%	02/26/1

TOTAL BONDS AND NOTES .....

(Cost \$76,575,552)

SHARES	DESCRIPTION
-----	-----
COMMON STOCKS - 45.1%	
	ARGENTINA - 0.8%
23,000	Tenaris S.A., ADR .....
	BRAZIL - 7.5%
78,450	Banco Bradesco S.A., ADR .....
84,000	Companhia Vale do Rio Doce, ADR .....
78,000	Lojas Renner S.A. ....
37,000	Petroleo Brasileiro S.A., ADR .....
43,000	Souza Cruz S.A. ....
28,000	Telecomunicacoes de Sao Paulo S.A. ....
38,000	Ultrapar Participacoes S.A., Preference Shares .....
	CHILE - 1.1%
27,000	Banco Santander Chile S.A., ADR .....
	CHINA - 4.9%
110,000	China Mobile Ltd. ....
90,000	CLP Holdings Ltd. ....
350,000	Dah Sing Banking Group Ltd. ....
200,000	Hang Lung Group Ltd. ....
920,000	PetroChina Company Ltd., H Shares .....
700,000	Swire Pacific Ltd., B Shares .....
	CZECH REPUBLIC - 1.1%
9,000	Erste Bank der Oesterreichischen Sparkassen AG .....
3,000	Komercni Banka AS .....

See Notes to Quarterly Portfolio of Investments

Edgar Filing: FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND - Form N-Q

SHARES	DESCRIPTION
COMMON STOCKS - (CONTINUED)	
HUNGARY - 0.9%	
5,300	Richter Gedeon, Sponsored GDR .....
INDIA - 3.6%	
60,000	Gail India Ltd. ....
20,000	GlaxoSmithKline Pharmaceuticals Ltd. ....
13,000	Grasim Industries Ltd. ....
40,000	Hero Honda Motors Ltd. ....
11,500	Housing Development Finance Corp. Ltd. ....
38,000	ICICI Bank Ltd. ....
74,000	Satyam Computer Services Ltd. ....
INDONESIA - 2.0%	
350,000	PT Astra International Tbk .....
1,800,000	PT Unilever Indonesia Tbk .....
MALAYSIA - 2.1%	
85,000	British American Tobacco Malaysia Berhad .....
395,000	Public Bank Berhad .....
MEXICO - 5.0%	
37,900	Fomento Economico Mexicano, S.A.B. de C.V., Sponsored ADR .....
40,000	Grupo Aeroportuario del Centro Norte, S.A.B. de C.V., ADR .....
361,000	Grupo Continental, S.A.B. ....
324,000	Grupo Financiero Banorte, S.A.B. de C.V., O Shares .....
274,000	Kimberly-Clark de Mexico, S.A.B. de C.V., A Shares .....
390,000	SARE Holding S.A.B de C.V., B Shares (g) .....
PHILIPPINES - 1.1%	
1,164,000	Bank of the Philippine Islands .....
QATAR - 0.7%	
16,000	Qatar Insurance Company .....
RUSSIA - 0.8%	
14,500	LUKOIL, ADR .....
SOUTH AFRICA - 2.4%	
184,428	Massmart Holdings Ltd. ....
216,665	Truworths International Ltd. ....
SOUTH KOREA - 2.8%	
55,000	Pusan Bank .....
6,300	Samsung Electronics Company Ltd., Preference Shares .....
850	Shinsegae Company Ltd. ....

See Notes to Quarterly Portfolio of Investments

Page 5

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND  
 PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (a) - (CONTINUED)  
 SEPTEMBER 30, 2008 (UNAUDITED)

SHARES	DESCRIPTION
COMMON STOCKS - (CONTINUED)	
	TAIWAN - 3.5%
855,000	Fubon Financial Holdings Company, Ltd. ....
946,450	Taiwan Mobile Company, Ltd. ....
827,750	Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company, Ltd. ....
	THAILAND - 1.7%
250,000	PTT Exploration and Production Public Company Ltd. ....
200,000	Siam Cement Public (The) Company Ltd. ....
	TURKEY - 2.6%
344,000	Aksigorta AS .....
27,000	Bim Birlesik Magazalar AS .....
156,000	Cimsa Cimento Sanayi ve Ticaret AS .....
	UNITED KINGDOM - 0.5%
20,000	Standard Chartered PLC .....
	TOTAL COMMON STOCKS .....
	(Cost \$46,877,930)
	TOTAL INVESTMENTS - 112.6% .....
	(Cost \$123,453,482) (h)
	LOAN OUTSTANDING - (16.6)% .....
	NET OTHER ASSETS AND LIABILITIES - 4.0% .....
	NET ASSETS - 100.0% .....

(a) All percentages shown in the Portfolio of Investments are based on net assets.

(b) Fixed-income portfolio securities are included in a country based upon



## Edgar Filing: FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND - Form N-Q

their underlying credit exposure as determined by Aberdeen Asset Management Inc., the investment sub-advisor.

- (c) Variable rate security. The interest rate shown reflects the rate in effect at September 30, 2008.
- (d) Step-up security. A security where the coupon increases or steps up at a predetermined date. Interest rate shown reflects the rate in effect at September 30, 2008.
- (e) Security whose principal value is adjusted in accordance with changes to the country's Consumer Price Index. Interest is calculated on the basis of the current adjusted principal value.
- (f) Credit linked notes are structured securities whose principal and interest payments are contingent on the performance of specified borrower companies, or reference securities (See Note 1C - Credit Linked Notes in the Notes to Quarterly Portfolio of Investments).
- (g) Non-income producing security.
- (h) Aggregate cost for federal income tax and financial reporting purposes. As of September 30, 2008, the aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all securities in which there was an excess of value over tax cost was \$5,502,363 and the aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all securities in which there was an excess of tax cost over value was \$13,795,176.

See Notes to Quarterly Portfolio of Investments

Page 6

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND  
PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS - (CONTINUED)  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2008 (UNAUDITED)

ADR American Depositary Receipt  
GDR Global Depositary Receipt  
RSB Russian Standard Bank

### Currency

ARS Argentine Peso  
BRL Brazilian Real  
COP Colombian Peso  
EGP Egyptian Pound  
IDR Indonesian Rupiah  
MXN Mexican Peso  
NGN Nigerian Naira  
PEN Peruvian New Sol  
RUB Russian Ruble  
TRY Turkish Lira  
USD United States Dollar  
UYU Uruguayan Peso

### SECURITY VALUATION INPUTS

A summary of the inputs used to value the Fund's net assets as of September 30, 2008 is as follows (See Note 1A - Portfolio Valuation in the Notes to Quarterly

Edgar Filing: FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND - Form N-Q

Portfolio of Investments):

VALUATION INPUTS -----	INVESTMENTS IN SECURITIES -----	OTHER FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (a) -----
Level 1 - Quoted Prices - Investments .....	\$ 46,170,827	\$786,756
Level 2 - Other Significant Observable Inputs .....	68,989,842	--
Level 3 - Significant Unobservable Inputs .....	--	--
	-----	-----
TOTAL .....	\$115,160,669	\$786,756
	=====	=====

(a) Other financial instruments are forward foreign currency contracts not reflected in the Portfolio of Investments, which are valued at the unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on the contracts.

INDUSTRY CLASSIFICATION -----	% OF TOTAL INVESTMENTS -----
Government Bonds and Notes	42.4%
Commercial Banks	10.2
Diversified Financial Services	6.7
Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels	4.7
Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment	2.9
Food & Staples Retailing	2.5
Beverages	2.5
Household Durables	2.5
Wireless Telecommunication Services	2.3
Metals & Mining	2.1
Tobacco	1.8
Electric Utilities	1.7
Insurance	1.7
Multiline Retail	1.6
Construction Materials	1.6
Real Estate Management & Development	1.6
Specialty Retail	1.5
Diversified Telecommunication Services	1.3
Pharmaceuticals	1.3
Automobiles	1.2
Other	5.9
	-----
Total	100.0%
	=====

See Notes to Quarterly Portfolio of Investments

Edgar Filing: FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND - Form N-Q

FORWARD FOREIGN CURRENCY CONTRACTS TO BUY  
CONTRACTS TO RECEIVE

EXPIRATION DATE	LOCAL CURRENCY (a)	VALUE IN U.S. \$	IN EXCHANGE FOR U.S. \$	NET UNREALIZED APPRECIATION OF CONTRACTS U.S. \$	NET UNREALIZED DEPRECIATION OF CONTRACTS U.S. \$
11/10/08	ARS	3,840,000	\$1,197,711	\$1,232,745	\$ --
11/10/08	BRL	3,963,000	2,064,537	2,408,619	--
10/16/08	TRY	1,910,000	1,496,639	1,520,401	--
				-----	-----
				\$ _____	\$ (402,878)
				-----	-----

FORWARD FOREIGN CURRENCY CONTRACTS TO SELL  
CONTRACTS TO DELIVER

EXPIRATION DATE	LOCAL CURRENCY (a)	VALUE IN U.S. \$	IN EXCHANGE FOR U.S. \$	NET UNREALIZED APPRECIATION OF CONTRACTS U.S. \$	NET UNREALIZED DEPRECIATION OF CONTRACTS U.S. \$
11/10/08	ARS	3,840,000	\$1,197,711	\$1,230,572	\$ 32,861
11/10/08	BRL	6,889,000	3,588,846	4,164,550	575,704
11/10/08	COP	3,267,714,000	1,482,113	1,836,826	354,713
11/10/08	EGP	2,972,000	537,859	551,832	13,973
11/10/08	IDR	7,172,153,000	756,038	743,228	--
10/16/08	MXN	29,942,000	2,731,909	2,896,772	164,863
11/10/08	PEN	1,599,000	534,543	532,645	--
11/10/08	RUB	45,969,000	1,781,542	1,838,797	57,255
10/16/08	TRY	2,475,000	1,939,362	1,944,335	4,973
				-----	-----
				\$1,204,342	\$ (14,708)
				-----	-----
				Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) .....	\$1,204,342
					=====
				Net Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) .....	\$ 786,756
					=====

(a) Please see page 7 for currency descriptions.

See Notes to Quarterly Portfolio of Investments

# Edgar Filing: FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND - Form N-Q

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2008 (UNAUDITED)

## 1. VALUATION AND INVESTMENT PRACTICES

### A. PORTFOLIO VALUATION:

The net asset value ("NAV") of the Common Shares of First Trust/Aberdeen Emerging Opportunity Fund (the "Fund") is determined daily as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE"), normally 4:00 p.m. Eastern time, on each day the NYSE is open for trading. Domestic debt securities and foreign securities are priced using data reflecting the earlier closing of the principal markets for those securities. The NAV per Common Share is calculated by dividing the value of all assets of the Fund (including accrued interest and dividends), less all liabilities (including accrued expenses, dividends declared but unpaid and any borrowings of the Fund), by the total number of Common Shares outstanding.

The Fund's investments are valued daily at market value or, in the absence of market value with respect to any portfolio securities, at fair value according to procedures adopted by the Fund's Board of Trustees. A majority of the Fund's assets are valued using market information supplied by third parties. In addition, structured products, including currency linked notes and credit linked notes, as well as interest rate swaps and credit default swaps, are valued using a pricing service or quotes provided by the selling dealer or financial institution. In the event that market quotations are not readily available, the pricing service does not provide a valuation for a particular asset, or the valuations are deemed unreliable, First Trust Advisors L.P. ("First Trust") may use a fair value method to value the Fund's securities and other investments. Additionally, if events occur after the close of the principal market for particular securities (e.g., domestic debt and foreign securities), but before the Fund values its assets, that could materially affect NAV, First Trust may use a fair value method to value the Fund's securities and other investments. The use of fair value pricing by the Fund is governed by valuation procedures adopted by the Fund's Board of Trustees and in accordance with the provisions of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended. Fixed income securities with a remaining maturity of 60 days or more will be valued by the Fund using a pricing service. Short-term investments that mature in less than 60 days when purchased are valued on an amortized cost basis.

Portfolio securities listed on any exchange other than the NASDAQ National Market ("NASDAQ") and the London Stock Exchange Alternative Investment Market ("AIM") are valued at the last sale price on the business day as of which such value is being determined. Securities listed on the NASDAQ or the AIM are valued at the official closing price on the business day as of which such value is being determined. If there has been no sale on such day, or no official closing price in the case of securities traded on the NASDAQ or the AIM, the securities are valued at the mean of the most recent bid and ask prices on such day. Portfolio securities traded on more than one securities exchange are valued at the last sale price or official closing price, as applicable, on the business day as of which such value is being determined at the close of the exchange representing the principal market for such securities. Portfolio securities traded in the over-the-counter market, but excluding securities trading on the NASDAQ and the AIM, are valued at the closing bid prices.

In September 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 157, Fair Value Measurements ("FAS 157"), effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. This standard clarifies the definition of fair value for financial reporting, establishes a framework for measuring fair value and requires additional disclosures about the use of fair value measurements. FAS 157 became effective for the Fund as of January 1, 2008, the beginning of its current fiscal year. The three levels of

## Edgar Filing: FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND - Form N-Q

the fair value hierarchy under FAS 157 are described below:

- Level 1 - quoted prices in active markets for identical securities
- Level 2 - other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds, credit risk, etc.)
- Level 3 - significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments)

The inputs or methodology used for valuing securities are not necessarily an indication of the risk associated with investing in those securities. A summary of the inputs used to value the Fund's net assets as of September 30, 2008 is included with the Fund's Portfolio of Investments.

### B. SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS:

Securities transactions are recorded as of the trade date. Realized gains and losses from securities transactions are recorded on the identified cost basis.

Securities purchased or sold on a when-issued or delayed-delivery basis may be settled a month or more after the trade date; interest income on such securities is not accrued until settlement date. The Fund maintains liquid assets with a current value at least equal to the amount of its when-issued or delayed-delivery purchase commitments. At September 30, 2008, the Fund had no when-issued or delayed-delivery purchase commitments.

Page 9

### NOTES TO QUARTERLY PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS - (CONTINUED)

#### FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND SEPTEMBER 30, 2008 (UNAUDITED)

### C. CREDIT LINKED NOTES:

The Fund invests in credit linked notes. Credit linked notes are securities that are collateralized by one or more designated securities that are referred to as "reference securities". Through the purchase of a credit linked note, the buyer assumes the risk of the default or, in some cases, other declines in credit quality of the reference securities. The buyer also takes on exposure to the issuer of the credit linked note in the full amount of the purchase price of the note. The issuer of a credit linked note normally will have hedged its risk on the reference securities without acquiring any additional credit exposure. The Fund has the right to receive periodic interest payments from the issuer of the credit linked note at an agreed-upon interest rate and, if there has been no default or, if applicable, other declines in credit quality, a return of principal at the maturity date.

Credit linked notes are subject to credit risk of the reference securities underlying the credit linked notes. If one of the underlying reference securities defaults or suffers certain other declines in credit quality, the Fund may, instead of receiving repayment of principal in whole or in part, receive the security that has defaulted.

Credit linked notes typically are privately negotiated transactions between two or more parties. The Fund bears the risk that the issuer of the credit linked note will default or become bankrupt. The Fund bears the risk of loss of the

## Edgar Filing: FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND - Form N-Q

principal amount it invested, and the periodic interest payments expected to be received for the duration of its investment in the credit linked note.

The market for credit linked notes may suddenly become illiquid. The other parties to the transaction may be the only investors with sufficient understanding of the derivative to be interested in bidding for it. Changes in liquidity may result in significant, rapid and unpredictable changes in the prices for credit linked notes. In certain cases, a market price for a credit linked note may not be available.

### D. FORWARD FOREIGN CURRENCY CONTRACTS:

Forward foreign currency contracts are agreements to exchange one currency for another at a future date and at a specified price. The Fund may use forward foreign currency contracts to facilitate transactions in foreign securities and to manage the Fund's foreign currency exposure. These contracts are valued daily, and the Fund's net equity therein, representing unrealized gain or loss on the contracts as measured by the difference between the forward foreign exchange rates at the dates of entry into the contracts and the forward rates at the reporting date, is included in Net Other Assets and Liabilities on the Portfolio of Investments. Risks arise from the possible inability of counterparties to meet the terms of their contracts and from movement in currency and securities values and interest rates. Due to the risks, the Fund could incur losses up to the entire contract amount, which may exceed the net unrealized value shown in the Schedule of Forward Foreign Currency Contracts.

### E. FOREIGN CURRENCY:

The books and records of the Fund are maintained in U.S. dollars. Foreign currencies, investments and other assets and liabilities are translated into U.S. dollars at the exchange rates prevailing at the end of the period. Purchases and sales of investment securities are translated on the respective dates of such transactions. Net realized foreign currency gains and losses include the effect of changes in exchange rates between trade date and settlement date on investment security and foreign currency transactions.

Page 10

## ITEM 2. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES.

- (a) The registrant's principal executive and principal financial officers, or persons performing similar functions, have concluded that the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 30a-3(c) under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act") (17 CFR 270.30a-3(c))) are effective, as of a date within 90 days of the filing date of the report that includes the disclosure required by this paragraph, based on their evaluation of these controls and procedures required by Rule 30a-3(b) under the 1940 Act (17 CFR 270.30a-3(b)) and Rules 13a-15(b) or 15d-15(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (17 CFR 240.13a-15(b) or 240.15d-15(b)).
- (b) There were no changes in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 30a-3(d) under the 1940 Act (17 CFR 270.30a-3(d)) that occurred during the registrant's last fiscal quarter that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Edgar Filing: FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND - Form N-Q

ITEM 3. EXHIBITS.

Certifications pursuant to Rule 30a-2(a) under the 1940 Act and Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 are attached hereto.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

(Registrant) FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND

By (Signature and Title)\* /S/ JAMES A. BOWEN

-----  
James A. Bowen, Chairman of the Board,  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
(principal executive officer)

Date November 24, 2008

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

By (Signature and Title)\* /S/ JAMES A. BOWEN

-----  
James A. Bowen, Chairman of the Board,  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
(principal executive officer)

DateDate November 24, 2008

By (Signature and Title)\* /S/ MARK R. BRADLEY

-----  
Mark R. Bradley, Treasurer, Controller,  
Chief Financial Officer and Chief Accounting  
Officer (principal financial officer)

DateDate November 24, 2008

\* Print the name and title of each signing officer under his or her signature.