

Stock Partner 4.0 Help Contents

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Click on the part of the Calculations Screen that you want to know more about.

Selected Trade <input type="text" value="SMPL-sample trade"/>		Opening Trade <input type="text" value="R"/> <input type="text" value="100"/> <input type="text" value="2"/> <input type="text" value="1/8"/> <input type="text" value="←"/> <input type="text" value="→"/> <input type="text" value="←"/> <input type="text" value="→"/> Shares Price per Share		<input type="text" value="\$212.50"/> Stock Cost <input type="text" value="\$30.00"/> Estd. Commission <input type="text" value="\$242.50"/> Total Purchase Cost
Trade Status <input checked="" type="radio"/> Evaluating <input type="text" value="Broker"/> <input type="radio"/> Opened <input type="text" value=""/> <input type="radio"/> Closed <input type="text" value=""/>		Closing Trade <input type="text" value="2"/> <input type="text" value="3/8"/> <input type="text" value="4"/> <input type="text" value="1/2"/> <input type="text" value="111.8%"/> <input type="text" value="←"/> <input type="text" value="→"/> Change Price per Share		<input type="text" value="\$450.00"/> Stock Value <input type="text" value="-\$34.25"/> Estd. Commission <input type="text" value="\$415.75"/> Net Sales Value
Position <input checked="" type="radio"/> Long <input type="radio"/> Short		<input type="text" value=""/> Stock Ticker		<input type="text" value="\$173.25"/> PROFIT <input type="text" value="62.6%"/>
Additional Data <input type="button" value="Reports"/> <input type="button" value="Graph"/> <input type="button" value="Company"/> <input type="button" value="Notes"/>		Cost of Capital <input type="text" value="6"/> <input type="text" value="2.5%"/> <input type="text" value="←"/> <input type="text" value="→"/> <input type="text" value="←"/> <input type="text" value="→"/> Months Interest Rate		<input type="text" value="\$212.50"/> Committed Capital <input type="text" value="-\$2.67"/> Cost of Capital <input type="text" value="\$170.58"/> Net Advantage
Program Utilities <input type="button" value="Prompt"/> <input type="button" value="Setup"/> <input type="button" value="Help"/> <input type="button" value="About"/> <input type="button" value="Exit"/>		Dividend Income <input type="text" value="Actual"/> <input type="text" value="\$0.00"/> <input type="text" value="←"/> <input type="text" value="→"/> Estd. Annual DPS		<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/> Actual Dividends <input type="text" value="\$0.00"/> Estd. Current Dividend <input type="text" value="\$170.58"/> Total Advantage

Selected Trade

The **Selected Trade** list box contains the names of all trades entered into Stock Partner. The name of the currently selected trade is always displayed in the list box window. Other trades (when present) can be selected by clicking on the list box's down arrow. When a trade is selected, all screen information is immediately updated to reflect the stored values of that trade. In addition, all company-oriented screens will automatically reference the company data corresponding to the selected trade.

The **New** button is used to enter new trades (and company names) into Stock Partner. When New is pressed, the New Trade window will appear. Select a company by clicking on the company's name in the list box. Company names can be added to the list by pressing **Add a Company**, and can be deleted (if no trades exist for that company) by pressing **Delete a Company**. After selecting a company, enter a unique name for the new trade in the text box and press the **OK** button. A new trade is permanently associated with a company through the use of the stock ticker symbol. The initial trade values are set to zero, except where the configuration file has established minimums or defaults.

The **Save** button is used to save the currently displayed information to the trade file.

The **Delete** button is used to remove the selected trade from the trade file. When Delete is pressed a confirmation window will appear. **NOTE:** When a trade is deleted, any associated Dividend information is also deleted. When the last trade on file for a particular company is deleted, all associated Graph and Stock Notes data is also deleted.

Trade Status

The **Trade Status** section is used to establish that a trade is being Evaluated, that a trade has been Opened, or that a trade has been Closed.

Evaluating indicates that the trade has been entered in order to evaluate possible scenarios. All program controls are enabled in this mode.

Opened indicates that a trade has been opened. When the Opened option is selected, the Trade Opened window will appear in which the Total Commission Actually Paid and the Date the Trade was Opened can be entered.

The **Total Commission Actually Paid** is initially set to the estimated commission calculated by Stock Partner. Actual commissions up to a maximum of 50,000 dollars can be entered. **NOTE:** setting this value to zero causes Stock Partner to continue using the estimated value. If a trade is commission-free, use one cent as the actual commission.

The **Date the Trade was Opened** is initially set to the system date. This date can be adjusted to accommodate trade Openings that occurred up to two years before the system date.

After setting the Total Commission Actually Paid and the Date the Trade was Opened, press the **OK** button. When the Trade Opened window disappears the opening trade date is displayed next to the Opened option, the Shares and Price per Share scroll bars are disabled, and the Cost of Capital will be recalculated to reflect the actual number of months that the trade has been open.

The small button next to the Opened option allows **adjustments** to be made to the Total Commission Actually Paid and the Date the Trade was Opened.

Closed indicates that the trade has previously been Opened and is now being Closed. When the Closed option is selected, the Trade Closed window will appear in which the Total Commission Actually Paid and the Date the Trade was Closed can be entered.

The **Total Commission Actually Paid** is initially set to the estimated commission calculated by Stock Partner. Actual commissions up to a maximum of 50,000 dollars can be entered. **NOTE:** setting this value to zero causes Stock Partner to continue using the estimated value. If a trade is commission-free, use one cent as the actual commission.

The **Date the Trade was Closed** is initially set to the system date. This date can be adjusted to any date since the trade was Opened.

After setting the Total Commission Actually Paid and the Date the Trade was Closed, press the **OK** button. When the Trade Closed window disappears the date is displayed next to the Closed option, the (Closing Trade) Price per Share scroll bar is disabled, and the Cost of Capital will be recalculated to reflect the actual number of months that the trade was open.

The small button next to the Closed option allows **adjustments** to be made to the Total Commission Actually Paid and the Date the Trade was Closed.

Pressing the **Broker** button will bring up a text box in which phone numbers, addresses and other contact information can be conveniently entered and retrieved. There is no predefined format for this information. Since this information can be somewhat sensitive, the data is scrambled while being saved to disk. Keep in mind, however, that to keep any information really secure you should maintain physical control of your PC and all of its data files.

Position

Two positions can be taken in a stock trade. Taking a **Long** position means that you actually own the specified number of shares and anticipate that the stock price will rise. Taking a **Short** position generally means that you have sold the specified number of "borrowed" shares which must later be "covered." A Short position is taken when it is anticipated that the stock price will fall.

With a **Long** position the calculations are straightforward. Net Sales Value minus Total Purchase Cost equals PROFIT. Cost of Capital is based on the entire principal amount, and dividends (if applicable) are paid to you, the owner of the stock.

With a **Short** position the calculations are slightly more complicated. The Net Proceeds of the Short sale minus the Covering Costs equals PROFIT. Cost of Capital is based on the fraction of the principal specified in the Short Sale Margin Requirement item of the Setup screen. No dividends are received when a stock is Shorted.

Entering Values

The three primary stock trade values are entered using the scroll bars labeled **Shares**, **(Opening Trade) Price per Share**, and **(Closing Trade) Price per Share**. As these scroll bars are changed, all necessary calculations are performed and the results are immediately displayed.

The **Shares** scroll bar is used to establish the number of stock shares to be used in all subsequent calculations. The small button to the left of the share quantity can be used to change the precision of the scroll bar. The button's label will indicate "**R**" for **Round lots** (100s/1000s) or "**O**" for **Odd lots** (1s/10s.) The maximum number of shares in a single trade is 30,000.

The **(Opening Trade) Price per Share** scroll bar is used to enter the opening trade share price. Clicking on the left/right arrows decreases or increases the share price by 1/8 of a dollar. Clicking to the left/right of the scroll bar indicator decreases or increases the share price by one dollar. In addition, the scroll bar indicator can be dragged to any valid position. The maximum share price is 200 dollars.

The **(Closing Trade) Price per Share** scroll bar is used to enter the current or target share price. Clicking on the left/right arrows decreases or increases the share price by 1/8 of a dollar. Clicking to the left/right of the scroll bar indicator decreases or increases the share price by one dollar. In addition, the scroll bar indicator can be dragged to any valid position. The maximum share price is 200 dollars. **Change** displays the difference in share price between the (Opening Trade) Price per Share and the (Closing Trade) Price per Share. The change percentage is also displayed.

Basic Calculations Performed

Entering the three primary stock values described above will enable Stock Partner to perform some basic calculations. The results of these calculations are described here, referring to their screen labels as displayed for Long and Short Positions.

Long Position Calculation Results

Stock Cost is the purchase value of the shares based on the price indicated in (Opening Trade) Price per Share.

Actual/Estd. Commission is the actual or estimated fee charged by a brokerage firm in order to buy the stock. Stock Partner calculates this fee based on the share price, the number of shares, and Setup options. This estimate can be overridden with the actual fee when the stock is purchased.

Total Purchase Cost is the stock purchase value plus the commission cost. This is the amount that the broker will debit from your account to purchase the stock.

Stock Value is the sale value of the stock shares based on the price indicated in (Closing Trade) Price per Share.

Actual/Estd. Commission is the actual or estimated fee charged by a brokerage firm in order to sell the stock. Stock Partner calculates this fee based on the share price, the number of shares, and Setup options. This estimate can be overridden with the actual fee when the stock is sold.

Net Sales Value is the stock sale value minus the commission cost. This is the amount that the broker will credit to your account after selling the stock.

PROFIT is the difference between the net sales amount and the total purchase cost. This value is the actual profit or loss on the stock trade after commissions. Losses are displayed in red.

Short Position Calculation Results

Short Sale Proceeds is the sale value of the "borrowed" stock shares based on the price indicated in (Opening Trade) Price per Share.

Actual/Estd. Commission is the actual or estimated fee charged by a brokerage firm in order to sell the stock. Stock Partner calculates this fee based on the share price, the number of shares, and Setup options. This estimate can be overridden with the actual fee when the stock is sold.

Net Proceeds is the stock sale value minus the commission cost. This is the amount that the broker will record in your account as a liability or contra-asset.

Current/Target Value is the purchase cost of the stock shares based on the price indicated in (Closing Trade) Price per Share.

Actual/Estd. Commission is the actual or estimated fee charged by a brokerage firm in order to buy the stock. Stock Partner calculates this fee based on the share price, the number of shares, and Setup options. This estimate can be overridden with the actual fee when the stock is purchased.

Short Covering Costs is the stock purchase value minus the commission cost.

This is the amount that the broker will apply to your account to remove the liability incurred by the short sale.

PROFIT is the difference between the net proceeds of the short sale and the costs to cover the short sale . This value is the actual profit or loss on the stock trade after commissions. Losses are displayed in red.

Cost of Capital

This section allows "opportunity cost" and the time value of money to be taken into consideration by Stock Partner. The Cost of Capital calculation uses daily compounding to approximate the return on a CD investment. This section can also be used to approximate the finance cost associated with margin buying. A margin loan, however, will generally be calculated using simple interest.

The **Months** value is calculated automatically if the Trade Status is Opened or Closed. If the Trade Status is Evaluating, the Months value must be set manually. The maximum time span supported by Stock Partner is 60 months (five years.)

Interest Rate should be set to reflect the annual rate currently quoted for CDs, money markets and similar cash investments. The initial value of Interest Rate is determined by the default value in Setup. The maximum interest rate supported by Stock Partner is 15 percent.

Cost of Capital Calculation Results

Committed Capital is the principal amount used in the Cost of Capital calculations. For a Long Position, the entire Stock Cost is considered to be Committed Capital. For a Short Position, the Short Sale Proceeds times the Short Sale Margin Requirement in the Setup screen is considered to be Committed Capital.

Cost of Capital is the foregone interest income or the margin financing costs associated with the investment of the Committed Capital.

Net Advantage is the PROFIT amount of the stock trade minus the Cost of Capital. This figure shows the extent to which it was profitable to engage in the trade when commission costs and capital costs are taken into consideration.

Dividends

Stock Partner can track actual stock dividends, and can estimate the stock's dividend income for the current period.

Actual dividends are viewed by pressing the Actual button. Actual dividends are distributed to trades using the **Distribute Dividends** function in the [Company Screen](#).

Estd. Annual DPS is used to enter the estimated annual dividend per share in order to calculate the estimated dividend for the current period. The maximum estimated annual dividend per share supported is 10 dollars.

Dividend Calculation Results

Actual Dividends is the sum of all previous actual dividends distributed to this trade.

Estd. Current Dividend is the estimated dividend for the current quarter. The Estd. Annual DPS is multiplied by the number of shares traded, and the result is divided by four.

Total Advantage is the Net Advantage plus Actual Dividends and Estd. Current Dividends. This figure shows the extent to which it was profitable to engage in the stock trade when commission costs, capital costs, and dividend income are all taken into consideration.

Using Auto-Prompt

Auto-Prompt provides a convenient method for updating current stock prices and graph data. Once started, Auto-Prompt will present all company names for which a trade is present, one by one for updating. **NOTE:** Since the share price for Closed trades cannot be updated, a company containing only Closed trades will be presented only if there is an associated Graph to update.

Current Price per Share shows the (Closing Trade) Price per Share previously recorded in the trade record. Use the scroll bar to enter the current market price for the stock.

Pressing the **Update** button commits the update and causes the next company to be presented.

Pressing **Skip** does not update the current company, but causes the next company to be presented.

Pressing **Quit** at any time will end Auto-Prompt .

Creating Reports

Pressing the **Reports** button brings up the Stock Reports window. The trades shown in the Trades Available list can be selected in any order or combination, and cost of capital or dividends detail can be included by selecting options in the Include box. Before creating Stock Reports, share prices should be updated to reflect the latest market price. Auto-Prompt can be particularly helpful for this purpose.

Trades Available is a list of all available trades. Each trade is coded with a prefix which identifies its current Trade Status and Position. In the first letter of the prefix "**E**" stands for Evaluating, "**O**" stands for Opened, and "**C**" stands for Closed. In the second letter of the prefix "**L**" stands for Long and "**S**" stands for Short.

Individual trades can be moved to the **Trades Selected** list by double-clicking on the trade identifier in the Trades Available list. The Trades Selected list can be cleared by pressing the **Clear** button above the Trades Selected list.

Evaluate will select all trades in the Trades Available list that have a Trade Status of Evaluating, and place them in the Trades Selected list. If no other trades are selected, the report will be titled "Stocks Being Evaluated."

Opened will select all trades in the Trades Available list that have a Trade Status of Opened, and place them in the Trades Selected list. If no other trades are selected, the report will be titled "Stocks Currently Held."

Closed will select all trades in the Trades Available list that have a Trade Status of Closed, and place them in the Trades Selected list. If no other trades are selected, the report will be titled "Stocks Previously Sold."

The **Include** options allow additional detail to be included in a Stock Report.

Cost of Capital will generate one line of financing information for each trade in the report.

Dividends will list the actual dividends tracked as well as the estimated current dividend for each trade in the report that contains dividend information.

Pressing **Summary** will summarize the information associated with the Trades Selected, and present the results in a window. This Summary window can then be printed if desired.

Pressing **Print** will cause the Stock Report to be created and sent to Print Manager for printing.

Pressing **Exit** will cancel all selections and close the Stock Reports window.

Company Screen

The Company Screen provides program features that handle company-oriented actions such as stock splits, distributing dividends to trades, deleting dividends, and deleting entire companies from Stock Partner.

Dividends are entered into Stock Partner by using the **Distribute Dividends** feature. Pressing this button brings up the Enter Dividend Data screen, which contains an input box for the **Dividend Amount to Distribute**, and a scroll bar with which to enter the **Date of Dividend**. Enter the amount of your dividend check, then press **OK**.

The Distribute Dividends window will appear, in which the Dividend Amount to Distribute can be distributed to one or more **Eligible Trades**. An Eligible Trade is an Open or Closed trade with a Long Position. To help ensure that the proper trade is selected, the Trade Status ("O" for Open and "C" for Closed,) the opening trade date, and the number of shares in the trade have all been added to the trade identifiers. Eligible Trades become **Selected Trades** by double-clicking on the desired trade identifier in the list box. Pressing **OK** will distribute the dividend to the Selected Trades based on the number of shares in each trade. If the **Add Note Entry** box is checked, a Stock Note entry will be automatically created in the notes file for the company. The results for each trade can be viewed by pressing the **Actual** button in the Dividends section of the main calculations screen.

The **Delete Dividends** feature is used to remove dividend entries from Stock Partner. The Delete Dividends screen contains a list of all dividend distributions made, and includes the date of the distribution, the amount distributed to the trade, and the trade identifier. To delete a dividend, highlight the desired entry by clicking on the trade identifier in the list box, and then press **Delete**. If **OK** is selected in the confirmation window, the dividend entry is deleted. **NOTE:** Deleting dividends will not automatically remove a Stock Notes entry that might have been created automatically during the Dividend Distribution process.

The **Stock Split** button presents a window in which stock splits and reverse splits can be easily recorded. An example of the stock split result is presented to help ensure that the proper split is selected. It is a good idea to use the Diskette Get/Put function in Setup to back up your Stock Partner files before performing a stock split operation.

Type of Split contains two scroll bars and is used to establish the nature of the stock split. If the terminology is confusing, remember that YOU GET X shares FOR Y shares OWNED. Thus, a 2 FOR 1 stock split means that you will receive 2 shares for each share owned, and the Price per Share will be halved. A reverse stock split is rare and results in a consolidation of the outstanding shares. Thus, a 1 FOR 2 reverse split means that you will receive one share for every two shares owned, and the Price per Share will double.

The **Date of Split** is used by Stock Partner to determine which graph data points will be adjusted for the split. All graph data points dated on or before the Date of Split will be adjusted relative to the Type of Split indicated. The graph data adjustment allows for a more meaningful assessment of the stock's share price movements over time.

Pressing **OK** causes a confirmation window to appear. When confirmed, Stock Partner will update the Opening Trade information, Closing Trade information, and all graph data points dated on or before the Date of Split. If the **Add Note Entry** box is checked, a Stock Note describing the split will automatically be placed in the Notes

file for the selected company.

NOTE: Stock Partner will not allow a stock split that would violate program limitations regarding maximum number of shares and share prices. In addition, the accuracy of the split calculations may falter when using extremely low share prices/quantities or certain Odd Lot combinations.

The **Delete Entire Company** button is used to remove all data associated with the selected company. There is a detailed confirmation window, however, this feature should obviously be used with caution.

Making Graphs

The **Graph** button is used to create and display a graph of a company's stock price movements over time. Up to three year's graph data can be stored. Since only non-zero data points are plotted, graph data can be entered as seldom or as often as desired. Unused, zero value data points will appear at the bottom of the graph to serve as a visual indication of the number of data points being omitted.

When a new graph is created, a window will appear prompting for the starting date of the graph. Dates up to 365 days before the current system date can be specified using the **Starting Date** scroll bar. Pressing **OK** will bring up the new, empty graph. Graph data can now be entered manually (see **Enter Graph Data** below) or automatically (see Auto-Prompt)

The **red grid line** (if present) is the break even point for all Open, Long trades of the company's stock. **NOTE:** Opening Trade commissions and the estimated Closing Trade commissions are both included in the break even point calculation.

Stock Notes are represented as small buttons at the top of the graph corresponding to each Note's date. By pressing these buttons, the respective Stock Notes information will be displayed on the screen. High/Low prices and Opening/Closing trade information will appear automatically as Note buttons.

The **Enter Graph Data** button opens a window in which dates and stock prices can be entered.

The **Date of Record** scroll bar is initially set to the current system date. Any date between the graph's starting date and the current system date can be selected. The **Price per Share** scroll bar is used to set the stock price corresponding to the Date of Record. Pressing the **small button** under the stock price immediately sets Price per Share to the value of the (Closing Trade) Price per Share from the main screen. When the desired date/price combination has been selected, press the **Save** button to store the values. The process can then be repeated for another date. When finished, press the **Exit** button to return to the graph. **NOTE:** No data is accepted for Saturdays and Sundays.

Adjust Graph Range is used to move the graph's starting date forward in time, allowing for more current entries to be tracked. The **New Graph Start Date** scroll bar can be set to any date between the graph's original starting date and the current system date. Press **OK** to establish the new starting date for the graph.

The **Delete Entire Graph** button is used to remove all graph data for the selected company. After confirming this selection, the graph data is deleted and control is returned to the main calculations screen. **NOTE:** This option should be used with caution.

The **Date Range** scroll bar is used to select the date range displayed on the graph. The graph's X axis is always presented as a 365 day range. Pressing the right/left arrows will move the date range forward or backward by three months. Pressing to the right/left of the scroll indicator will move the date range forward or backward by one year.

Pressing the **Print** button will cause the graph to be sent to Print Manager for printing.

Press **Exit** to return to the main screen.

Program Setup

The **Setup** window stores default information used in various Stock Partner calculations.

Type of Broker is used to determine rate structures in the algorithm that calculates the estimated commission costs. **Full Service** brokers (Merrill Lynch, A.G. Edwards, etc.) charge considerably higher commissions than do **Discount** brokers (Fidelity, Schwab, etc.) Increasingly popular are "**Per Share**" brokers who charge a fixed amount per share traded (and a hefty minimum.) When the Per Share option is selected, the small scroll bar will allow entry of the per share fee.

Minimum Commission Charge should be set to the minimum commission charged by the Broker for a stock trade. The highest minimum commission charge supported by Stock Partner is 100 dollars.

Miscellaneous Fees per Trade should be set to reflect any additional fees charged by the broker for each trade. Almost all brokers charge a few dollars per trade for postage and handling, processing, etc. This fee is usually listed separately on trade confirmation notices. The highest miscellaneous fee per trade supported by Stock Partner is 100 dollars.

Short Trade Margin Requirement allows Stock Partner to compute Committed Capital in the Cost of Capital section based on this fraction of the Short Sale Proceeds. Most brokers require that cash or equities worth 50 percent of the Short Sale Proceeds be reserved in your account for the duration the Short trade. Margin "calls" are not addressed by Stock Partner.

Default Interest Rate should be set to reflect the annual rate currently quoted for CDs, money markets and similar cash investments. The maximum interest rate supported by Stock Partner is 15 percent.

Password Protection instructs Stock Partner to prompt the user for a password each time the program is started. Any time the checkbox goes from unchecked to checked (x) the New Password window will appear. Passwords must be at least three characters long. To remove password protection simply click on the checkbox to uncheck it. Once a password has been enabled or disabled, pressing Setup's Cancel button will not cancel the change. **NOTE:** Stock Partner's password protection does not encrypt the data and should not be considered a primary source of data security. The intention is simply to keep out nosy co-workers, friends, etc.

Diskette Get and Put provides a simple way to back up and restore your Stock Partner data, or, to "shuttle" Stock Partner data between your home and office computers. Pressing the Diskette Get and Put button will bring up the Diskette Get and Put window.

Select Diskette is used to point Stock Partner to the proper diskette drive for the Get Data or Put Data operation.

The **Get Data** button instructs Stock Partner to search the selected diskette drive for the directory \SP40, and to copy the Stock Partner data found there to the hard disk directory containing the Stock Partner program. **NOTE:** all Stock Partner data in the hard disk directory will be overwritten with the Stock Partner data found in the \SP40 directory on the selected diskette drive.

The **Put Data** button instructs Stock Partner to copy all of the Stock Partner data found in the hard disk directory to the directory \SP40 on the selected diskette drive.

If the directory \SP40 is not found on the selected diskette drive, it will be created automatically. **NOTE:** all Stock Partner data in the \SP40 directory on the selected diskette drive will be overwritten with the Stock Partner data found in the hard disk directory.

The **Clear Local Data** checkbox is used when you wish to erase all Stock Partner data found in the hard disk directory upon the successful completion of the Put Data operation. **NOTE:** since all Stock Partner data found in the hard disk directory will be erased, this option should be used with caution.

The **File Dates** button is used to determine which sets of data files are more recent. Last modification date/time for the file SP40.TRD (the trade file) is presented for both the Hard Disk data and the Selected Diskette data.

The **Cancel** button causes the Diskette Get and Put window to disappear, and returns control to the Program Setup window.

Using Stock Notes

Stock Notes are "index cards" that can be used to associate a date with news, broker opinions, and other events pertaining to the selected company. These Notes will automatically appear as small buttons at the top of a stock's Graph, allowing you to see the effect of the news on the stock price or to gauge the reliability of a broker's recommendations.

Press **New** to begin entering a new note record. There is no predefined format for this information and up to 150 characters can be entered per note. The note date defaults to the system date and can be adjusted by using the adjacent scroll bar.

Press **Save** to commit note adds and changes to the Notes file.

Press **Delete** to remove a note from the Notes file.

The **Note X of X** scroll bar is used to browse through all of the Notes for the selected company.

Pressing **OK** will commit any unsaved note information to the Notes file and return to the main screen.

Pressing **Cancel** will return immediately to the main screen, discarding any unsaved changes.

Stock Ticker

Stock Ticker is a cute diversion that simulates the tickers used on the major trading floors.

The small button to the left of the Stock Ticker toggles the Stock Ticker on and off. When the Stock Ticker is on, the trading symbols for trades marked as Evaluating or Opened are continuously scrolled across the Stock Ticker box along with the (Closing Trade) Price per Share.

NOTE: Auto-Prompt should be run first to make sure that the Stock Ticker prices reflect the current market price.

Overview

Stock Partner can be used as a "desktop calculator" to evaluate potential stock trades, or as a comprehensive tool for managing an entire portfolio of stocks.

The main Calculations Screen provides information regarding an **individual stock trade**. To evaluate the profitability of a stock trade simply enter the number of shares, the opening price per share, and the closing (or current) price per share. Broker commissions are automatically estimated, and Stock Partner's calculations instantly produce a detailed profit/loss assessment of the trade.

Other program features such as stock graphs and note entries can track information pertaining to an **entire company**. When an individual stock trade is selected, all data for the respective company is selected as well.

Using Stock Partner is easy! Begin by setting the appropriate broker type and commission information in the Setup screen.

Next, add companies and trades by pressing the New button under Selected Trade. Give each trade a descriptive name such as "my rising star," "bought on weakness," "David's pick," etc. For each trade, Enter Values for the number of shares, the opening trade (purchase) price per share, and the closing trade (or current) price per share. Also, indicate the appropriate Trade Status and Position for each trade.

The Cost of Capital is used to calculate the "opportunity cost" of not investing in safer alternatives (such as CDs,) or to calculate the financing costs associated with a margin loan. Estimated Dividend income for the current quarter can be calculated by entering the company's estimated annual dividend per share.

A portfolio has now been entered and Reports can be created.

Press the Graph button to establish a new stock graph for the company associated with the currently selected trade. After selecting the graph's starting date, an empty graph will be presented. Use the graph's Enter Graph Data button to enter historical date/price data points.

On a daily (or weekly) basis, the Auto-Prompt feature can be used to update the entire portfolio, including graphs. Auto-Prompt takes less than a minute to use!

Stock Partner's Stock Notes feature provides a way to "remember" important dated information such as news items, earnings reports, broker recommendations, etc. Stock Notes are plotted onto a company's graph so that the effect of the event on the stock price can be easily seen.

When dividend checks are received, the check amount can be distributed back to the trades that actually generated the dividend income. Tracking dividends by trade (rather than by company aggregate) allows the profitability of the trade to be assessed more realistically. The Distribute Dividends button in the Company Screen handles this process.

There are many other useful facilities in Stock Partner. Continue browsing this Help file for more information.

Disclaimer

Users of Stock Partner must accept this disclaimer of warranty:

"Stock Partner is supplied as is. The author disclaims all warranties, expressed or implied, including, without limitation, the warranties of merchantability and of fitness for any purpose.

The author assumes no liability for damages, direct or consequential, which may result from the use of Stock Partner."

