

1.25740
1.24380
1.23700
1.23020
1.22340
1.21680
0.007171

Vladimir Rikakov's
Forex Signals & Mentoring

Vladimir's Trading Simulator

User Guide

Version 1.0

<http://www.VladimirForexSignals.com>

Hello my friend, and welcome to my Trading Simulator user guide!

Well, you must be wondering what it's all about and how can I surprise you, so let's dive right in:

The Trading Simulator is software that my team of programmers built to my request. It enables you to test any strategy, exercise your trading, find out how to improve strategies and even invent new strategies.

Yes, that's right... and in a minute I'll explain how to use it.

Ideas - how to use my simulator

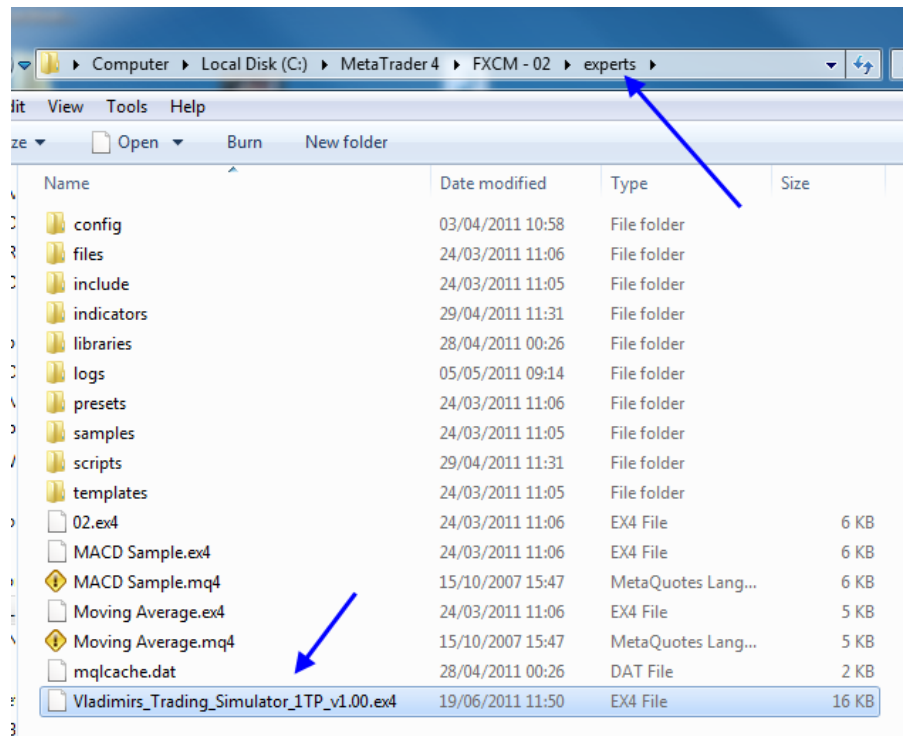
- If you've just learned a **new trading system**, looking at historical charts and finding setups in hindsight is not the way to go... Use the simulator to see true market action, and practice the strategy's decision-making without relying on hindsight, which will of course not help you when coming later to trade it live...
- **Practicing your live trading:** as you know, one of the biggest problems for traders, is the live entry. Any beginner and sometimes even veterans, might get "cold feet" when it comes to entering a trade. That's why you have this simulator right now. Practice any market condition, and improve yourself and your confidence at the decision making process.
- **Practice your trading psychology:** another area where many traders suffer is the live trading psychology. Most traders, especially at the beginning, find it difficult to let the trade work, and tend to close the trade not according the rules. And because of that, traders cut profits too fast, and do not cut losses on time.
That's exactly the reason why you need the simulator. Practice many trades as their results unfold, the entries and the exits, until you feel that no market condition negatively affects your psychology.

...continued - ideas on how to use my simulator:

- In my Forex Signals & Mentoring service, my members can request Indicator and Robot **development for free**, and this simulator will hopefully help members in refining their strategy ideas.
- Moreover, when you **develop your own strategy**, or if you wish to add rules to an existing strategy, testing it on live market means you'll have to sit on wait, sometimes for complete days or weeks, for just one setup to materialize! That's of course not very efficient. Use the simulator to fast-forward the market action and quickly see your trading ideas unfold.
- Find the market's "behind the scenes": everyone knows that markets **constantly change** their character. For example July, August and some of September can be less volatile than other months. Now you have the chance to see market action and character quickly change and unfold, and see how your strategy works in the "problematic" zones, and how you as trader can succeed even in such situations.

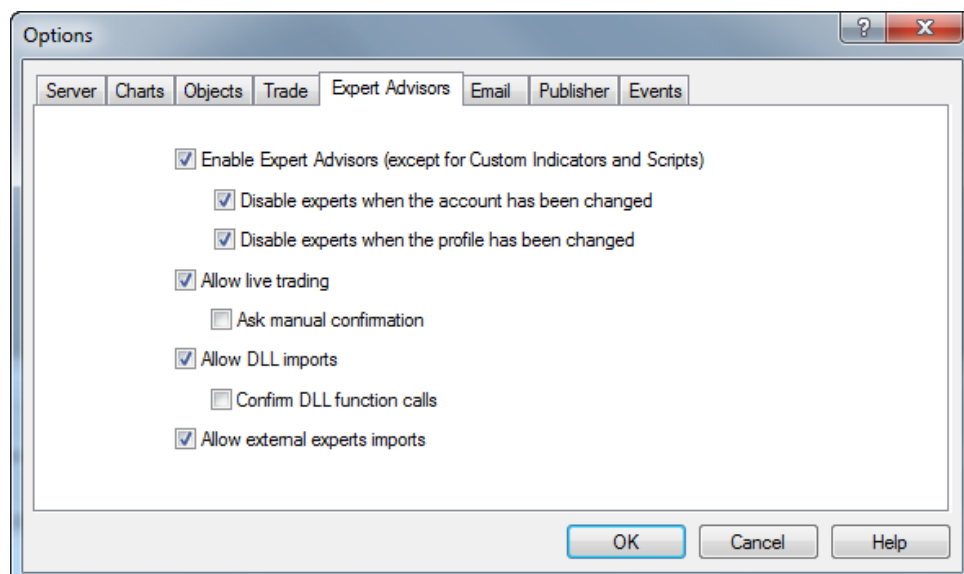
So let's begin with installing the simulator. Just do the following:

- 1.If your MetaTrader is open, close it.
 2. Copy the file you downloaded, into MetaTrader's experts folder.
- The file is named: Vladimirs_Trading_Simulator_1TP_v1.00.ex4



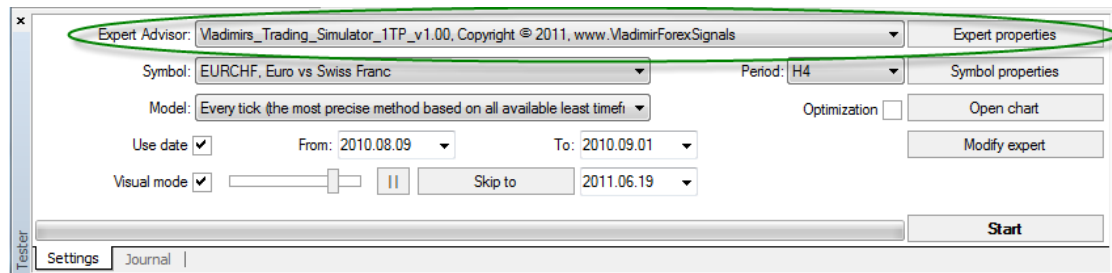
That's all! Now open your MetaTrader.

From the Tools menu, choose Options, and make sure the following boxes are ticked and un-ticked EXCATLY as they appear in this screen shot:



The simulator works on backtest, with what's called "Visual Mode", so you need to open MetaTrader's strategy tester: From the View menu, choose Strategy Tester.

When you have MetaTrader's Strategy Tester open, from the Expert Advisors drop-down box, choose "Vladimir's Trading Simulator":

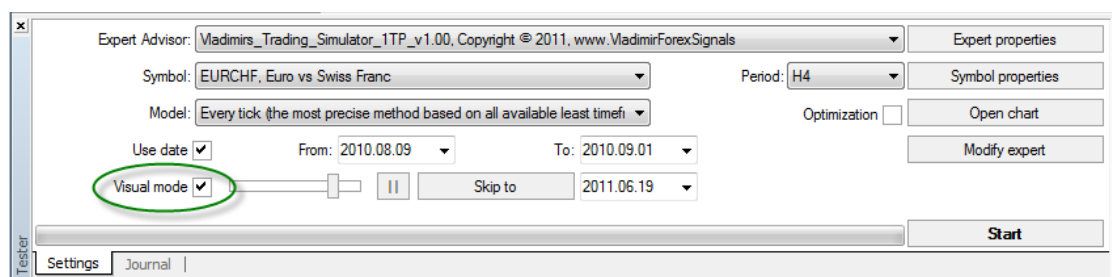


Imagine it this way: instead of a robot test, this is now a human testing ANY strategy in the past! Sounds amazing? That's just the beginning.

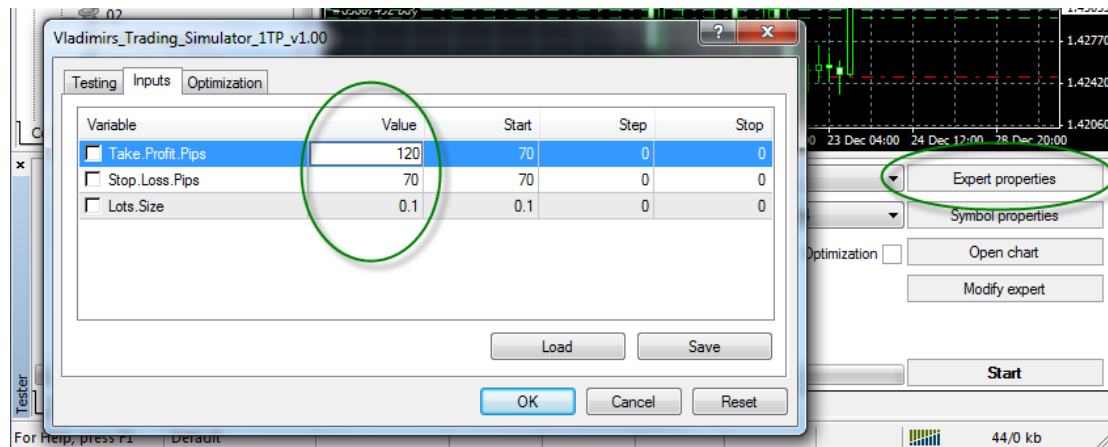
To make sure you test it correct, all you have to do is create the template you want to test on your charts, and call this template with the same name as the simulator EA, which is called:

Vladimirs_Trading_Simulator_1TP_v1.00

Now, tick the box next to "Visual Mode" (because we are going to test on the past) and choose the date range you want to test:



Click the Expert properties button, and choose the initial Stop Loss, Take Profit and the lot size you want your trades be opened with.

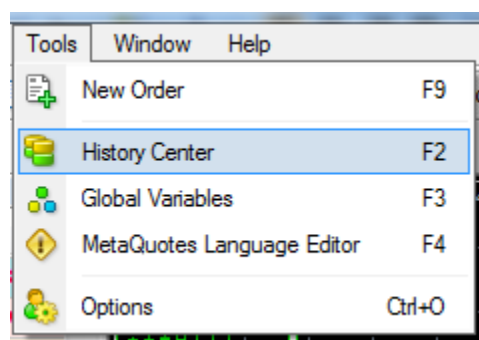


When finished, click OK then click the Start button.

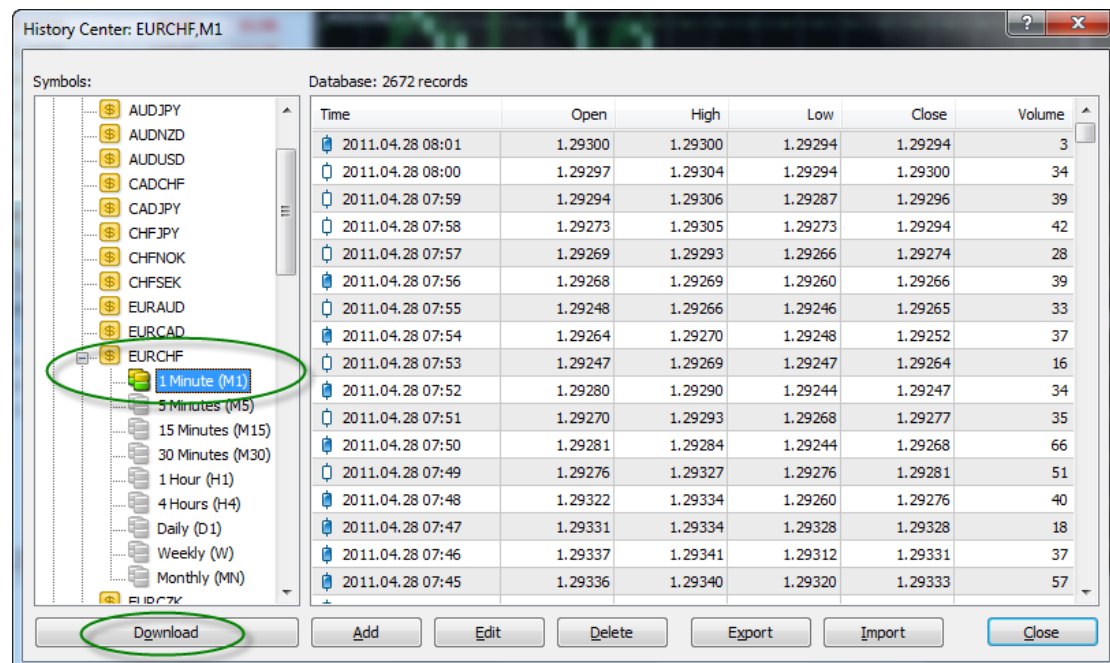
Now you should see a new chart opened, with the strategy template of the strategy you wish to test.

The button on the bottom right corner should change from "Start" to "Stop".

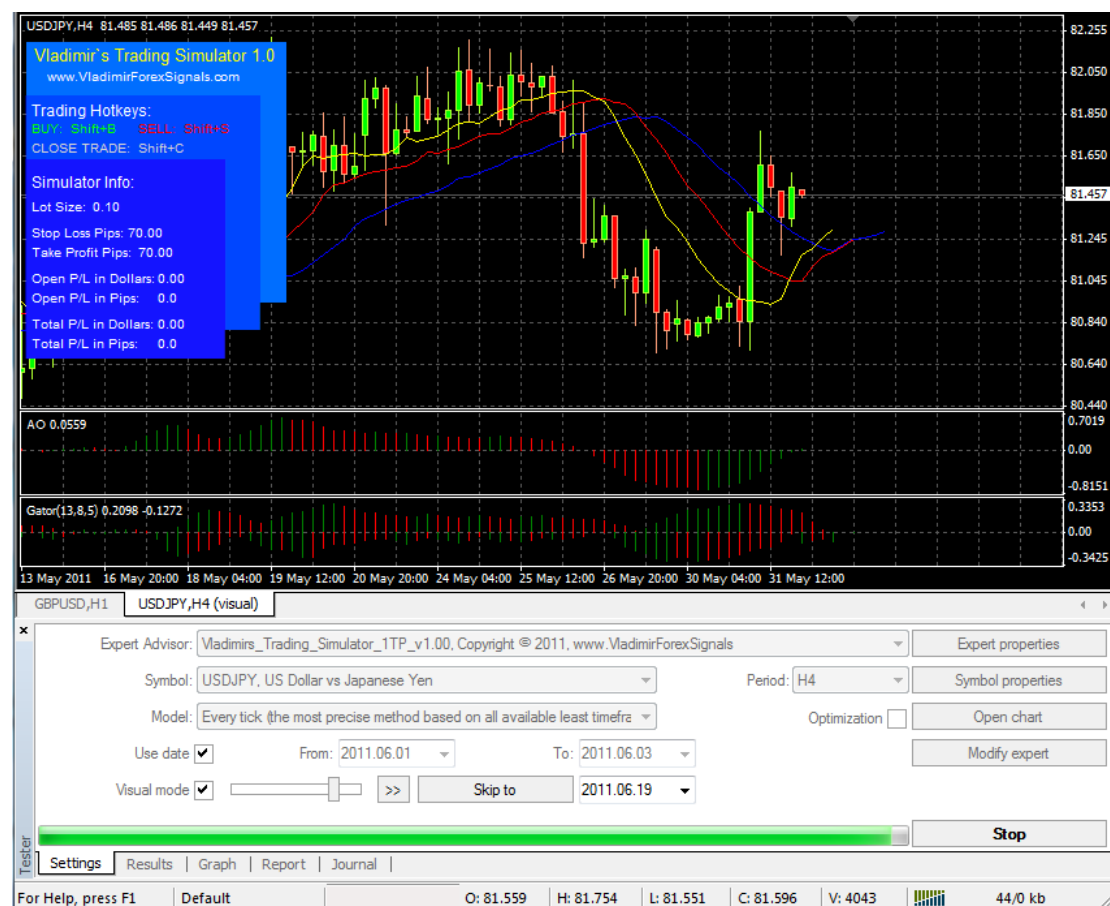
If the button still displays "Start", and you get a "Waiting for update" message on the chart, it means you do not have enough history data to test on, or you specified incorrect start and end dates to test. In this case, go to the Tools menu, then choose History Center:



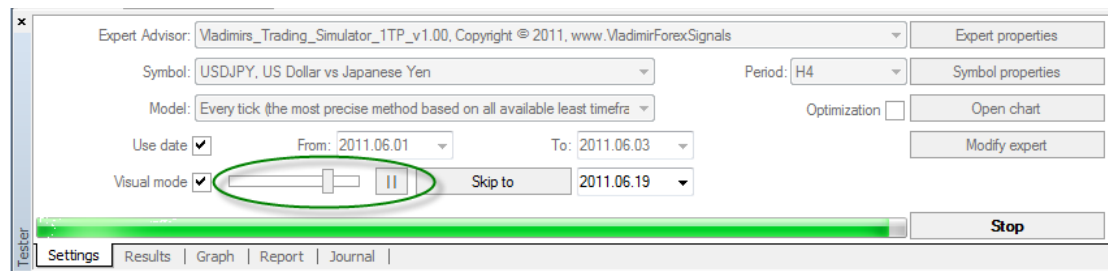
Here you'll be able to download historical data for your test:



Assuming you have the historical data downloaded, and you clicked the Start button, you now see the simulator along with your strategy's template:



You can play with the speed with which the market prices unfold, by dragging the bar here:



You can also click the || button on the right, to momentarily pause the chart (for example, if you want to change the stop loss of a trade, as I explain later).

Now the fun begins.

You're all set, and ready to begin testing your strategy.

When the rules of the strategy are met, you open a trade. Imagine you are trading live market; you have no idea what is going to happen. You have the market as it is at the moment, and you need to decide what to do.

So, when the rules met, buy or sell.

On your keyboard, press SHIFT+B to buy, SHIFT+S to sell, and if you don't need to wait until your SL or TP are reached, you can close the trade at any moment, by pressing SHIFT+C.

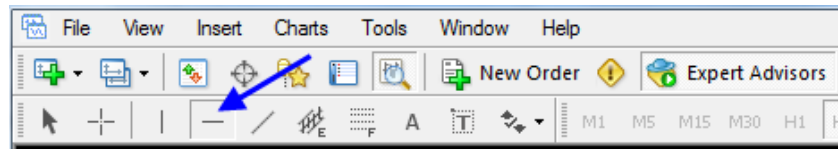
What you actually do is trading!!!

Yes, you trade in the past, but you have no idea how the market is going to behave next and how will it look like. So this is just the best way to practice or test a strategy.

As for this version (yes, we are working on developing a new version with more options!) you have a fixed lot size and a single profit target.

However, you can still adjust both the profit target and the stop loss on the move, as the trade progresses. For example, if a trade goes in your favor and you'd like to move its Stop Loss price to above the trade's entry point, to lock some of the profit, do the following:

1. On MetaTrader's toolbar, click the Horizontal Line tool:



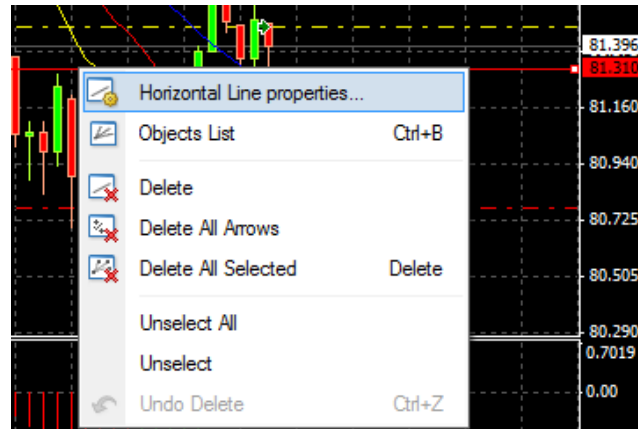
Alternatively, from the Insert menu choose Lines, then Horizontal Line.

2. Place the line on the chart, at the location you'd like the new stop loss price to be:

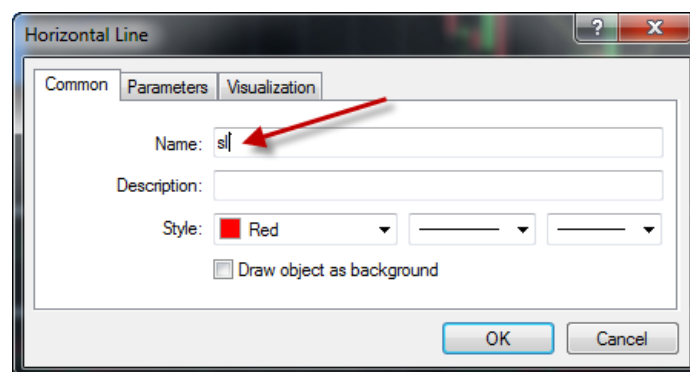


In this example, the old stop loss was around 80.75 and I placed the line at 81.310 which will serve as the new stop loss price.

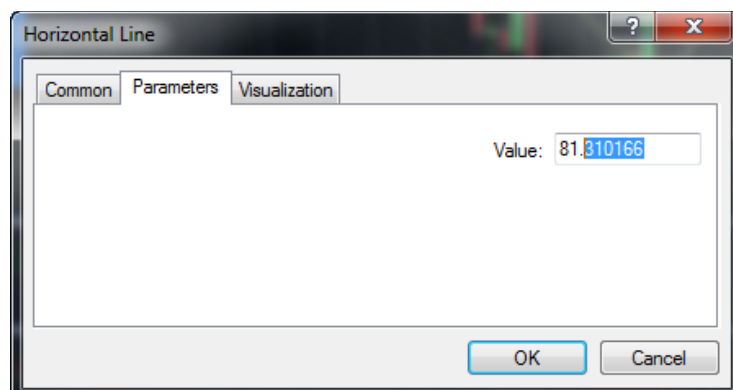
3. To finalize the action and have the simulator automatically change the stop loss, right click on the line and choose Horizontal Line Properties:



4. Then, on the window that opens, instead of the Name that appears there, input the letters: sl



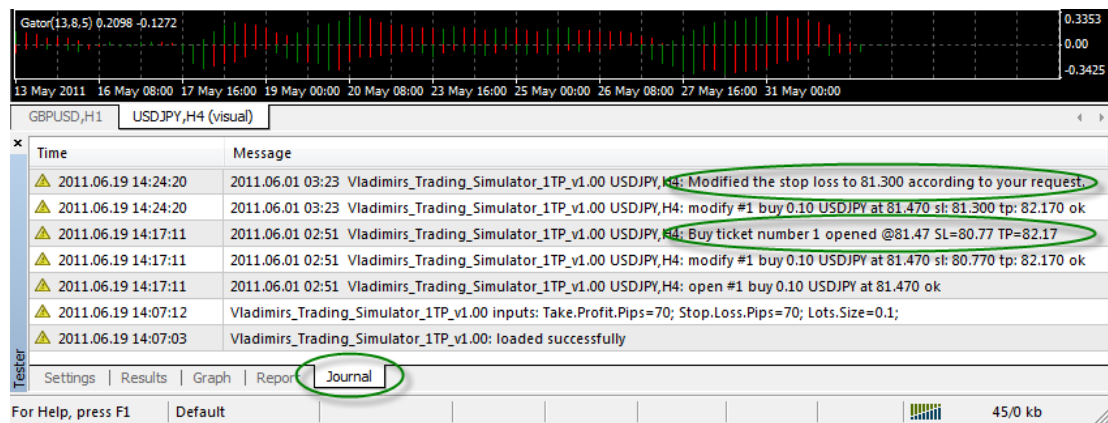
5. If you'd like to input an accurate price for the stop loss, you can do so in the Parameters tab:



6. If you'd like to change the take profit price as well, draw another line, then input its name as: tp

After clicking OK, you'll return to the chart and the new stop or profit will be changed.

Tip: if you'd like to verify what happens with your trades, you can click the Strategy Tester's Journal tab, to view status messages:



On the top left of the chart, as the trade progresses, you can monitor its profit and loss in pips and in dollars:



When trades are closed, you can also see here the total profit and loss for all closed trades, in both pips and dollars.

If you click the Strategy Tester's Results tab, you will see the list of all trades and all trading actions you took (closing, modifying stop loss, etc) in this list:

#	Time	Type	Order	Size	Price	S / L	T / P	Profit	Balance
1	2011.06.01 00:10	sell	1	0.10	81.453				
2	2011.06.01 00:10	modify	1	0.10	81.453	81.653	80.953		
3	2011.06.01 14:22	t/p	1	0.10	80.953	81.653	80.953	61.76	10061.76
4	2011.06.01 18:10	buy	2	0.10	80.879				
5	2011.06.01 18:10	modify	2	0.10	80.879	80.679	81.379		

And to view a statistical report of your performance (once the test is over!) click the Report tab.

Bars in test	1049	Ticks modelled	70104	Modelling quality	50.00%
Mismatched charts errors	0				
Initial deposit	10000.00				
Total net profit	72.89	Gross profit	119.28	Gross loss	-46.39
Profit factor	2.57	Expected payoff	14.58		
Absolute drawdown	28.32	Maximal drawdown	79.04 (0.78%)	Relative drawdown	0.78% (79.04)
Total trades	5	Short positions (won %)	1 (100.00%)	Long positions (won %)	4 (50.00%)
		Profit trades (% of total)	3 (60.00%)	Loss trades (% of total)	2 (40.00%)
	Largest	profit trade	61.85	loss trade	-37.25
	Average	profit trade	39.76	loss trade	-23.20
	Maximum	consecutive wins (profit in mo...	2 (98.04)	consecutive losses (loss in mo...	2 (-46.39)
	Maximal	consecutive profit (count of wi...	98.04 (2)	consecutive loss (count of loss...	-46.39 (2)

In the next version, I will add many more options and cool features.

For those of you who know me, you know to expect many many surprises!

Now with my simulator, you can better your trading skills, quickly and easily learn new strategies, and even develop your own rules and systems.

Enjoy, profit, test, and share if you have good things ☺

To your success!!!

Vladimir Ribakov