Financial Service Laboratory

Lesson 002

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Topic: Using the Equities Tab in Thomson One

Description:

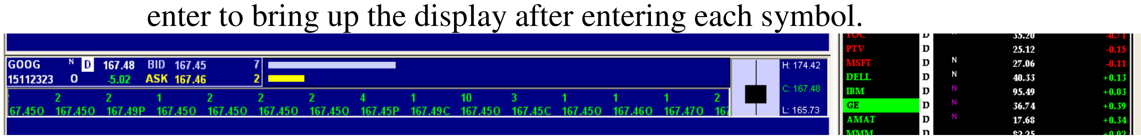
The aim of this module is to serve as a tool in order to help students gain a level of proficiency necessary to use the equity information provided by the Thomson One software.

Steps:

1. Monitor Strips

Run the Thomson One Software click on the “Equities” tab at the top of the screen. Click on the “MonStrips” tab if not already selected. Monitor strips are a useful way to display data for a security in a visual format.

- Enter up to 5 ticker symbols, one in the top left corner of each strip. Press enter to bring up the display after entering each symbol.



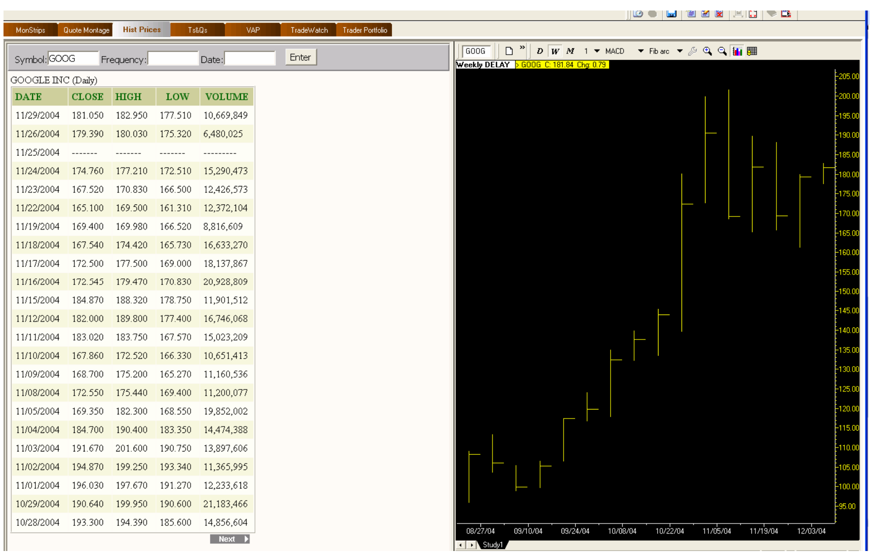
This is the monitor strip for Google. The Bid and Ask prices represent the last bid and ask price. The bar graph to the right of the Bid and Ask prices represent the real time bid and ask size at those prices. The graph at the right side of the screen is called a candlestick, this represents the day’s high, low, and current trading price. A white candlestick indicated a higher current price than open. A black candlestick indicates a lower current price than open. The ticker at the bottom represents all the current transactions, the number is the number of round lots traded, the price is the price at which the transaction took place.

2. Quote Montage

Click on the “Quote Montage” tab at the top of the screen. Enter the symbol for the stock you wish to get information on. The quote montage screen is a display of a detailed quote along with a brief quote for every exchange that the security is traded on. The detailed information on this page is no different than the information shown on the “markets main” tab when a quote is double clicked on.

3. Historical Prices

Click the “Hist Prices” tab. This tab can be very useful for analyzing a stock’s past performance. In order to help examine a particular stock, the Thomson ONE charting feature has been integrated in the Historical Prices tab. At start you will see a screen like this:



Using the historical prices portion of the page is self explanatory, but the charting features are quite complex. To start, select the interval you like by clicking on the “D”aily, “W”eekly, or “M”onthly button. If you wish to see intraday information select the drop down menu with the number in it and select an interval in minutes for that day.

Exporting Data:

It may be useful to export the historical data to Excel, in order to do this, you must use the chart portion of the screen. Set the interval and then click the button to the far right of the menu bar, switching the chart to “spreadsheet view.” You may then copy the information and paste it in Excel; you will have to add the column headers yourself.

Using the Charting Features:

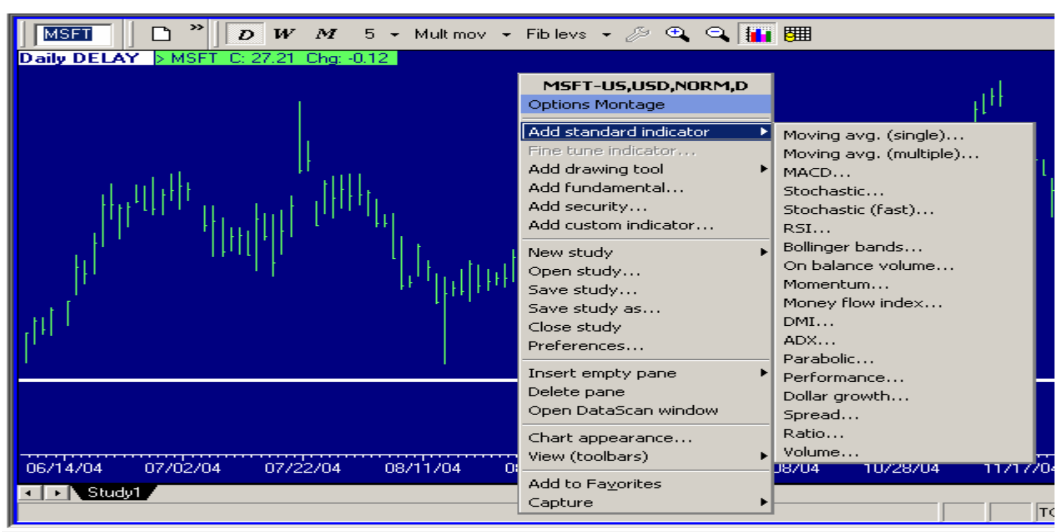
Before using the advanced features, it is necessary to familiarize yourself with using the chart.

- Additional securities: To add one, right click, select add security and enter the desired ticker symbol. If you wish to use the same y-axis for both securities, make sure you set the y-axis for each additional stock as “right.” To delete a series from the chart click either the data or the key at top left and press delete.
- Zooming in/out: Click the magnifying glass icon, click and hold to create a box over the area you wish to zoom in. Repeat to further zoom, click the – magnifying glass to return to normal size.

There are three types of tools you can use to assist in analyzing the security on the chart.

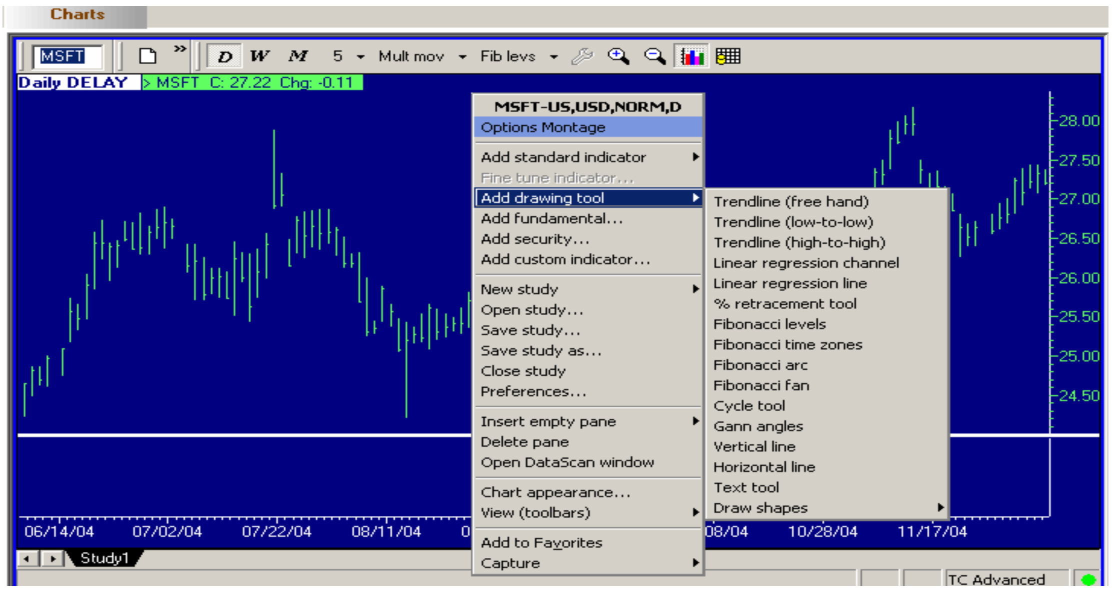
- Indicators

  To add an indicator, right click over the graph and select add standard indicator. For an explanation on the purpose of each indicator, go to help, search “indicator glossary.” Click on the link to the indicator glossary in the pane to the right. To fine tune an indicator click on the wrench icon while one is present. To remove the indicator click on the series or the key in the upper left of the chart and press delete.



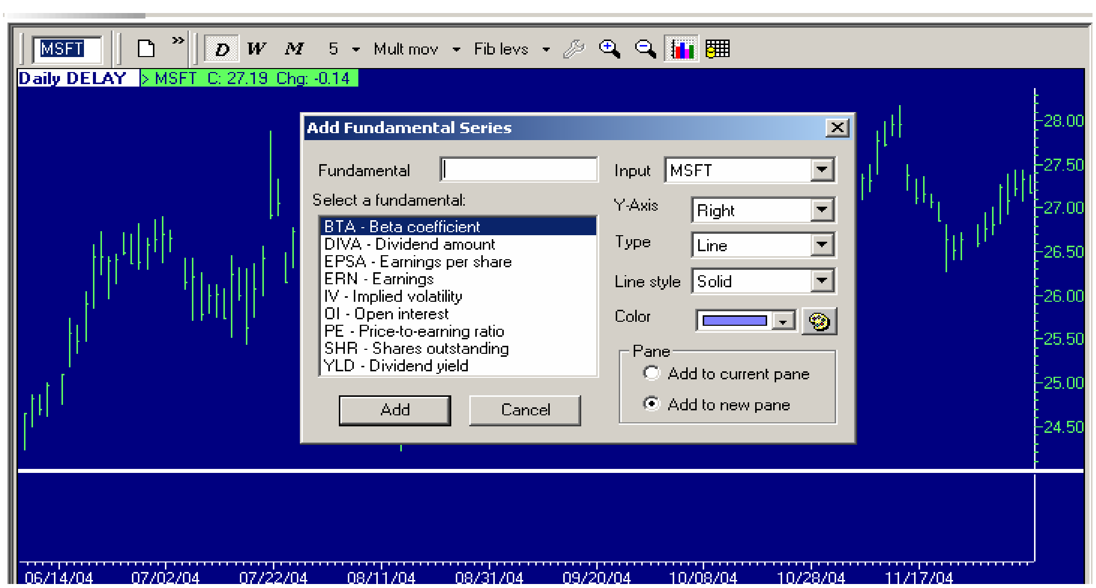
- Drawing Tools

  To insert a drawing indicator, right click over the graph and select add drawing indicator. For an explanation of the usefulness of each drawing tool go to help, search, "introduction to drawing tools." To remove a drawing tool right click over the drawing and select delete.



- Fundamentals

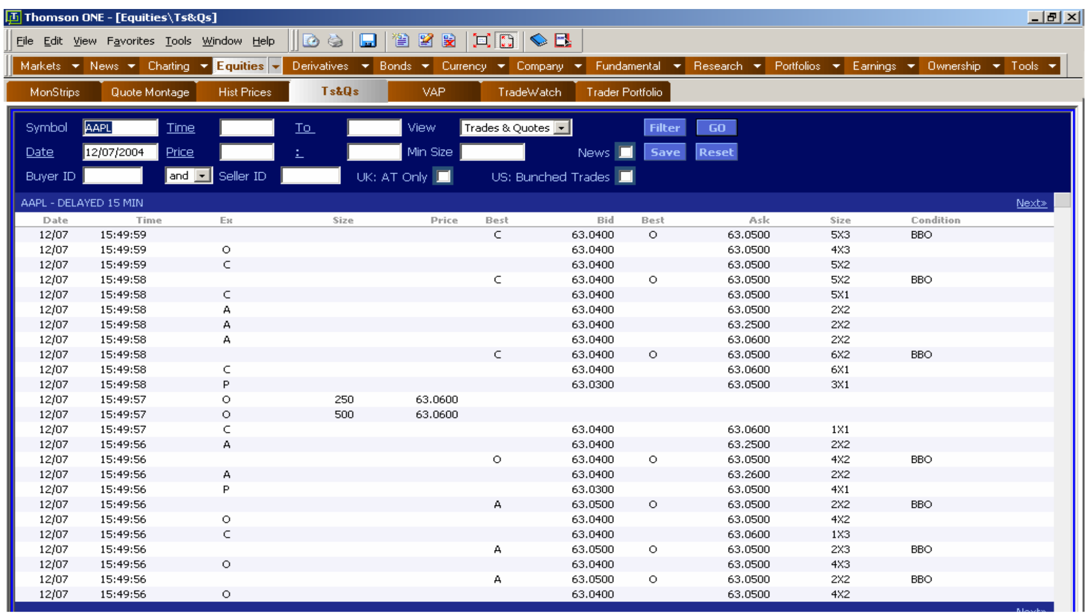
  To add a fundamental useful for examining the security, such as volume or the stock's beta, right click over the graph and select add fundamental. Fundamentals will be added as an addition pane of the graph. To remove one, right click over the indicator and select delete.



4. Trades & Quotes (Ts&Qs)

This tab lists up to 30 business days of transactions for any trading security. Information regarding the transaction is available also. You can filter the search results with qulaifiers such as date, time, price range, & minimum trade size. This tab is useful for viewing details about specific transactions. Depending on the view you select you can view just trades, trades & quotes, trades & volume weighted average price, and VWAP by time.

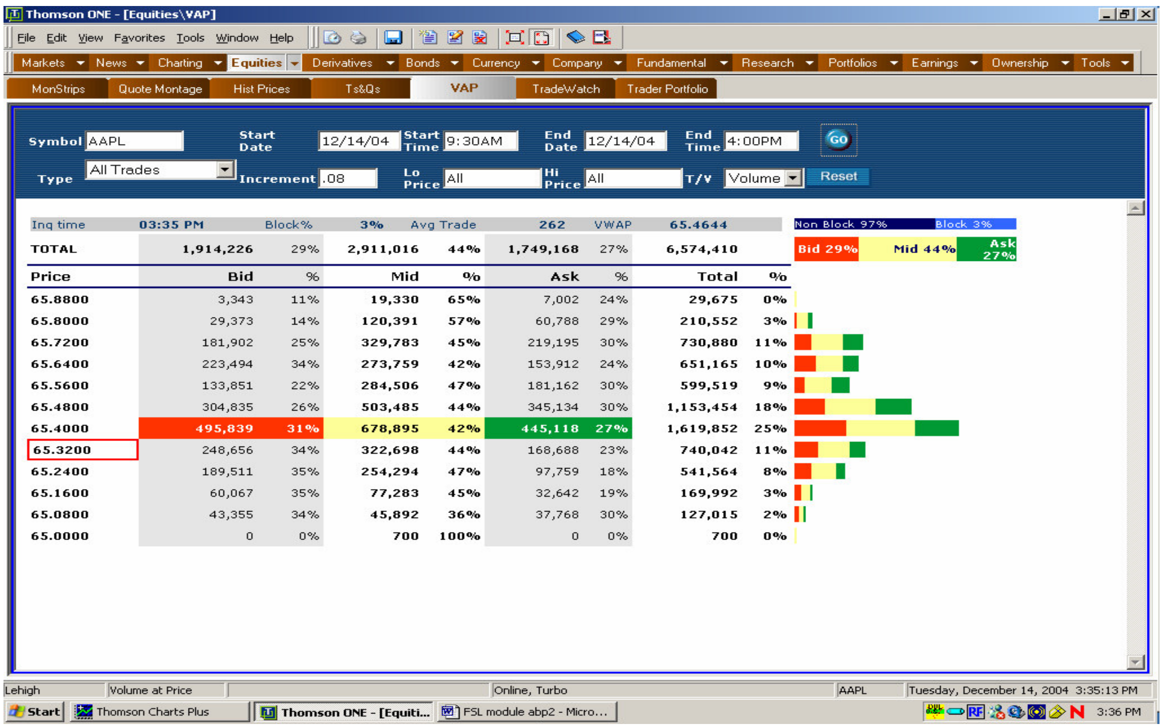
a. Trades: This view shows all trades that occurred in the given time period for the stated security. The specific time, exchange, size (x 100), & price are shown.
b. Trades & Quotes: This view shows everything the 'trades' view includes plus the best bid and best ask price over the time period entered.



c. Trades & VWAP: This view shows all the trades that occurred within the given time period and also shows the VWAP for the GIVEN time period as of that transaction. The VWAP is calculated from the beginning of the stated time period.
d. VWAP by time: This view simply shows the VWAP for the time period given. If one is not given, it will show the VWAP for the current day up to the most recent trade.

5. Volume at Price (VAP)

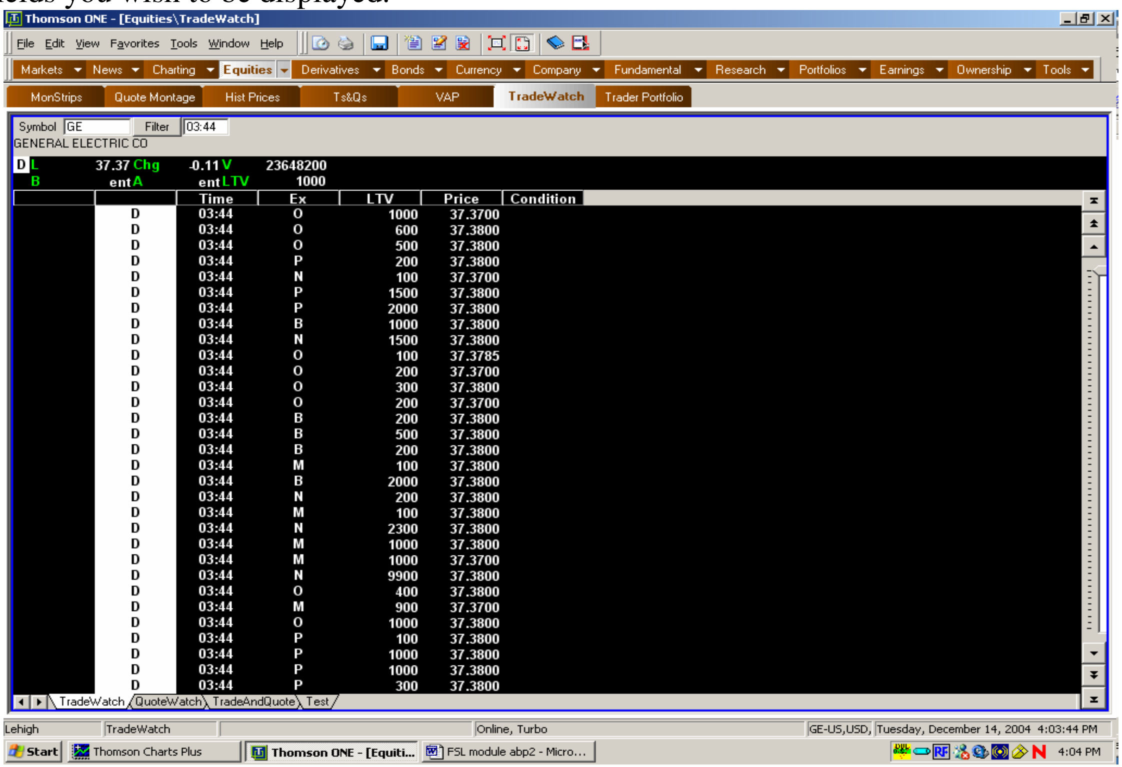
The VAP tab provides U.S. equity analytic information to determine support and resistance levels for stocks. Trade volume and percentage of volume from up to the past thirty days at the bid, mid, and ask prices are given. You can filter the results by using the inputs at the top of the screen, by altering the increment and time period you can customize the results.



The boxed price is the current price of the stock. The red, yellow, & green shaded boxes indicate the peak volume at the bid, mid, and ask prices respectively. The tri-colored bar graph to the right of each price level shows the percentage of volume traded at that price level for the bid, mid, & ask. Those percentages are displayed in each column next to the volume for the bid, mid, or ask at that price level.

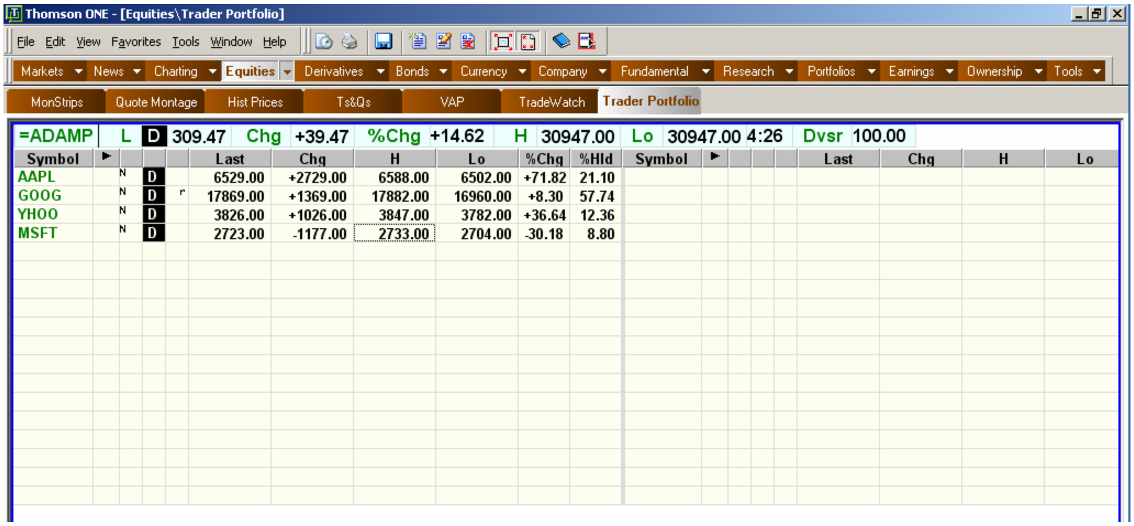
6. TradeWatch

The TradeWatch tab essentially provides the same information that the Trades & Quotes tab does. The difference is that the data streams in TradeWatch tab as opposed to being static in Ts & Qs. There are three default settings that provide similar data to that of the Ts & Qs tab. The options are TradeWatch, QuoteWatch, or Trade & Quote. You can scroll using the vertical bar on the right to look at previous data or you can enter the start time next to the filter button at the top of the screen. You can also create your own display by right-clicking, selecting layout, and selecting create. You can then select the fields you wish to be displayed.



7. Trader Portfolio

This tab allows you to create and save portfolios in Thomson ONE. Once you have entered the securities in your portfolio & their purchase price Thomson will track your gains and losses. To set up a portfolio, right click anywhere on the screen, select portfolio & select new. Enter a portfolio name and a divisor. By entering a divisor you can make your portfolio easier to read, for example if the portfolio value is $95,000 and you enter 100 as the divisor, the value shown will be 950.00. You should now have a blank portfolio screen. Click the right arrow next to “symbol”, to the left of the “Last” column header. Now enter the symbols of the securities held in your portfolio. The default setting is that you hold 100 shares & the cost of each share was yesterday’s close. You are shown the gain or loss for today. To enter purchase prices for each stock, uncheck the “Yest Close” box & then enter prices.



If you do not know what something means on the screen, roll your mouse over the object in question. An explanation box will pop up for the item under the mouse. There are not many display properties you can change, but to access them, right click over the portfolio and select properties. You will be able to change the colors and fonts of the display.

While this feature is useful, the same objectives can be accomplished using the T-ONE plug-in in Microsoft Excel. There are many advantages to using Excel. You can access more data and do more with it. You can use streaming data in formulas to perform real-analysis of the portfolio. For information on using this feature, refer to *Lesson 001*.