

The
Capital Gains Tax
Issue

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Foreword

Welcome to the second edition of the timetotrade e-zine. Each edition we aim to bring you topical news and educational content that will help you make better informed and better timed investment decisions.



This edition focuses on Capital Gains Tax. We look at the changes that were introduced in 2008, the impact of the latest budget and tips on how you can reduce or eliminate your tax bill.

We are delighted to have teamed up with [Traders Tax Club](#) to give our readers an EXCLUSIVE OFFER: Sign up for the timetotrade PRO package before 5th June 2009 (either monthly or annual subscription) and in addition to our real time SMS alerts, portfolio management tools and Capital Gains Tax Calculator, you will get up to **1 YEAR'S FREE** access to the [Traders Tax Club](#) website... worth £120!!

[Traders Tax Club](#) is an invaluable resource, full of hints and tips on ways to reduce your tax bill, from trading through offshore companies to using trusts along with tax efficient investment strategies you can employ to minimise your tax liabilities. To claim your free access, [click here >>](#) to upgrade to a timetotrade PRO account today using the special promotion code: TradersTaxClub.

Until next month, I hope the markets are kind to you.

Dary Mc Govern
Managing Director

If you have any comments or feed back,
please email: dary@sensatus.com

United Utilities profit beats hopes

United Utilities reported full year underlying profits up 10 per cent, beating consensus.

[full story >>](#)

Northern Foods sounds alarm

Northern Foods warned that profits will fall sharply this year.

[full story >>](#)

Number of UK millionaires halves

The fall in the value of property, shares and City bonuses have taken their toll.

[full story >>](#)

Nationwide FY profit drops

Nationwide Building Society reported a 50 percent drop in its full-year profits and warned on its outlook.

[full story >>](#)

Deal will leave Jessops shares worthless

Jessops admitted that its battle to overcome its crippling debts will leave its shares worth nothing.

[full story >>](#)

Albemarle sees rise Britain's biggest pawn broker, has predicted annual profits well ahead of expectations as it reaps the benefit of soaring gold prices.

[full story >>](#)

Wolseley 9mth profit sinks 80 per cent

Building supplies company Wolseley said 9 mthr profits slumped 80 per cent as markets weakened

[full story >>](#)

Booker profit up 30 per cent

Cash and carry retailer posted better than expected increase in full year profit.

[full story >>](#)

McDonalds set to mug Starbucks in Europe

McDonald's is aiming to overtake Starbucks as Europe's biggest coffee chain.

[full story >>](#)

About Capital Gains Tax

A beginners guide to Capital Gains Tax

What is Capital Gains Tax?

Capital Gains Tax (CGT) is the tax you pay on the profit or gain you make when you sell, give away or dispose of an asset.

Not all assets are subject to CGT. For example, you would not expect to pay Capital Gains Tax on the sale of your main residence, or private car; however profits from other assets such as: a second home, shares, securities, foreign currency, business assets, copy rights and certain personal possessions worth more than £6,000 (for example a painting) are all potentially liable to Capital Gains Tax .

The focus of this guide is Capital Gains Tax in relation to shares, securities, foreign exchange and funds (eg unit trusts or OEICs).

Rates & Allowances

Since the 2008 budget, Capital Gains Tax is now one of the UK's more 'generous' taxes.

Investors are allowed to make up to £10,100 in Capital Gains this year (2009/2010) completely tax free - this is called the Annual Exempt Amount and increases each tax year. Any gains above the Annual Exempt Amount are subject to a flat rate tax at just 18% - irrespective of which Income Tax bracket the investor falls within.

Compare this to the 40% tax rate applicable to income for Higher Rate Tax payers (soon to be 50% for some!), and you can see that Capital Gains Tax is considerably preferable to the the Income Tax regime.

“Capital Gains Tax is the tax you pay on the profit or gain made when you sell, give away or dispose of an asset”

Calculating Your Gain

You need to work out the gain or loss separately for each asset you dispose of during the tax year.

To calculate your gain, simply deduct the purchase price of the shares from the sale price. You are also allowed to deduct certain allowable costs.

If you give the shares away or sell them at less than market value, then the sale price is deemed to be the market value.

If the shares were acquired before 31 March 1982, then the purchase price is deemed to be the market value as at 31 March 1982 rather than the actual purchase price.

Allowable Costs

The associated costs that you are allowed to deduct from your gains on shares and forex are very limited, but include:

- * Broker fees or commission
- * Fees for professional advice - generally valuation services only.
- * Stamp Duty, and
- * VAT

The cost of software, periodicals, training courses, data feeds and accountancy fees for preparing your tax returns cannot be offset against gains, unless you have “Trader” tax status, in which case you will be subject to the Income Tax rules - more of that in the next article.

you cannot offset the costs of software or data feeds against gains

Example

In August 2008 you bought 100 shares in ABC plc for £5,000. In addition, you paid £25 in Stamp Duty and £50 in Broker Fees. In March 2009 you sold the shares for £10,000, and paid £50 in Fees.

To work out your gain:

Sale Price =	£10,000
Less Cost of Sale	
Broker Fee =	£50
Less Purchase Price =	£5,000
Less Cost of Purchase	
Broker Fee =	£50
Stamp Duty =	£25
Gain =	£4,875

Calculating Tax Due

Once you have calculated the gain or loss for each asset you disposed of during the tax year, add all the gains together and subtract the losses to work out your total overall gain (or loss) for the tax year.

If your total overall gain is higher than the Annual Exempt Amount (£9,600 for tax year 2008/2009), then you will pay Capital Gains Tax. If your total overall gain is less than the Annual Exempt Amount there is no tax to pay.

To work out your Taxable Gain, deduct the Annual Exempt Amount from your overall total gain for the year. Gains above the annual Exempt Amount are taxed at 18%.

You may be required to complete Capital Gains Tax return form SA108 - even if you have no Capital Gains Tax to pay

For example, if you made £15,000 in gains and £5,000 in losses during the tax year 2008-09, your overall Capital Gain is calculated as follows:

Gain =	£15,000
Loss =	£5,000
Capital Gain =	£10,000
Less	
Annual Exempt Amount =	£9,600
(2008-09)	
Taxable Gain =	£400

Gain is taxed @18%
Tax Due = £72

If you have made overall Capital Losses in previous tax years, you can use these to offset and reduce your Capital Gains in later years. The losses need to be claimed before you can use them. You can read more about offsetting previous years' losses in the article "Don't Forget to Claim Your Losses" on page 26.

When to Make a Tax Return

Capital Gains and Losses are reported to HMRC as part of your Self Assessment, on form SA108.

You are required to complete form SA108 if your overall combined gains and losses exceed the Annual Exempt Amount.

It is also worth bearing in mind, that even though you may have no tax to pay, you are still required to complete form SA108 in any of the following circumstances:

Your total Gains, before deducting losses were higher than the Annual Exempt Amount of £9,600 (Year 2008-09).

You disposed of more than £38,400 of assets (2008-09).

You made an overall Capital Loss for the year and wish to make a claim so that it can be carried forward to offset against future gains.

The Share Identification Rules

So far so good. However, what happens if you have bought shares of the same class in the same company at different times? And what happens if you dispose of some, but not all of your share holding in that company? How do you know which of the shares have actually been sold?

To address this problem, HMRC introduced what are called the “Share Identification Rules” - a special set of rules which lays down a specific order in which to identify the shares sold.

The Share Identification Rules were changed with the introduction of the new “Simplified” Capital Gains Tax regime which came into force from April 2008. However, as we see in the article “Simplified? Really Darling?” on page 18, the new “Simplified” rules have succeeded in adding yet another layer of complexity to the Capital Gains Tax rules.

Day Trader & Investor Status for Tax Purposes

There is a big difference between what stock market enthusiasts mean by the terms “share trader” and “share investor” and what the taxman takes these words to mean.

Lee Hadnum from [Traders Tax Club](#) explains the pros, cons and implications of each.

What's the Difference?

A share trader is taxed in a completely different manner to a share investor.

The fundamental difference is that a trader will hold shares as his ‘stock’, much as a motor dealer holds cars or a supermarket cans of beans. In comparison, an investor is believed to hold shares as assets, which are used to generate income - dividend income in this case.

The important difference between share traders and share investors is that share traders pay **Income Tax** whereas share investors pay **Capital Gains Tax**.

Which is Better, Being Classed as a Trader or an Investor?

Before the 2008 budget for most share speculators there were not significant differences between share trader and share investor status.

Share trader status allowed more expenses to be offset, whilst share investor status allowed taper relief and the annual exemption to be offset. Given that many share speculators held shares for only a short period this meant that for both share investors and share traders the tax rate was likely to be 40% (assuming they were higher rate taxpayers).

Of course there were always the genuine share investors who held shares long term and qualified for an effective CGT rate of 24% or even 10% if they invested in AIM shares.

The withdrawal of taper relief from April 2008 and the introduction of a **fixed 18% rate of CGT** means that in most cases share investors will now have a significant tax advantage over share traders. In particular it is unlikely that the additional tax relief on expenses would cover the massive reduction in the tax rate that now applies to share investors.

Share trader treatment does have an ancillary benefit in that the treatment of any losses you incur is much more flexible. So rather than just being carried forward and offset against any more capital gains, you can actually offset the losses against

any other income for the tax year of the loss.

You could therefore offset the loss against any employment income, interest income or trading income you may have. If you've suffered a tax deduction at source eg for salary payments or interest receipts, you'll be looking to get a tax refund from the taxman.

However if a share speculator claimed share trader status in order to benefit from the loss relief, the Revenue would usually closely review the trading status.

“In most cases share investors will now have a significant tax advantage over share traders”

The significant tax benefits associated with share investor status would indicate that this is an area that the Revenue will pay more attention to in the future.

Will you be classed as a share trader?

HMRC fall back on what they term the 'badges of trade' to determine whether an individual's activity is trading or investment in nature.

There is no straight answer as regards to purchasing shares, however, in general the following principles have been established through a number of judicial decisions, where there has been some doubt as to whether a series of transactions (or in some cases one transaction) can be defined as amounting to a 'trading activity':

1. Motive of the taxpayer

This is crucial, although it is also often the most difficult area to actually prove to the Revenue's satisfaction.

If the Revenue believe that the motive in buying and selling the shares was the realisation of profit, this would be a significant factor when deciding whether to treat the transaction as trading.

Clearly this is a vague notion and in practice can be difficult to rely on and they will not rely solely on your own opinion of your intention, rather they look at the facts of the transaction to ascertain the 'true position'. Matters to be considered will include:

- whether the share purchase is an isolated event. The test that HMRC will apply is whether the operations involved in the transaction are of the same kind or character, and carried on in the same way as other typical share traders

“share investors now have a significant tax advantage over share traders”

- whether the taxpayer has any other employment/self employment or whether this is his sole 'occupation'
- whether on the sale of the shares, the taxpayer reinvests the proceeds in buying more shares.

2. The Actual Transaction

They will also look at the circumstances of the actual transaction to identify whether any aspect of this indicates a trading motive.

- what was the cause of the sale. The sale of the shares for an 'emergency' may make the likelihood of the transaction being trading less likely.

“...where the question is whether an individual engaged in speculative dealings in securities is carrying on a trade, the prima facie presumption would be ...that he is not”

In particular they will assess:

- The length of time between the purchase of the shares and the disposal of the shares
- Whether the shares were 'acquired' by way of inheritance or whether they were purchased. Clearly shares that were inherited and subsequently sold would be less likely to be classed as trading, and more likely to constitute an investment activity.
- Whether any finance was obtained for the share purchase.

- The frequency of the share transactions, ie the number of share purchases and disposals the taxpayer enters into. This will be a KEY factor that will be considered in practice. They will be looking for evidence of a 'continuous and habitual' activity, ie regular purchases and disposals of shares as opposed to infrequent and sporadic share purchases and disposals

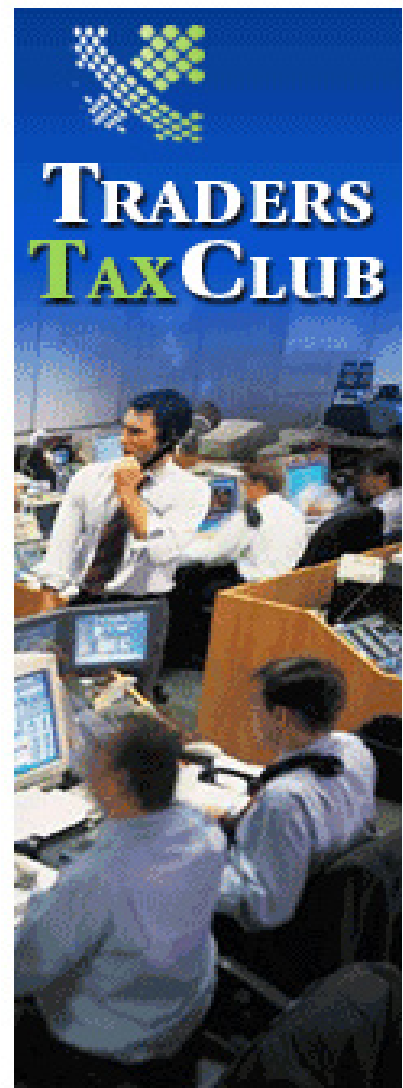
Whilst the above factors are all considered, the general view of the Revenue is that the purchase of income producing assets would usually be considered investment assets.

Shares are by their nature more likely to be held as investments and in particular one judge has said:

“...Where the question is whether an individual engaged in speculative dealings in securities is carrying on a trade, the prima facie presumption would be ... that he is not.”

It used to be only in exceptional circumstances that an individual's share transactions would be considered to amount to a trading activity. However given the changes to the tax rate for investors it is likely that where there is a systematic and frequent activity of buying and selling shares the Revenue will pay much more attention to the trading argument.

*Lee Hadnum owns **Traders Tax Club** - the only UK website offering tax planning specifically for traders and investors in shares, CFDs, Options, Forex and Commodities.*
www.traderstaxclub.co.uk



**Tax Planning
for Traders and
Investors in
Shares,
CFD's, Options,
Futures
and Forex**

Budget 2009 - Rates & Allowances

Income Tax

Rates	2009-10	%	2008-2009	%
Basic	Up to £37,400	20	Up to £34,800	20
Higher	Above £37,400	40	Above £34,800	40

Allowances	2009-10	2008-09
Aged up to 64	£6,475	£6,035
Aged 65 to 74	£9,490	£9,030
Aged 75 +	£9,640	£9,180

Reliefs	2009-10	2008-09
Redundancy Payment	£30,000	£30,000
Enterprise Investment Scheme	£500,000	£500,000
Venture Capital Trust	£200,000	£200,000

Capital Gains Tax

Reliefs	2009-10	2008-09
Annual Exempt Amount	£10,100	£9,600
Chattels Exempt Amount	£6,000	£6,000
Enterprise Investment Scheme	100%	100%
Venture Capital Trust	100%	100%
Principal Private Residence	100%	100%
Entrepreneurs Relief (lifetime)	£1m	£1m

Tax Wrappers

ISAS	2009-10	2008-09
Annual investment limit	£7,200	£7,200
Maximum cash investment	£3,600	£3,600
Age >50 from 6 Oct 2009	£10,200	£10,200

PENSIONS	2009-10	2008-09
Annual limit: 100% of salary upto Permitted (irrespective of salary)	£245,000	£235,000
Lifetime benefit allowance	£3,600	£3,600
	£1.75m	£1.65m

Savings

Rates	2009-10
£0 - £2,440	10%
Basic	20%
Higher	40%

Dividends

Rates	2009-10
Basic	10%
Higher	32.5%

Inheritance Tax

Rates	2009-10
Nil	Up to £325,000
40%	Above £325,000

Stamp Taxes

Rates	Shares
0.5%	Transfer of Shares

Rates	Residential Property
Nil	£0 - £175k
1%	£175,001k - £250k
3%	£250,001k - £500k
4%	Above £500k

Rates	Non Residential
Nil	£0 - £150k
1%	£150,001 - £250k
3%	£250,001k - £500k
4%	Above £500k

Guides

A Guide to Inheritance Tax

Issued by St James's Place Wealth Management

Inheritance Tax affects an increasing number of people, which without taking preventative action could mean saying goodbye to as much as 40% of your estate in excess of your nil rate band.

This FREE guide explains how to reduce and even eliminate your Inheritance Tax liability to stop HM Revenue and Customs from getting their hands on your hard-earned wealth.

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Book Store

How to Avoid Tax on Your Stock Market Profits

by Lee Hadnum

This book can only be described as THE definitive tax-saving resource for stock market investors and traders. Anyone who owns shares, unit trusts, ISAs, corporate bonds or other financial assets should read it from cover to cover as it contains a huge amount of unique tax planning advice.

Whether you're a long-term investor or short-term trader this comprehensive guide will show you how to pay less Income Tax, Capital Gains Tax and Inheritance Tax on your stock market investments and dealings.

Written in plain English, you will learn everything you need to know about the many Capital Gains Tax reliefs and exemptions and how they can be used to reduce or even eliminate your tax bill.

[Click here to order your copy >>](#)



Simplified? Really Darling?

The Chancellor admitted he got it wrong on the economy. Has he also got it wrong with the so-called “Simplification” of the new Capital Gains Tax (CGT) rules?

Introduction

One feature of shares is that unless they are numbered (and most shares are not), all shares of the same class in the same company are identical.

In order to calculate capital gains (or losses) on the sale of your shares, you need to determine the ‘base cost’ for those shares. If you have bought shares of the same class in the same company at different times and then sell just part of your shareholding in that company - how do you know which shares have been sold and therefore what acquisition price or ‘base cost’ you should be using to calculate your gain?

To get around this problem, HMRC impose special rules stipulating exactly which shares have been sold. These rules are called the Share Identification Rules.

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A Bit of History

The UK’s Capital Gains Tax legislation has evolved rather haphazardly over the years, creating a system that is a complete minefield with a mish-mash of rules, reliefs and allowances that have changed with each new government. The “Simplification” of the legislation in 2008 was designed to address this, however in reality it has just added one more layer of complexity.

“The Simplification has just added one more layer of complexity”

Prior to April 2008, when you sold shares of the same class in the same company that had been acquired at different times you would look at your holding of those shares and match the disposals in the following very specific order.

Pre - 2008 Rules

Shares sold were matched with:

- 1) shares acquired on the same day as the disposal
- 2) shares acquired 30 days following the day of disposal, matched on a “first in first out basis”
- 3) shares acquired between 6 April 1998 and the 5 April 2008, identifying the shares on a “last in first out” basis
- 4) shares acquired between 1 April 1982 and 5 April 1998 (these shares are treated as a single asset, the price averaged to form what is known as a “Section 104 Holding”)
- 5) shares acquired between 7 April 1965 and 31 March 1982 - these shares are treated as a single asset, again the price averaged to form what is called a “1982 Holding”. and finally, with
- 6) shares held prior to 6 April 1965, matched on a “last in first out basis”.

Prior to April 2008, gains on shares purchased between 1998 and 2008 were reduced by Taper Relief, whilst shares bought between 1982 and

1998 benefited from Indexation Allowance. Both reliefs were based on the period of ownership and were designed to ensure you did not pay tax on inflationary gains.

Post - 2008 Rules

With the withdrawal of Taper Relief and Indexation Allowance in 2008 the Share Identification Rules have been “simplified” such that all shares of the same class in the same company are now pooled together, their cost averaged to form a new “Section 104” Holding which is treated as a single asset. Sales are matched with acquisitions in the following order:

- 1) shares acquired on the same day as the disposal
- 2) shares acquired 30 days following the day of disposal,
- 3) shares bought prior to disposal, making up the “Section 104” pool

“which shares make up the new Section 104 Holding?”

The question is, if you have bought and sold shares in the same company at different times prior to 2008 and still own some of those shares after 6 April 2008, how do you know which shares go to make up the new pooled “Section 104 Holding?”.

The answer, somewhat unfortunately, is that you still have to apply the old pre-2008 rules to determine which shares you are actually deemed to own as at 6 April 2008, so that you know which shares are pooled together to make up the new Section 104 Holding.

To give you an idea of the additional complexity, let us consider the following scenario: An investor has been buying shares over the last 10 years and during this time they have made a part disposal of their share holding. In order to work out their gains on future disposals the investor must firstly apply the old Share Identification rules to work out which shares and associated costs go to make up the new post-2008 Section 104 Holding.

Example

Over a 10 year period an investor makes the following 5 share transactions:

May 1997 buy 100 ABC plc @ 100p
May 2000 buy 100 ABC plc @ 150p
May 2005 buy 100 ABC plc @ 200p
May 2007 sell 200 ABC plc @ 300p
May 2007 buy 100 ABC plc @ 250p

So which shares is the investor deemed to be holding at 6th April 2008 which will go to form the new Section 104 Holding?

Applying the pre-2008 Share Identification rules, the sale of 200 shares in May 2007 sale is identified firstly with shares acquired 30 days following the day of disposal, ie the 100 shares bought at 250p.

Next they are matched with any shares acquired between 6 April 1998 and the 5 April 2008; identifying the shares on a “last in first out” basis the shares are matched with the May 2005 purchase @ 200p.

It's only after applying the pre-2008 rules, that we know which shares the investor is deemed to hold as at 6 April 2008. In this example the new Section 104 Holding would be deemed to be made up of shares acquired:

May 1997 buy 100 ABC plc @ 100p
May 2000 buy 100 ABC plc @ 150p

So, the new holding would be made up of 200 shares with a combined purchase price of £250, giving an average cost per share of 125p.

As you can see, the new tax rules have done nothing to ease the number of calculations - investors still have to go through the old complicated calculations to work out the cost of the shares owned before they can be added to the new Section 104 Holding.

To make matters more interesting, investors now have to supply the HMRC with a copy of all of the underlying calculations used to determine their gain.

In this example we looked at just 5 shares transactions over a 10 year

period of time - a perfectly feasible scenario for an average investor. Remember as well, that Forex and units purchased in a unit trust or OEIC are subject to exactly the same identification rules as shares.

Can you imagine the work involved if someone has been making regular monthly savings into a unit trust over a ten year period, with the occasional withdrawal of money?

As Dary Mc Govern of timetotrade has said, "This is hardly a simplification, Alistair's new share pooling scheme means investors have yet another rule to get their heads around – making tax returns even more taxing!"

However, do not fear ... help is at hand! timetotrade's Capital Gains Tax Calculator does all the hard work for you. Just input all of your historic share and unit trust transactions and timetotrade works through the Share Identification rules, calculating your gains and even producing the supporting calculations to send to HMRC.

Do you own shares that have become worthless?

Since the onset of the credit crunch, many companies have either ceased trading or their shares have become worthless - Northern Rock and Bradford & Bingley being amongst the more high profile cases. We look at how such shareholdings are treated for Capital Gains Tax.

Negligible Value Claim

If you own an asset that has become of negligible value (ie worth next to nothing) you can make a “Negligible Value Claim” to HMRC which will enable you to write off the asset as a capital loss, to offset against other gains and thereby reduce your tax bill.

For Capital Gains Tax purposes you will be deemed to have sold the asset and immediately re-acquired it at the time the claim is made for an amount equal to its value.

To be eligible to make a Negligible Value Claim you must still own the asset at the time you make the claim.

How to Make a Claim

To make a Negligible Value Claim you should write to your local tax inspector in the first instance, providing details of the negligible value claim and your calculations of the capital loss resulting from the deemed disposal of the asset.

Specify the Date of your Claim

It is worth bearing in mind when you make a negligible value claim, that you can specify the date you would like the deemed disposal to be treated as having occurred - which could be anytime within the previous two tax years. So if you have suffered losses during 2008 - 2009, but made gains during the previous year, you can request that your Negligible Value Claim be carried back to set off against those earlier 2007-2008 gains.

Each year HMRC produce a list of shares and securities formerly quoted on the London Stock Exchange which have officially been declared of Negligible Value, along with the date they are accepted to be of negligible value:

Negligible Value List >>

If your shares or securities are not on the list, then you should submit form CG34 to HMRC along with your claim letter, which will then be referred to the Shares & Assets Valuation Office.

Completing Your Tax Return

To claim a loss in respect of an asset that was or became of negligible value during 2008-09, you should complete your SA108 as usual, treating the negligible value asset as if you had disposed of it.

You will also need to put an 'X' in box 20, 26 or 33 of the SA108 (as applicable) and provide details of your negligible value claim in box 35. This should include the date during 2008-2009 when you want to be treated as if you had sold the asset.

If you wish use the loss to offset gains in an earlier tax year, eg 2007-2008 then you will need to either amend your 2007/2008 Tax Return online or submit a request to HMCR in writing.

Offset the Loss Against Income

If the shares you own are in an unlisted company, you may be able to use the deemed Negligible Value loss to offset against your income instead of capital gains. There are specific criteria that the company you have invested in must meet in order to for you to qualify for Income Tax Relief; and the loss needs to be claimed within one year of 31 January following the year in which the loss was made.

You can learn more on this **[Help Sheet >>](#)**

A “Negligible Value Claim” will enable you to write off the asset as a capital loss



Company REFS (Really Essential Financial Statistics) is the UK's leading stock selection tool, used by thousands of professional and private investors to construct share portfolios – and manage them for profit.

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REFS has subsequently spawned several imitators. But no genuine competitors...

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Don't Forget to Claim Your Losses!

With falling stock and property prices, many investors are nursing substantial Capital Losses from the last tax year. If you act now, you can use those losses to reduce your tax bill in future years.

Market Collapse

Over £700 billion has been wiped off the FTSE All Share Index since its peak in 2007. Any investor skilled or lucky enough to have made capital gains during this period is required to declare those gains to the Revenue.

But what if you are sitting on an overall capital loss after the market meltdown? You too should be looking to file Capital Gains Tax Return SA108 in order to notify HMRC and formally claim those losses.

Once reported to the Revenue, the losses can be carried forward indefinitely to offset against gains at any time in the future, to help reduce prospective tax bills.

Deadlines

Since 1996-1997, it has been necessary for investors to formally declare losses to HMRC if they wish to use them to offset against future gains. The losses need to be reported to HMRC within five years after the 31st January following the end of the tax year in which the loss arose. This means there is still time for investors to claim losses going back as far as 2003–2004.

If HMRC is not notified of the loss within that five year time-frame, it is too late and the loss is 'lost'. However, once claimed, there is no time limit within which a reported loss must be used - any historical losses claimed can be accumulated and carried forward to offset against gains incurred many years from now

Offsetting Losses

You cannot claim for paper losses - only losses you have actually realised as a consequence of disposing, gifting or transferring an asset. You can also claim losses against shares which have become of negligible value, eg Northern Rock, however special rules apply - see the article about Negligible Value Shares on Page 22.

Losses must first be used to offset against any Capital Gains made in the same tax year. If your total combined Capital Losses for the year exceed the total Capital Gains, the difference between the two is the loss available to carry forward to future years.

The losses must be used to offset gains made in the same tax year in full, reducing the gain to zero. Any unused losses then carried forward to a future year are used to offset the capital gain down to the Annual Exempt Amount.

How to Claim

Making a claim is easy! You just need to complete form SA108 - listing the total gains made during the year (box 3), the total losses made during the year (box 4) and the losses left available to carry forward to later years (box 10).

And to make your claim even easier, timetotrade PRO will do the work for you. Simply input all of your historical investment transactions into your timetotrade portfolio and the CGT Calculator works out the rest. You can then print off a fully completed SA108 ready to submit to HMRC to claim your losses, along with the supporting calculations now required by HMRC.

“losses can be carried forward indefinitely to offset against gains at any time in the future, to reduce prospective tax bills”

And if you have historical losses from 2003 onwards that you haven't already claimed, then don't worry timeotrade will even calculate indexation and taper relief applicable on pre 2008 disposals.

Best Tax Havens for Traders and Investors

After Darling's budget announcement, many high earners are looking to pack their bags and move abroad to avoid the new 50% tax rate. Lee Hadnum from Traders Tax Club looks at the options.

Where to go?

If you're earning good profits from your investments there's no real reason why you need to be in the UK. You could just as easily trade from overseas as you could your UK home.

One of the key questions though is where to go. There's no point in 'jumping out of the frying pan and into the fire'. You need to ensure that anywhere you move to overseas will reduce your overall taxes. You essentially have three choices:

- Nil tax havens
- Foreign Source exempt havens
- Low tax havens with special rules that share investors/traders can benefit from.

Nil Tax Havens

These are simply countries that do not have any of the three main direct taxes:

- No income tax or corporation tax
- No capital gains tax, and
- No inheritance tax

Many of the nil tax havens you've probably heard of or read about in novels. You may even have holidayed in some of them. They include:

- The Cayman Islands
- St Kitts and Nevis
- Dubai
- Monaco
- The Bahamas
- Bermuda
- Vanuatu
- The Turks & Caicos Islands
- Anguilla

Although there are no taxes in

these jurisdictions, the tax haven governments still need to generate some revenue to provide public services. They may therefore impose small fees for company incorporation documents or annual registration fees for companies. However, these charges are fixed and usually small.

If you're looking at living in one of these jurisdictions and generating profits from financial investing or trading most of these charges won't apply and you should be able to live with little state involvement in your affairs. The only tax charges that would then affect you would be import duties or local sales taxes.

Foreign Source Exempt Havens

These countries do levy taxes and sometimes they can be pretty high. However, what makes them tax havens is the fact they only tax you on locally derived income. In other words, if all your income is derived outside the tax haven you will not pay any tax.

Good examples of foreign source exempt tax havens are:

- Panama
- Costa Rica
- Hong Kong
- Singapore

Many of these also don't have any CGT. The net result is that share or financial investors could certainly live in one of these countries to avoid tax on an overseas investment portfolio.

If you are actively trading from the country there is a risk that the local tax authorities could tax the income. In practice though many financial traders, providing they are trading on international markets, would not be subject to any local taxes.

“there are a lot of countries where share investors and traders could live to reduce or avoid taxes”

Low Tax Havens

The final group of tax havens are countries that do have a system of taxation and impose taxes on residents' worldwide income. You may be wondering why these are still classed as tax havens.

Well:

- Some countries may have special concessions that offer considerable tax advantages in terms of capital gains tax avoidance.
- Some countries can apply a remittance basis of tax for non nationals so that they are only taxed on overseas income and gains if the income or proceeds are brought back into the country (like the UK does with non doms).

“If all of your income is derived from outside the tax haven you will not pay any tax”

Some of the good low tax havens for share traders and investors are:

- Malta (remittance basis & no CGT)
- Barbados (remittance basis)
- Ireland (remittance basis)
- Switzerland (no CGT)
- Channel Islands (no CGT)
- Isle of Man (no CGT)

So there you have it. As you'll see there are a lot of countries where share investors and traders could live to reduce or avoid taxes.

Deciding which is the best for you will depend on the nature of your activities as well as your personal preferences in terms of where you want to live.

You can read more of Lee Hadnum's tax saving articles at:
www.traderstaxclub.com

Traders Tax Club is the only UK website offering tax planning specifically for traders and investors in shares, CFDs, Options, Forex and Commodities.

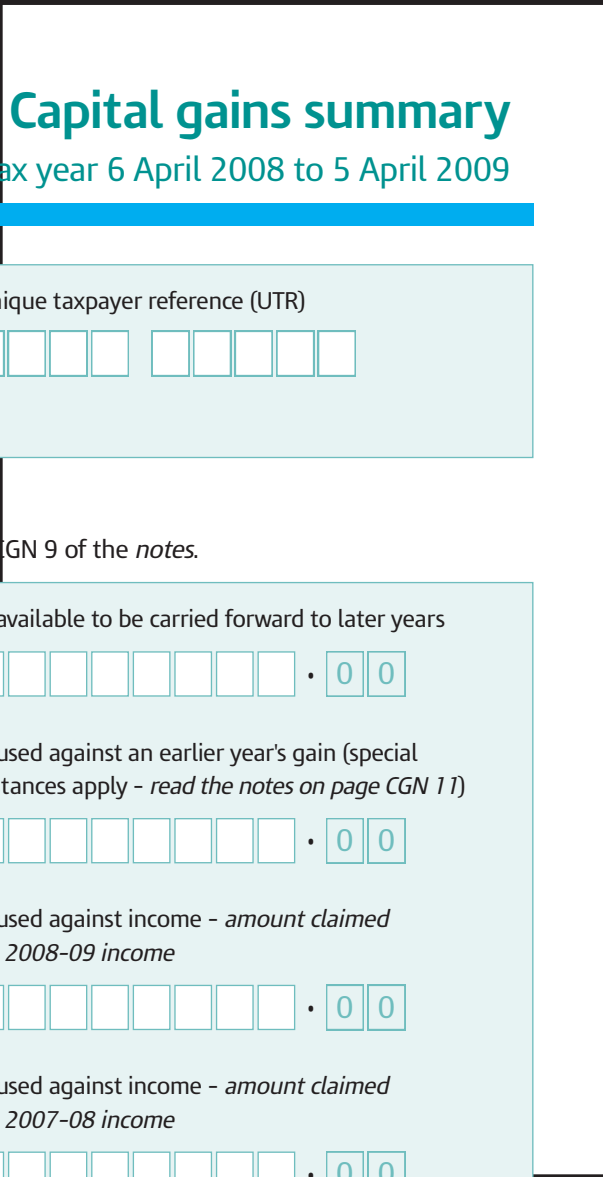
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To claim your FREE access, simply subscribe for a **timetotrade Pro account** before 5 June 2009.



10 Ways to Beat the Tax Man

They say the only certain things in life are death and taxes. So why do we allegedly waste £9.3 billion a year by paying too much tax?

Tax doesn't have to be taxing - here are a few legitimate ways in which you can claw back some of this waste to make your investments work as tax efficiently as possible .. whilst keeping as much of your hard earned cash as is allowed, away from the tax man!

1. File your Self Assessment Tax Return on Time

£479 million waste could simply be wiped out by getting all paper forms to the Revenue by the 31st October deadline, or completing your return online by the 31st January deadline. If you are required to fill in a 2008/2009 tax return and have not done so yet, you better crack on! Self-assessment forms received after the deadline incur penalties of £100; further penalties and errors make up the balance of tax wasted in this way.

2. Claim your Losses

With £200 billion wiped off the FTSE over the last couple of years, investors who realised an overall loss over the 2008/2009 tax year should report this to HMRC with their Self Assessment. If you report your losses to HMRC this allows the loss to be carried forward indefinitely to offset against gains made in the future, thereby reducing prospective tax bills.

Don't forget to report your losses to HMRC so they can be carried forward indefinitely.

3. Use up your Yearly ISA Allowance

You can save up to a total of £7,200 per year into Individual Savings Accounts (ISAs), of which up to £3,600 can be invested in cash. Savings held on deposit in a Cash ISA earn interest tax-free, whilst investments made into Stocks & Shares ISAs grow free of Capital Gains Tax and Income Tax. You don't have to declare any of the tax-free interest or gains to the tax man. Apparently - £263 million can be saved by moving savings from an ordinary deposit or savings account to an ISA to shelter your investments.

And the ISA Allowance is about to get even more generous. If you are over 50 you will be able to invest upto £10,200 from October 2009- the rest of us will have to wait until April 2010 for the same privilege!

losses to HMRC - they can then
ely to offset against future gains

4. Transfer your Shares to an ISA or SIPP

Many UK stock brokers now offer Self Invested Personal Pension (SIPPs) accounts and ISAs in addition to the usual trading account, enabling you to trade your own share portfolio tax efficiently. Assets held within the SIPP and ISA tax wrappers are free of Capital Gains Tax on gains; and there is no Income Tax to pay on dividends or interest received from assets held.

5. Gift Assets to your Spouse

If you have a non-taxpaying husband or wife, why not consider gifting assets in to his or her name? Every adult is allowed to make up to £6,475 in income and £10,100 in Capital Gains before being subject to tax, so gifting assets is an excellent way to make the most of both of your CGT and Income Tax allowances - and save yourself some money. £144 million could be saved in Income Tax by redistributing savings in this way. Another £264 million could be saved by making use of spouses' Capital Gains Tax allowance.

6. Don't Forget your Pension Contributions

You currently receive tax relief at your highest rate of income tax on your Personal Pension contributions. 20% tax relief is given at source, which means that for every £80 you pay into your pension you end up with £100 actually invested. In addition, higher rate tax payers are entitled to a further 20% tax relief, this needs to be claimed back either via your annual self assessment tax return or by making a claim by letter or telephone.

The extra relief equates to an annual tax refund of £240 on a net pension contribution of just £80 per month – money that is better sitting in your pocket than lining the Chancellor's coffers.

7. Make Plans for your Inheritance

Take the bull by the horns to plan your inheritance before it's too late. By doing so, an extra £1.9 billion

could be going to chosen heirs – rather than the taxman's back pocket. So if you have assets over £325,000 (including your home) make sure you take action to plan your inheritance in 2009. Steps you can take to avoid IHT eating up 40% of your estate include writing a life assurance policy in trust and making a will.

Don't forget to report your losses to HMRC - they can then be carried forward indefinitely

8. Invest in an Enterprise Investment Scheme Company (EIS)

EIS is a government scheme that provides generous tax reliefs for investors who subscribe for shares in qualifying EIS companies. You can receive up to 20% tax relief on your normal Income Tax and any gains on your investment are free of Capital Gains Tax - provided the shares are held for 3 years or longer. You can also defer tax on capital gains you may have made on other assets, by reinvesting

all or part of the gain into an EIS company within one year before or three years after the gain occurred.

NB EIS investment is high risk and you should obtain financial advice on whether this is suitable for you.

9. Claim Gift Aid Relief on your Charitable Donations

For every £10 you donate, the charity can reclaim the basic rate tax paid on your gift. If you give £100 to charity using Gift Aid, it's worth £125 to the charity. In addition, for donations between April 2008 and 2011 the charity will get a separate government supplement of 3p on every £1 donated. And if you are a higher rate tax payer, you can claim back 20% of the gross donation – so £25 in this example. To claim back your refund, you need to complete a Gift Aid declaration (provided by the charity) and remember to include details of the donation in your Self Assessment return.

10. Sign Up for timetotrade's Pro Tax Package ...

timetotrade's Capital Gains Tax Calculator will save you hours of time and accountancy fees and for a limited period only we are offering up to 1 year's **FREE** membership to **Traders Tax Club** with every timetotrade PRO subscription. For just £19.99 per month you can use all of timetotrade's charting, SMS alerts, portfolio and Capital Gains Tax tools **AND** get full access to the Traders Tax Club website www.traderstaxclub.com where you will find hundreds of articles, tips and guidance on managing and saving tax.

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Name: Ian Head
Age: 52
Occupation: Private Client Stockbroker
Location: Staines, UK
Experience: 20 years in the industry
Strategy: Combination of technical analysis and mechanical trading rules

We chat to Ian Head of Fund Management, the Private Client Stockbrokers, about his strategies and tips for success.

How, when and why did you start investing? I became interested in stock market investing in the early 90s, and began investing some of my own funds as I steered my career towards investments. I was and still am fascinated by the markets and the events that move them.

Which markets and instruments do you invest in? I use direct equities for UK exposure and combine these with OEICs and ETFs for exposure to other markets and asset classes.

Which broker platforms do you use and how do you rate them? I use mostly Ascentric, a specialist platform for professional advisers. It is a comparatively new player in the market, but I like their independence and flexibility and their customer service is excellent. I also use the SIPP Centre and Standard Life for SIPP clients. Hargreaves Lansdown is also very good.

“it’s not what a share is matters, but what invests

How would you describe your investment risk profile? I believe that there is plenty of opportunity in blue chips without having to take the extra risk of buying small companies, and use OEICs and ETFs with a strong track record. I avoid investing in emerging markets directly, but prefer to use a good international fund to make those decisions for me. Most of all I believe in profit taking and always set a sell price, usually around 20% of the purchase price. If the stock falls after I have bought it, then I will always buy a second tranche, but only after a period of stability. I am also a great fan of dividends, and prefer to buy shares with a dividend of at least 4%. This means that even if there is no capital growth in my portfolio, I can afford to wait and enjoy an income greater than I would have received on deposit.

really worth that
investors THINK it is worth”

Fundamentals or charts?

I am a chartist through and through. Not only is fundamental research REALLY BORING but often irrelevant! It is not what a share is really worth that matters, but what investors THINK it is worth, especially in the current markets. There are many companies trading at a 50% discount to their 2007 price, yet the fundamentals seem excellent. Finally as almost all fund managers use fundamental research, how come so many of them underperform the market????

What do you look for when selecting a company to invest in?

I invest in blue chip stocks with higher than average dividend yield, strong Earnings Per Share (EPS) and recent Director purchases. I look for underperformance against the FTSE and use a combination of charting techniques, setting strict sell prices. I never sell at a loss, as blue chips almost always rebound. I look for unloved shares, but not “dogs”.

Should investors use stop losses?

Not if they are buying blue chip stocks and are investing for the long term. If you set the stop too tight then the share could very well bounce back a few days later. If you set it too wide then you realise a big loss. Look at Rentokil, 80p last year, down to 37p and then back above 70p in April. I see a big fall in price as an opportunity to buy more. There is plenty of evidence to support the strategy of buying and holding for the long term.

Tell us about one of your success stories?

Having less than 5% of my investments (and my clients') in Banking. I also had nothing in the BRIC countries in the last 18 months, so avoided some big losses there too.

My best purchases were Close Brothers at 470p sold for 670p, and Brewin Dolphin 97p to 137p. Overall I don't look for huge returns, but am pleased to say that my rather boring approach has given

me a performance of 8% over the FTSE 100 in the last year, and 17.4% over the last three years.

What's the most important lesson you have learned from your investment mistakes?

Don't use a stop loss!

“I see a big fall in price as an opportunity to buy more”

Has the market bottomed? Are we seeing the first new shoots of growth or is there worse to come? We could be in for one more nasty shock; but with cash offering such small returns, property still falling and commodities being unpredictable, equities are looking enticing. Demand will drive the market forward, although I would be surprised to see the FTSE above 4,700 at the end of the year.

What companies are you currently keeping an eye on?

I am interested in BA and Easyjet, as we should see some return to foreign travel next year, and a rise in oil prices may make Shell or even an oil ETF a useful portfolio addition.

Ian's company is Fund Management, which provides a personal investment service on an advisory basis.

www.fund-management.org.uk

Unusually Fund Management's portfolio clients do not pay transaction fees but a monthly retainer, based on the value of their portfolio. This means Ian is paid to make the portfolio grow, and unlike many professional investment services, Fund Management does not benefit from transaction fees or commission when managing a portfolio.

What advice would you give to anyone who is learning to invest in shares?

Take your time, avoid anything that appears high return low risk, and get some advice ... well I would say that wouldn't !!!

Please remember:

No investment decision should be based on the content of this article alone. Always take full individual advice first. Past performance is no guarantee of future returns. The regulations governing tax rates and investments may change in future.

“Don't use a stop loss for blue chips!!”

In Search of the Holy Grail of Investing

Wouldn't it be nice if you could implement an automated trading strategy that no matter what the market conditions, you made money? Dary Mc Govern puts some commonly used strategies to the test.

In the previous ezine issue, we discussed a strategy using exponential moving averages to generate buy and sell signals on the EURUSD pair. Testing demonstrated that during volatile periods buying when there was a positive exponential crossover, or selling each time there was a negative crossover generated the best results; however during range bound trading periods a contrarian approach worked best i.e. sell when there was a positive crossover and buy when there was a negative crossover.

The challenge therefore is to develop an automated strategy that will apply the contrarian approach during range bound trading activity, and if the price breaks out, ensure that you are not on the wrong side of the move.

An indicator that can be used to determine the level of volatility on price movement is Bollinger Bands. Bollinger Bands provide a definition of high and low price ranges, relative to price volatility over a defined period of time.

In times of high price volatility the distance between the upper and the lower Bollinger Bands increases and in times of low volatility the distance between the Bollinger Bands decreases. If the price rises above the upper Bollinger Band line or falls below the lower Bollinger Band it indicates that the price is forming higher highs or lower lows relative to recent price movement.

the contrarian approach was not effective during periods of high volatility

The Bollinger Bands are based on the range of price movement relative to the Moving Average. The number of periods associated with the Bollinger Band, are used to calculate the moving average, and the number of deviations is used to calculate the upper and lower band relative to the moving average. For example if the chart interval is set to 2 hours and the number of periods associated with the Bollinger Bands set to 20, then the Bollinger Bands are based on the moving average of the price at 2 hour intervals, over 20 interval periods i.e. 40 hours.

The prices at each interval period for the defined number of periods are used to determine the deviation values. One standard deviation represents 68.2% of the range of price movement relative to the moving average; two standard deviations represent 95.4% of the price movement relative to the moving average and therefore only excludes the extreme highs and lows during the period; three standard deviations represents 99.6% of the price movement.

Typically Bollinger Bands are based on two standard deviations.

Before we look at the performance of the Bollinger Bands lets first see how the contrarian exponential moving average strategy has performed since the last edition of this ezine.

To recap, the contrarian approach was tested on the EURUSD currency pair using a 2 hour interval and 10 and 20 period moving averages. During non-volatile range bound trading the contrarian strategy generated 1706 points between the 2nd of February 2009 and the 11th of March 2009, however during the volatile trading that followed, as illustrated in the following chart, it gave back some of those gains.

The contrarian strategy was not effective during the periods of high volatility after March 17th:



The following table shows the performance of the contrarian exponential moving average strategy from the 6th of March through to the 19th of May:

date	transaction	price	pips
6 Mar 2009 08:00:00 hrs	Sell	1.2686	
9 Mar 2009 12:00:00 hrs	Buy Switch	1.2588	98
10 Mar 2009 08:00:00 hrs	Sell Switch	1.2713	125
11 Mar 2009 10:00:00 hrs	Buy Switch	1.2659	54
11 Mar 2009 14:00:00 hrs	Sell Switch	1.2784	125
17 Mar 2009 16:00:00 hrs	Buy Switch	1.2974	-190
17 Mar 2009 18:00:00 hrs	Sell Switch	1.3001	27
20 Mar 2009 18:00:00 hrs	Buy Switch	1.3558	-575
23 Mar 2009 08:00:00 hrs	Sell Switch	1.3684	108
23 Mar 2009 16:00:00 hrs	Buy Switch	1.3542	142
23 Mar 2009 20:00:00 hrs	Sell Switch	1.3631	89
24 Mar 2009 12:00:00 hrs	Buy Switch	1.3543	88

24 Mar 2009 12:00:00 hrs	Buy Switch	1.3543	88
25 Mar 2009 20:00:00 hrs	Sell Switch	1.3565	22
26 Mar 2009 22:00:00 hrs	Buy Switch	1.3533	32
31 Mar 2009 10:00:00 hrs	Sell Switch	1.3277	-256
1 Apr 2009 08:00:00 hrs	Buy Switch	1.318	97
2 Apr 2009 04:00:00 hrs	Sell Switch	1.3273	93
6 Apr 2009 18:00:00 hrs	Buy Switch	1.3365	-92
9 Apr 2009 00:00:00 hrs	Sell Switch	1.3263	-102
9 Apr 2009 18:00:00 hrs	Buy Switch	1.315	113
13 Apr 2009 02:00:00 hrs	Sell Switch	1.3156	6
14 Apr 2009 20:00:00 hrs	Buy Switch	1.3275	-119
21 Apr 2009 18:00:00 hrs	Sell Switch	1.298	-295
22 Apr 2009 08:00:00 hrs	Buy Switch	1.2931	49
22 Apr 2009 16:00:00 hrs	Sell Switch	1.3005	74
27 Apr 2009 08:00:00 hrs	Buy Switch	1.3153	-148
28 Apr 2009 22:00:00 hrs	Sell Switch	1.3142	-11
30 Apr 2009 20:00:00 hrs	Buy Switch	1.3245	-103
1 May 2009 20:00:00 hrs	Sell Switch	1.3263	18
5 May 2009 22:00:00 hrs	Buy Switch	1.3326	-63
7 May 2009 14:00:00 hrs	Sell Switch	1.3371	45
12 May 2009 02:00:00 hrs	Buy Switch	1.3575	-204
12 May 2009 10:00:00 hrs	Sell Switch	1.3654	79
13 May 2009 18:00:00 hrs	Buy Switch	1.361	44
14 May 2009 22:00:00 hrs	Sell Switch	1.3636	26
15 May 2009 14:00:00 hrs	Buy Switch	1.352	116
18 May 2009 22:00:00 hrs	Sell Switch	1.3552	32
19 May 2009 10:00:00 hrs	Buy Switch	1.3611	-59
		total profit /loss	-515

During this trading period the high levels of volatility resulted in the contrarian strategy generating a loss of 515 points.

However, if a normal exponential moving average strategy had been applied during that volatile time, then this loss would have been turned into a profit of 515 points. And so we require a strategy that will identify when to switch between the contrarian and normal exponential moving average strategies depending on prevailing market conditions.

One approach we tested was to combine the contrarian moving average strategy with a Bollinger Band strategy, whereby if the price hit the upper Bollinger band a buy signal was generated and if the price hit the lower Bollinger band a sell signal was generated.

The objective was to ensure that during periods of high volatility you did not end up being on the wrong side of a trade if the price broke out.

The rules worked during volatile large swinging price moves however when the range of price movement reduced the strategy became ineffective.

What did become apparent however, was how effective the use of Bollinger Bands is during periods of volatility and trending price moves when applying the following rules:

Rule 1: If short and the price rises above the upper bollinger band, then switch to a long position

Rule 2: If long and the price falls below the lower bollinger band, then switch to a short position

These rules were applied to the EURUSD pair using a 2 hour interval period with the deviation set to 2 and the number of periods set to 20.

Over the same time frame as the contrarian exponential moving average strategy, the Bollinger Bands strategy generated 1,146 pips return as illustrated in the following table:

date	transaction	price	pips
06 Mar 2009 14:00:00 hrs	Buy Switch	1.2681	
21 Mar 2009 12:00:00 hrs	Sell Switch	1.3517	836
02 Apr 2009 14:00:00 hrs	Buy Switch	1.3376	141
06 Apr 2009 18:00:00 hrs	Sell Switch	1.3365	-11
13 Apr 2009 10:00:00 hrs	Buy Switch	1.3204	161
15 Apr 2009 14:00:00 hrs	Sell Switch	1.3183	-21
22 Apr 2009 16:00:00 hrs	Buy Switch	1.3001	182
27 Apr 2009 20:00:00 hrs	Sell Switch	1.3007	6
29 Apr 2009 12:00:00 hrs	Buy Switch	1.3240	-233
07 May 2009 10:00:00 hrs	Sell Switch	1.3255	15
07 May 2009 14:00:00 hrs	Buy Switch	1.3363	-108
14 May 2009 02:00:00 hrs	Sell Switch	1.3541	178
		total profit/loss:	1,146

The following chart illustrates the price movement during this period:



When reviewing Bollinger Bands and related price movement, typically after the price hits the upper or lower Bollinger Band the price retraces before continuing on its upward or downward move.

With regards to the search for the “Holy Grail of Investing”, we now have a contrarian exponential moving average and Bollinger Band strategy that can be applied to different market conditions. As discussed the main challenge is deciding when to apply which strategy.

In the next edition of the ezine we will take a look at an indicator that can be used in conjunction with the Bollinger Bands strategy to help improve the entry and exit transaction price by waiting for a retracement.

If you have any comments on this strategy, or would like to put forward your own research, please email: dary@sensatus.com

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Bollinger on Bollinger Bands

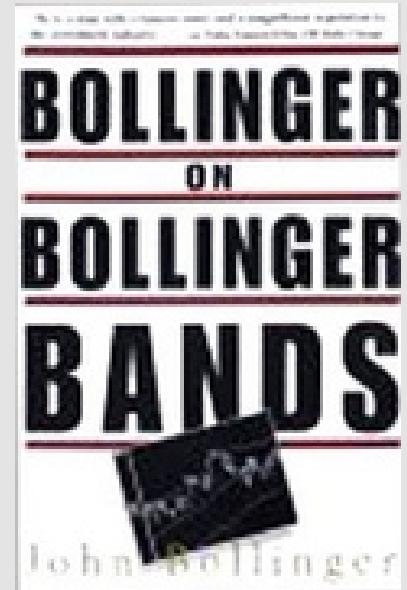
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Investment Club News

Investment Club Meet Up: Brighton, UK

Saturday 27th June 2009

We will be holding an Investment Club Meet Up in Brighton Saturday 27th June 2009 from 1:30pm to 5pm. All are welcome.

The afternoon will be a great opportunity to meet other Investment Clubs and to share ideas, experiences and strategies.

Presentations will focus on investment criteria and tools you can use to filter and select shares for your portfolio.

We will have presentations from Keith of The Two Piers Investment Club and Neil from the Hove Investment Club discussing how they identify shares that meet their strict investment criteria. This will be followed by a talk from Dary McGovern (MD of timetotrade) on technical analysis indicators,



and then a discussion where club members can share their experiences over the last year, with a look at what we have learned and ideas and tips on how our clubs survive and prosper in these volatile market conditions.

If you are interested in attending or would like to find out more, please [contact us >>](#)

Download copies of presentations from the last Meet Up here: [download here >>](#)

Tax Return Deadline!!

Investment Clubs have until 6th June to submit their Form 185 (new) for the year April 2008-09 to HMRC.

If want to find out more about HMRC's tax return requirements for investment clubs, are confused by the new share identification rules, or have any questions on completing your Form 185 (new) then join us on Monday 1st June 2009.

We will be running a FREE online webinar at 7pm the evening of Monday 1st June 2009 looking at how to complete your Form 185 (new) and to answer any questions or queries you may have.

To register for the webinar [click here >>](#)

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Timetotrade Questions

Your service looks great, however I'm in the US. Would mobile alerts be available here as well?

J. Smonge, USA

You'll be pleased to hear timetotrade's mobile sms alerts can be received in the US. Just ensure when selecting your notification method you input your mobile number in the correct format remembering to include the international code and area code.

I am having difficulty adding a share sale transaction. I have added the sale as a "sell long" transaction in the 'shares tab' but the transaction does not appear?

H. Minton, UK

You are correct to add buy and sell investment transactions to your portfolio via the 'shares tab' and using the transaction type "sell

long", ie sell to close a long position. The reason the transaction is not displayed is likely to be that the ledger's "start date" and "end date" range (displayed in the top right of the ledger page) are too short. One of timetotrade's features is the ability to view your portfolio value and associated account transactions as they stood at any previous point in time. For example, if you set your "end date" to 1 Jan 2009, you will see your portfolio as it was on 1 Jan 2009. The date range defines the transactions displayed: if the "end date" is set to a date in the past, transactions that occurred after this date will not be displayed.

If you are unable to view your sale transaction, try opening up a wider date range or setting the "end date" to today's date.

If you have any questions or queries on how to use timetotrade please [contact us >>](#)

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