

FrenzelSoft Stock Ticker



User Manual

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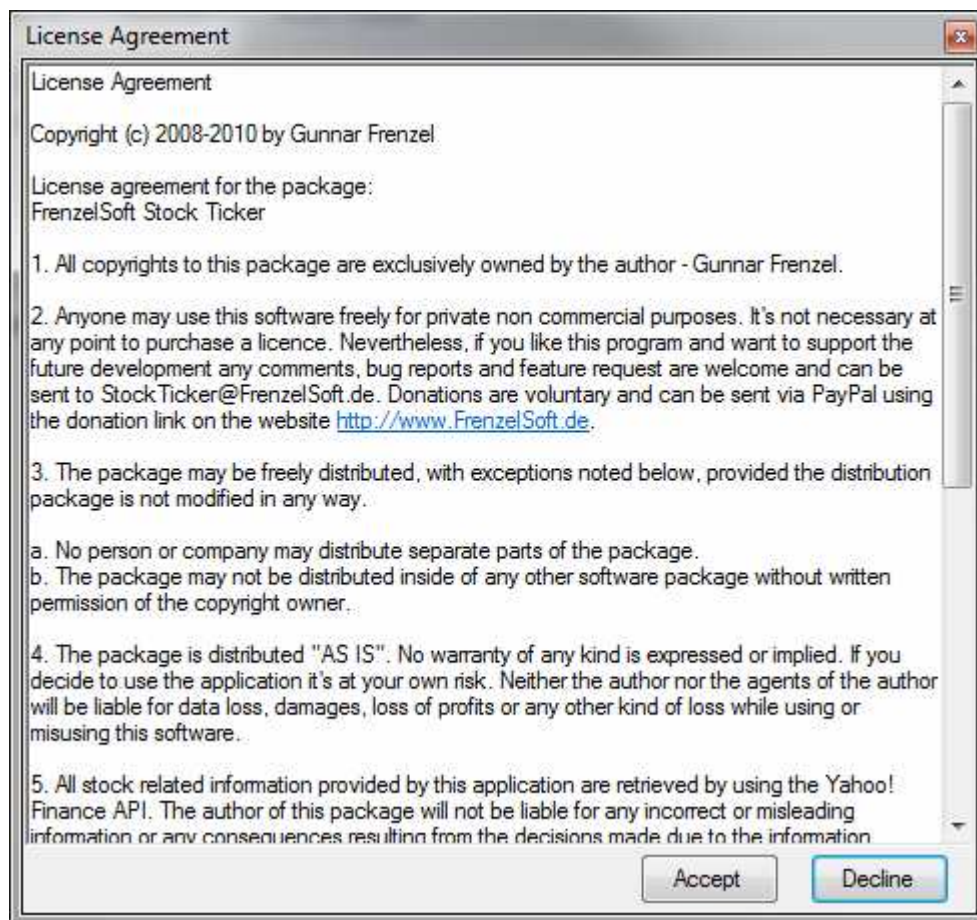
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1 First Start

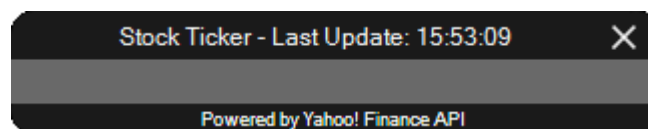
When starting the application the first time the license agreement dialog (Picture 1) will appear. Please read all terms of the license agreement carefully. If you accept all terms of the license agreement click the *Accept* button, otherwise *Decline*.

Note: Declining the license agreement will cause the application to close. In order to use the application you need to accept all terms of the license agreement.



Picture 1 License Agreement Dialog

If you decide to accept the license agreement the application will start with default GUI shown in Picture 2.

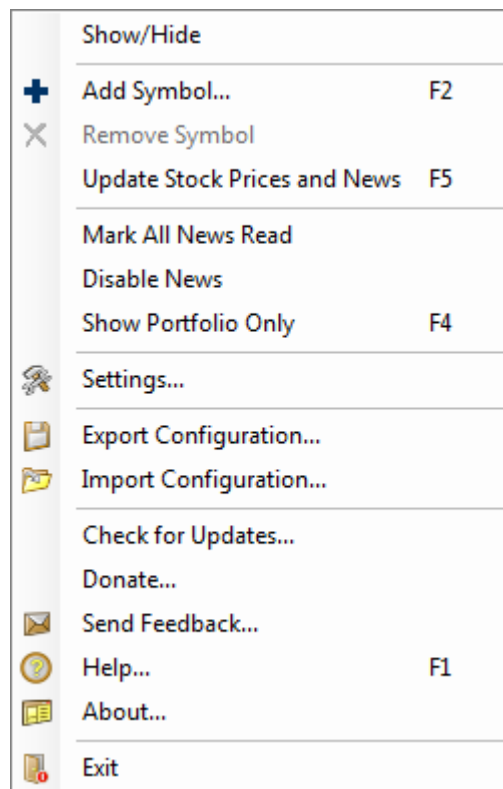


Picture 2 Default GUI with no stocks displayed

2 Basic Elements

With the default configuration the application will come up showing a tray icon only. If you want the application to be shown in the task bar instead you can change the *Show in Tray Only* option in the settings dialog (chapter 4.1.4).

All settings are done using the context menu of the GUI window or the tray icon. You can open the context menu by right click on either the GUI window or the tray icon. The options in the context menu depend on where the context menu is opened. The context menu opened on an added stock contains more options than those on the tray icon or the empty GUI shown in Picture 2. The look of the context menus are shown in Picture 3 and Picture 4.

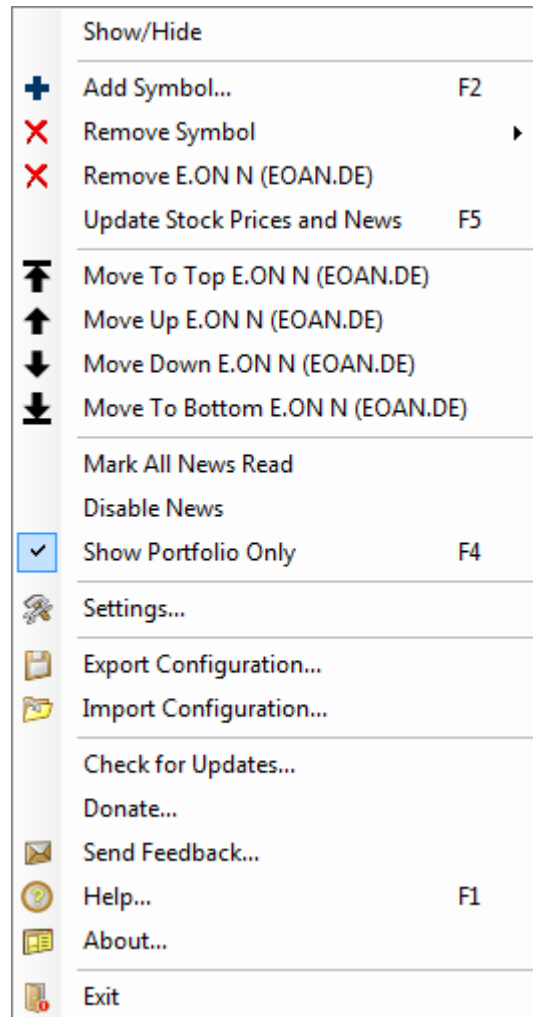


Picture 3 Minimal Context Menu

When stocks are added the GUI shows each stock with an element containing the company's name, the symbol determining the stock exchange to retrieve this company's stock price from, the stock price, the change of the stock price, the change of this stocks portfolio value and the company news.

Picture 5 shows the GUI with a number of stocks added, where the left of the two coloured columns shows this stock's stock price change and the right of the two coloured columns shows the change of this stock's portfolio value. The value between the stock's name and the

first coloured column contains the stock price retrieved at the time shown in the title bar. As you can see all positive changes for the stock value are marked green, negative changes are marked red and no change is marked grey. If the *News* element is white there is new unread news present for this stock. In the example there are no unread news present unless for AMD in the last but one line.



Picture 4 Extended Context Menu

As you can see in Picture 5 the last four stocks do not contain information in the portfolio change column. This is the default look after adding a stock until you add information about how many stocks of which price are in your portfolio (see chapter 5.4).

If you open the context menu by right clicking any of these stock information lines the context menu will show the additional options as shown in Picture 4.

Stock	Price	% Change	Absolute Change	News
DELL DLCA.DE	14,34	+3,54%	+0,49	-6,27% -28,80
STRATEC BIOME SBS.DE	15,46	+0,91%	+0,14	+18,38% +84,00
SYGNIS PHARMA LIO.DE	1,45	+3,57%	+0,05	-6,45% -30,50
QIAGEN NV QIA.DE	12,35	+0,90%	+0,11	-5,29% -10,35
WILEX WL6.DE	7,90	-2,47%	-0,20	+6,61% +22,05
EVOTEC EVT.DE	1,23	+4,24%	+0,05	+4,24% +12,50
NVIDIA NVD.F	7,05	-2,22%	-0,16	-15,06% -46,25
GPC BIOTECH A GPC.DE	2,18	+0,93%	+0,02	
BEIERSDORF BEI.DE	41,55	+0,44%	+0,18	
ADVANCED MICR AMD.DE	3,00	0%	0,00	NEWS
CYBIO CQJ.F	1,00	-2,91%	-0,03	

Powered by Yahoo! Finance API

Picture 5 GUI with a number of stocks

When unread news is available the tray icon will change to the icon shown from Picture 6 to Picture 7.



Picture 6 Tray Icon with no unread news present

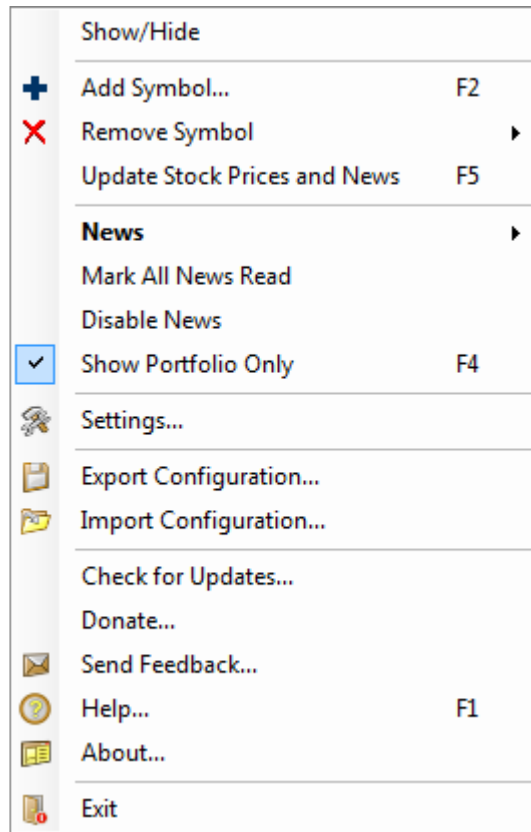


Picture 7 Tray Icon with unread news present

All stocks with unread news have the highlighted “News” lettering. In Picture 5 only AMD has unread news available. If you don’t want to be notified about news you can either disable retrieving news at all by the *Disable News* option in the context menu (see Picture 3 and Picture 4), which is going to disable retrieving news for all stocks, or by the *Disable News* option in the stock specific *Settings* dialog (see Picture 11), which is going to disable retrieving news for the corresponding stock only.

Please note: Even if you disable news the news lettering might be highlighted. This can be caused by present unread news (disabling news does not discard already received news) or by Earning Announcement dates for the stocks. Even when news is disabled the Earning Announcement dates are still retrieved and signalled using the highlighted *News* lettering and the Tray icon as well.

If unread news is present the context menu on the tray has an additional option to easily access all unread news by stock (see Picture 8).



Picture 8 Context Menu on Tray Icon with unread news present

If you want to mark all news from all stocks read at once you can use the *Mark All News Read* option in the context menu (see chapter 3.7, Picture 3 and Picture 4).

3 Context Menu Elements

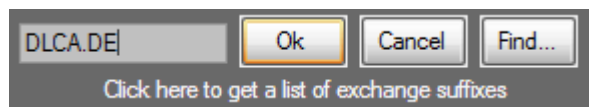
This chapter will explain all the elements available in the extended context menu shown in Picture 4.

3.1 Show/Hide

This option is used to show/hide the GUI. The same effect can be achieved by clicking on the tray icon. A double click on the tray icon hides the GUI and a single click on the tray icon shows the GUI and brings it to front.

3.2 Add Symbol

This option is used to add a new stock to the list. A new sub dialog as shown in Picture 9 will open. Here you need to enter the stocks symbol as used on Yahoo! Finance website as all stock information is retrieved from the Yahoo! Finance API. If you don't know the correct for the company you want to add you can just enter the company's name in the text field and press the *Find...* button. A new browser window will open showing you a list of options with the corresponding symbols. Please choose the symbol you are interested in and add paste it to the *Add Symbol* dialog. By pressing the *Ok* button the stock will be added to the application.



Picture 9 Add Symbol Dialog

To get a list of all available stock exchanges, the corresponding stock exchange suffixes and the delays of the stock prices provided for this stock click on the link at the bottom of this dialog. If you do so a browser window will open showing you the information.

3.3 Remove Symbol

Here you can choose from the list of all added stocks which one to remove from the list. If you remove a symbol/stock from the list it will no longer be shown in the GUI and all entered information about the portfolio are lost.

3.4 Remove...

This option removes the symbol/stock shown in the context menu element text from the list (see chapter 3.3).

3.5 Update Stock Prices and News

This option forces the application to update all information immediately instead of waiting for the next update interval. The stock prices are automatically updated every five minutes and the company news every 30 minutes. The GUI's title bar shows when the last update of the stock prices was done.

3.6 Move To Top, Move Up, Move Down, Move To Bottom

These options can be used to change the order in which the stocks are displayed in the GUI. *Move Up* will move the corresponding stock one position up and *Move Down* one position down. *Move To Top* moves the corresponding stock to the first position and *Move To Bottom* to the last position. If multicolumn display is chosen you can chose between row-by-row (default, only mode in version v1.1.0.0) and column-by-column (see Picture 10).

3.7 Mark All News Read

This option marks all news from all stocks read at once.

3.8 Disable News

When this option is set no more news are retrieved. If you want to disable retrieving news for some stocks only you can do this by the stock related settings dialog (see Picture 1).

3.9 Show Portfolio Only

When this option is set the GUI displays only stocks you own or those a min or max alert has been reached.

3.10 Settings

This option opens the Settings dialog (see chapter 4).

3.11 Export Configuration

This option allows the user to save the current configuration to a user specified xml file. This file can be placed in the corresponding folder of another PC in order to transfer your configuration to another PC (see chapter 5.11).

3.12 Import Configuration

This option allows the use to import a previously saved configuration from a user specified xml file. This file will replace the automatically saved configuration file (if present).

3.13 Check for Updates

This option is used to check whether there's a new version of the Stock Ticker available on the server. If there is a new version available a list of all new features and bugfixes is displayed and you can choose whether to install. An update check is done once a month on application start automatically, too.

3.14 Donate

If you like this program and want to donate an arbitrary amount of money you can this option to get redirected to the FrenzelSoft donation PayPal page.

3.15 Send Feedback

If you have any comments, feature request or bugs to report you can use this option to send an email to let me know about it. If you want to report a bug please be as specific as possible regarding the circumstances of the error and, if possible, attach a screenshot of the misbehaviour or error message shown in case of a crash.

3.16 Help

By this option this manual document can be opened from within the application.

3.17 About

This option displays the about box with the application's version.

3.18 Exit

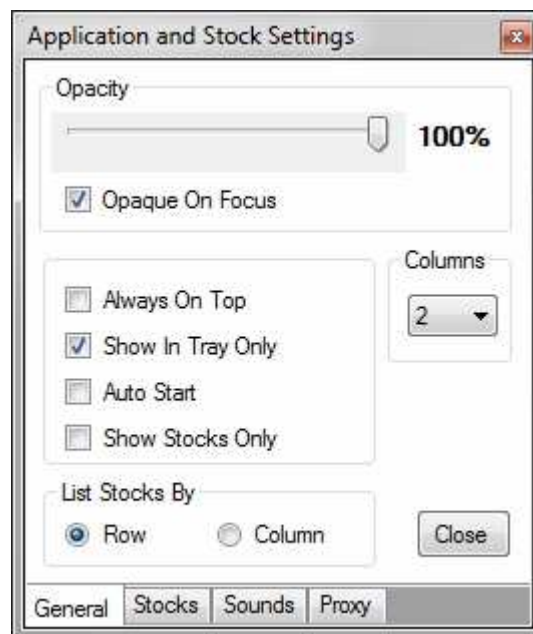
This option will close the application.

4 Settings

This chapter explains all settings that can be done in the *Settings* dialog that can be opened using the context menu.

4.1 General

This chapter explains the settings on the *Settings* dialog's *General* tab. Picture 10 shows the *General* tab of the *Settings* dialog.



Picture 10 Settings Dialog - General

4.1.1 Opacity

The slider can be used to adjust the opacity of the applications main window. It can be set to any value between 0% and 100% in steps of 1%. While moving the slider the applications main window changes according to the value set in the slider, so you can easily find a setting that fits your needs best.

4.1.2 Opaque On Focus

If this option is checked (default) the applications main window will always be opaque when the application has the focus no matter which opacity is set. When the application loses the focus the opacity changes back to the opacity setting. If you uncheck this option the application's main window will always show the same opacity with or without focus.

4.1.3 Always On Top

If checked the application's main window will be always on top, otherwise act like a "normal" window.

4.1.4 Show In Tray Only

If this option is checked (default) the application will not appear in the taskbar except for the tray icon. If you want your application to act like any other application (shown in the taskbar) you can uncheck this option.

Note: The alert notifications will not appear if this option unchecked (see chapter 4.2.1).

4.1.5 Auto Start

If this option is set a registry key will be created to automatically start the application when you log on to your PC. The *Auto Start* option is user specific, so if you have multiple users log on to your PC this setting affects only the user who set this option.

4.1.6 Show Stocks Only

If this option is set the header and footer of the application's main window will not be shown. If you want to save space on screen or just prefer the look of the application showing the stock information only you can set this option.

4.1.7 List Stocks By

There are two display modes in case of multi column view available. If the stocks are displayed in more than column the stocks can be displayed in either row-by-row (*Row*) style or in column-by-column (*Column*) style.

4.1.8 Columns

If you have added a number of stocks and prefer a multi column layout of the stock information you can change the number of columns here.

4.2 Stocks

This chapter explains the settings on the *Settings* dialog's *Stocks* tab. Picture 11 shows the *Stocks* tab of the *Settings* dialog.



Picture 11 Settings Dialog - Stocks

4.2.1 Stock List Box

Here you can choose the stock for which you want to view or edit the stock settings. If the *Settings* dialog is opened from the extended context menu (Picture 4) the stock you right-clicked on will automatically be chosen in the stock list box. All information displayed on the *Stocks* tab in the *Settings* dialog is related to the stock selected in this list box.

4.2.2 Stocks

Here you can enter the number of stocks you own of this company. If you enter a value and a price (see chapter 4.2.3) for a company the change of the value for these stocks will be displayed in the GUI along with the stock price change. When you move the mouse over the portfolio change element (when the application has the focus) the number of stocks and the price entered in the *Price* field are shown in a tool tip.

4.2.3 Price

Here you can enter the price at which you bought the stocks entered in the stocks field (see chapter 4.2.2). If you enter a value and a price (see chapter 4.2.3) for a company the change of

the value for these stocks will be displayed in the GUI along with the stock price change. When you move the mouse over the portfolio change element (when the application has the focus) the number of stocks and the price entered in the *Price* field are shown in a tool tip.

4.2.4 News Symbol

All news available for the corresponding company are marked in the GUI (see chapter 2). By default the symbol added for the stock prices is used to retrieve the news, too. As Yahoo! is providing the company news only for some symbols of the corresponding company (usually the NASDAQ symbol) you can enter another symbol that will be used to retrieve the company news.

Example: If you add Dell to your stock list, but you are interested in the stock price at XETRA to get € prices you have to add Dell using the symbol DLCA.DE for XETRA stock prices. Because there is no Dell related news broadcasted for this symbol you can go the *Settings* dialog and enter the *News Symbol* DELL (NASDAQ symbol) to get all Dell related news from Yahoo! Finance API.

4.2.5 Disable News

If you are not interested in the stock's news retrieving news can be disabled by checking this checkbox. This setting applies to the stock chosen in the stock list box only. If you want to disable retrieving news for all stocks use the *Disable News* option in the context menu (see Picture 3 and Picture 4).

4.2.6 Invert Colors

By default increasing stock prices are displayed with a green and decreasing stock prices are displayed with a red color. If you want to invert this behaviour to show increasing stock prices red and decreasing stock prices green you can choose this option. This can be handy if you have for example PUT options on a stock and set your stock price (see 4.2.3) to the break even value of your PUT option. An increasing stock price would then be negative for you and is displayed with a red color.

4.2.7 Alert Min / Alert Max

Here you can set stock prices for the corresponding company to get notified when the stock price fall below (*Alert Min*) or exceed (*Alert Max*) the price you entered. This can be used to set limits at which you want to buy or sell stocks. When you move the mouse over (when the application has the focus) the stock price the limits set for this company (if present) will be shown in a tool tip.

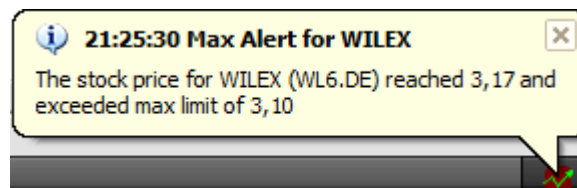
The alert will be done in two ways. First, if you didn't uncheck the *Show In Tray Only* option in the *Settings* dialog (see chapter 4.1.4) there will be a balloon tip on the tray icon (Picture 12 and Picture 14) in the taskbar. Second, the stock price in the applications main window will be displayed in a different colour. In case of a *Min Alert* (stock price fall below specified *Min Alert* value) it's written in red (Picture 15). In case a *Max Alert* (stock price raised above specified *Max Alert* value) it's written in light green (Picture 13). The balloon tip will be shown only once when the stock price reaches the limit specified, the colour change in the stock price will be kept as long as the limit is reached.



Picture 12 Max Alert Balloon Tip



Picture 13 Max Alert GUI



Picture 14 Min Alert Balloon Tip



Picture 15 Min Alert GUI

The balloon tip contains the stock's name and symbol as well as the time at which the limit was reached, the limit set and the stock price at the time of reaching the limit set.

If all later alerts are supposed to be shown with a balloon tip the balloon has to be ignored (it closes automatically after about 30 seconds) or been closed using the close button in the top right corner of the balloon tip. The balloon tip can be closed by clicking in the text area as well but this causes the balloon tip notification to be disabled and no more balloon tips will be shown until the application is restarted.

4.3 Sounds

This chapter explains the settings on the *Settings* dialog's *Sounds* tab. Picture 16 shows the *Sounds* tab of the *Settings* dialog.



Picture 16 Settings Dialog - Sounds

All settings done in this dialog apply for all stocks. It's not possible to set different sounds for the stocks.

4.3.1 Alert Min Sound

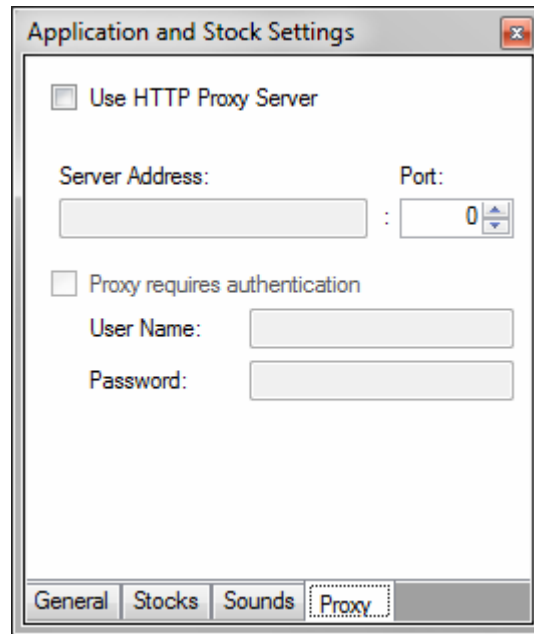
When this option is enabled a wav file or system sound can be chosen to be played when a Min Alert happens. To choose a system sound just choose one from the drop down box which should be initialized with the system sounds available on your PC. To manually choose a wav file to be played the *Browse* button can be used. With the play button the sound currently chosen in the drop down box can be played as preview.

4.3.2 Alert Max Sound

All settings are analog to those described in chapter 4.3.1 Alert Min Sound just apply to the Max Alert instead of Min Alert.

4.4 Proxy

If you connect to the internet using a proxy server you can enter your proxy server's address and port number here.



Picture 17 Settings Dialog - Proxy

5 How To...

This chapter contains a summary of likely use cases and how to use the application in the given situations.

5.1 ... add a company to the list?

See chapter 3.2 for details.

5.2 ... remove a company from the list?

See chapters 3.3 and 3.4 for details.

5.3 ... change the order of the stocks displayed?

See chapter 3.6 for details.

5.4 ... set portfolio information?

See chapters 4.2.2 and 4.2.3 for details.

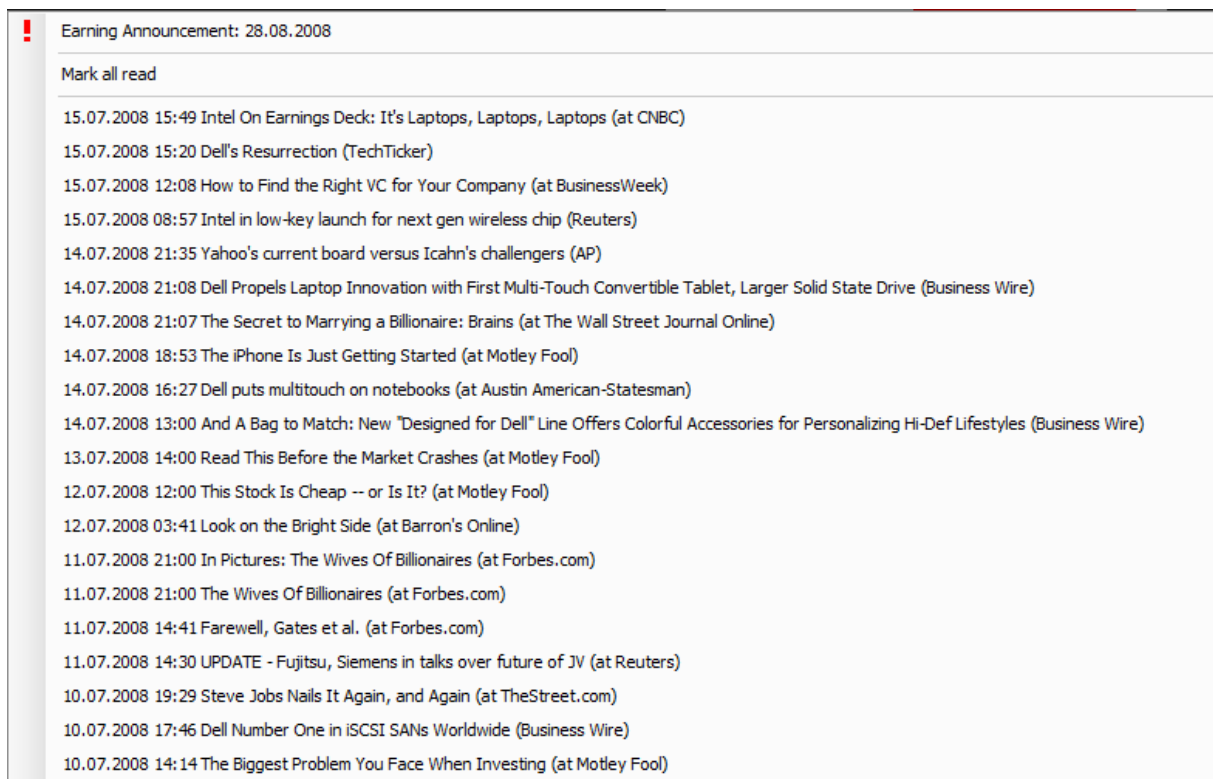
5.5 ... set a stock price alert/alarm?

See chapter 4.2.7 for details.

5.6 ... get company news?

When you add a company to the list the company news will be retrieved automatically. If you don't use the NASDAQ symbol for the company see chapter 4.2.4 for further information. When unread news are present for the company the news icon will be highlighted (Picture 5). If so just click or right click on the news icon to get a list of all news headlines. By click on any of these news a browser window will open showing the news and the element will be marked read. You can set all elements to read by the *Mark all read* element (Picture 18). All unread news are bold, read news are not bold.

Besides the company news (articles about the company) the earnings announcement date will be shown here (if available). There's no link associated with the Earnings Announcement, by click on this element it will be marked read.



Picture 18 News menu

5.7 ... get stock price charts?

To get charts for a company in your list you have to click on the company's name. A browser window will be opened showing this symbols information page at the Yahoo! Finance website.

5.8 ... get more information about Yahoo! Finance?

To get to the Yahoo! Finance website you can click on the *Powered by Yahoo! Finance API* link in the footer of the GUI or visit <http://finance.yahoo.com>

5.9 ... get information on the stock price delay?

If you are interested in how long the stock prices shown are delayed you can use the link at the bottom of the *Add Symbol* dialog (Picture 9). On the website shown after clicking on this link you can get a list of all stock exchange suffixes and the times the stock prices of this stock exchange are delayed.

5.10 ... change the update intervals?

It's not possible to change the update intervals. The update intervals are set to the following values:

- Stock Prices: 5 minutes
- Company News: 30 minutes
- Earnings Announcements: 3 hours

5.11 ... export the application settings to another computer?

With version 1.3.0 you have two ways to achieve this. The first way is to copy the *settings.xml* manually as in earlier versions. The second way is by using the *Export Configuration* option in the context menu (see chapter 3.11). In order to use the settings from a specific *settings.xml* file in the application it has to be copied to the path described in the following text containing the description for manually copying the *settings.xml* file.

If you added several stocks to the *Stock Ticker* on a computer and want to export these settings (stocks, min alerts, max alerts, application settings, etc.) to another computer, for example from Desktop PC to Laptop you just need to copy the application's *settings.xml* file to the target computer after installing the *Stock Ticker* there.

Assuming your local system hard disc drive is drive *C:* you can find the *settings.xml* file under Windows® XP in folder:

C:\Documents and Settings*<user name>*\Application Data\FrenzelSoft\StockTicker

And under Windows® Vista or Windows® 7 in folder:

C:\Users*<user name>*\AppData\Roaming\FrenzelSoft\StockTicker

Where *<user name>* is your login user name.

The directory and file are created during the first run of the application so if you want to import settings from another computer after installing the *Stock Ticker* and before the first start you need to create the subdirectory *FrenzelSoft\StockTicker* manually.

Please Not: Some of these subfolders might not be visible in Windows® Explorer due to its folder options. You can copy the whole path to the Windows® Explorer address bar which will lead you the folder or enable the *Show hidden files and folders* option in the Windows® Explorer folder options dialog.

5.12 ... import application settings?

With version 1.6.0 you have two ways of importing previously exported settings. You can either manually copy the *settings.xml* file to the corresponding *Application Data* folder or use the *Import Configuration* feature from the context menu (see chapter 3.12).

In case of manually copying and assuming your local system hard disc drive is drive C: you have to store the *settings.xml* file under Windows® XP in folder:

C:\Documents and Settings\\Application Data\FrenzelSoft\StockTicker

And under Windows® Vista or Windows® 7 in folder:

C:\Users\\AppData\Roaming\FrenzelSoft\StockTicker

Where <user name> is your login user name.

5.13 ... disable retrieving news?

News retrieval can be disabled for each stock independently or for all stocks at once. On how to disable news retrieval for a single stock see chapter 4.2.5 and on how to disable news retrieval for all stocks see chapter 3.8.

5.14 ... check for updates?

With version v1.2.0.0 there is an update check integrated in the application. If you want to stay up to date with the latest available version of FrenzelSoft Stock Ticker you don't need to do anything. The application is checking for newer version automatically once a month. If you want to start an update check manually you can do this by the *Check for Updates* option in the context menu (see chapter 3.13, Picture 3 and Picture 4).

5.15 ... change stock display from row-by-row to column-by-column style?

If you prefer the stocks displayed column-by-column instead of row-by-row you can switch between these display styles in the settings dialog (see chapter 4.1.7).

5.16 ... play sounds on Min or Max alerts?

See chapter 4.3 for details.

5.17 ... send feedback, feature request, bug reports?

To send your feedback, feature requests or bug reports you can use the email address or link in chapter 6 or use the *Send Feedback* option from the application's context menu.

If you want to report a bug please provide as many information as possible concerning the circumstances of the problem and if possible a screenshot showing the misbehaviour or the complete text from the error message especially in case of a crash.

5.18 ... use Stock Ticker with a proxy server?

See chapter 4.4 for details.

5.19 ... filter stocks displayed?

Currently you can choose between two display modes. The first one (default) is to show all stocks added. The second one is to show only those stocks you own and those that reached a min or max alert. The modes can be toggled by using the *Show Portfolio Only* option in the context menu (see chapter 3.9).

6 Questions, Comments, Contact

If you have any further questions not answered by this manual or any comments, feature proposals or bug reports please send an email to:

StockTicker@FrenzelSoft.de

If you like this program or just want to say “Hey, it’s helpful.” I appreciate any positive comments as well... ;-)

If you like this program and want to support the further development you can make a donation of your choice via PayPal using the donation link at the website:

<http://www.FrenzelSoft.de>

Note: Donations are voluntary. You will never have to buy any sort of license to use this program wherever you downloaded it. It’s complete freeware for private non commercial use.

7 Acknowledgement

I’d like to thank Yahoo! for providing a free API to retrieve stock prices and company information in a client application.

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