



Forex Currency Strength Index

USER MANUAL

Information Management Solutions



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Minimum System Requirements

Operating System: Windows XP, Vista, Windows 7, Windows 8
Processor: 2.0 GHz or greater. Dual processor recommended
Broker Platform: MetaTrader 4

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Introduction

Forex is the world's largest financial market with an average daily volume of \$3 trillion dollars. It is open 24 hours a day Monday through Friday.

One of the most successful and cost effective software platforms to trade Forex is MetaTrader. It is provided by many brokers at no charge. MetaTrader allows the end user to analyze the market and place trades directly from the charts. MetaTrader also has the ability to run customized programs such as indicators, scripts and expert advisors. MetaTrader also provides a data stream of price ticks through a built in Dynamic Data Exchange (DDE) server. The **Forex Currency Strength Index** program utilizes the MetaTrader DDE to calculate and display each currency strength with a robust calculation algorithm measuring the rate of change at a minimum every 5 seconds.

The **Forex Currency Strength Index** program is NOT an automated forex trading program. It is a tool to be used by manual traders to determine currency strength by assigning an index value. Determining individual currency strength allows the trader to decide which currencies or currency pairs to trade.

The **Forex Currency Strength Index** program comes in two versions: Lite and Standard. The Lite Edition includes the bar chart display only. The Standard Edition includes a customizable line graph for the currency strength, graphs that measure and display the tick count for each currency pair, and the ability to change various program settings such as currency colors, line width and time intervals.

The **Forex Currency Strength Index** "Lite Edition" is available on the website for download and can be freely distributed. The "Standard Edition" is a commercial product and registered to each individual purchaser. The Standard Edition can be purchased from the website. After purchase the program will be emailed in a zip. Individual activation is coded into the software. Activation codes have become necessary to protect intellectual property and limit software piracy.

Trading using Currency Strength

The **Forex Currency Strength Index** program is a tool for traders. The program provides the data. The trader evaluates the data and determines how to proceed with trades. As an individual currency strength index rises or falls, all pairs containing the currency are experiencing positive or negative price movement, respectively. The strength index is the total effect of all these pairs on the one currency. The challenge is to select the proper currency pair to trade based on the strength index.

It is impossible to open and monitor a forex chart for every currency pair. The Tick Rate data charts allow the trader to quickly identify which currency pair(s) are most active. This combined with the currency strength index is a powerful trader tool.

Some suggestions include: 1) waiting for one currency to reach the upper portion of the index and matching it with a currency dropping to a lower index since a possible reversal is highly likely or 2) trading two currencies that have recently crossed in the middle of the line graph. The currency strength index concept allows the trader to use a weakening currency to buy a strong currency OR use a strong currency to sell a weakening currency.

The behavior of the strength index lines is important. Steep rises or falls indicate higher trading volume. Used in conjunction with the tick rate data, this will steer the trader into selecting the proper currency pair to trade. Most traders prefer to trade higher volume periods during Asian, European or US market opens with careful attention to scheduled economic reports.

It is recommended that the program be started at least 4 hours before you intend to start trading to collect a history of recent market behavior. For those traders who wish more data, start the program at the beginning of the week. This will allow the trader to view previous market activity. Storing the data in a spreadsheet can provide a means for back testing strength patterns.

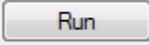
Installing Forex Currency Strength Index

The **Forex Currency Strength Index** install file will arrive as an attachment to your email. The file will have a ZIP extension. The setup file name

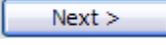
 setup fxcurrencyindex.zip includes the Windows programs and User Manual.

After detaching the ZIP file from your email, save the ZIP file to your desktop or other convenient folder. Unzip the file and save contents to an appropriate folder.

Inside the folder double click the file icon to start the installation process. If your anti-virus program starts scanning the files please wait until it is completed. If your anti-virus program rejects the installation turn off your anti-virus during the installation process.

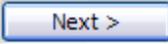
If you get a security warning popup click the  button to proceed.

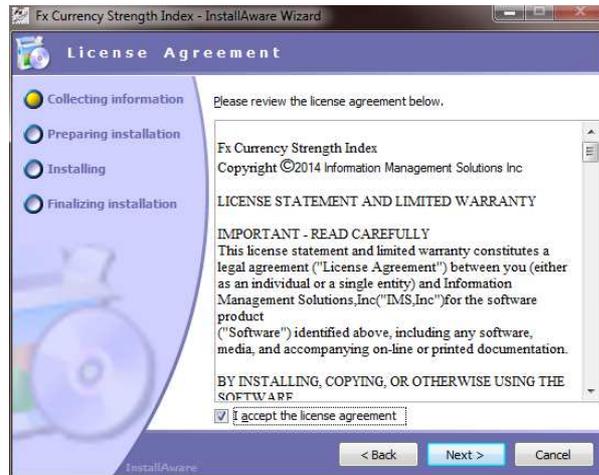


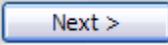
Click the  button to proceed.



Read the license agreement and select the check box to accept terms.

Click the  button to proceed.



Click the  button to complete the installation process.



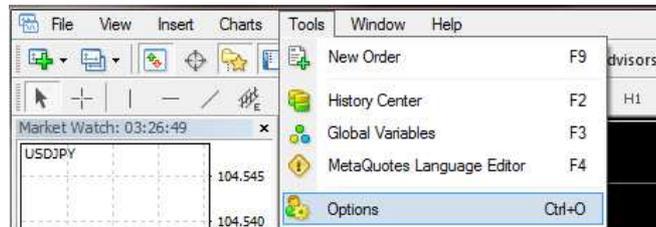
The progress bar will display during file installation. The program will start automatically after install is complete. Do **NOT** click the **Forex Currency**

Strength Index  button until your broker platform is installed and running with the DDE server as explained in the next section.

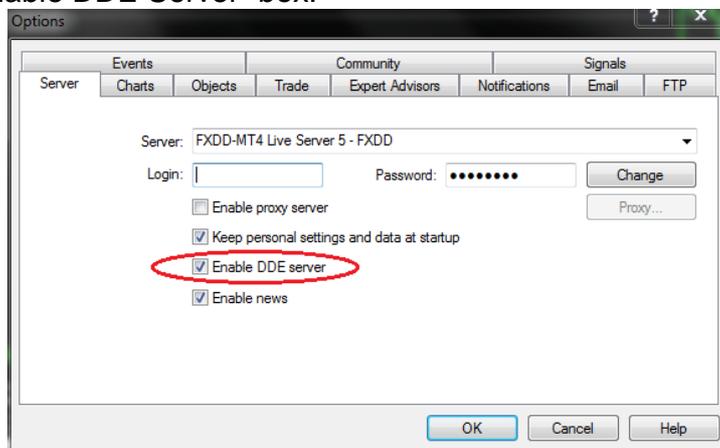
Starting Forex Currency Strength Index

Refer to your broker's installation guidelines to properly install your MetaTrader trading platform.

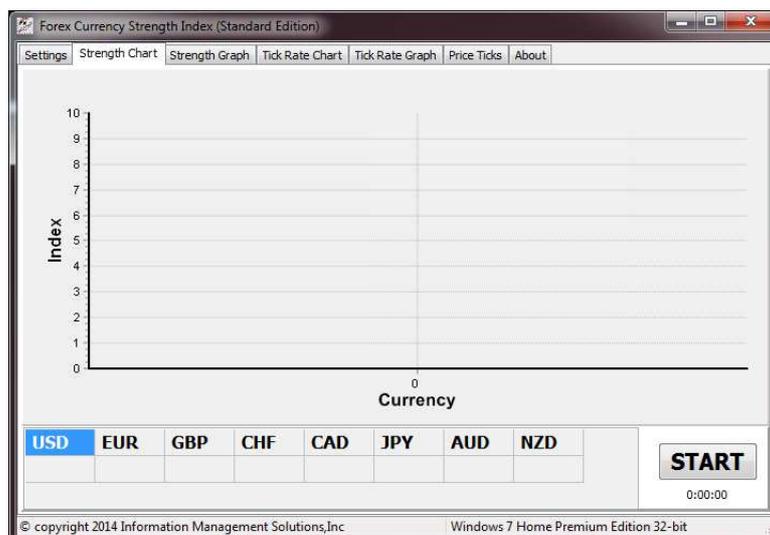
After MetaTrader installation is complete select **TOOLS | OPTIONS** from the main menu.



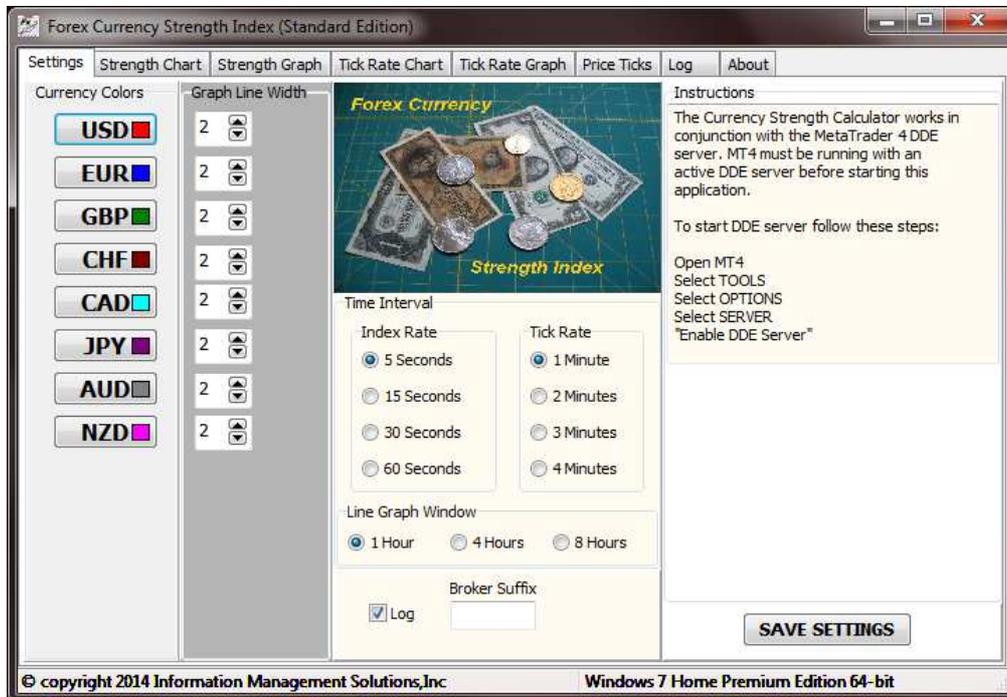
Check the "Enable DDE Server" box.



Select the INDEX CHART tabsheet and click the **START** button.



Settings



Currency colors can be selected by clicking each individual currency. The width of the line graph can also be changed. These settings can only be changed in the Standard Edition.

The Time Intervals denote the refresh rate for the strength index and tick rates on the bar charts. It does not affect the line graphs. These settings can only be changed in the Standard Edition.

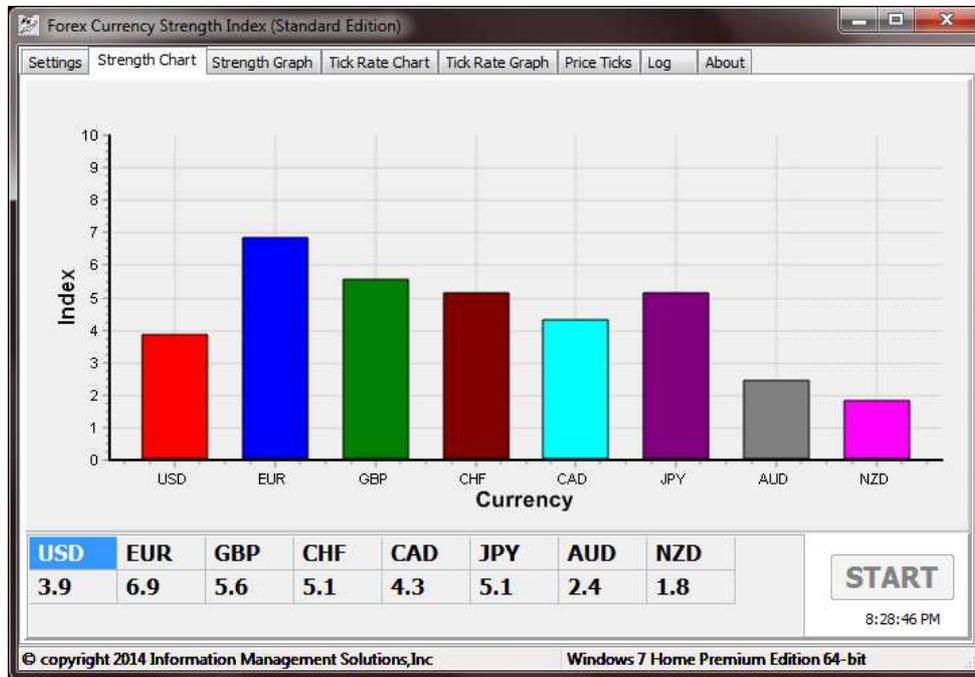
The Line Graph window sets the viewing area for both strength index and tick rate graphs. This setting can only be changed in the Standard Edition.

If your broker adds a suffix to the 6 character currency pair designation you must specify the Broker suffix. (example: EURUSDm).

Selecting the LOG checkbox will open an additional page that will collect strength index data for exporting into a separate text file. Subsequently the text file can be imported into a spreadsheet.

The SAVE button will allow you to save settings. The LOG checkbox is not saved. The settings can only be saved in the Standard Edition.

Strength Bar Chart

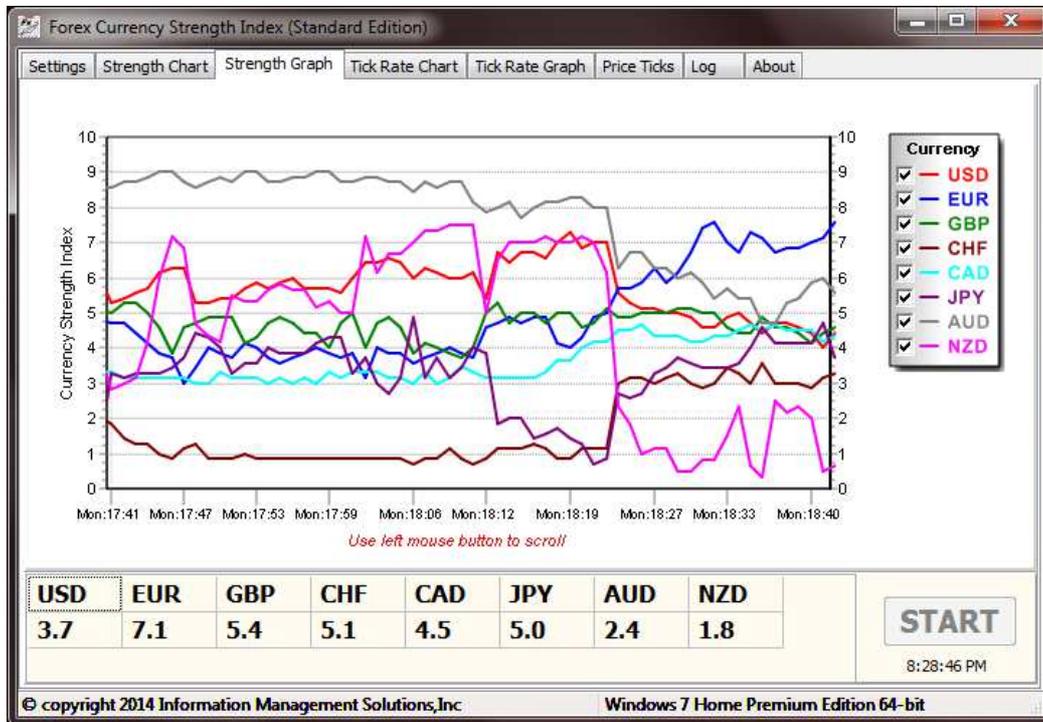


The Strength Bar Chart provides a quick visual view and numerical value of each currency strength.

The index's time interval defaults to once every 5 seconds and can be changed on the settings page with the Standard Edition of the program.

The START button starts the data interchange with the MT4 DDE server.

Strength Line Graph



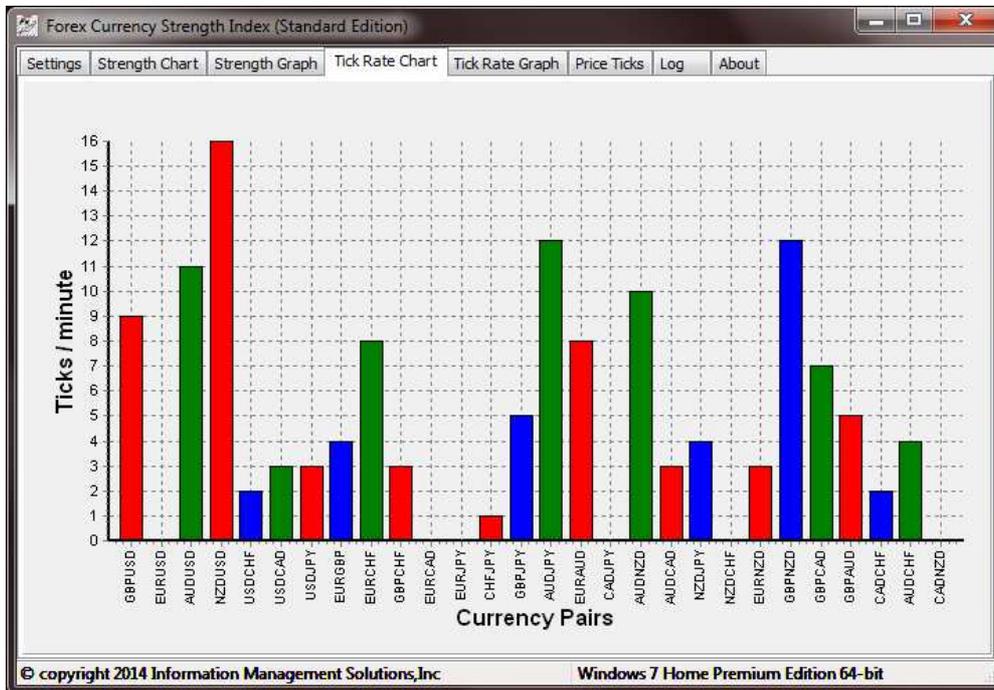
The strength line graph provides a visual view of currency strength through time and, in the table, a numerical value of each currency strength for the selected time interval.

The index's time interval defaults to once every minute. This interval cannot be changed.

The viewing of individual currencies can be turned on or off in the checkbox. The additional checkboxes are for future use.

The START button starts the data interchange with the MT4 DDE server.

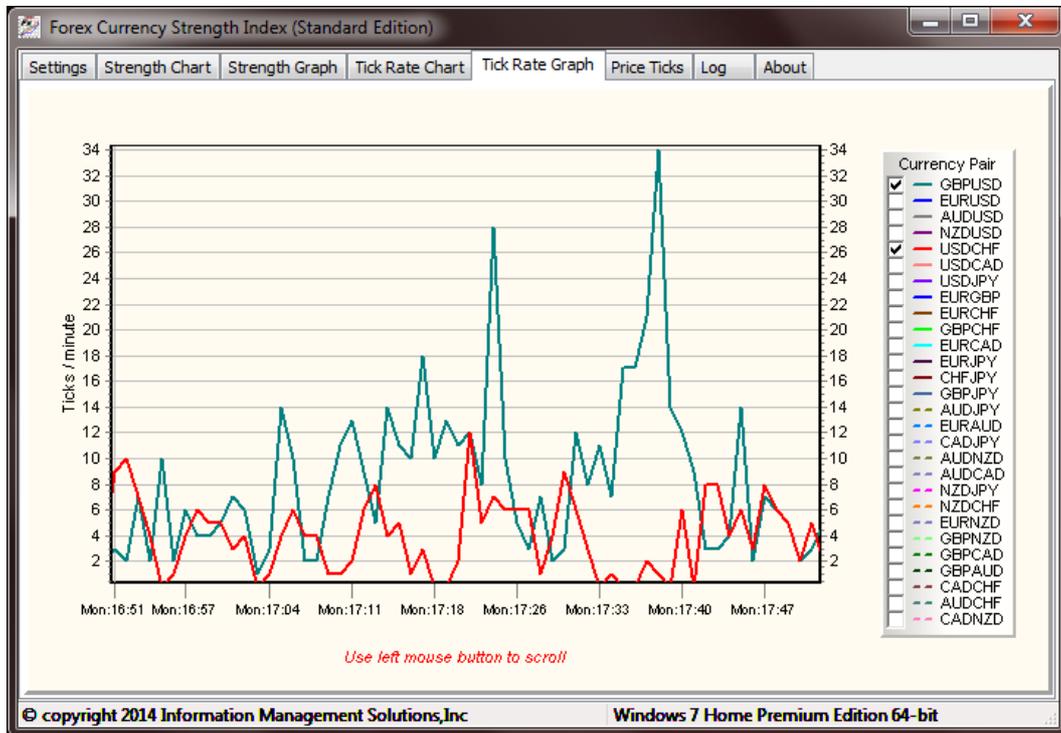
Tick Rate Bar Chart



The tick rate bar chart provides a quick visual view of currency pair tick rate. The tick interval defaults to once every 1 minute and can be changed on the settings page with the Standard Edition of the program.

The tick rate provides a measure of the activity of a currency pair. It is not an indicator of volume since there is no quantity associated with each tick.

Tick Rate Line Graph



The tick rate line graph provides a visual view of currency strength through time.

The index's time interval defaults to once every minute. This interval cannot be changed.

The viewing of individual currencies can be turned on or off in the checkbox. This graph can become very cluttered with lines. It is recommended that you only view currency pairs that are of interest.

Price Ticks

The screenshot shows the 'Forex Currency Strength Index (Standard Edition)' application window. The 'Price Ticks' tab is active, displaying a table of currency prices. The table has columns for PAIRS, DATE, TIME, BID, ASK, HIGH, LOW, and TICKS. The data is as follows:

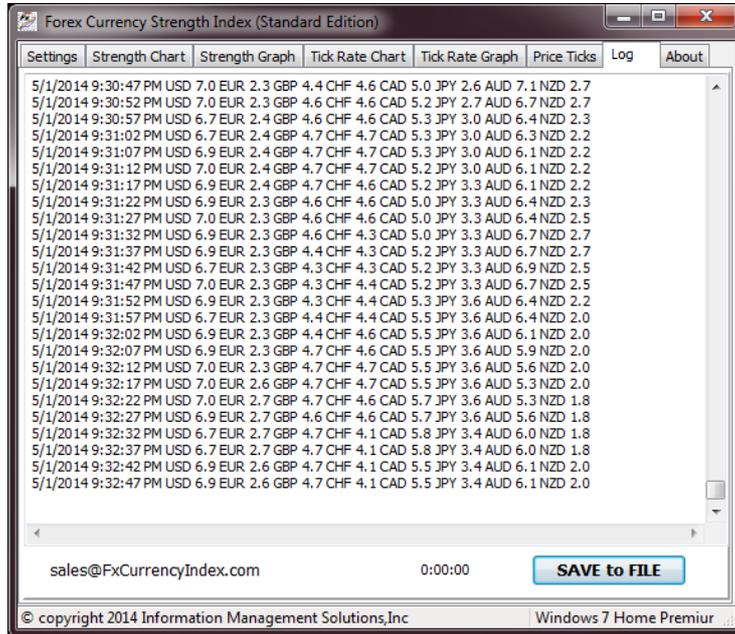
PAIRS	DATE	TIME	BID	ASK	HIGH	LOW	TICKS
GBPUSD	2014/04/29	03:30	1.68128	1.68153	1.68123	1.68050	6
EURUSD	2014/04/29	03:30	1.38544	1.38564	1.38537	1.38472	1
AUDUSD	2014/04/29	03:30	0.92409	0.92433	0.92608	0.92374	7
NZDUSD	2014/04/29	03:30	0.85300	0.85332	0.85428	0.85229	9
USDCHF	2014/04/29	03:30	0.87999	0.88023	0.88033	0.87990	5
USDCAD	2014/04/29	03:30	1.10232	1.10258	1.10290	1.10207	2
USDJPY	2014/04/29	03:30	102.468	102.486	102.527	102.462	2
EURGBP	2014/04/29	03:30	0.82390	0.82415	0.82409	0.82357	23
EURCHF	2014/04/29	03:29	1.21923	1.21960	1.21934	1.21883	3
GBPCHF	2014/04/29	03:30	1.47959	1.48006	1.47980	1.47883	2
EURCAD	2014/04/29	03:30	1.52736	1.52780	1.52758	1.52660	3
EURJPY	2014/04/29	03:30	141.976	142.005	142.017	141.907	5
CHFJPY	2014/04/29	03:30	116.414	116.464	116.442	116.360	4
GBPJPY	2014/04/29	03:30	172.291	172.336	172.339	172.211	3
AUDJPY	2014/04/29	03:30	04.604	04.722	04.608	04.601	7

Below the table, there are two buttons: 'STOP' and 'START'. The 'STOP' button is currently active. The time displayed is 8:30:35 PM. The footer of the window shows '© copyright 2014 Information Management Solutions, Inc' and 'Windows 7 Home Premium Edition 64-bit'.

The price tick page provides a real time visual view of incoming data for each pair from the DDE server. If data on a particular pair is blank it is probably not supported by your broker. Brokers do not necessarily support all minor currency pairs.

The STOP button will halt the data interchange and reactivate the START button. This may also be necessary if you lose your internet connection and need to restart.

Log



The tick log is activated by selecting the LOG checkbox on the SETTINGS page. The SAVE TO FILE button will allow you to create a text file for importing data into a spreadsheet.

About



Live Account and Demo Account Trading

The Forex Currency Strength Index will operate on live or demo accounts. There will probably be some discrepancy in the price ticks between the two, but the relative strength should be valid particularly during higher volume market hours

FAQs and Troubleshooting

Can the program be used with non MetaTrader accounts?

No. If you trade on a non MetaTrader platform you can still use a MetaTrader demo account to monitor currency strength. Results should be valid during higher volume trade hours.

What time frame should be used in the line graphs?

Line graphs default to a 1 hour window. This should be the optimal viewing time frame for short term trading. 4 and 8 hour windows are also available to study longer data intervals. The screen can always be scrolled back to view previous data.

Must the computer be connected to the internet all day?

It is recommended that the program be started at least 4 hours before you intend to start trading. This will provide a history of recent market behavior.

How do I trade using the strength index?

Trading the market using the strength index is up to the trader. The program provides the data. The trader should evaluate market conditions and upcoming reports along with the strength data to determine how to trade a particular currency. Some suggestions include: waiting for one currency to reach the upper portion of the index and matching it with a currency dropping to a lower index or trading two currencies that have recently crossed in the middle of the line graph.

I downloaded the program and some features are not active.

The "Lite Edition" is a free version of the program. The strength bar chart is active. All other features are only available in the "Standard Edition" which is a commercial product. We recommend that you download the Lite Edition, read the User Manual in its entirety and test on your broker platform. Once you are satisfied with the performance you can order the Standard Edition on this website. There is a **no refund** policy on the Standard Edition.

Can I use the program on multiple computers at the same time?

The short answer is no. After activation the purchased license limits program use to one computer.

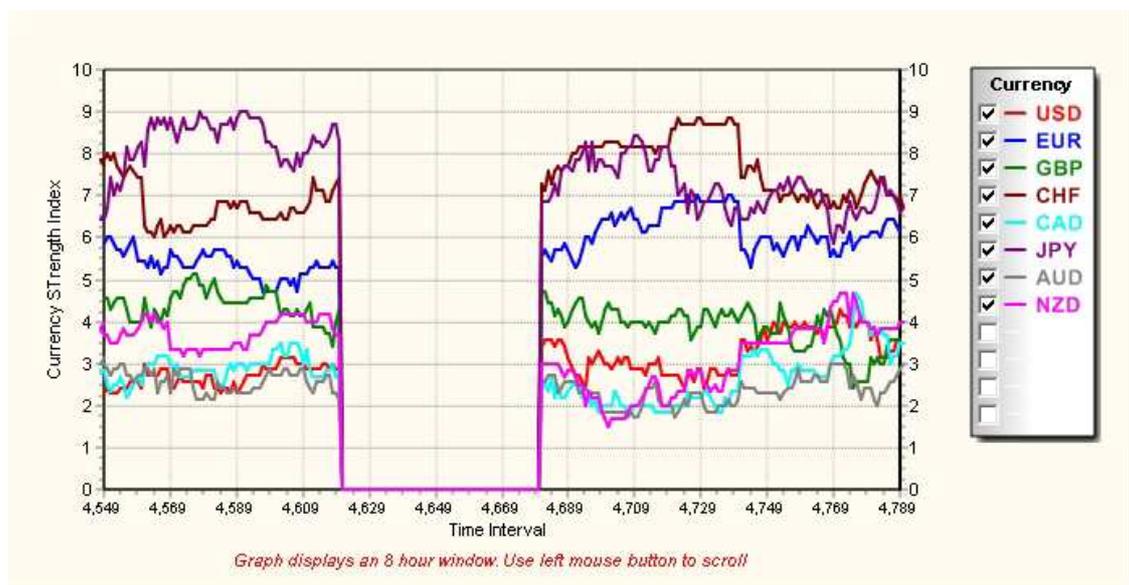
Will the program work on the iMac?

The program is designed to work on Windows with the MetaTrader 4 platform. It may work on an MacBook or iMac running Windows emulation, however, this scenario has not been tested.

Errors



MetaTrader DDE Server not activated



Example of loss of internet connection

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- b. **Severability and Survival.** If any provision of this Agreement is illegal or unenforceable under applicable law, the remaining provisions of this Agreement will remain valid and fully enforceable. If any provision is in part enforceable and in part unenforceable, it will be enforced to the extent permitted under applicable law.
- c. **Injunctive Relief.** You agree that a breach of this Agreement adversely affecting IMS Inc's proprietary rights in the Software may cause irreparable injury to IMS Inc for which monetary damages would not be an adequate remedy and IMS Inc shall be entitled to equitable relief in addition to any remedies it may have hereunder or at law.
- d. **Governing Law.** This Agreement shall be governed by and construed under the laws of the State of North Carolina without regard to conflicts of laws provisions thereof. Unless waived by IMS Inc in writing for the particular instance (which IMS Inc may do at its option), the sole and exclusive jurisdiction and venue for actions related to the subject matter hereof shall be the North Carolina state and federal courts having within their jurisdiction the location of IMS Inc's principal place of business. Both parties consent to the jurisdiction of such courts and agree that process may be served in the manner provided herein for giving of notices or otherwise as allowed by North Carolina or federal law. The parties agree that the UN Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (Vienna, 1980) shall not apply to this Agreement nor to any dispute or transaction arising out of this Agreement.
- e. **Export.** You agree to abide by U.S. and other applicable export control laws and agree not to transfer the Software to a national destination prohibited by such laws, without first obtaining, and then complying with, any requisite government authorization.

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