

ACTIVE Trader

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Larry Williams

KEEPING PACE WITH THE MARKETS



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The need for speed: SpeedResearch.com

Finding Web sites that offer market information isn't complicated, just time-consuming and cumbersome. A Web browser's "Favorites" folder gets crowded rather easily, and organizing all the worthwhile sites becomes an arduous task.

SpeedResearch (www.speedresearch.com) is a downloadable browser that provides traders and investors an easy way to switch back and forth between various financial sites, and offers a number of other helpful features.

The browser allows you to set up stock portfolios, and it has dozens of pre-loaded sites — Yahoo! Finance, BigCharts and PCQuote to name a few — that can be accessed with a single click. However, SpeedResearch's real value is that when you switch Web sites, you don't need to re-enter the stock you are currently researching.

For example, if you are looking at the Java chart of Oracle on SmartMoney.com and want to check how Oracle is trading in the Island ECN order book, you need only to click on the Island link, and the Island book for Oracle will appear.

There are links to message boards, research sites, news sites, options sites and data sites. Additionally, there are links to pages that aren't stock specific — for example, SpeedResearch

has links to sites showing the most active stocks on the day, the biggest percentage gainers or losers, stocks making new 52-week highs and lows, etc. Plus, there are links to general sites such as Forbes, CBS MarketWatch, Quicken, etc.

But wait, there's more.

There are 10 separate browser windows, each displayed as a "tab" on top of the active window. With these, you can save up to 10 windows (i.e., one could have the Raging Bull messages for Dell, another the Prophet Finance chart for Nokia), making it easy to switch back and forth between different stocks and different views.

You can display data for all the stocks in a certain portfolio (or even all portfolios) on the same page, and you can set up "wizards," which allow you to simultaneously see information from more than one site (and the wizards automatically refresh).

One of SpeedResearch's best features is that any stock you find on a Web page can be imported into a portfolio (e.g., if you're on a site that lists the 10 most active Nasdaq stocks, you can easily create a new portfolio of those 10 stocks).

SpeedResearch allows you to set up links to any other financial (or non-financial) sites you find interesting, and there is also a reminder feature and a calculator available with one click.

The site has a one-time fee of \$37.99 — no monthly charges, and all updates can be downloaded for free once you sign up. Also, a 30-day free trial is available.

The program does feature some dead links, which is to be expected when dealing with as many Web sites as SpeedResearch does. (However, the link to the Web site of one company being researched failed because the program entered the URL incorrectly. This flaw was noted in late September; perhaps it has been fixed since then.)

Nonetheless, SpeedResearch puts a plethora of research a mouse-click or two away. For Web-based traders and stock-information junkies, it's a nice time-saver. **Ⓜ**

SPEEDRESEARCH.COM

SpeedResearch.com offers a customizable Web browser that enables traders to quickly access and organize information from a multitude of financial Web sites.

The screenshot displays the SpeedResearch.com web browser interface. The main window shows a stock chart for 3M Company (NYSE:MMM) with a price of 109.52. The chart includes a 'US Stock Market Watch' table and a 'Delayed Quotes | Time & Sales' table. The browser interface includes a navigation bar with 'New Search', 'SHOWUP', 'New Quotes', and 'LOG IN'. The browser tabs at the top are numbered 1 through 5. The browser address bar shows the URL 'http://finance.lycos.com/home/livecharts/default.asp?ty...'. The browser interface also includes a 'Register with Lycos Finance Today!' banner and a 'UPGRADE TODAY!' banner for 'LiveCharts Free Real-time - Free Offer'.

Symbol	Price	Change	Volume
SP500	99.51	+0.81	40.81
STOCK	380	+8.88	
STRM	1.00	+4.68	
NYSE	-4.22	-0.21	
COMPS	-18.20	40.62	

Time	Price	Size	Exch	Info
14:44:10	109.52	100	nyse	
14:44:04	109.51	1800	nyse	
14:43:54	109.52	300	nyse	
14:43:51	109.52	100	nyse	
14:43:48	109.52	200	nyse	
14:43:24	109.50	800	nyse	
14:43:20	109.50	200	nyse	
14:43:14	109.50	200	nasd	
14:43:12	109.52	400	nyse	
14:43:06	109.52	400	nasd	
14:43:05	109.55	400	parc	
14:43:04	109.53	200	parc	