

**T3 Version 3.3.1**  
**FUTURES Auto Trading System**  
**and**  
**Auto Trader**  
**With Trailing Stops**

A Sierra Chart Trading System Developed by  
**Forgiving Computers**



For users of



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**Notice: Auto Trading has its own inherent risks. Forgiving Computers is not responsible for your WINS or LOSSES. You choose when to enable Auto Trading and are ultimately responsible, not the software, nor the computer.**

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***NOTE: If you just purchased your system, and you were only able to download this manual, not to worry. You need to wait for your automatic chart and study downloads to be authorized. This generally happens within 1 to 2 days.***

## Introduction

The T3 Version 3 Auto Trading System for Sierra Charts is designed to identify entries in trending markets. It is basically a system based on a set of rules that identify trends using several methods. Moving Average crossovers and alternate time frames are looked at along with Heiken Ashi candles based on Flex Renko bars. This combination gives confirmation using multiple indicators to indicate trend.

Version 3 of the T3 Auto Trading System is a complete rewrite in C++. The C++ source code is compiled into Dynamic Link Libraries (DLLs). Sierra Chart functionality can be enhanced with Custom Studies that have the same performance qualities as the application and the included studies. The spreadsheet studies have been eliminated, and the Study inputs no longer have their own study. There are no longer any issues cloning chart books, as the DLLs can be used in multiple chart books at the same time with no conflicts. DLL's are automatically installed with license management support from Sierra.

The T3 V3 Auto Trading System is entirely rule-based. The rules are summarized below. Automatic Long and Short Entries are possible with Attached orders for targets and stops. Auto Trading can be disabled, and the signals still display while not making entries.

While using auto trade functionality, the user has complete control, including which charts/symbols to trade, order quantities, adjustments to the rules, targets, and stops.

# The T3 Strategy

The T3 System Strategy is as follows.

1. Three Moving Averages: When All the bars at the bottom are the same color.
  - a. 5/21 EMA Rule
    - i. When the 5 EMA crosses above the 21 EMA:
      1. Possible Long
      2. Region 2 is Green
    - ii. When the 5 EMA crosses below the 21 EMA
      1. Possible Short
      2. Region 2 is Red
  - b. T3-5/T3-8 Rule
    - i. When T3-5 is above T3-8:
      1. Possible Long
      2. Region 3 is Green
    - ii. When T3-5 is below T3-8:
      1. Possible Short
      2. Region 3 is Red
  - c. 50/144 from 1 minute chart Rule
    - i. When 50 EMA is above 144 EMA:
      1. Possible Long
      2. Region 4 is Green
    - ii. When 50 EMA is below 144 EMA:
      1. Possible Short
      2. Region 4 is Red
2. Heiken Ashi Rule:
  - i. A Candle that has a Solid Body with the Tail up and all 3 moving averages in Rule 1 aligned (Green), a valid long is identified.
  - ii. A Candle that has a Solid Body with the Tail Down and all 3 moving averages in Rule 1 aligned (Red), a short entry is identified.
3. 50/144 Cloud Rule:
  - a. If price closes above the 50/144 cloud, then only look at longs.
  - b. If price closes below the 50/144 cloud then only look at shorts.
4. First Candle Rule:
  - a. Only the First Candle that meets all of Rules 1,2, and 3 is signaled for an entry.

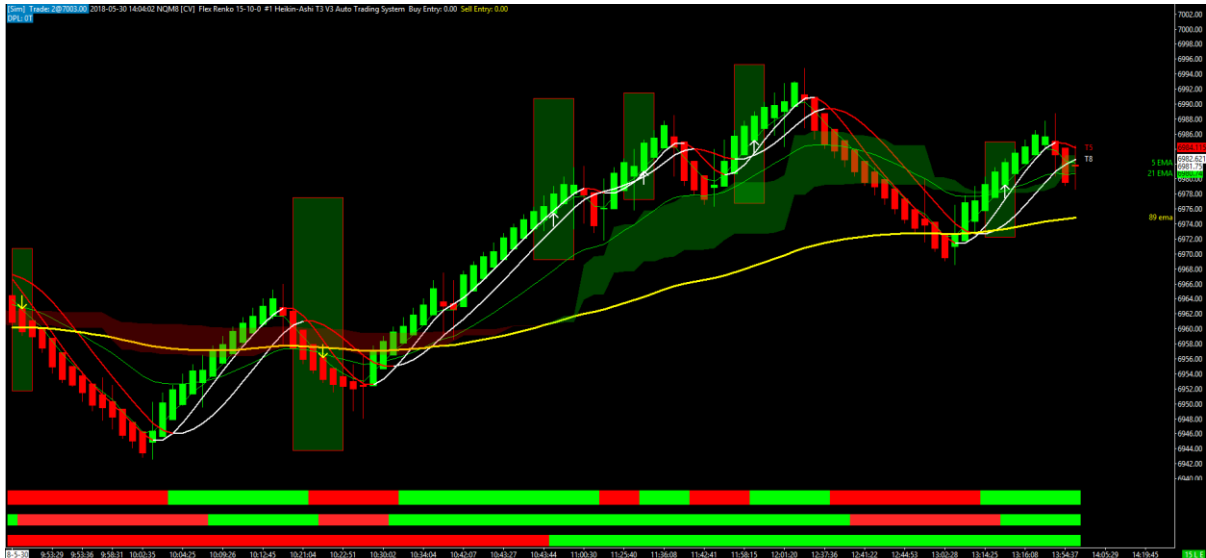


Figure 1. An example of the T3 Strategy.

Figure one shows the T3 rules in action. The White Up Arrows indicate Long Entries, and the Yellow Down Arrows, indicate short entries. Notice that in each case, the 3 color bars at the bottom are in sync, the candle is a trending Heikin-Ashi Candle, and only the first one in the trend that meets all other conditions is signaled. The Green and Red “clouds” in the background are overlays of the 50 and 144 EMA from the 1 minute chart.

## Trade Entries

At the close of each bar, the rules for the auto-trading systems are evaluated, and if all the requirements are met, an arrow appears above or below the bar. This bar is therefore referred to as the Signal Bar. A White Up Arrow signals a Long entry. A Yellow Down Arrow signals a Short entry. If auto-trading is enabled (see below), then a trade order will be submitted based on the Attached Order Settings in the Trade Window (Contracts, Targets, Stops, and any trailing stop rules).

## Trade Exits

The Auto-Traders are designed to consistently make Buy and Sell trade entries. Other than trailing stops, there are no rule-based exit signals. Trades are exited when one of the following occurs:

1. Target is Hit
2. Stop is Hit
3. You Manually Flatten the trade

## Automated Trailing Stops

Included with your purchase is the FC Trailing Stop Custom Study. Its job is to trail the stops based on two sets of rules. You can enable one or the other or both for a total of four ways to use this optional tool. It has the option of a Volatility Based Stop (based on Average True Range, or ATR) and N Bar Back study which looks at the Highest High and Lowest Low of the last N Bars.

The Average True Range on the 1 minute chart is monitored to measure volatility. Its value is used, with a multiplier to add or subtract points from the mid-point of the bars. The Stops are below the Market in an uptrend, and above the Market in a Down Trend. Higher volatility means higher ATR, and that determines a how far back the stop should go. A multiplier allows you to dial in how much the ATR plays in to the calculations.

In the example below, the yellow dashes above and below represent the locations where the trailing stop will be set, unless an offset is added to the stop, in which case the trailing stop will be 1 or more ticks away from the dashes.

The first example is with the ATR Multiplier option:

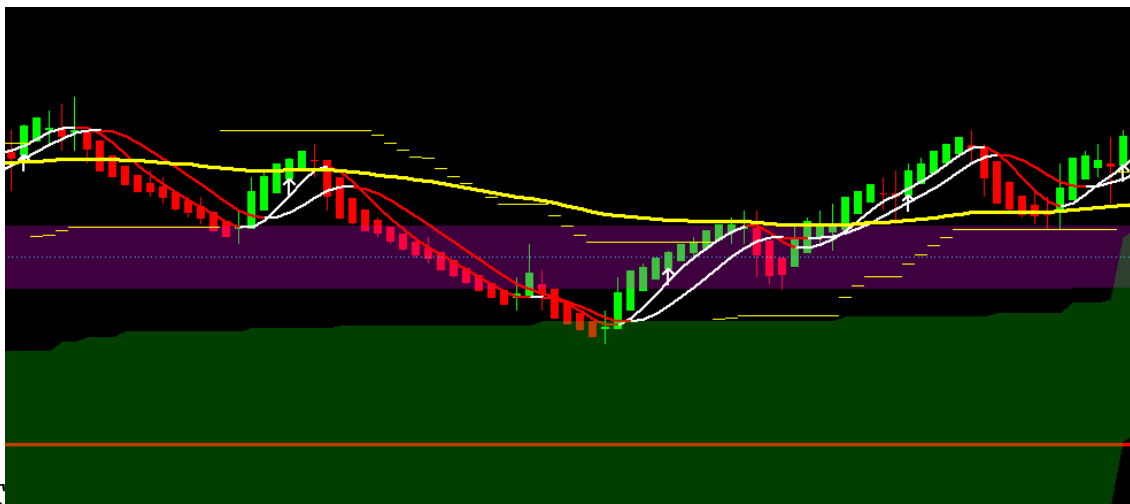
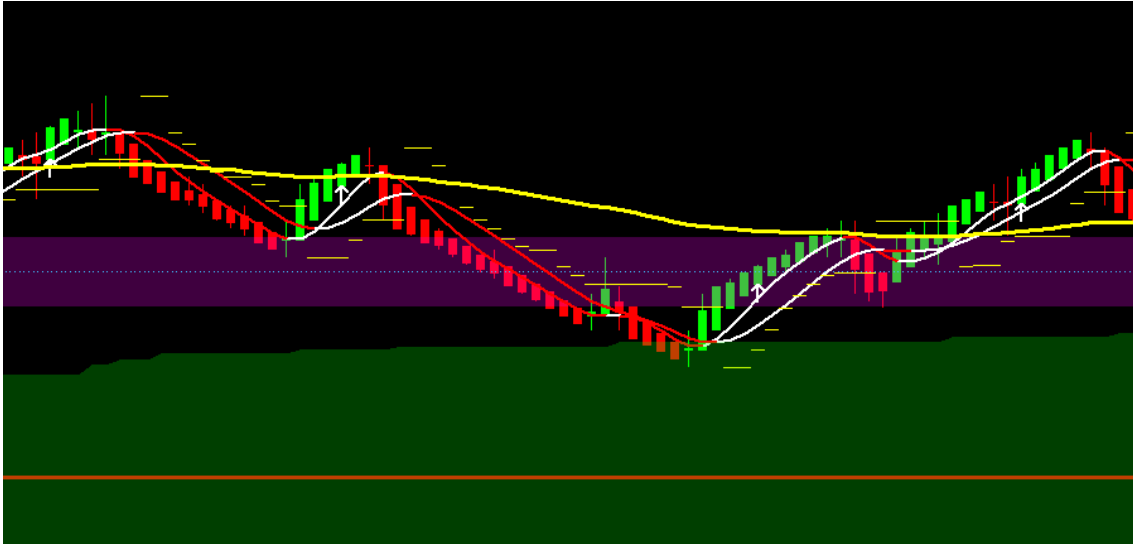


Figure 1 - ATR Stop with Multiplier = 1

The N Bar Back option creates a stop based on the Lowest Low for Longs, and the Highest High for Shorts over the last N Bars/periods. Here is an example of the stops based on the 5<sup>th</sup> bar back:



*Figure 2 - Trailing Stop with 5 Bars Back*

You can see a demo of the N Bar Trailing Stop here: <https://youtu.be/yq4LgQt-E4A>

Another option is to choose the closest and furthest of the two. Whichever price is further away from price action is the one that the trailing stop will follow.

## Installation and Setup

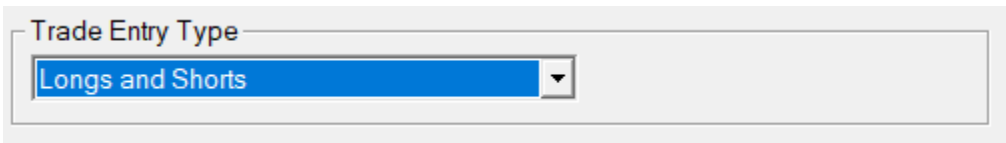
1. The T3 V3 Auto Trading System uses Sierra Chart's automated file distribution mechanism. This simplifies installation, performs automatic updates, and allows us to offer time-limited trial versions of our systems.
2. In order for you to install this system, you need to register your Sierra Account Name as part of your account profile. This is not a security risk, as it only allows developers, like Forgiving Computers, to deliver up-to-date versions of the tools needed for the system to work. No other installation is required.
3. Updating your account profile,
  - a. If you have previously updated your **Sierra Account Name** on your Profile at ForgivingComputers.com, then go to step 4.
  - b. In Sierra Chart, Open Help>>About to get your account name.
  - c. Go to <http://forgivingcomputers.com/edit-profile/>
  - d. Enter the Name from step (b) in the box labeled Sierra Account Name.
  - e. Click Update.
4. Within one business day of receiving payment, you will receive an email confirmation that the order has been completed. At this time, if Sierra Chart is running, you will need to close Sierra Chart and reopen it. Upon startup, Sierra will download the latest versions of any files you are entitled to. Both 32 and 64 bit versions of the DLL files will be included. (Note: this Automatic download feature only works with V3 and above Studies and Systems.)
5. Included files:
  - a. T3 V3.3.1.cht
  - b. T3\_V3.3.1\_64.d11
6. In Sierra Chart, open chart book: T3 V3.3.1.cht. If you see the Auto Trading Arrows, then the study is working OK. Auto Trading for this chart is disabled by default. See below for more information on controlling Auto Trading.
  - a. If you do not see the White and Yellow Arrows, it may be that the purchase has not been finalized, and the files are not ready to be downloaded.
  - b. If you have received the completion email, then try closing and restarting Sierra. This will download a fresh, up-to-date copy of the DLL.
  - c. If you still have problems, please open a support ticket at; <https://forgivingcomputers.com/submit-ticket/>



## Study Settings

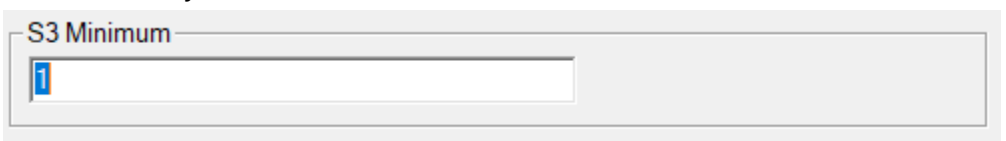
1. The Study Settings are in a specific order intentionally. Since some studies depend on the timely results of other studies, the calculation order, or precedence, has been set for optimal and accurate signals. If you remove or change the order of the studies, the Auto-Trader study may not function correctly. Only add new studies to the end of the list to ensure proper functionality.
2. Hiding a study has no impact on its functionality. Some studies are hidden by default to reduce screen clutter. Should you desire a hidden study be made visible, select the study, uncheck the Hide box and click Apply. You can see the study and decide to leave it unhidden or re-check the Hide box and click Apply to hide it again.
3. In order to make finding the important studies easier, the main study settings ones you will be using will be numbered, ID1, ID2, etc. Note that ID1 may not appear at the top of the Study Settings list.
4. To change a setting, select the setting. It will then be highlighted. The box below the list of studies will give you a choice of options in a drop-down menu or you can enter a number for numeric choices.

- a. Drop Down:



A screenshot of a software interface showing a drop-down menu. The menu is titled "Trade Entry Type" and has a blue bar with the text "Longs and Shorts" and a small downward-pointing arrow on the right side.

- b. Numeric Entry:



A screenshot of a software interface showing a numeric entry field. The field is titled "S3 Minimum" and contains the number "1".

## T3 Study Settings (ID1)

1. The T3 study settings are your keys to getting the most out of your auto-trading system. Plan on modifying them in sim mode to see how they change the appearance of the signals. The settings that filter out what trades to take will turn off the arrows that might ordinarily be on, indicating that there will no longer be a trade entry at that bar or ones that meet the same criteria.
2. Some of the settings are Switches, which control whether other settings are enabled or not. For example, the setting for Order Type (Market or Limit) disables the Limit Order Price setting when set to Market. The Limit Order Type will only matter if the Order Type is set to Limit. Similarly, with the time periods: you do not need to change the Period 2 Start or End Time if Period 2 is not enabled.

3. To modify the T3 Study Settings, right-click on the appropriate chart and select Studies, or select the chart and select **Analysis>>Studies** from the menu. Select ID1: T3 V3.3.1 Auto Scalping System. Then click Settings.

Input Name	Input Value
Trade Entry Type (In:1)	Longs and Shorts
ATR Study (In:5)	ID4.SG1
Only Allow Auto-Trading if ATR at Least (In:6)	0
Auto Trading Time Period(s) (In:8)	24 Hours
Period 1 Start Time (In:9)	00:00:00
Period 1 End Time (In:10)	23:59:59
Period 2 Start Time (In:11)	00:00:00
Period 2 End Time (In:12)	23:59:59
Order Type (In:13)	Market
Limit Order Price (In:14)	HighVAP
Limit Order Offset (ticks) (In:15)	0
Bars Before Cancel if not Filled (In:16)	1
Avoid Opening Range? (In:20)	No
Opening Range High Study (In:21)	ID3.SG1
Opening Range Low Study (In:22)	ID3.SG2
ADX/DMI Rule (In:23)	No
ADX/DI+ Study Reference (In:24)	ID12.SG1
ADX/DI- Study Reference (In:25)	ID12.SG2
VWAP Rule (In:30)	Off
VWAP Study (In:31)	ID8.SG1
Globex Rule (In:32)	Off
Globex High Study (In:33)	ID15.SG1
Globex Low Study (In:34)	ID15.SG2
Globex Tick Margin - No Entry (In:35)	10
Alternate Flex Renko in Sync Rule (In:39)	No
Alternate Flex Renko Open Reference (In:40)	ID19.SG22
Alternate Flex Renko Close Reference (In:41)	ID19.SG23
Max Daily Profit (In:49)	1000
Max Daily Loss (In:50)	-1000
5 EMA (In:61)	ID23.SG1
21 EMA (In:62)	ID24.SG1
T3-5 MA (In:63)	ID5.SG1
T3-8 MA (In:64)	ID13.SG1
1m 50 EMA (In:65)	ID39.SG1
1m 144 EMA (In:66)	ID40.SG1
Enable Alternate EMA Sync Rule (In:67)	No
Alternate EMA Study Reference (In:68)	ID17.SG1

5. Description of Settings:
  - a. **Trade Entry Type:** This filter allows you to have a bias and pick a direction. Choose one of the following.
    - i. **Longs and Shorts** (Default) – Auto-Trade both directions
    - ii. **Longs Only** – Auto-Trade Only Long Trades

- iii. **Shorts Only** – Auto-Trade Only Short Trades
- b. **ATR Study:** ID number and Subgraph number of the ATR study.
- c. **Only Allow Auto-Trading if ATR at Least:** set this to avoid auto trading if the ATR is less than this number. Default = 0 (Entry i.e. Do not filter trades.)
- d. **Auto-Trading Time Period(s):** Use this if you want to limit auto-trading to specific times of day. You can have up to two trading periods. The Start and End Times for each period are the setting which follow this one. The default is to not use either period (24 hour trading). Choices are:
  - i. **Period 1**
  - ii. **Period 2**
  - iii. **Periods 1 and 2**
  - iv. **24 Hours (Default)**
- e. **Period 1 Start Time/End Time:** Enter the times in military format: HH:MM:SS. You can leave off the seconds and leading zeros, so 9:30 is the same as 09:30:00. These settings do not need to be changed if the period is not selected.
- f. **Period 2 Start Time/End Time:** See Above.
- g. **Entry Order Type:**
  - i. **Market (Default):** Enters a market order at the close of the signal Bar. The order will get filled, but the fill price will be subject to slippage. When this choice is made, the **Limit Order Price** option will have no effect.
  - ii. **Limit:** Select Limit to request a Limit Order. The price of the Limit order depends on which of the **Limit Order Price** options is selected. Choosing this option may get you in at a better price than if you choose Market order, however, you may not get a fill if price does not return to your selection, in which case the order will be canceled. See **Bars Before Cancel if not Filled**.
- h. **Limit Order Price** – This is the price the limit order will be placed at. It is based on the signal bar's price action (with the exception of Bid/Ask). You can add an offset (see **Limit Order Offset** below) to the price to adjust the fill price. Should the order not get filled on the next bar (or later, see below), it will be canceled. Price choice is based on the following options:
  - i. **HighVAP** – The price in the signal bar with the highest volume. Which makes it a likely candidate for price to return to.
  - ii. **Bid/Ask** – For longs, the Ask price, for shorts, the Bid Price. Note this is the Bid/Ask Price at the time the limit order reaches the exchange. This is like a market order, but if you have more than one contract, it ensures you don't get partial fills at the Bid/Ask, and the rest at some other price. If one or more fills happen, they will all be at the same price. Note that you cannot add an offset to the Bid/Ask price. The offset number will be ignored.
  - iii. **Open:** The opening price of the signal bar.

- iv. **Close:** The Closing price of the signal bar.
  - v. **Average (H/L)-** The midpoint between the High and the Low of the signal bar.
  - vi. **Average (O/C):** The midpoint between the Open and the Close of the signal bar.
- i. **Limit Order Offset:** The number of ticks away from the Limit Order Price you want to enter at. The offset applies to all **Limit Order Prices**, except **Bid/Ask**. The higher (more positive) the number, the worse the price, but more likely you will get a fill. The lower the number, (more negative) the better the price, but less likely you will get a fill. Default is 0.
    - i. Positive Offset means add to price for Longs, Subtract for shorts.
    - ii. Negative Offset means subtract from price for Longs, Add for shorts
  - j. **Bars Before Cancel if not filled:** For Limit Orders Only, if the order isn't filled after the close of this many bars after the signal bar, the order is canceled. (Default is 1. The first bar after the signal bar.)
  - k. **Avoid Opening Range:** (Default is No)
    - i. **No:** Ok to trade in the range defined by the 15 minute opening range. (Default)
    - ii. **Yes:** Do not trade in the zone defined by the 15 minute opening range. Avoid it. This study is on the 1 minute chart and is overlaid on the trading chart. The Study IDs are specified in the following settings.
  - l. **Opening Range High Study/Opening Range Low Study:** The Study IDs and Subgraphs of the high and low prices of the overlaid opening range to avoid.
  - m. **ADX/DMI Rule:** Set this to filter based on ADX
  - n. **ADX/DI+ and ADX.DI- Study Reference:** ID.SG of the ADX DMI Study.
  - o. **VWAP Rule:** When On, this will limit Longs to signal bars that close above the VWAP and shorts to bars that close below the VWAP. The default is Off.
  - p. **VWAP Study:** The IDx.SGy of the VWAP study, used with the **VWAP Rule**.
  - q. **Globex Rule:** When On, this will prevent entries near the Globex High and Low levels as follows:
    - i. **Long:** If the signal bar closes below and “near” the Globex High, do not enter and wait for the next valid long bar (Cyan) that is not below and “near” the Globex High.
    - ii. **Short:** If the signal bar closes above and “near” the Globex Low, do not enter and wait for the next valid short bar (Magenta) that is not above and “near” the Globex Low.
    - iii. “Near” is defined as the number of ticks away from the level as defined by the **Globex Tick Margin** (see below).
  - r. **Globex High/Low Study:** The IDx.SGy of the Globex High and Globex Low studies, used with the **Globex Rule**.
  - s. **Globex Tick Margin – No Entry:** The number of ticks away (i.e. is it near or not) from the Globex High and Low that the Globex Rule will avoid. One recommended value is your Trade Management Target. For example, if the

attached order in the trade window is set to a target of 10 ticks, then you can avoid going long if less than 10 ticks below Globex High, as the market often reverses at that level, or near it. The Default is 10 ticks.

t.

**5/21 EMA, T35/T38 MA, 1m 50/144 EMA:** The input values to these inputs represent the studies that are checked to evaluate Rule number 1. These do not need to be changed unless the studies they refer to are changed.

u. **Start Time/End Time:** By default, Auto Trading is enabled 24 hours a day. Change these times if you want to limit auto trading to certain hours of the day. This is especially useful for backtesting. All times are New York (-5 EST/-4 EDT) time.

6. Chart #1 is a Flex Renko/Heiken Ashi Range Chart. You can change the period in the Chart Settings. Flex Renko bars are Range bars, which means they cover a range of prices before a new bar opens. You can learn more about them here:

<https://www.sierrachart.com/index.php?page=doc/RenkoCharts.html#FlexRenko>

7. The Flex Renko Time period can be changed with shortcut buttons like these:



To learn how to do this I have a YouTube video that shows you: <https://youtu.be/mi7HPS3Ln0g>

8. The Heiken Ashi study is added to the flex Renko Bars, The highs and lows remain the same as the Flex Renko high and low values, but the open is based on the midpoint of the previous bar, and the close is the average of the four OHLC values. The result is trending candles have their wicks on one end only, pointing in the direction of the trend. Indecision candles have wicks on the top and bottom, which means the trend is currently sideways. The combination is a good trend indicator, and using the S3 study with these candles typically give better trade results than with the volume bars.

## Trailing Stop Study Settings (ID2)

Trailing Stops reduces risk by closing the gap between where the current price is and where you will exit the trade. You can decide if you want to leave stops where they are and/or move them manually or let the studies move them for you in an orderly fashion. Trailing stops work together with the Attached Orders stop settings. Either one can move the stop, one does not hold the other back.

The Trailing Stop Study provides the price for a trailing stop. Choose ATR - volatility-based stop, with an optional scaling multiplier, or choose how many bars back you wish to trail. You can also choose the closest or furthest of the two. Trailing stops are managed with two *Trade Management by Study* studies, one for longs and one for shorts. They need to point to this study to operate correctly. Both are enabled with the ACS1 button which can

be added to the control bar. Note that the stops only move in one direction, to reduce your risk, not increase it.

Input Name	Input Value
Stop Type (In:31)	ATR with Multiplier
ATR Study (In:32)	ID4.SG1
ATR Multiplier (In:33)	1
Bars Back (In:37)	5

Figure 3- Trailing Stop Study Settings

- a. **Stop Type:** Choose which option you want to use to select where the stops will be placed.
  - i. **ATR With Multiplier:** (Default) The ATR study from the 1-minute chart is overlaid, but hidden on this chart. Choose this option to only use the ATR study. Choose an **ATR Multiplier** (below) if you want to scale this in or out.
  - ii. **N Bars Back:** This will trail the stop based on the Lowest Low (for longs) and the Highest High (for shorts) looking N bars back. An offset can be added in the Trade Management By Study settings.
  - iii. **Closest of ATR and N Bar:** The value that has the smaller stop is used. (See Figure 5 above.)
  - iv. **Furthest of ATR and N Bar:** The value that has the larger stop is used. (See Figure 6 above.)

## Trade Management by Study Settings

The Trailing Stop Study is the controlling study, it provides the price points where the stops should be moved to. In order to execute the move of the stops, the Trade Management by Study studies are used to control the actual process of moving the stops. There are two, one for short, and one for longs. Here are the study settings.

Long: (Short is similar)

Input Name	Input Value
Enabled (In:1)	Yes
Order Type To Manage (In:2)	Stops
Controlling Subgraph Reference (In:3)	ID2.SG2
Order Adjustment Timing (In:4)	Every N Seconds
Adjustment Frequency (in Seconds) (In:5)	1
Trailing Offset (in Ticks) (In:6)	1
ACS Control Bar Button # for Enable/Disable ...	1
Position Type (In:8)	Long Only
Detailed Logging (for debugging) (In:9)	No
Only Modify Stops In One Direction (In:10)	Yes
Allow Zero Values (In:12)	No
Allow Negative Values (In:13)	No
Allow Custom 'Properties' for Control Bar Butt...	No

- a. **Enabled:** This controls whether or not Automatic Trailing stops are to be used. You can set it here, or you can add a control bar button to control them. (See Below)
- b. **Order Type to Manage:**
  - i. **Stops:** (Default) We are trailing stops only.
  - ii. **Targets:** (Not used).
- c. **Controlling Subgraph Reference:** This is the IDx.SGy of the study that provides the price value to move the stop to. Longs and shorts have different subgraph references. These should not need to be changed. If your trailing stops are not working, check these to make sure they are looking at the correct IDx.SGy of the **Trailing Stops – ATR and N Bar** study.
- d. **Order adjustment Timing:**
  - i. **Every N Seconds** (Default) This, combined with the **Adjustment Frequency in Seconds** will check this often to see if the stop should be moved.
  - ii. **On Bar Close:** This option will wait until the bar closes to move the stop.
- e. **Adjustment Frequency in Seconds:** How many seconds will pass before the study checks to see if the price of the stop should be moved. Default is 1 second.
- f. **Trailing Offset in Ticks:** This number is added to the price level previously determined to increase the size of the stop. Use a negative number if you want to reduce the stop from the calculated price. (Default is 1 tick).
- g. **ACS Control Bar Button # for Enable/Disable:** The number of the ACS button that will be used to control whether or not the automated trailing stop studies will be used. Both longs and shorts use the same number. If you make them different, only longs or shorts, but not both, can be enabled at one time. See below for instructions on setting up the ACS button for this shortcut. (Default is ACS button 1)
- h. **Position Type:**

- i. **All Positions:** Not used because longs and shorts use different values.
  - ii. **Long Only:** Used for the Stops when in a Long Trade.
  - iii. **Short Only:** Used for the Stops when in a Short Trade.
- i. **Detailed Logging (for debugging):**
  - i. **No:** (Default)
  - ii. **Yes:** Only used for troubleshooting.
- j. **Only Modify Stops in One Direction:**
  - i. **Yes:** (Default) Keeps stops from moving away from price, so as not to increase risk.
  - ii. **No:** This will increase the size of the stop in some conditions, so it is not used.
- k. **Allow Zero Values:** Not Used.
- l. **Allow Negative Numbers:** Not Used.
- m. **Allow Custom 'Properties for Control Bar Buttons':** Not Used.

## Finding your Symbols

If your broker uses different symbols than the one provided for NQ, you easily change them with **Edit>>Translate Symbols to Current Service:**

Cloning A Chartbook

The new DLL studies that are part of the T3 V3 system makes cloning a chartbook the same as cloning any other chartbook. (V1 and V2 systems need to follow the instructions at [ForgivingComputers.com](http://ForgivingComputers.com).)

For example: **Change the Market Symbol**

1. First Save the chart as is if you have made any changes you wish to keep.
2. Then open the Chart Settings window and change the Symbol.
3. Click OK
4. On the main menu do **File >> Save As** and give it a new name for your symbol.

## Time Zones

When overlay studies are used, as is the case with the 50 and 144 EMA studies from the 1 minute chart, it is important to have the source and destination charts set to the same time zone. Sierra has confirmed that no time conversions are done between the two, so what appears at Noon on the 5 Minute chart, the Source of the overlay studies will be lined up



with the candles at Noon on the Destination charts, where they are displayed. Since the Globex levels depend on specific start and end times, all the charts are set to the New York (-5 EST/-4 EDT) time zone. While this may seem like an inconvenience, if you decide to change any or all of the time zones, then the levels displayed by the Globex High/Low and VWAP will be inaccurate, and should be hidden or if you wish to keep them you will need to modify the times for these studies in the source charts. Forgiving Computers can make these changes for you with a 30-minute consultation.

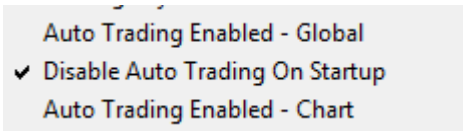
**CAUTION: Auto Trading with live money is risky, and should NOT be enabled without supervision! There is no Holy are solely responsible for all trades taken manually or automatically. Plan on monitoring all Auto Trades.**

## Auto Trade Setup

Auto Trading in Sierra can be done in Simulation Mode (local or server based) or with Live Money. There are several safety checks in place to make sure you really want to trade live money. You can see the Auto Trade signals (Arrows) at all times, only if all the Auto Trade switches have been enabled will it trade live money.

### 1) Startup: Auto Trade is Disabled

Your Trade Menu should look like this when you start up Sierra Chart:



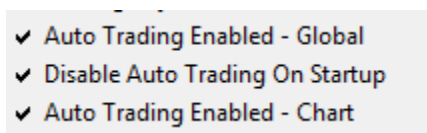
The only item checked is “Disable Auto Trading on Startup. This should stay checked. That way the next time you start Sierra, you won’t start Auto Trading unexpectedly.

### 2) Enable Global Auto Trading

This is the Master Switch that turns on and off all (Global) Auto Trading. Note that turning it on the first time will not begin Auto-Trading, it is more like the Big Red Switch or EMO that shuts off any Auto Trading that is going on. For now, we will turn it on by doing **Trade>>Auto Trading Enabled – Global**.

Each Chart can also have Auto Trading Enabled or Disabled. The setting for the chart is Auto Trading Enabled – Chart. This setting is saved with the chartbook. The default is that it is disabled.

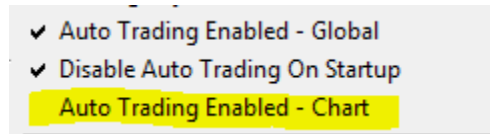
Your Trade menu should look like this:



Any chart that you are OK with Auto Trading from should have checkmarks for both Auto Trading Enabled – Global and Auto Trading Enabled – Chart.

3) Disable Auto Trading from charts you don't want to auto trade from. Any chart you don't want to Auto Trade from should have "Auto Trading Enabled - Chart" UNCHECKED.

Like this:



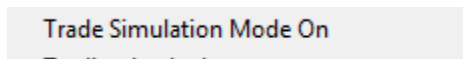
4) Ready to Auto-Trade? Remember Auto Trading is not "set it and forget it". Its main benefit is the timing of the entries as soon as the proper conditions are met. You should plan on monitoring all trades, and take control if it is not going as you think it should. Also watch for trades taken near the end of the trading day, as they may not exit automatically!

There are two modes of trading: Live Trading and Trade Simulation Mode. Live Trading can be with a Live ("Real Money") Exchange or with a Simulated ("Paper Money") Exchange, if supported by your data/trading service. Trade Simulation Mode is handled by your computer, which simulates an actual exchange, within the limits of the simulation. Live Trading will show an actual account number like 12345, where Simulated Trading will show the account number as Sim1, Sim2, etc.

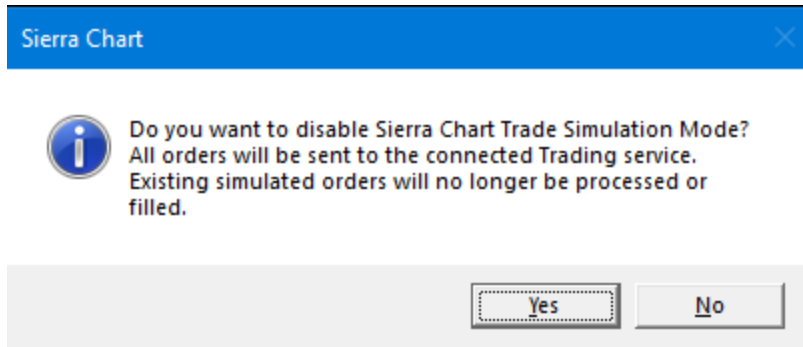
#### 1. Live Trading (Real money or Simulation Server)

Trades are sent to the trade service, and if it is the Live Service, real money is at stake. If you have access to simulated trade environment, this more accurately simulates the time it takes to get data back and forth between you and the exchange. Live trading, (real or simulation server) cannot be used for Replay or Backtest.

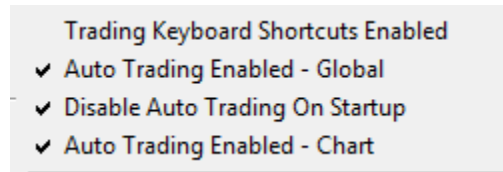
i) If Checked, Uncheck **Trade>>Trade Simulation On**



ii) Sierra Chart will warn you that you are no longer using Simulation Mode. Click yes.



- iii) Confirm you have checked **Trade>>Auto Trading Enabled – Global** and **Trade>Auto Trading Enabled – Chart**



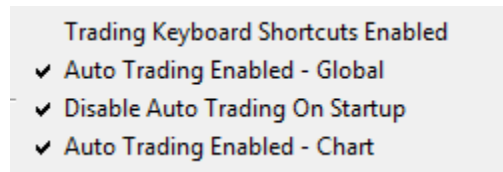
2. Trade Simulation Mode: (Local Sierra Simulation Server – use for BackTesting)

All trades are simulated on your machine, whether you are connected to the trade service or not.

- i. Check **Trade>Trade Simulation Mode On**

✓ Trade Simulation Mode On

- ii. Confirm you have checked **Trade> Auto Trading Enabled – Global** and **Trade>Auto Trading Enabled – Chart**

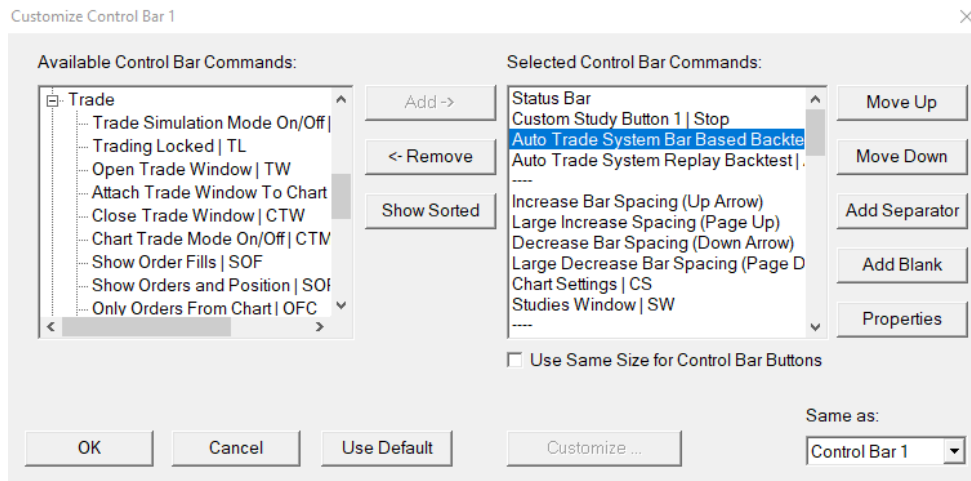


Note that you can disable Auto-Trade for specific charts by Unchecking **Auto Trading Enabled – Chart** for each chart you want disabled. The Global setting controls ALL Auto Trading.

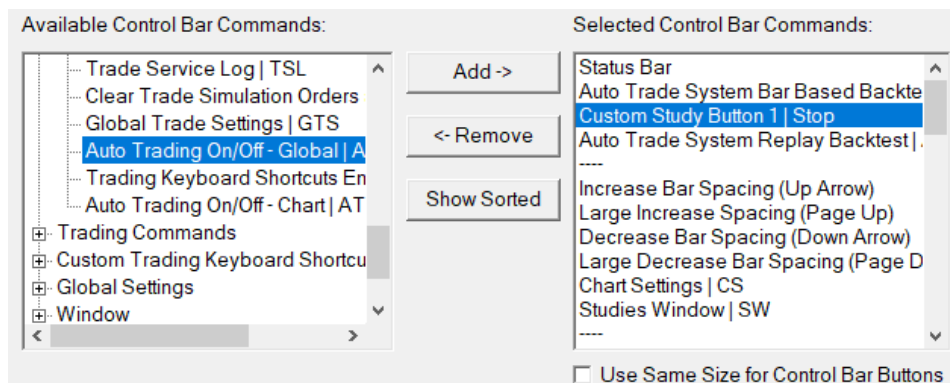
## Buttons for Auto-Trade Enable/Disable

To simplify the setting of the Auto Trade-Global and Auto Trade Chart, you may want to add a button for each to the control bar.

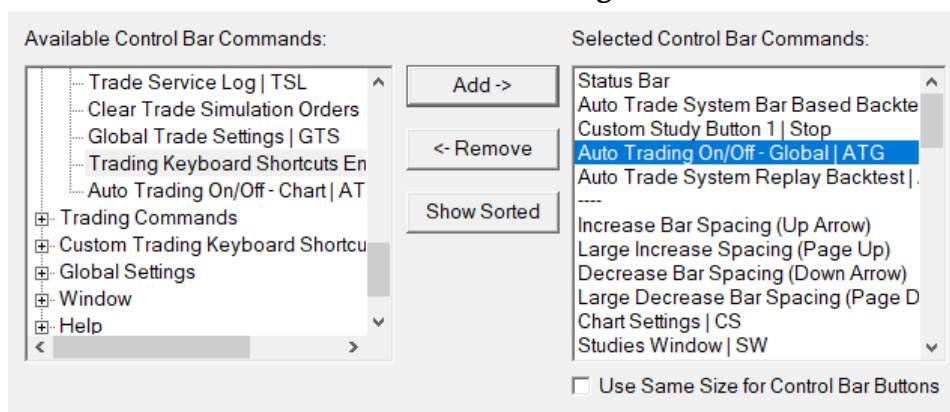
1. To do this click **Global Settings>>Customize Control Bars>> Control Bar 1** (or whichever one you are using).
2. On the left scroll down to Trade and click the “+” sign to expand the list:



- a. Scroll down to “Auto Trading On/Off - Global|ATG” and select it and click “Add->”



- b. You will see the selected item move to the right side:



- c. Repeat steps c and d for “Auto Trading On/Off | ATC” and click OK.
- d. You should now have two buttons labeled ATG and ATC on your control bar.



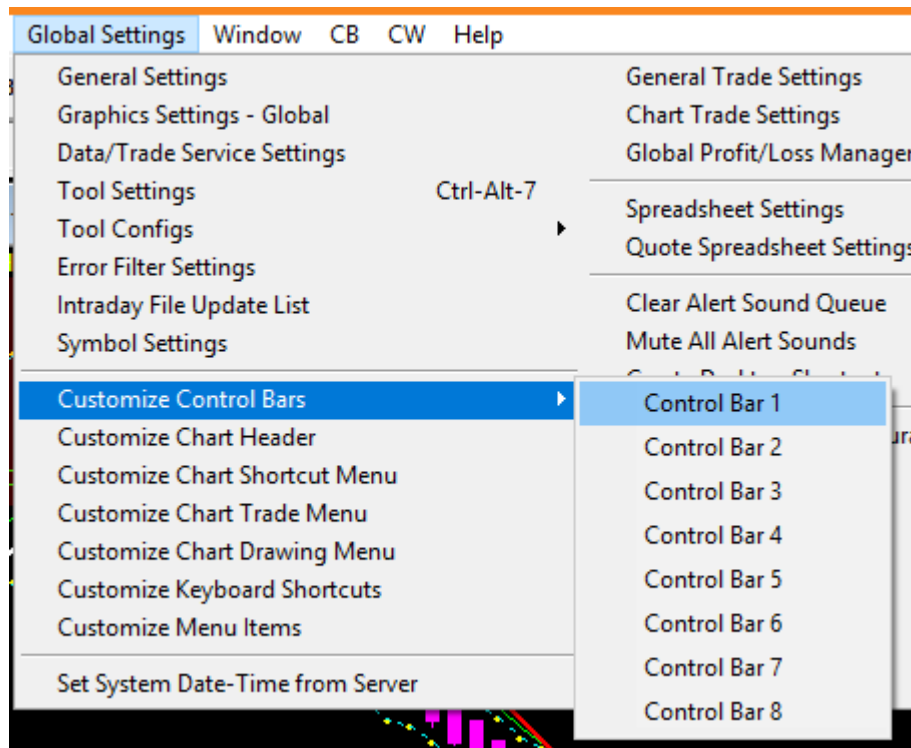
← Note the ATG is Enabled because it appears depressed, the ATC is not enabled.

The ATC button will change appearance as you go from one chart to another depending on whether that chart is enabled or not. This is a shortcut to visually check the setting and to change it quickly.

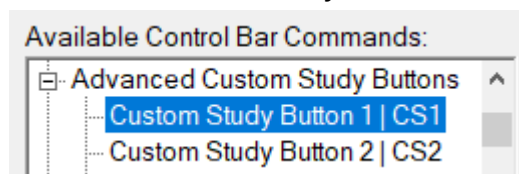
## ACS Control Bar Button to Enable/Disable Automated Trailing Stops

The *Trade Management by Study* studies can be enabled and disabled with a Control Bar button on any of the control bars. Follow these steps to add the button if it is not already there.

- A. Assume we want to add the ACS1 button to Control Bar 1.
- B. On the menu, select **Global Settings>>Customize Control Bars>> Control Bar 1**



- C. In the box labeled Available Control Bar Commands select **Advanced Custom Study Buttons>>Custom Study Button 1| CS1**



- D. On the right-hand side, under Selected Control Bar Commands: select the location in the list after which you want the button to appear. The bottom of the list is the

far right-hand side of the control bar. To put it after ATC, select ATC then click the Add-> button.

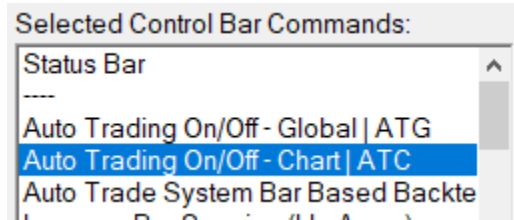


Figure 4 - Before adding the button

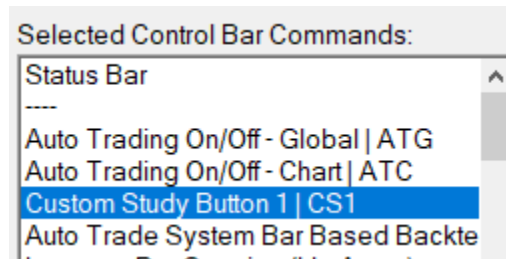
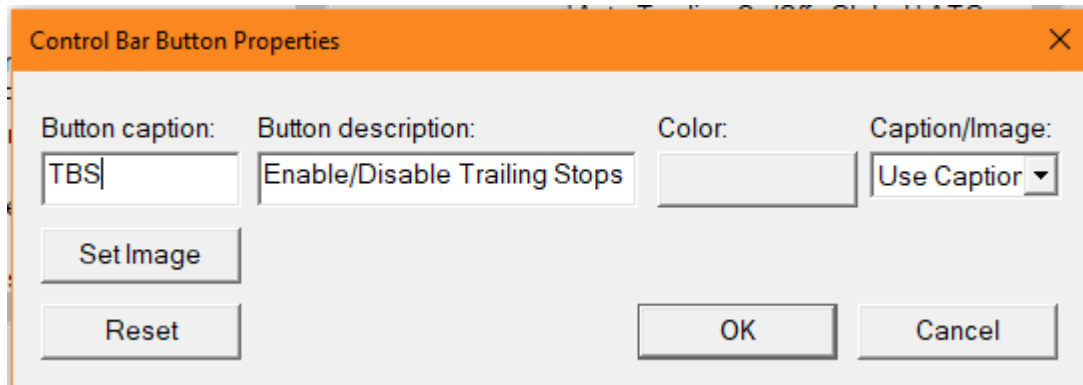
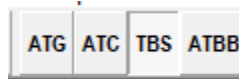


Figure 5 - After Adding the button

- E. Click Properties and enter **TBS** in the box labeled Button Caption.
- F. Enter “Enable/Disable Trailing Stops” in the box labeled Button Description.



- G. Click OK and click OK again. The section of the Control Bar with the new button



should now look like this:

- H. When the TBS button appears depressed or “In” then the Trail Bar Stops are enabled.

## Frequently Asked Questions

Q: I see the auto trade arrow, but there was no trade entered.

A: Auto Trade will only enter a trade if the following conditions are met:

1. Auto Trade is Enabled both Globally and for the Chart
2. Live (Or SIM Server): Send Orders to Trade Service is YES, and Trade Simulation Mode on is UNCHECKED
3. SIM: Send Orders to Trade Service is NO, and Trade Simulation Mode on is CHECKED
4. Current time is between Start Time and End Time of Study ID1.

Q: Can I manually trade based on the Auto-Trade signals?

A: Yes. You can always use the manual trading controls. At no time are they disabled.

Q: Can I auto trade some charts and not others?

A: Charts that do not auto trade will work as they normally would. Auto Trade charts can be individually disabled by Unchecking **Trade> Auto Trading Enabled – Chart** for each chart you don't want auto-traded.

Q: What do I do if there are no arrows?

A: This could be any of a number of issues

1. Try higher and lower time frames.
2. Try restarting Sierra Chart and reloading. Perhaps the DLL was not installed yet.
3. Check the Windows Message Log. If you see “You are not allowed to use this study” then there is a licensing issue. Contact Support.
4. If you still need help open a support ticket at [ForgivingComputers.com](http://ForgivingComputers.com).

Q: I get “Symbol is Unknown. Click for Symbol Information”.

A: Your trade service uses different symbols than the ones that have been provided. Go to Chart Settings, Main Settings and select the FIND button next to the Symbol: box. You can search for the correct symbol or if you know it, just type it into the Symbol: box.