Beginners Guide to CQG FX

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Logging into CQG FX

CQG FX is designed to protect the trader from executing unwanted orders. For this purpose there are two logins for CQG FX. One login is to the platform, and the second login is to execute orders. To login to the platform double click on the CQG FX icon located on your desktop, or locate the trading platform from your Windows Menu button. The path is typically: Start < All Programs < CQG < CQG FX < CQG FX .

Desktop Icon

Once you have double clicked on the icon or CQF FX button from the menu an initial login screen will appear. This is the login that will give you access to the trading platform. Enter in the Username and Password that was provided via email. Once the information is entered press Login.

A welcome page will appear upon CQG FX opening with valuable tips and information from CQG.


The home page will appear. From here you can naviagate the platform, but not execute trades. To Execute trades left click anywhere in the Spreadsheet Trader, Orders and Positions window, or in the Split DOM. Next, click the Logon button located on the left tool bar. Please note that depending on which trading window you have clicked on the left tool bar will change.

Once you have clicked the Logon button an Order Routing Logon window will appear. Enter in the User ID and Password information provided to you via email. Click Ok. You are now ready to begin trading live.
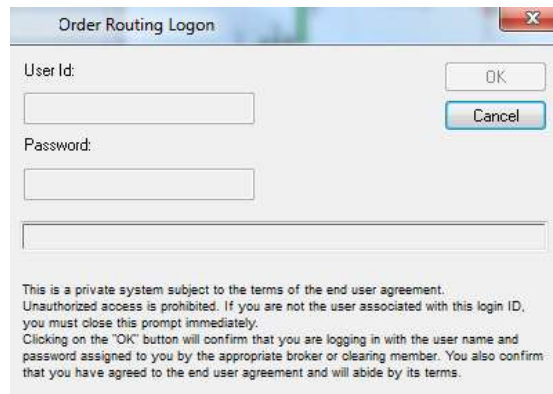
*PLEASE NOTE – If you traded on a demo CQG FX account prior to opening a live account you need to change the Connection Preference and uncheck the demo button. To do so click on the Setup button located in the upper left hand corner of the tool bar.
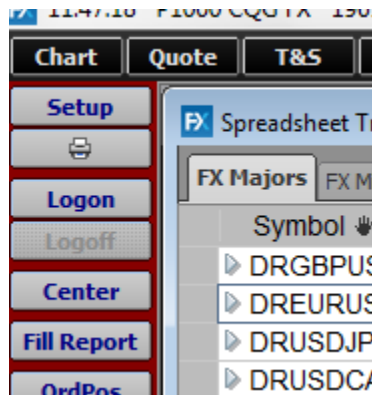

From there make sure there is no check mark next to Demo Trading. Next, select Connection Preference from the drop down menu. Once selected a window will appear. Change your connection preference to www.cqgtrader.com.
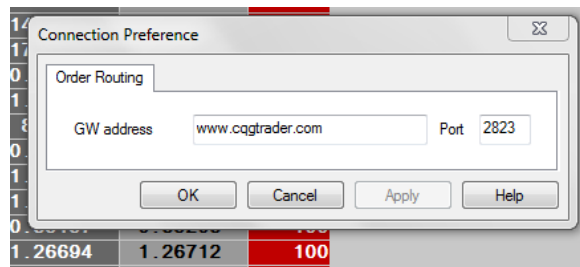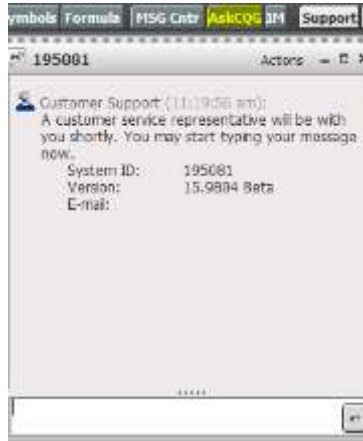

CQG FX Help Functions

To access help in CQG FX left click on the "?" button in the top right corner of the upper toolbar. Once clicked a ? will appear next to your cursor.   Left click on the item you have questions about and a detailed guide will pop up in a separate window.
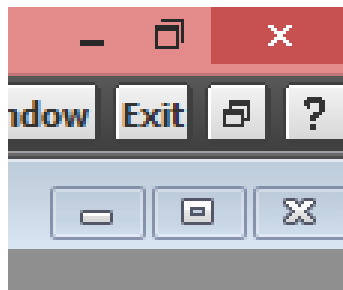
Another useful help tool is the ASK CQG button located in the upper right corner of the platform. Clicking this button will bring up a live CQG chat window.

A third help function is the Support button located in the upper right corner of the platform. By clicking this button a drop down menu will appear with many support items including: send logs, Remote PC Support, a full training library, and many more help functions.
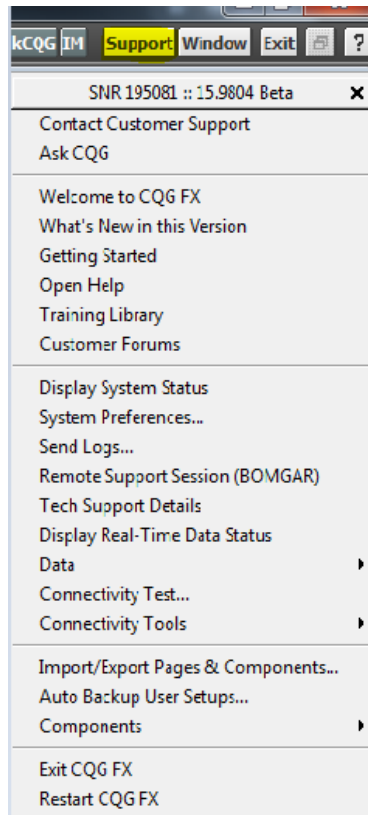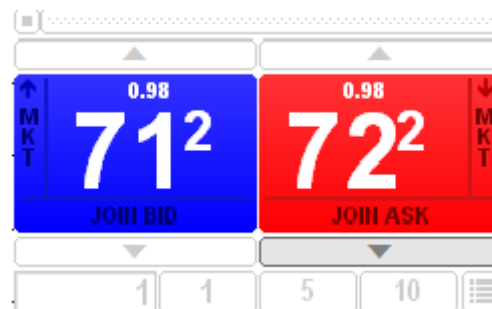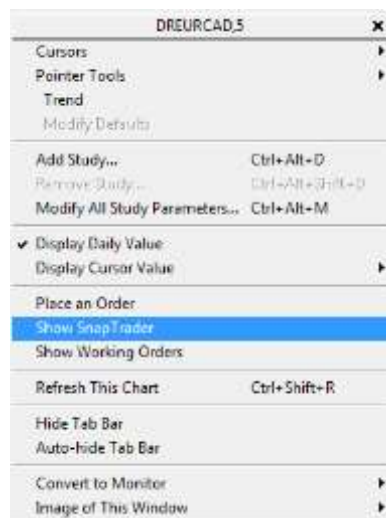
Executing Orders

CQG FX has multiple ways to execute orders on the platform. Three of the most common ways are through the charts, Order Ticket window, or Split DOM. Below you will find step by step details on how to execute order across these trading window.

From the Charts

Executing orders from the charts is done via the SnapTrader tool. The SnapTrader tool is a one click trading tool that allows for all order types to be executed with a single click. If the snap trader is not currently on your chart you need to pull it up. There are two ways to pull up SnapTrader. 1. Left click anywhere on the chart and the left toolbar will update. Located 4 tabs from the top is the SnapTrader button; simply press the button and SnapTrader will appear on your chart.

The second option is by right clicking anywhere in the Chart. A dropdown menu will appear with SnapTrader being one of the options. Click Show Snap Trader for it to appear on your screen.

*PLEASE NOTE – If you are not currently logged in to execute orders it will prompt you to login before SnapTrader will appear.


Once SnapTrader is pulled up simply click the buy or sell button to execute a Market Order. If you wish to place a pending order away from the market click on the up and down arrows. Notice how the Buy and Sell tabs change order types to allow you to place different orders.

A red horizontal line will also appear on the chart when clicking the up and down arrows. To quickly select the price you wish to place your order at, left click on the drag to the price you wish, and left

click again to update. Once your price is selected click the order type you wish to execute on the SnapTrader.

To Change the order quanty clickin the quantity box and type in the prefered quantity. The number will highlight at which time you can type in the amount you wish to execute.
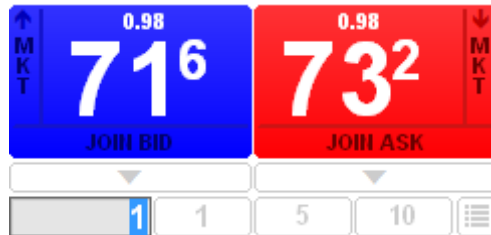
*PLEASE NOTE – A 1 lot on CQG FX is equal to $10,000. If you wish to execute a $100,000 insert 10 into the quantity window.
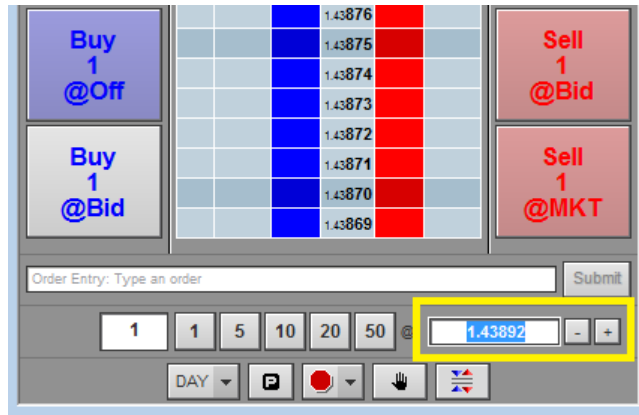
From the Order Ticket

To execute a trade from the Order Ticket you first must pull up the Order Ticket Window. This can be done by either clicking the OrdTkt button on the top tool bar, or double clicking on the Bid Price or Ask Price in the SpreadSheet Trader. Once clicked on the Order Ticket will appear as a seperate window on your CQG FX platform.


To execute a Market Order click the Buy or Sell Market Buttons next to the depth of market.

If you want to place a pending order (stop loss, take profit, or limit order) that is away from the current market price you can scroll with your mouse's wheel to the price you want to execute the

order, or type in the price of your choose in the price window box located in the bottom right of the Order Ticket Window.

Notice how when you adjust the price the buttons on the sides of the depth of market update. Press the button of the type of order you wish to place. To Change the order quantity click the pre-set quantity located on the bottom of the Order Ticket Window. Or, you can click the number currently in the white box and type in the number of your choice. Notice when you change the order quantity in the box it automatically updates the order buttons.
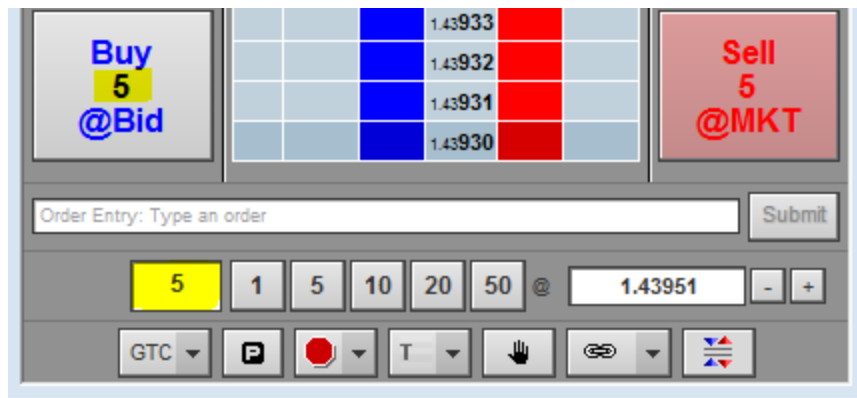
From the Split DOM

Orders can be executed in the Split Dom by using the Snap Trader buttons. Before trying to place an order enter a quantity into the quantity field. This can be done by clicking into the field and typing the desired order. Or, clicking the quantity buttons below the quantity box.

To execute a market order click in the space labeled MKT on the buttons. The button will update to the appropriate color and the middle will change from a price to MKT signaling you are about to place a market order.

Blue = Buy | Red = Sell

To set your stop loss and take profit when entering a trade is done through the Bracket Order Mode, which will allow you to place your stops and take profit click on the >> button to the left of your Snap Trader. Then click on the far right drop down arrow to display BRKT.
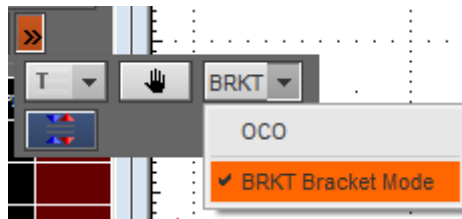
When placing your next trade a confirmation window will appear allowing you the ability to place your stop loss and take profit.

Charting on CQG FX

CQG FX provides charting with flexible time and price scaling. Keep the pages or create new ones quickly and for a different perspective.
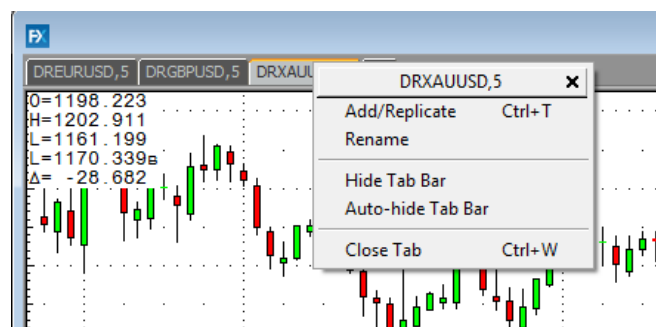
To pull up a chart go to the top toolbar and (left click) on the chart button.
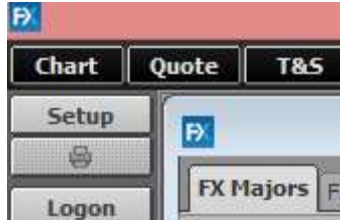

You can add up to 4 different charts with each having a different symbol or time interval. To add or remove a chart simply click on the + tab next to your current tab.

To remove a tab in the charting window (right click) on the tab you would like to remove and select close tab from the drop down menu.

To change chart types in CQG FX right click in the blue section at the top of the chart and select your preferred chart type.
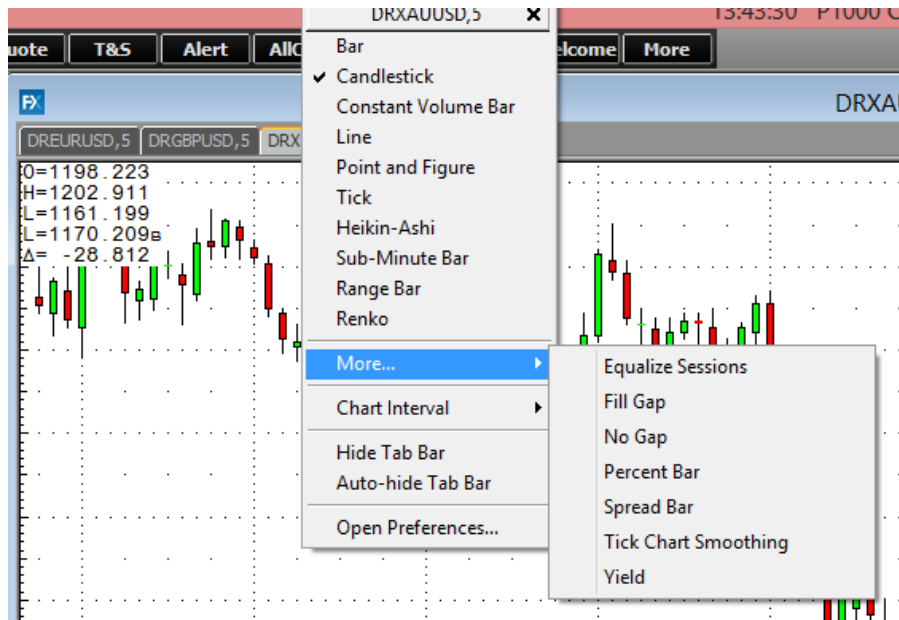
To change time frame in CQG FX right click in the blue section at the top of the chart, select Chart Interval from the drop down menu, then select the time frame you wish.

To change the symbol in the chart left click anywhere on the chart and type in the symbol you want to view.   You can also update your time interval this way by typing comma then the time you wish.
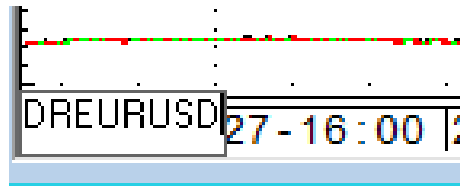

***PLEASE NOTE** You can enter any of these combinations in the entry field:

- symbol (DREURUSD)
- symbol with chart interval (DREURUSD,5)
- symbol with applied study (DREURUSD\RSI)
- symbol with chart interval and study (DREURUSD,5 \RSI)
- chart type (\cndl)
- symbol with chart type (DREURUSD \cndl)
- study (\rsi)

Searching for Pairs

To search for all tradable pairs on CQG FX go to the upper right hand corner on the top toolbar and select the symbols button. From here it will give you a drop down menu. Then select the Symbol Search button from the menu.
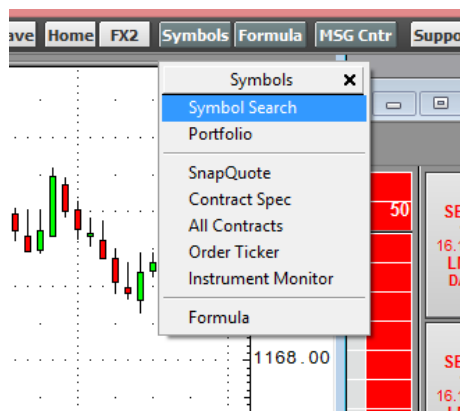
The symbol search window will pop up on your page. Select Exchange and make sure that Direct FX Retail is checked.
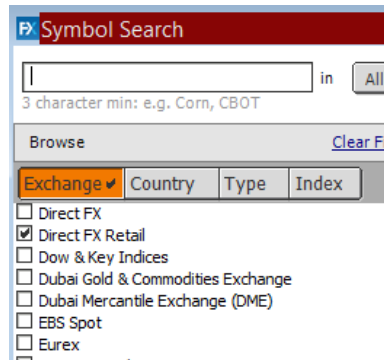

You will then see the full list of pairs you are able to trade within CQG FX.

PLEASE NOTE You do not need the X.US. that is before the symbol. You only need the DR then the currency pair. Example: DREURUSD

Changing Passwords

You change your CQG FX login password from the initial login screen.   Click the More Options button located at the bottom left and select Password from the drop down menu. Enter in your old password and new password. Click change and it will update.
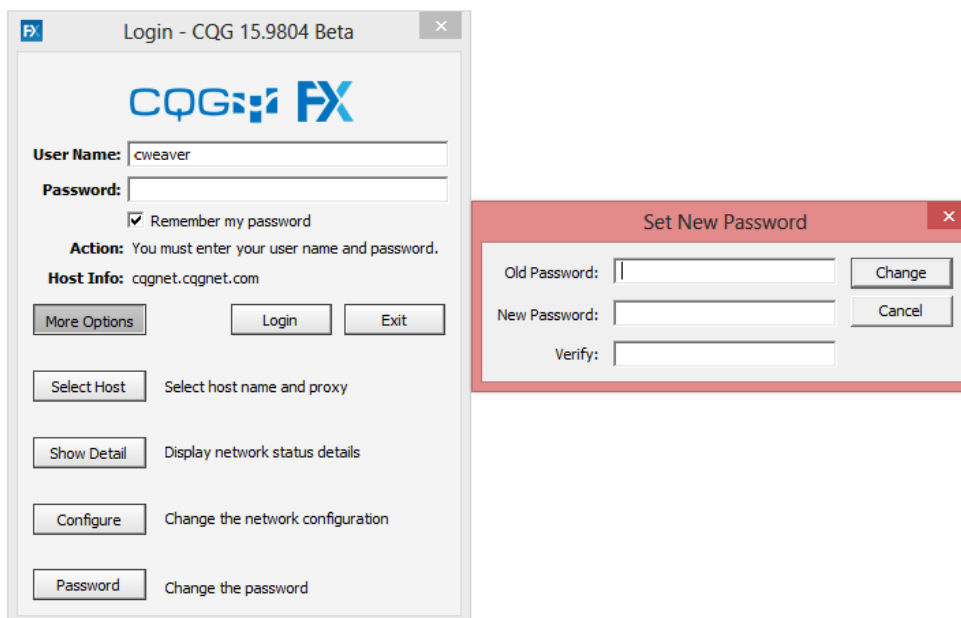
To change your Order Routing password you must be logged in to your trading account. When you are logged in left click the Setup button in the top left corner of the toolbar. A drop down menu will appear with "change password" as an available option.
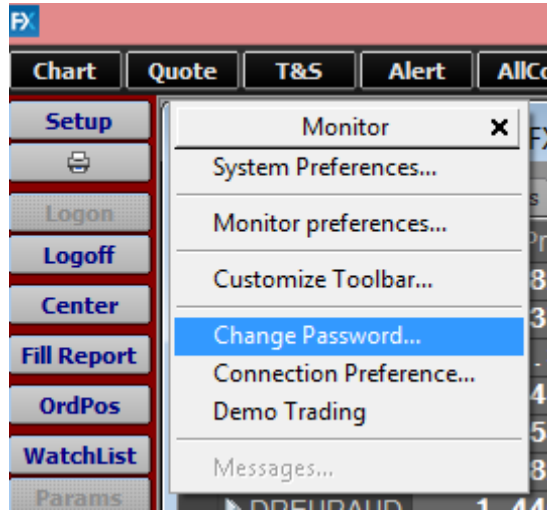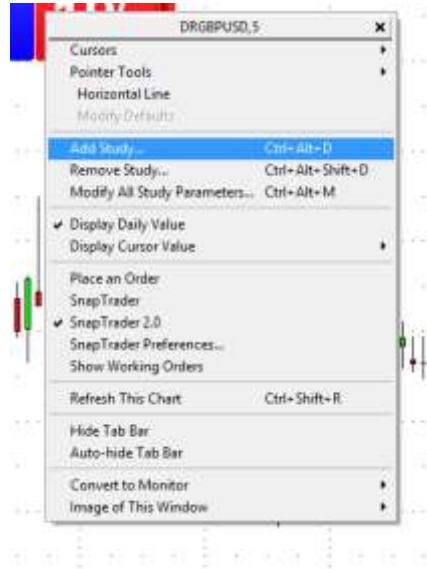

The Set New Password window will open on your screen. Enter your Old, and New Passwords into the appropriate fields then select change. Your password is now changed.
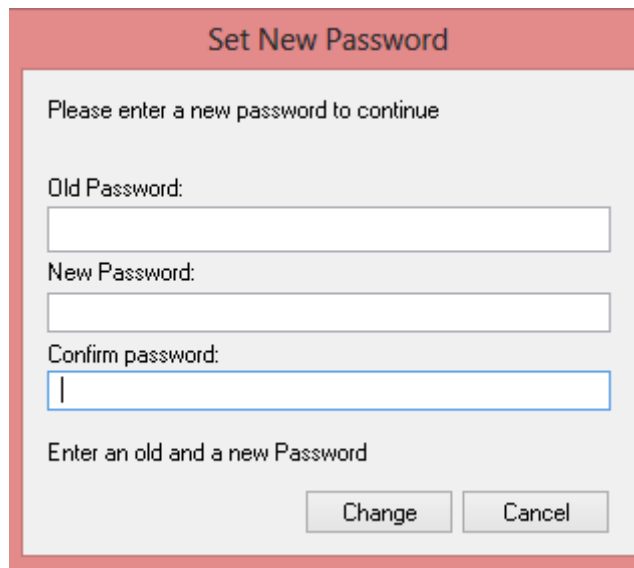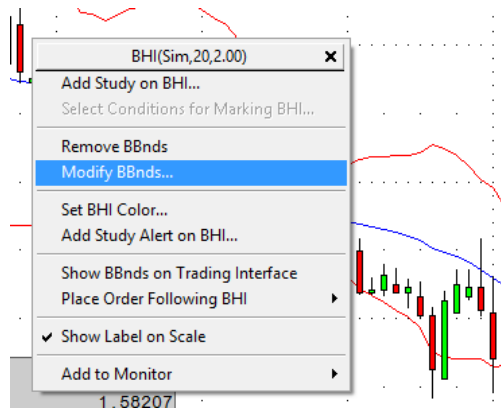
Adding Studies and Indicators

To add a study or indicator to your chart right click anywhere in the chart and select add study from the dropdown menu.
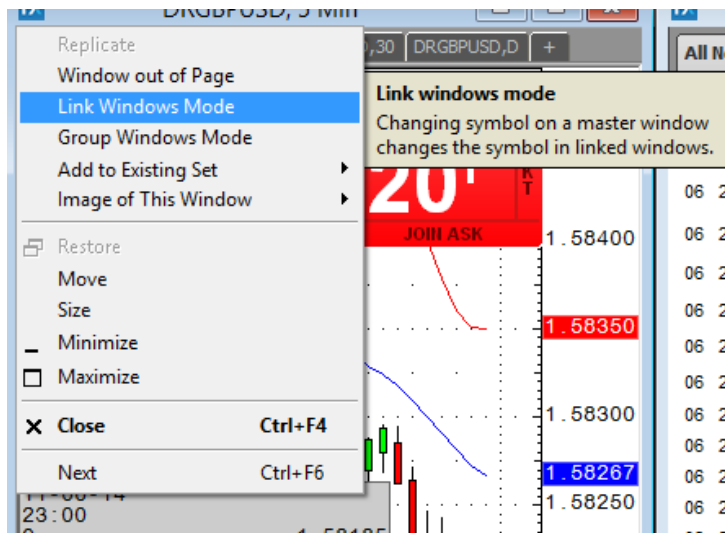

To modify the parameters of the study or indicator. Right click on the study you have added and select modify from the drop down menu.
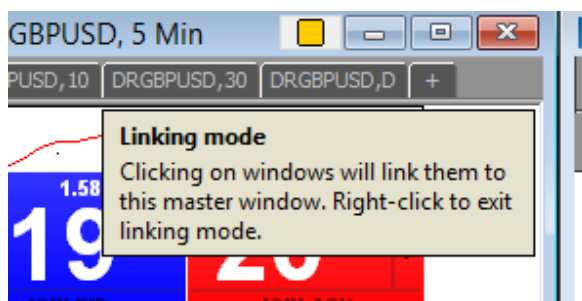
Linking Windows

To link windows or associated windows left click the CQG FX icon in the left hand corner.

Then select Link Windows Mode.

Your window you are currently in will become the master and you will see a colored square in the top left corner.


Next to the cursor a colored square will appear. Left click on any trading window you wish to link. i.e. (chart to order desk).

A circle that is the same color as your master window color will appear in the upper right of the trading window, indicating they are now linked.
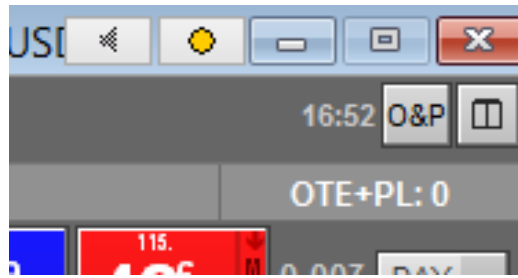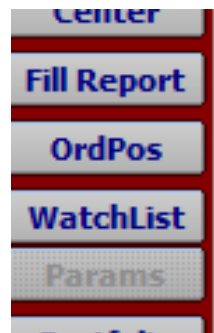

To exit linking windows mode press escape or left click to get out of windows mode.

To unlink windows left click on the colored circle or square in the upper right corner of the trading window you wish to unlink. Select Unlink Window from the drop down menu.
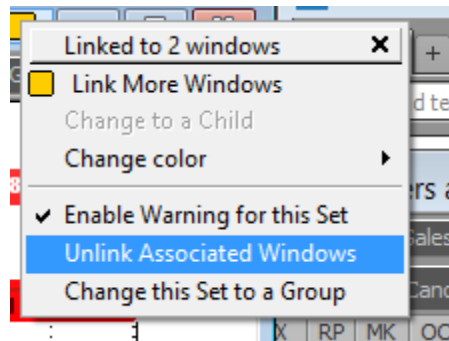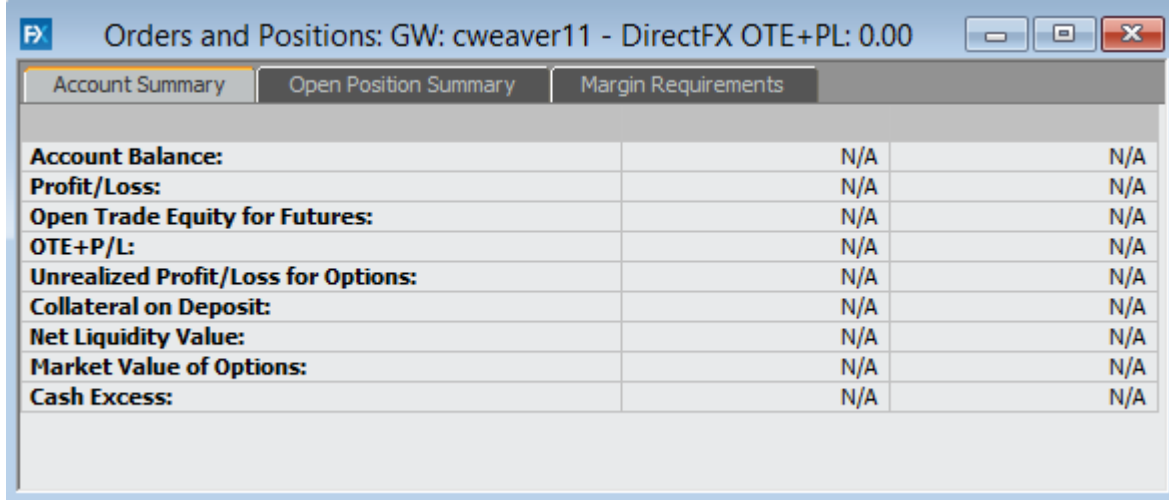

Pulling up Orders and Positions

To access your orders and positions go to the toolbar on the left hand side of your page and select OrdPos. Here you are able to see your Account Summary, Open Positions, and Margin Requirements.

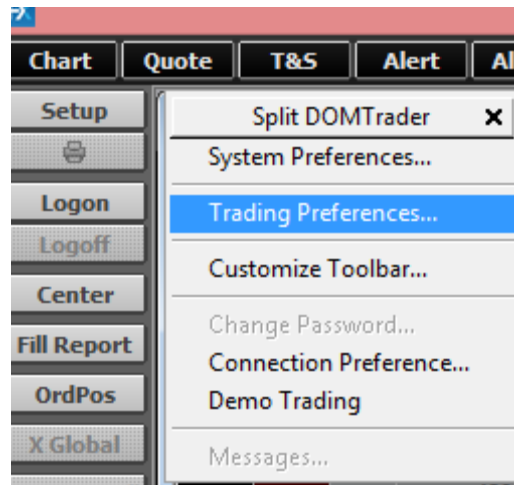Your Orders and Positions window will pop up.

Changing Preferences

To change the preferences of any window simply click on that window you would like to change and then go to the Set up button on the left toolbar left click and select Trading Preferences in the drop down menu.

The Trading Preferences window will pop-up. This window allows you to hide certain functions that you do not want to see and change the Themes of the window. You can also turn off notifications(i.e. trade confirmations before and after placing trades.)
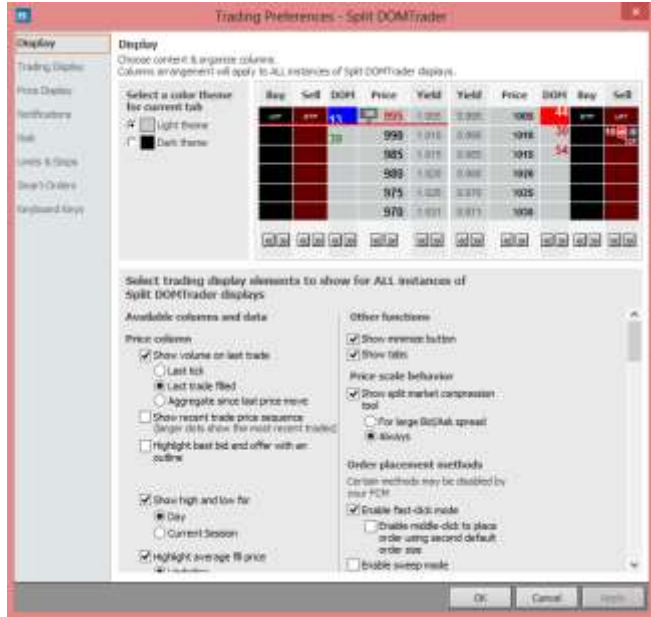
When you are done with your changes click apply and okay to see them on your current page. When you change your settings they will remain that way unless you change them.

To turn off notifications and have the ability to execute one click trading click on the trading tool you wish to setup. Then click Setup < Trading Preferences < Notifications. Once to this screen uncheck the box next to *Placing, cancelling, modifying, and parking orders*. Next click Apply and Ok.