STOCK MARKET INVESTOR (Version 1.1) DESCRIPTION and INSTRUCTIONS

GENERAL

Stock Market Investor is a versatile program written for the QL computer to aid personal investors who have interests in stock market investments.

The program will calculate costs for stocks purchased at specified prices, calculate profits for a specified range of sale prices, allow for a specified commission rate, v.a.t. and minimum commission on purchases and on sales, allow for 'account deals', allow storage of details of the history of one (or more) portfolios of investments (both 'active' and 'wound-up') as well as the subsequent updating or analysis (for profit and value) of portfolios.

RUNNING THE PROGRAM

It is very sensible practice to make a backup copy first (see 'HINTS").

Place the program cartridge into mdv1 and (if you wish to store or load portfolio details) a formatted cartridge into mdv2.

Type and then ENTER ' lrun mdv1_smi '. The program will take about two minutes to load. After loading and reaching the first prompt, press the space bar to get to the Main Menu.

HINTS

Before running the program for the first time, make a backup copy on another mdv (microdrive) cartridge.

Enter dates as as described under 'P1' - entering three separate numbers for date, month and year. Years are restricted to those between 1951 and 2019.

Keep names (i.e. for stock holdings or portfolios) to 10 characters or less and keep holdings to no more than 100 components within any one portfolio.

A copy of these instructions is provided on tape as a document (instruc_doc).

MAIN MENU CHOICES

From Main Menu there are four alternatives:

M1 Stock Profit Calculator

This will calculate profits (or losses - indentified in red) for the sale of a stock over a specified range of sale prices. The stock name, buying price, quantity and range of selling prices are entered. Selection of an 'accunt deal will apply commission costs only to the purchase transaction. The net profit (or loss) is then calculated and displayed for each selling price in the specified range. This is presented as both a percentage and cash figure. Commission rates, v.a.t. etc. can be altered if desired using the function key F3.

Many details can be altered, if desired, by entering the 'Z' character. Where a large range of sell prices are used, paging through the end calculations is accomplished with the function key F1. Escape back to the Main Menu is allowed with function key F5. The controls available to the user, according to the program state, are displayed on the screen.

M2 Traditional Option Calculator

This will calculate costs, profits (or losses) for dealings in traditional options. Display of information and controls are similar to M1 above.

M3 Traded Option Calculator

Calculates costs, profits and losses for dealings in traded options over a specified range of prices. The user can choose either to exercise an option or to trade the option.

M4 Portfolio Menu

Selection of this provides the user with the second menu, which deals with a portfolio (or collection) of holdings. There are five choices from this second menu and these are outlined overleaf.

PORTFOLIO MENU CHOICES:

P1 Enter a New Portfolio

This is used to create a new file from the start for your portfolio. Details are entered in the following order

- portfolio name (e.g. Growth or Bloggs etc.). After you have named the portfolio you will in future refer to it by that name. More than one portfolio can be created and stored, though you must use different names.
- name of holding.
- quantity.
- purchase price per unit stock.
- date of purchase. Dates are input by entering the date, then entering the month and then the year. (e.g. for 3rd. July 1986 enter 3, then enter 7 and then enter 1986. All dates must be between 1951 and 2019.
- total outlay. This is the complete amount payable including commissions etc.
- sell price per unit stock.
- date of sale (Enter date as outlined above).
- total proceeds received from the sale after commissions etc.

The procedure is repeated for each component (holding) to be included in the portfolio.

P2 Update a Portfolio

Allows changes to be made to a previousy created portfolio. Old holdings can be deleted, or updated after a sale. Also, New holdings can be added into the portfolio by making the 'N' selection, when prompted.

P3 Portfolio Gains Analysis

This routine will analyse a previously stored portfolio to give up to the minute information regarding the overall value and performance taking into account the length of time or term of each individual holding and the up-to-date prices of 'active' (i.e. unsold) investmen ts. The performances of the individual holdings are also calculated and displayed. Holdings which are 'active' are identified with a white marker.

P4 Examine a Portfolio

Displays contents of a portfolio onto the screen for inspection.

P5 Return to Main Menu

Takes the user from the Portfolio Menu back to the Main Menu.

Appenix: Use of printers on RS232 line SER1.

An additional feature has been added to allow a limited printing capability. The is is desribed as follows:-

15 Install Printer (Main Menu option key F5)

Print-outs can be obtained when using 'Examine Portfolio' and 'Stock Calulator', connecting a printer to SER1 port. Selecting this menu option allows the printer to be enabled and the baud rate and printer code for the currency character (e.g. £) to be specified. On initialisation, the printer is disabled by default.

Different printers have differing sets of control and character codes, the relevant printer manual can be consulted for specific code details.