Phil Oakley's Weekly Roundup

Exclusively for SharePad and ShareScope

20 July 2018

Farewell

It is with some sadness that this is my last weekly roundup for ShareScope and SharePad subscribers. After just over three and a half years, I have decided to move on to pastures new.

I have really enjoyed working for Ionic. It has been by far the nicest company I have ever worked for. Above all else, I have been proud to have worked as part of a great team of people who strive to look after the interests of their customers.

It has been a privilege to have played a role in the development of a great product such as SharePad. Whilst I have helped to develop many of the analytical features in it, none of it would have been possible without the talent and hard work of the team of software developers.

There are some very clever developers working behind the scenes to constantly improve ShareScope and SharePad and help you to become better investors. I am a bit biased but, for me, SharePad is the best investment software out there for serious private investors. If you quickly want to drill down into the fundamentals of a company's financial performance and see how it has performed under different states of the world and what it might do in the future, there is nothing out there that comes close for the same price.

The fact that it is browser-based software rather than a website means that it can be used on any device connected to the internet and looks good. It also means that it is easier and faster to develop new features. I have suggested ways to make it easier to use for less experienced investors and this is in the pipeline.

I have also gained a great insight into the workings of a small business and how hard people have to work to make it a success. ShareScope and SharePad would not exist if it were not for Martin Stamp. Just over twenty years ago, Martin was looking for some software to help him navigate the stock market. He couldn't find any so he built his own and created his own company.

Since then Ionic has evolved, developed its products and has won many investor awards. It is also a profitable business that has been largely self-financing and provides jobs for 20 people. I am very happy to have been a small part of this.

Last, but by no means least, I want to say a big thank you to you, the customer. Without your loyal support for ShareScope and SharePad I would not have had a job for the last three and a half years. Over that time, I have received supportive emails from many of you and it has been a pleasure responding to them.

After saying all this you might ask why I am leaving? It was a tough decision but I have been offered a new challenge that I wanted to have a go at. I have no doubts that ShareScope and SharePad will keep on going from strength to strength.

I wish you every success with your investing.

Phil

My favourite bits of SharePad

Instead of commenting on companies, I am going to sign off by looking at just a few of my favourite bits of SharePad and how I use them to look at companies. I hope you will find it useful.

Key ratios & information

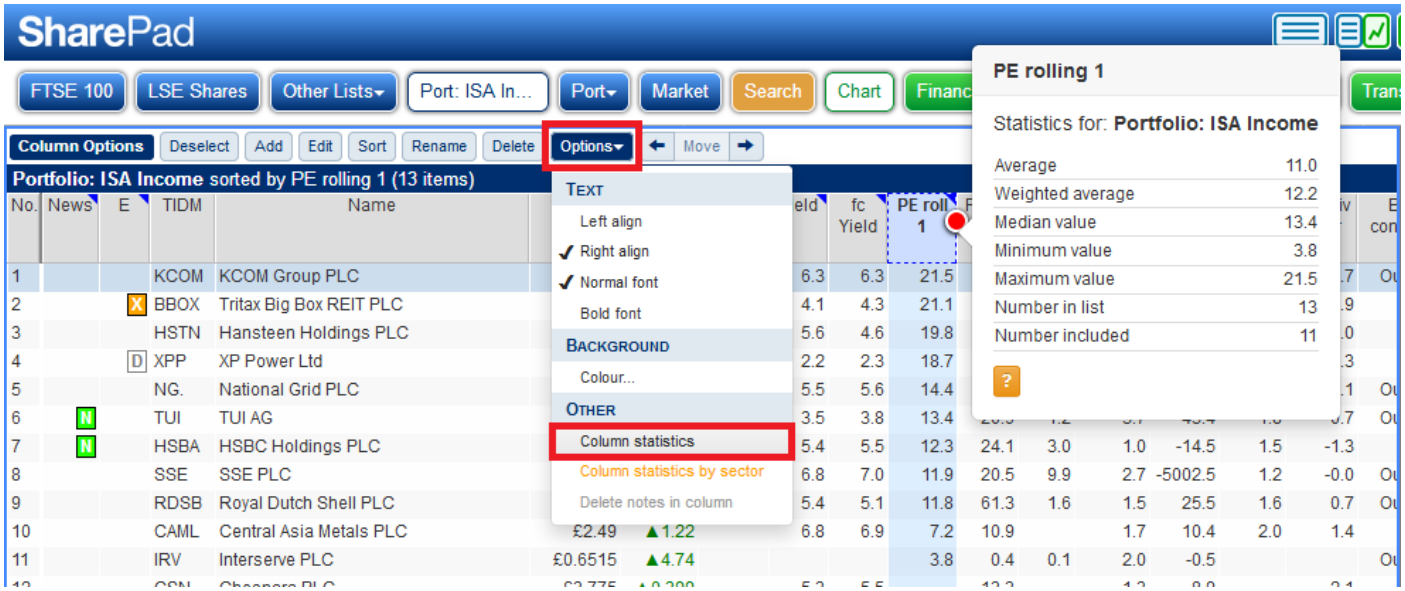
One of SharePad's key strength is how customisable it is. Throw in the comprehensive amount of data and ratios that are available and it is possible to put together a table of very useful information to help you look at your portfolio or any group of shares.

No.	Name	News	Market Cap. (m)	Close	Bid	%	Lease-adj ROCE (7x, 7%)	EBIT margin	Debt to EV	PE roll 1	fc Yield	%chg 29/12/17	Norm EPS roll 1	Norm EPS roll 2
1	Croda International PLC	N	£6533.4	£49.63	£50.46	▲1.69	24.6	23.8	6.4	25.2	1.8	▲14.1	196.9	211.3
2	Diageo PLC	N	£69207.7	£28.12	£28.54	▲1.5	16.0	33.0	11.4	22.3	2.3	▲4.74	126.2	137.1
3	Halma PLC		£5185.9	£13.66	£13.87	▲1.57	13.8	16.7	5.3	27.3	1.1	▲10.1	50.1	54.2
4	Hargreaves Lansdown PLC	N	£9699.8	£20.45	£20.81	▲1.81	83.4	64.2	0.0	34.9	2.0	▲15.5	58.6	67.2
5	Hill & Smith Holdings PLC	N	£1201.8	£15.23	£15.05	▼-1.15	17.3	12.7	8.7	18.7	2.1	▲12.4	81.4	86.0
6	InterContinental Hotels Grou...		£9310.4	£48.83	£49.54	▲1.48	44.5	46.9	14.7	21.3	1.9	▲5.01	300.9	331.7
7	Intertek Group PLC	N	£9467.3	£58.66	£58.70	▲0.0852	21.3	15.8	6.8	28.4	1.6	▲13.1	206.3	223.2
8	James Halstead PLC		£891.6	398p	395p	▼-0.251	32.3	19.7	0.0	21.1	3.5	▼-11.8	18.9	19.8
9	London Stock Exchange Gro...		£15659.4	£45.00	£45.35	▲0.8	10.6	32.5	11.7	24.0	1.3	▲19.6	187.6	215.7
10	Nichols PLC		£549.9	£14.875	£14.95	▲1.01	28.9	22.2	0.0	21.0	2.4	▼-2.56	70.9	73.9
11	RELX PLC	N	£33849.1	£17.105	£17.195	▲0.541	20.4	25.7	12.5	19.7	2.5	▼-1.11	87.0	93.0
12	Sage Group (The) PLC	N	£6861.0	633.2p	635p	▲0.3	21.0	25.7	12.7	18.0	2.6	▼-20.4	35.2	38.5
13	Spirax-Sarco Engineering PLC		£4994.6	£67.85	£68.05	▲0.332	19.1	20.1	9.6	26.7	1.4	▲21.1	254.1	269.8
14	Unilever PLC	N	£50227.5	£41.795	£42.375	▲1.39	20.3	16.2	32.0	19.5	3.2	▲2.72	240.9	267.4
15	Victrex PLC	N	£2582.2	£29.98	£30.32	▲1.17	24.0	38.4	0.0	22.9	3.5	▲15	131.1	138.8

This is a test portfolio of quality shares I have been monitoring since the start of the year. I have set up a data table in SharePad to give me a snapshot of the key information I want to know. Once I have saved this setting, I can quickly apply it to any share or group of shares that I wish to look at.

So here I have a news indicator, the last closing price, the current bid price and its percentage change on the day. I also include some key fundamental data such as ROCE, EBIT margin and Debt to EV. I then add a one year rolling forecast PE ratio, forecast dividend yield and the next couple of rolling EPS forecasts to get a view on whether profits are expected to grow or not.

One of the great features I can apply to this table is to calculate statistics for each column. Columns you can do this for have a blue flag in the top right hand corner of the column heading. So, if I want to know the average forecast rolling PE of my portfolio, I click on the relevant column heading, then click on the **Options** menu and then select **Column statistics.** This will display the information I need.

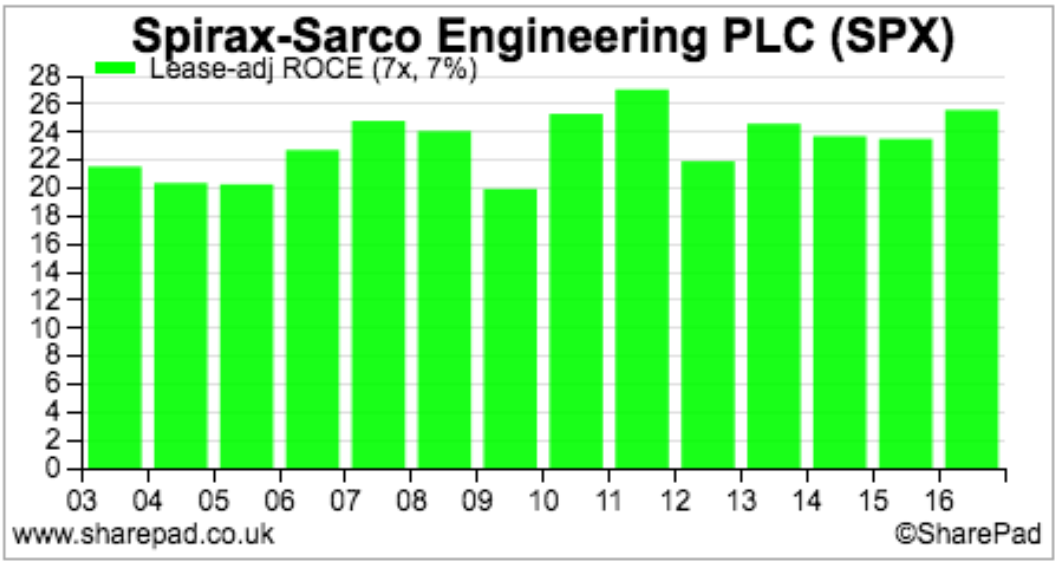


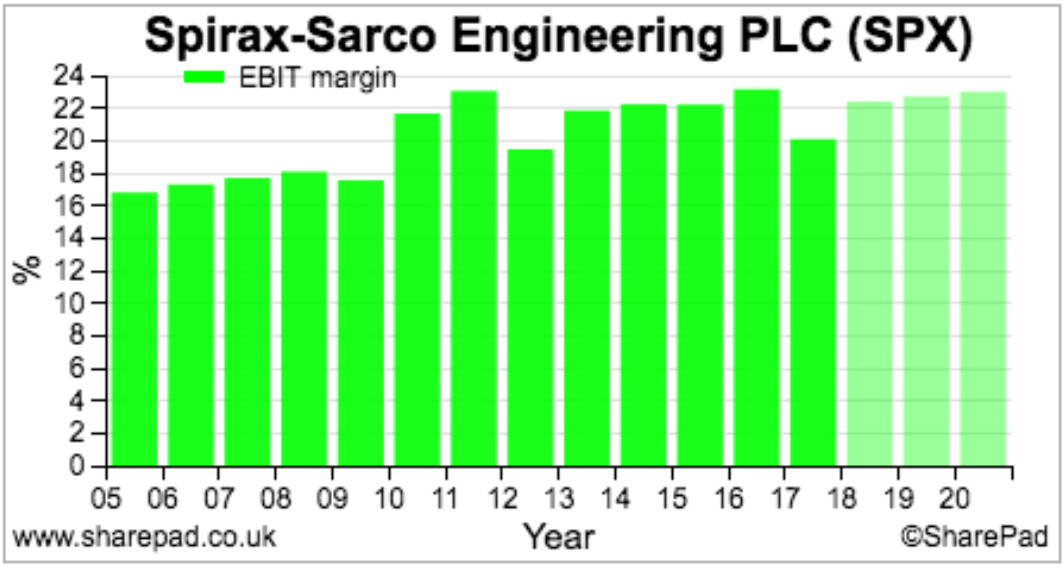
Financial charts

This is probably my favourite feature because I find it immensely useful. I like to look at the trends in key ratios over time and see how a business performs over an economic cycle. I also like to see forecasts for ratios as well which SharePad is very good at providing.

I totally subscribe to the view that a picture is worth a thousand words. A financial chart can allow you to quickly get a very comprehensive overview of company – it's an extremely powerful tool of analysis.

Regular readers of my articles will be familiar with the charts that I regularly use. I pay particular attention to the trends in ROCE, profit margins, cash conversion and debts amongst others.




Spirax-Sarco Engineering PLC (SPX)
EBIT margin
%
24
22
20
18
16
14
12
10
8
6
4
2
0
05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20
Year
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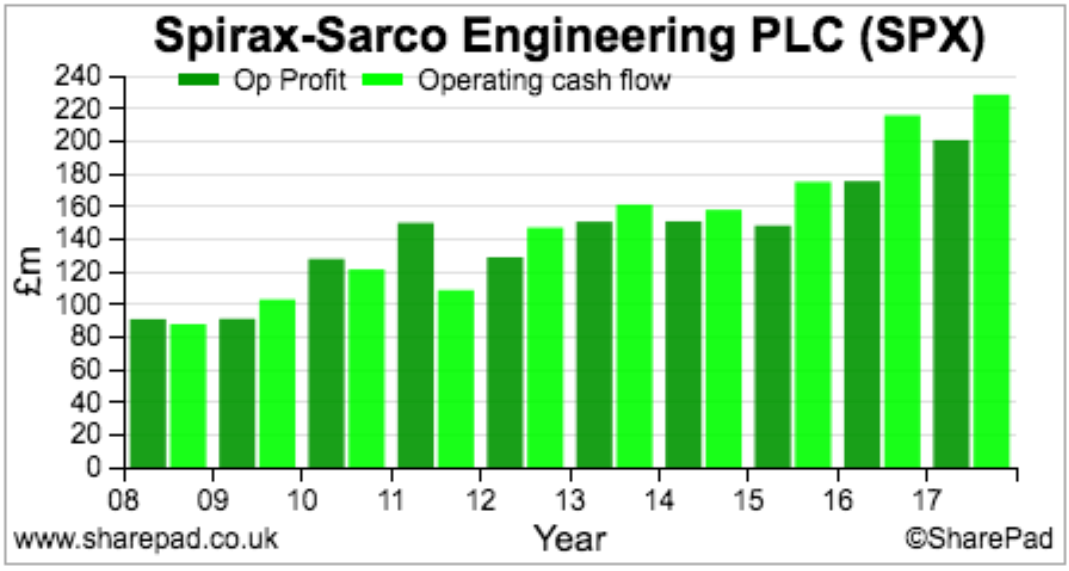
Spirax-Sarco Engineering PLC (SPX)
Op Profit
Operating cash flow
£m
240
220
200
180
160
140
120
100
80
60
40
20
0
08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17
Year
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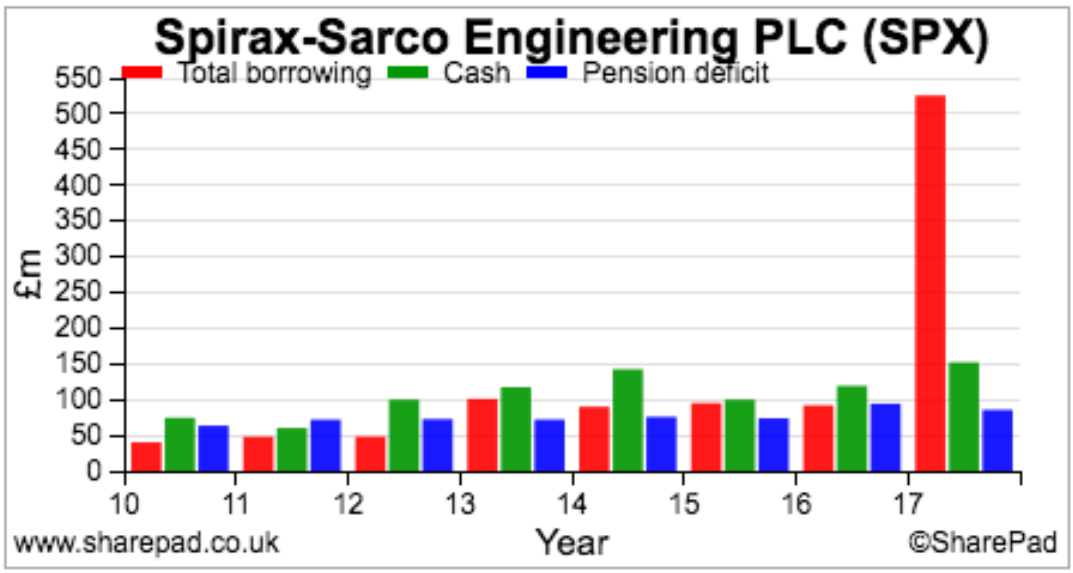
Spirax-Sarco Engineering PLC (SPX)
Total borrowing
Cash
Pension deficit
£m
550
500
450
400
350
300
250
200
150
100
50
0
10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17
Year
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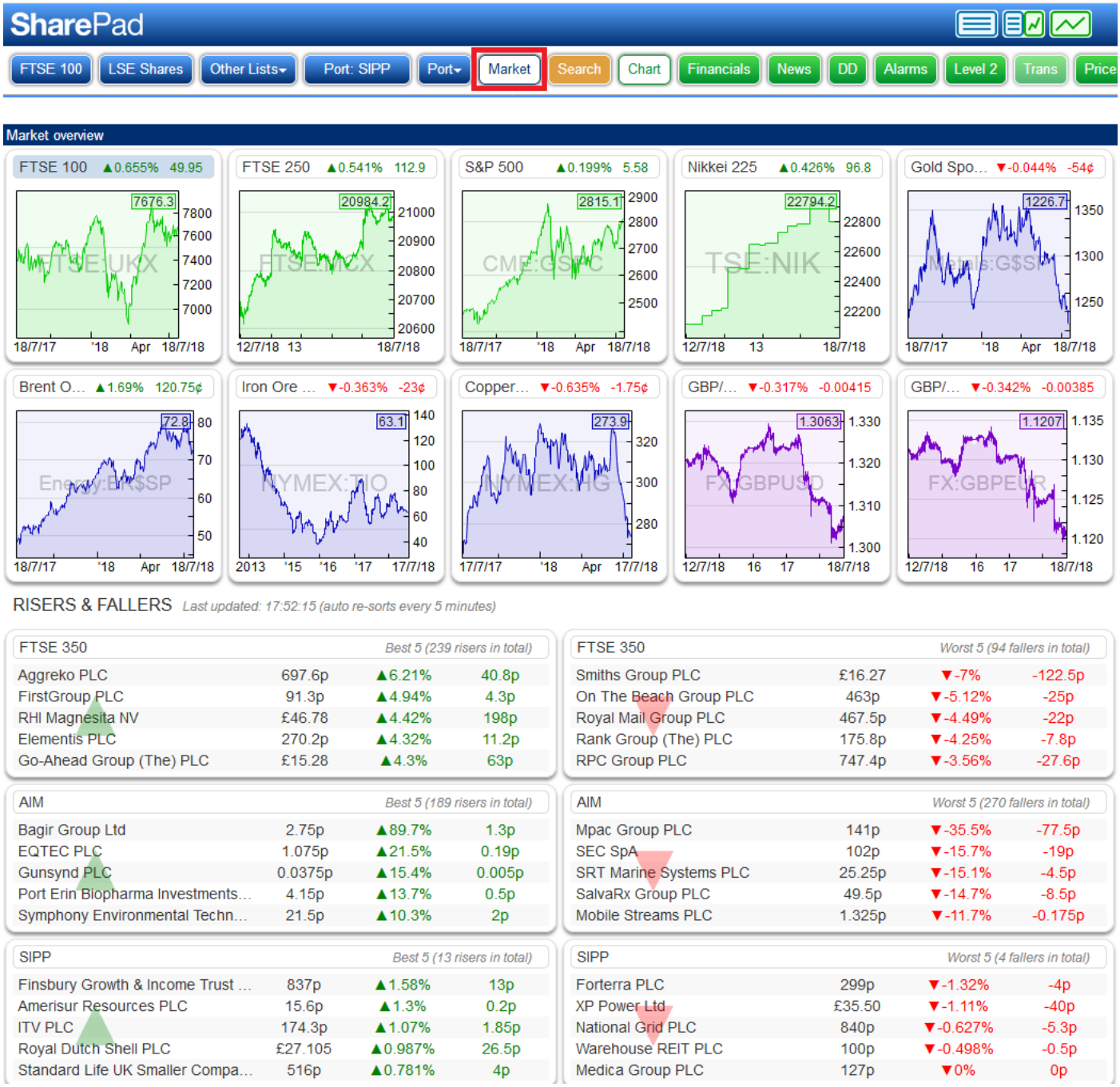
Market overview

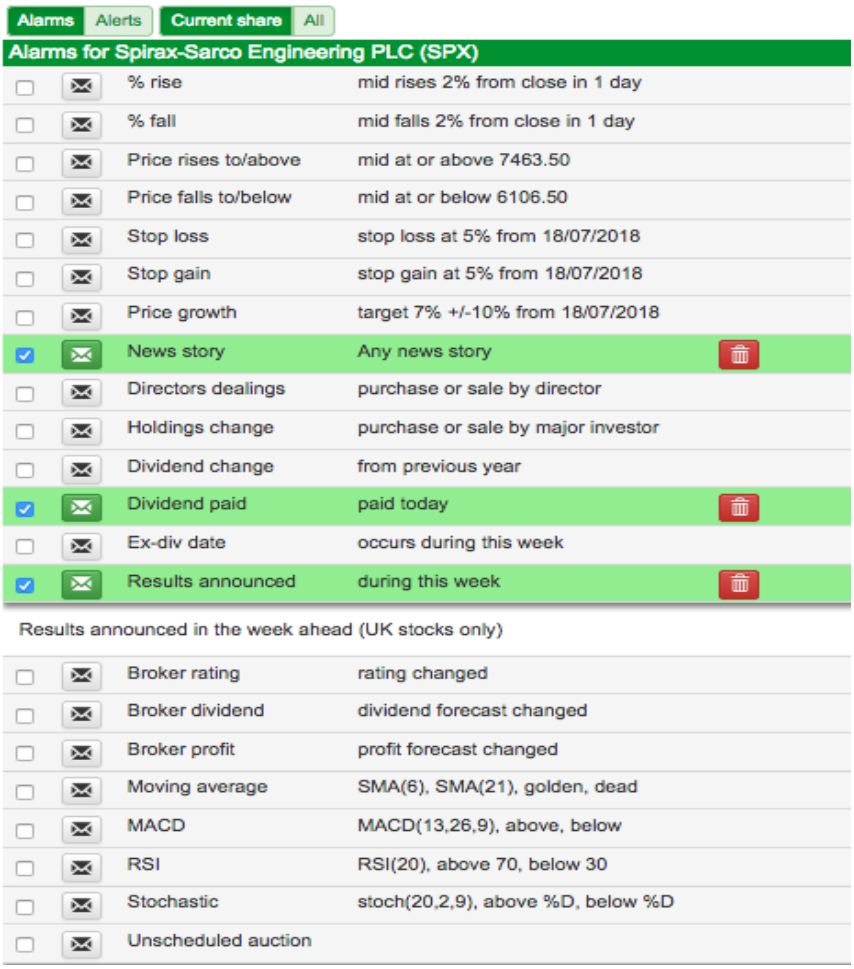
I love this page and it is my go to place when I open up SharePad in the morning. As with everything else in SharePad you can customise it to your individual needs.



This page gives me an overview of the major stock markets, exchange rates, bond markets and commodity prices as well as the risers and fallers in key markets or any of my portfolios.

News & alerts

I think it's important to stay away from a lot of the stock market chatter but I want to keep abreast of important stuff. Instead of wasting my time watching share prices, I just want to know what matters. I can do this by setting up alerts on key news items. SharePad then keeps me informed by emailing me when something happens which means I can stay informed when I am out and about. I get any important company news as well as broker comments and other news from Dow Jones news. SharePad can also be configured to tell me if there is a significant move in the share price of any share I am interested in.



I frequently see lots of SharePad users on Twitter who use other services to search the regulatory news service (RNS) feeds in the morning. I can't see the reason to do this when SharePad has a great RNS feed which is searchable – for phrases such as "ahead of expectations" – and has loads of history. The history in SharePad's news is really useful and allows the user to go back several years without having to go trawling on the internet.

Simple & comprehensive filtering

SharePad has so much information in it that it is possible to set up an almost infinite number of bespoke filters to help you trawl the stock market. It's immensely powerful and I know that I've only really scratched the surface in what it can do.

That said, some of the best filters are the simplest ones. Although I follow a quality approach to investing I am also on the lookout for potential bargains. This is why a simple filter searching for shares hitting fresh 52-week lows is one of my favourites. Most of the shares in it will be there because they have big problems attached to them but very occasionally it can help you spot a decent company that has been overlooked.

Filtered LSE Shares sorted by Name (14 matches)

Phil Oakley - New lows Add criteria | i | Exit

%Chg since 1 y low	Min:		Max: 1	Edit
Market Cap. (intraday) (m)	Min: 100		Max:	Edit
Lease-adjusted ROCE (7x, 7%)	Min: 8		Max:	Edit

No.	Name	TIDM	Market Cap. (intraday) (m)	Price	1 y low	Date 1 y low	Lease-adj ROCE (7x, 7%)	PE roll 1	fc Yield
1	Associated British Foods PLC	ABF	£19035.8	£24.045	£23.89	26/3/18	13.4	17.2	1.8
2	Assura PLC	AGR	£1344.2	56.35p	56.1p	29/5/18	9.7	20.6	4.6
3	Barloworld Ltd	BWO	£1529.3	590p	590p	17/7/18	10.2		
4	Boot (Henry) PLC	BOOT	£366.8	275.5p	275p	17/7/18	18.5	9.7	3.1
5	Brown (N) Group PLC	BWNG	£450.0	158.2p	158.2p	18/7/18	10.3	7.0	8.8
6	Gielda Papierow Wartosciowych ...	0P2A	PLN1674.7	PLN 36.95	PLN 36.80	21/5/18	18.0		
7	Gresham Technologies PLC	GHT	£108.7	160.5p	160.5p	18/7/18	12.0	24.6	0.4
8	London Security PLC	LSC	£257.5	£21.00	£20.90	3/5/18	17.3		
9	Manx Telecom PLC	MANX	£190.5	165.5p	165.5p	18/7/18	8.3	11.5	7.2
10	Menzies (John) PLC	MNZS	£487.9	584p	584p	18/7/18	11.6	9.5	3.8
11	Mulberry Group PLC	MUL	£337.3	562p	562p	18/7/18	9.1		
12	SIG PLC	SHI	£743.0	125.6p	125.5p	17/7/18	10.0	11.2	3.1
13	Total Produce PLC	TOT	£720.5	189p	189p	18/7/18	10.0		
14	Zhejiang Expressway Co 'H' Cny1	ZHEH	£2962.8	78.7416p	78.7416p	17/7/18	11.5		

Here, I've added a ROCE filter to try and highlight reasonable business rather than just wading through very poor businesses that are in trouble for good reasons.

I could go on and on but my key parting message is that the more you use SharePad the more you will realise how good it is and what it can do for you.

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