

me feel confident in my ability to trade in different market conditions and manage my own account.

#### ***How did you learn to trade?***

I am pretty much a self-educated trader, and I learned to trade through trial and error in small trading accounts. After spending a few hundred dollars on a breakout trading course during the early years of my trading, which I found to be an absolute waste of money, I learned about the importance of being able to study the market and develop trading strategies on my own. There are two books that gave me a very good head start, John Murphy's *Technical Analysis Of The Financial Markets* and *Trade Your Way To Financial Freedom* by Van K. Tharp. These books gave me a good foundation of technical analysis and risk management. I would highly recommend them to new traders. Occasionally, I also read some trading blogs and websites for new trading ideas.

#### ***What is your style of trading?***

I am a trend-follower at heart. My trading strategies are built around this principle, whether it is swing trading or daytrading. I always have a methodology in place to define the current trend, and entry is in the direction of the trend. It may sound simple, but there is a lot of hard work behind it.

One of the most important elements of my trading style is dummy trading, which I first read about at MaoXian.com, a blog you reviewed a couple years ago. And after I got started with dummy trading, I have never changed my style. I have built different entry methods around it, be it in futures trading or currency trading. Most of my currency positions are held over hours to a day or two. I do not hold positions over the weekend. That's my rule. On average, I make around two trades per day. Sometimes, I can sit on cash for a few days without a position.

#### ***What indicators or patterns do you look at?***

Generally, I do not use technical indicators to make my trading decisions. I occasionally explore different indica-

tors. However, I do not find much success doing so. I like to trade pullbacks to join a trend, and I use some classical technical patterns. My favorite technical patterns are triangles — ascending and descending triangles. The reason for trading these patterns is simple: they make a lot of sense to me. I feel blind when trading indicators or patterns that do not make sense. To me, triangles make sense — they are indicating that the market is taking a short break and building strength for the next powerful move. Anticipating the next move is all I do in order to profit from the market.

#### ***How do you decide when to enter or exit a position?***

Since I am a short-term trader, my positions are always established during the London session. I like to trade in active market conditions. The exact entry point is defined by my set of trading strategies. As I've mentioned, I like trading pullbacks, and most of my

entry points are at key support and resistance levels. I always trade with stops. The most challenging part for me is managing profitable positions. There are times when I beat myself up for exiting a position too early, or giving back too much profit.

#### ***Do you implement an automated or discretionary system in your trading?***

Currently, I am actively trading my discretionary strategy. I am also working on my automated system. I love doing some programming work and allowing the machine to generate some alerts. I find this to be especially helpful for my daytrading. However, to me, automated trading is still an experiment. I do not see it replacing my discretionary trading anytime soon.

#### ***When you design a system, do you backtest it often?***

I do not backtest it in the traditional way. When I first design a strategy, I

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