

Compustat® data via Research Insight – Quick Reference Guide

The screenshot shows the Research Insight 8.4.0 application window. A 'Welcome to Research Insight' dialog box is open, displaying a grid of icons for various functions. Callout boxes with arrows point to specific icons in the toolbar and the dialog box, providing a quick reference guide for their functions.

Help – to get definitions, FAQs, help topics and more

Quick look-up – to find a company, item, function or set

Library Icon – to view the business description of a company and market commentary

Research Assistant – to screen the database and select companies

Report Assistant – to run a current or historical report with user-selected items

Open Screen – to open a screen containing your own saved criteria

Open Report – to view a pre-formatted report such as Balance Sheet

Open Set – to view a list of companies created by you

The 'Welcome to Research Insight 8.4.0' dialog box includes the following options:

- Research Assistant
- Report Assistant
- Chart Assistant
- Company Highlights
- Library
- Open Screen
- Open Report
- Open Chart
- Open Set

At the bottom of the dialog box, there is a checkbox for 'Display on Start-up' (checked) and a 'Close' button.

Quick look-up, how to change databases and historic look-up

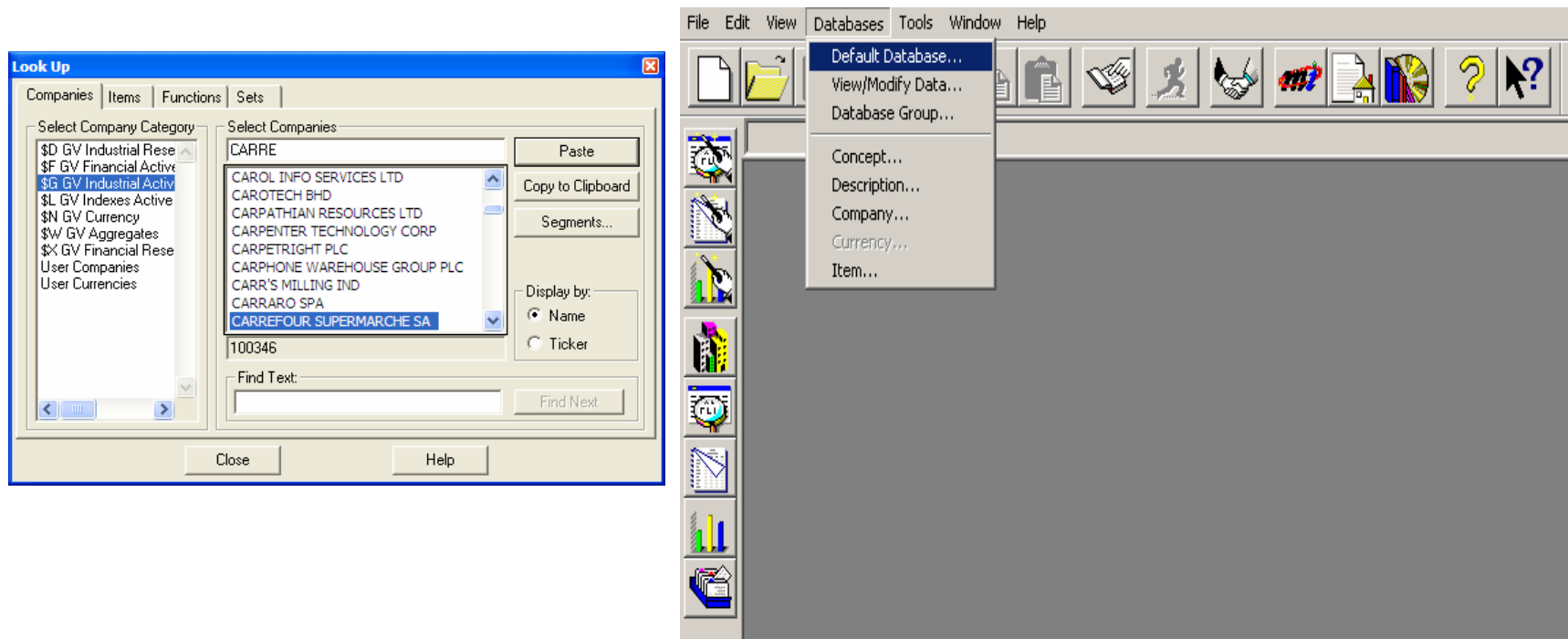
The quick look-up allows you to look up companies, items, functions and sets.

Companies: choose from more than 30,000 securities of which over 23,000 are active

Items: find your item within the balance sheet, income statement or cash flow or choose from a range of market data or forecast items

Functions: pick functions in order to modify the data you're downloading

Sets: look up a specific set or find your saved ones



Default Database: to change to a different database, such as **Backdata**

View/Modify Data: to see if an item is populated for a specific company and how much **history** is available

Research Assistant (1) – to screen the database and either save the set and/or the screen or simply run a pre-formatted or customised report

The screenshot shows the 'Research Assistant - Step 1 (Global Money Management)' window. It includes a 'Companies' field with '100346', a 'Look Up' button, and an 'Initial Set' field with '\$G+\$F'. A 'Change Set' button is next to it. Below these are tabs for 'Growth', 'Market Returns', 'Fundamentals', 'Estimates', and 'Markets'. The 'Fundamentals' tab is active, showing a list of financial indicators with checkboxes and value fields: 'Revenues - Total' (checked, >, 1000.0), 'Net Income' (unchecked, >, 100.0), 'ROE' (unchecked, >, 15.0), 'Total Debt' (unchecked, <, 1000.0), 'Common Equity' (unchecked, >=, 100.0), and 'Free Cash Flow' (unchecked, >, 100.0). A 'Customize...' button is at the bottom right. On the left, there's a 'Find Similar Companies' list with 'GICS-Industry' selected. Below that are 'Period Selection' buttons ('Open Screen...', 'Clear', 'Classic View', 'Reset') and 'Save Screen' buttons ('Save', 'Save As'). Navigation buttons '< Back', 'Next >', 'Cancel', and 'Help' are at the bottom.

Enter a Gvkey here or use the **Look-up**

Screen for companies in the same **GICS** Sector, Industry Group, Industry or Sub-industry etc

Save your screening criteria

A **set** is a list of companies, beginning with \$

Change your set here, e.g. **\$G** all active Industrial companies or **\$F** all active Financial companies.

Use these tabs to **screen** the database

Use the **Customise** option to add further screening criteria to your search

Research Assistant(2 and 3) – to view your set and choose report format

Research Assistant - Step 2 (Global Money Management)

Company List
Company Count: 142

ABB GRAIN LTD
ACROSSASIA LTD
AEON CO LTD
AEON HOKKAIDO CORP
ALIMENTN COUCHE-TARD
ALMACENES EXITO SA
ALPHA-BETA VASSILOPOULOS
ANDERSONS INC
ARCS CO LTD
AWB LTD
AXFOOD AB
BIM BIRLESIK MAGAZALAR
BJ'S WHOLESALE CLUB INC
BLUE SQUARE-ISRAEL LTD
CARREFOUR SUPERMARCHE
CASEYS GENERAL STORES IN
CASINO GUICHARD-PERRACHI
CAWACHI LTD
CENCOSUD SA

Display Mode
☒ Names
☐ Tickers

Save Set
Save...
Save As...
Reset

Save Screen
Save...
Save As...

Market Insight

Add Company to set
Add Company Look Up

Added Companies

Remove Company from Added list

Removed Companies

Restore Company

Remove Company

< Back Next > Cancel Help

Add companies

Save your companies
as a set (list)

Remove companies

Research Assistant - Step 3 (Global Money Management)

☒ Report Assistant
Create a custom report based on the companies that passed your screening criteria.

☐ Chart Assistant
Create a custom chart based on the companies that passed your screening criteria.

☐ Open Report
Open a pre-defined report based on the companies that passed your screening criteria.

☐ Open Chart
Open a pre-defined chart based on the companies that passed your screening criteria.

☐ Company Highlights
Run the Company Highlights report for the companies that passed your screen.

☐ Finish
Return to the Research Insight desktop.

< Back Next > Cancel Help

Report Assistant – lets you **customise your report** according to your specific criteria

Open Report – allows you to choose between over 100 **pre-formatted Compustat reports** such as Balance Sheet, Income Statement, Cash Flow, Market reports and many more

Report Assistant (1, 2 and 3) – to choose current or historical time period analysis

Historical Analysis for several companies and data items

Report Assistant - Step 1 (Money Management)

Current Time Period
☐ Items vs Companies
☐ Companies vs Items

Historical Analysis
☒ Items vs Companies
☐ Items vs Time For a Company
☐ Time vs Items For a Company

Blank Report
☐

Company Count: 21

EXAMPLE

Company Name	1997	1996	1995
Houghton Mifflin	1,114,296	922,713	861,410
McGraw-Hill Co	6,775,262	5,312,864	4,641,956
Readers Digest	2,544,813	2,062,992	1,540,923

< Back Next > Cancel Help

Create a new Item Group under Customise

Select items required from here

Report Assistant - Step 2 (Money Management)

Item Groups
☒ Valuation
☐ Growth
☐ Income Stmt - 12MM
☐ Income - Ann
☐ Market
☐ Company Specifics
☐ First Call Earnings Est
☐ U.S. Economic
☐ Market & Returns
 Customize...

Items
 Market Value-Monthly
 Price/Earnings - Monthly
 Price/Cash Flow-Share Mtly
 Price to Book
 Beta
 Current 12mm EPS - Basic
 Price/Sales per Share Daily
 Price/Earnings - Daily
 Book Value per Share
 mkvalm
 Definition...

Add >> Add All > Remove << Screen Items

New Item Look Up

Selected Items

Move Up Move Down Edit...

Add checks to include items in Chart

< Back Finish Cancel Help

To add a new item which is not already in any of the Item Groups (right-click on item to view definition)

Select a Relative, Absolute or Calendar time period

Report Assistant - Step 3 (Money Management)

Periods
 Select the beginning and ending periods for the report
 Beginning Period: QM Ending Period: QM
 Select the format for period display
☒ Relative
☐ Absolute
☐ Calendar

Alignment
 The items you selected for the report have different periodicities.
 Select the alignment that will be applied to all items in the report.
☐ Annual
☐ Quarterly
☒ Monthly
☐ Weekly
☐ Daily
 The available alignment options are based on the periodicities of the items in the report.
 Check this option to enable all alignment options.
☐ Enable all alignment options

< Back Finish Cancel Help

Q & A

Q. What is a set?

A. A list of companies, beginning with \$.

Q. What are common sets?

A. \$G – all active industrial companies and \$F – all active Financial companies.

Q. How do I screen the database?

A. Click on the **Research Assistant**, then find your company and start using the screening criteria. Click on Change Set to adjust your initial set. Click on Customise if you cannot find the item you're looking for within the screening tabs.

Q. How do I run a historical report?

A. Click on the **Report Assistant**, then choose Historical Analysis and then the items you wish to see.

Q. Where can I find pre-canned Compustat reports?

A. Click on the **Open Report** icon and choose from the pre-formatted reports, such as Balance Sheet, Cash Flow, Income Statement, Market Reports, and many more.

Q. How can I view the business description of a company?

A. Go to the **Library** icon, select your company and click Business Description.

Q. How can I quickly view if a particular item has been populated for a company?

A. Go to Databases > View/Modify data.

Q. How do I re-run a search for a different company or set?

A. Click on the **Re-run** icon at the top right.

Q. How do I view the definition of a particular item?

A. Click on the **Look-up** icon, select the item and then click on Definition.

Q. How can I save my searches?

A. You can save your companies as a Set through the Research Assistant and you can also save your screening criteria as a Screen. However, when you open a saved screen you will need to re-enter the companies/set/saved set. Click on the **Open Set** or **Open Screen** icons to retrieve saved ones.

Q. How do I switch to the Backdata database?

A. Databases > Default Database

Q. How can I access the country aggregates?

A. Using Excel, look for the first 4 templates available. You can also access the information selecting your country, or GICS country from \$W.

Appendix: how to use Research Insight and Active X technology in Excel

A single data value in one cell for a single company

=SPWS("Key", "Expression")

Example:

=SPWS("13145", "SALE")

Returns current sales for British Airways PLC.

When entering add-in functions into a spreadsheet, you must include the function arguments i.e.:

Key = the GVKEY for your company.

Expression = the formula, such as an item, concept or function, for which you want to insert data.

A data value over a period of time for a single company

=SPWS_TIME_SERIES("Key", "Expression", "Beg_Period", "End_Period", "Across_or_Down")

This is an array function. To use this function, you must first highlight the cell range for your array. After you have typed the function formula for the array, press CTRL + Shift + Enter.

Example:

=SPWS_TIME_SERIES("13145", "SALE", "-4Y", "0Y", "DOWN")

Returns Sales - Net for the most recent five years; data is displayed down the column beginning with the 5th year of data.

When entering add-in functions into a spreadsheet, you must include the function arguments i.e.:

Key = the GVKEY for your company.

Expression = the formula, such as an item, concept or function, for which you want to insert data.

Beg_Period and End_Period = the beginning and ending time period references. All time period references must have the periodicity included, such as "0Y" and "-4Y" in the following expression:

=SPWS_TIME_SERIES("13145", "SALE", "0Y", "-4Y")

An entry of "0" or "-4" is invalid.

The most recent time period does not have to be the beginning period. If Beg_Period and End_Period are reversed, the values will be returned in reverse order.

Across_or_Down = the array direction is optional; the default is "across". Valid arguments are "down" or "across".

One data item for a set of companies

=SPWS_SET("Set", "Expression", "Across_or_Down")

Use this add-in function to retrieve data for a set of companies from Research Insight for use in your Excel spreadsheet. This is an array function. To use this function you must first highlight the cell range for your array. Then, type in the function formula for the array, and press CTRL + Shift + Enter. If you are unsure how many cells must be highlighted, use the =SPWS_SET_SIZE function to display the set size. For each =SPWS_SET function, you are limited to approximately 1500 companies. If your set exceeds the limit an error message is returned. Use Research Insight @FRAC function in your formula to divide your set into smaller groups.

Example:

=SPWS_SET("\$MYSET", "SALE", "DOWN")

Returns Sales - Net for the set, MYSET. Data is displayed down the column.

When entering add-in functions into a spreadsheet, you must include the function arguments i.e.:

Set = can be any of the following:

- set name with its path (such as "\$\"C:\SPWS\SP500_SET\"")
- set name without its path when in default directory (such as "\$GISP500")
- Research Insight predefined name (such as "\$G", "\$F")
- set formula that evaluates to a set (such as "@SET(\$G,GSECTOR=45")
- GVKEYs enclosed in braces (such as "{"25648","15532"}")

Expression = is the formula, such as an item, concept or function, for which you want to insert data.

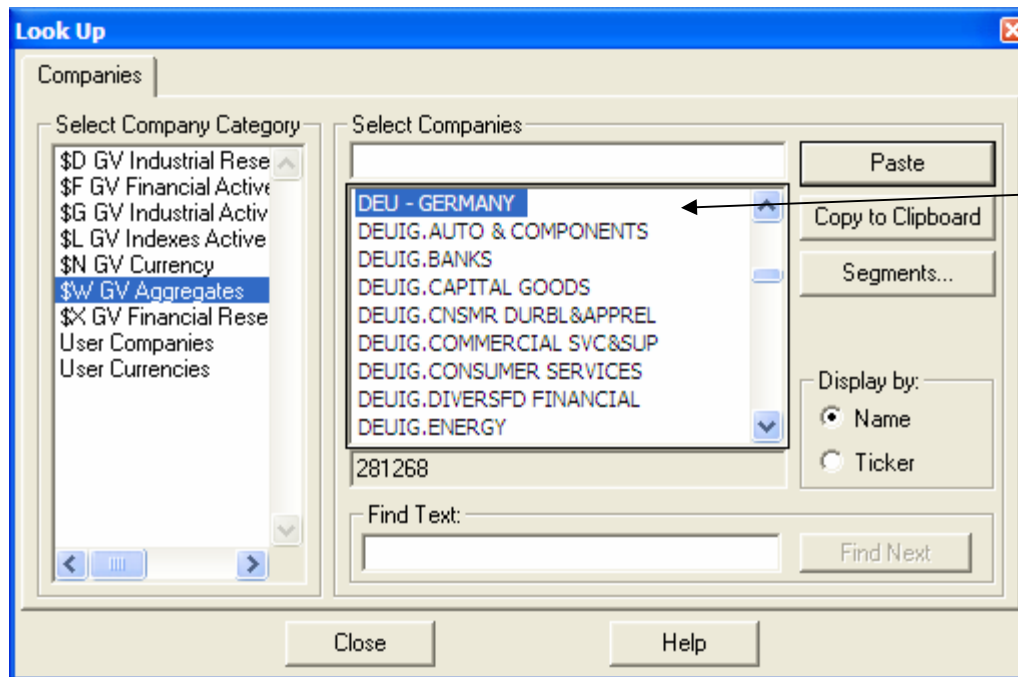
Across_or_Down = the array direction is optional; the default is "down". Valid arguments are "down" or "across".

How to use the country Aggregate information.

The Compustat Global Database offers Aggregated historical fundamental and market data in the Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS) structure. Please see full document "WACC DATA REFERENCES". Numbers are pre-canned (not dynamically calculated) which means you can see the results after a few seconds.

a) Using the desktop Application

\$ W- set. The World aggregate set consist of 50 countries.



Choose the country you are looking for. You can also see the gvkey allocated to that country.

You can then proceed as you would, by selecting your next step from Research Assistant (Step 3).

*You can also access Global economic indicators using the country you select in \$W set. For more information, please access the helpfile.

b) Using the Excel add-in and the drop down from S&P- Open Template

