

VIS BRIDGE/DJ

Solutions, Inc.'s Vis Bridge/DJ program runs in native Apple /// dials and logs on to Dow Jones News/Retrieval Service. It gets your quotes and hangs up. You design a portfolio template VisiCalc file, clear examples come with the program. A dif file is created from the VisiCalc template file. VisBridge/DJ uses the dif file to gather the quotes and dump them into a second VisiCalc template file.

After you disconnect, reboot VisiCalc. First load your VisiCalc portfolio template file, then load the second VisiCalc file which Vis Bridge/DJ created. The calculations are made and your portfolio is updated automatically. Goodbye manual entries!

We have several minor problems:

1) Vis Bridge/DJ runs fine off of profile after changing about 5 lines in three different basic routines, but it still looks back to drive one and will not run unless Vis Bridge/DJ is in .dl.

2) This program has not yet been successful using a /// EZ Pieces Template.

3) For reasons unknown the 6th, 11th, 16th, and every fifth quote thereafter gives an invalid symbol error message. This is odd since we ran a series of seven stock quotes repeated four times.

4) Solutions, Inc. promises to return phone calls with technical support. Thus far we have called them five times in the last two weeks. Each time their technical support staff has been unable to come to the phone. Each time they promise to have someone from their technical support staff return the call. To date no calls have been returned.

Vis Bridge/DJ is a program with great promise and little support. We like it well enough that we will keep trying even if the technical support staff will not.

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