



How I Got Involved In The FOREX

By Scott Barkley
Scott.barkley@att.net

In 1991, I was working for a large US based multinational company and Vivendi in Paris purchased the company. Soon afterward, I became one of their International Sales Directors traveling all of Latin America and Europe (west and east). As I traveled from one country to another I, like all travelers exchanged my US dollars for the local currency, sometimes making money in the exchange and sometimes losing.

While in Mexico, I went through not one, but three currency devaluations and watched as banks would pay upwards of 85% in interest for US dollars. I wondered how I could take advantage of those high investment rates and counter the negative of devaluations - the equivalent of currency meltdown.

My curiosity led me on a search to maximize my investment earning potential and exposed me to explore offshore investing and trading in Mid-Term Notes. Those experiences opened the door to a whole new world of investment. However, those higher rates of return brought with them a higher level of risk and I eventually lost a large sum of money as my money disappeared offshore and the scam artists went to jail. While justice was served, it did nothing to return my hard earned cash.

Faced with financial ruin and a lack of earning years available in front of me to recoup that loss, I began to search for a vehicle that would MAXIMIZE my return and MINIMIZE my risk. I developed the following criteria to judge whether I would be involved with an investment vehicle:

- The potential had to be there for **substantial reward** with **little capital invested**.
- I had to be able to quantify my risk reward ratio
- My money would not be invested in any third party who could vanish overnight
- I wanted my money to stay onshore, in my own account not someone else's
- I wanted to take an active role in the investment vehicle vs. a passive role

That criteria would be hard to match, and in fact took me several years to find and I found it quite by accident (my opinion is that it was a miracle). I left Vivendi and was involved in a software DOT COM, which became a DOT BOMB. After it's demise I started a web design and Internet marketing company. While the work was creatively satisfying, it was extremely labor intensive. It was not uncommon for me to be in front of a computer 12-15 hours a day. One day, I was introduced to a man who wanted to invest a large sum of money into orphanages in Romania. I had been working as a part time missionary in Romania since the Communist walls came down, and helping

Romanian orphans was my passion. As I spent some time with this individual I asked him, how it was that he came to have such an excess of cash to give away (albeit for an extremely worthy cause). He told me that he had found a way to sit in front of his computer every day and make \$2000 to \$20,000 a day. Wow, I was sitting in front of my computer for hours on end and not making anywhere close to his lowest number, let alone his highest. I was intrigued with his success, but what was he doing? Surely it had to be illegal! No, he was trading currencies on the Foreign Exchange (FOREX) market from his home. Not only was he successful, his business matched my 5 part criteria above exactly.

He told me that Jim Blakeman, co-author of Financial Freedom Through The FOREX, had trained him and that the training cost \$5000.

You'd think, I would have learned enough about investing my own money without an edge...but I hadn't. I reasoned, that if this was a learned skill, I could learn that skill. By that I mean that I did not have to be a financial guru, which as you have read so far I am not. Here was my thought: why not forgo the \$5000 for training, put that in the market, and surely I could learn to trade without spending the money on training, and let that 5K begin working for me by actively trading in the market.

BIG MISTAKE! After losing some hard earned money trying to learn it on my own, I finally bit the bullet and scheduled my class with Jim. As Jim says, "you need an edge". Why not learn from a guy who lost enough money for both of us in the FOREX and was able to learn from those mistakes and become a Master Trader?

After my first class, my trades hovered around the 63-66% success rate. About twice as good as I was on my own, but not good enough to make a substantial living. Since the repeat classes were free, I continued to go to class with Jim and made the decision that if you want to learn to do something well...learn to teach it. That had worked for me in my more traditional businesses and definitely worked in my ministry (I am the author of Bible Trek and teach a 5 lesson class through the entire bible in just 5 classes ... see www.bibletrek.com for more info).

Today, I have over 120 hours of classroom training to be a FOREX Mentor, have done my 50 trades in a row without a loss and have become a FOREX trainer and mentor. My trading success ratio has increased to 93%. I have been personally trained by one of the Masters of FOREX trading and enjoy imparting that knowledge to my students. Jim and I often team train and I have been given the rare privilege to find a opportunity, which allows me to make all the money I can, in a business that I love and help an enormous group of people in the process. I work for more than personal money...my current goal is to build halfway houses for the Romanian orphans who have grown up in the Romanian orphanage system. They are not taught any skills, and at the age of 16 are simply tossed out of the orphanage. You can imagine what happens to the girls who graduate from this system and the boys have only menial labor jobs to look forward to. My halfway houses would take those kids from the orphanages at 16, teach them computers and English (two extremely valuable and marketable skills in any foreign

country), teach them that God loves them, give them hope and at 21 years of age release them into Romanian society as productive young adults.

Although most of my business life was in the corporate world, I have and always will be an entrepreneur at heart. The FOREX gives me the opportunity to work my hours, when I want, from anywhere in the world. I have the opportunity to make an extremely high income, help a lot people both here (my students) and those less fortunate than me. It allows me to have HIGH IMPACT and it doesn't get better than that.