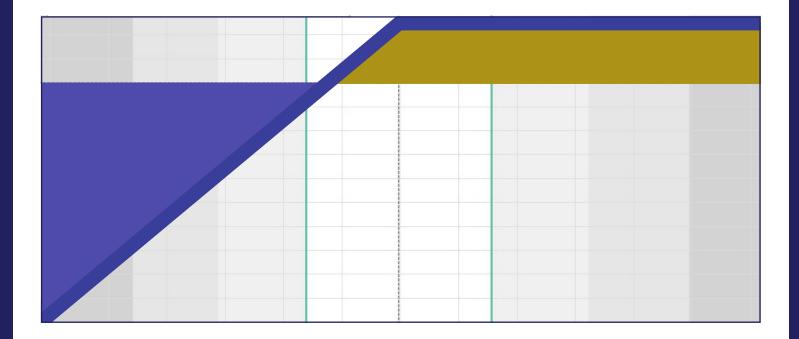
# Covered Quick Reference Guide

**5** Simple Steps for Identifying a Covered Call





## Welcome to OptionsPro

The sophisticated OptionsPro platform integrates seamlessly with the power and performance of the VectorVest system to help you quickly and easily identify optimal options trades in real-time. This brand new money-making resource will not only save you tons of time, but also deliver a significant boost to your bottom line! Can't wait to get started? This guide will show you how to combine the power of VectorVest and the unparalleled option analysis tools in OptionsPro to select and analyze the perfect covered call.

# **5** Simple Steps for Identifying a Covered Call

#### Step 1. Establish a Bullish Market Bias

Successful options trades begin (and end) with accurate timing. The first thing you need to know is whether the market's trend is bullish, bearish or neutral. For the easiest way to get the most thorough and up-to-date market analysis, click the 'Daily Color Guard Report' video on the VectorVest Home Tab. This short video (<10 minutes) is updated nightly and will give you a comprehensive view of the market's outlook, along with the types of strategies that offer the highest probability of success for the current market.

You can also check the Color Guard on the Home Tab for the following:

- A Green light in the Price column
- MTI > 1.00

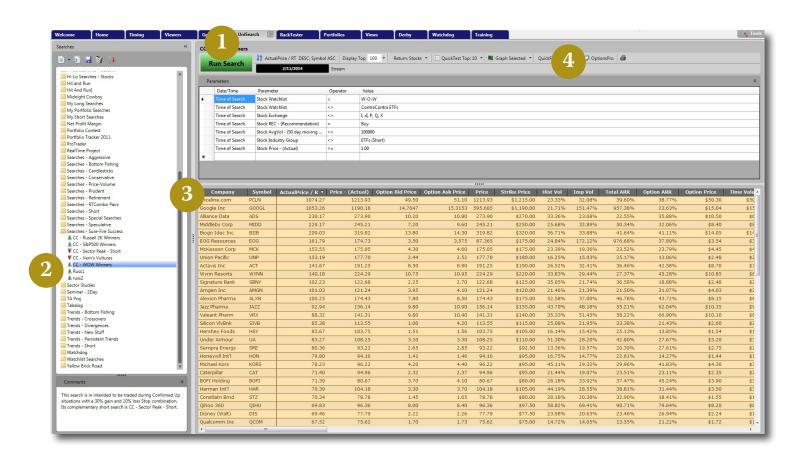


#### Step 2. Use the UniSearch tool to scan for good quality stocks to own

The second critical step in making money with options is choosing the right underlying stock for your options trade. With VectorVest's powerful searches and indicators you'll be able to quickly and easily find the best stocks for any type of options trade from aggressive to ultraconservative, whether it be a covered call or another option strategy of your choice.

If you're looking for the best of the best for your bullish options strategies, look no further than VectorVest's Stock Viewer where more than 8,000 stocks are automatically and continuously ranked for the best combinations of value, safety and timing or you can target specific investment goals using VectorVest's UniSearch tool. In our covered call example, we'll be using a VectorVest UniSearch favorite, "CC-S&P 500 Winners."

- 1. Click on 'UniSearch' tab in VectorVest 7.
- 2. From the Searches directory on the left, click on the 'Searches—Sure-Fire Success' group and double click on 'CC-S&P500 Winners' (or click on 'Run Search' button).
- 3. Select the stocks found using your mouse and the CTRL+SHIFT function on your keyboard.
- 4. Click on 'OptionPro' on the top local tool bar. *This will launch the Options Pro software and display a risk graph of the Covered call. Close or minimize the risk graph.*



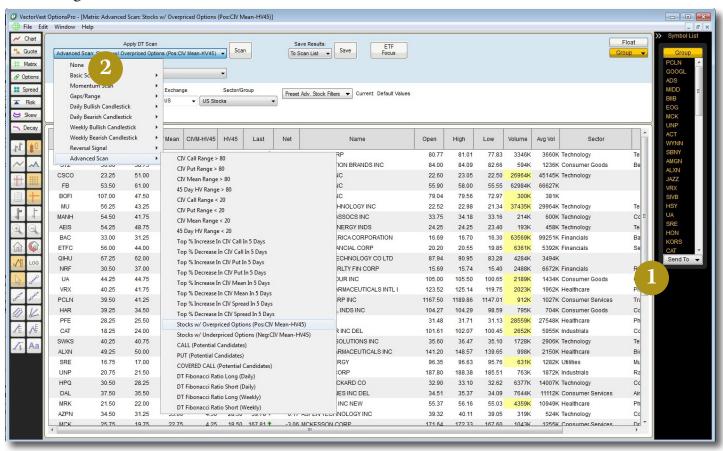
#### Step 3. Use the Options Pro software to scan for potential Covered Call candidates

OptionsPro has proprietary analysis tools, graph studies and option scans to help you quickly and easily identify prime option candidates from any of your VectorVest selections.

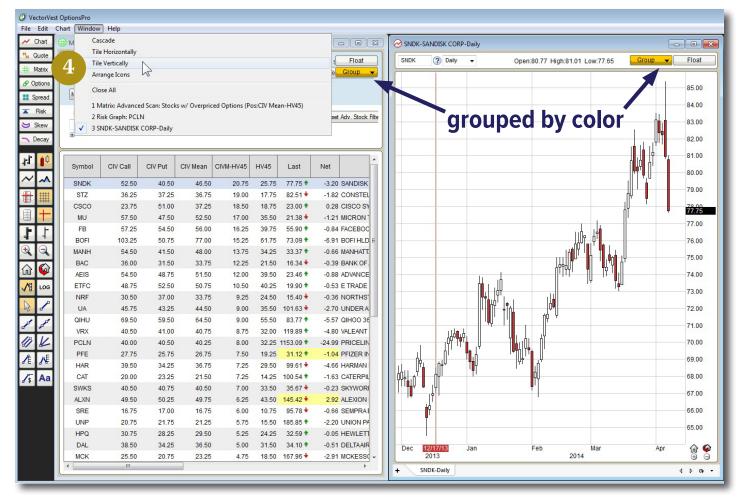
- 1. Along the right side of the OptionsPro Window you'll find the 'Symbol List' imported from VectorVest. Click on 'Send to;' select 'Matrix'.
- 2. At the upper left of the window, under 'Apply DT Scan,' click on the drop down arrow, select 'Advanced Scan' and click on 'Stocks w/Overpriced Options.

Now continue your analysis on these filtered stocks using OptionsPro's unique graph studies. OptionsPro has several of these studies that analyze the most critical factor in options pricing—volatility. These studies compare historical and implied volatility so you can easily spot overpriced options to sell and underpriced options to buy.

3. Right click on the first stock in the scan results; select 'Chart'.



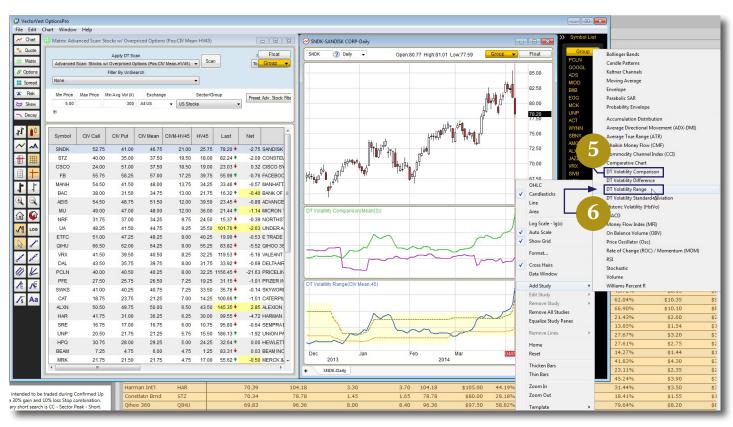
4. Click on the 'Window' menu option at the top of the OptionsPro; select 'Tile Vertically.' The Matrix window and the chart window will automatically be linked, or "grouped," by color (see graph on next page).

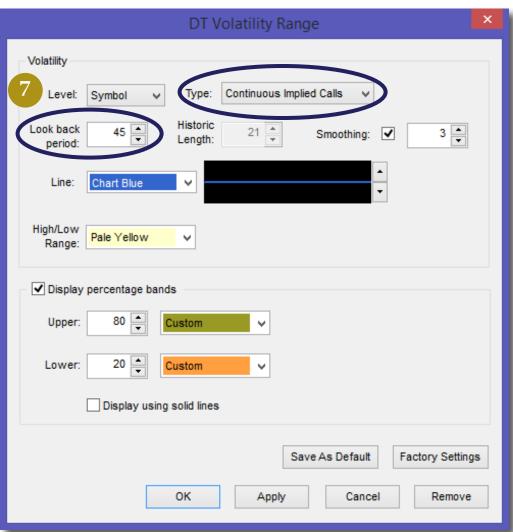


Once the windows are linked by group color, each stock that you click on in the Matrix will be loaded in the Chart window.

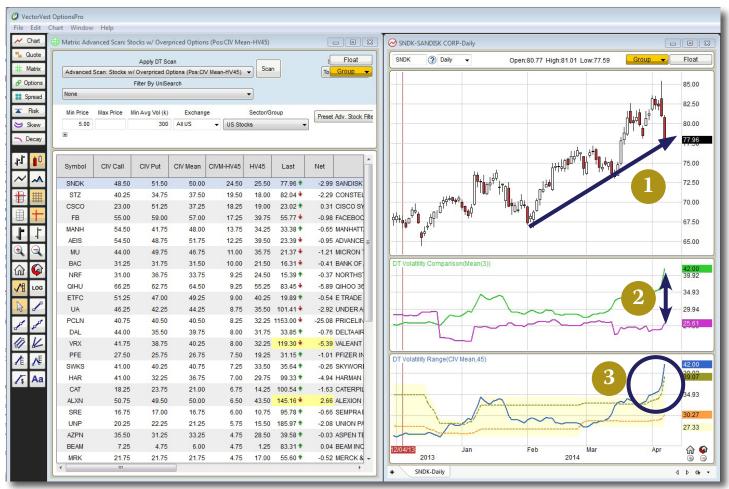
- 5. Right click on the chart and select 'Add Study;' select 'DT Volatility Comparison.' Click 'OK' to accept the default settings for this study.
- 6. Right click on the chart again and select 'Add Study' and click on 'DT Volatility Range.'
- 7. A 'DT Volatility Range' window will appear. Change the Look back period to 45 and the 'Type' to 'Continuous Implied Calls'. Click 'OK'.

(View step-by-step graphics on next page.)





- 8. Review the graphs to make your final selection. Click on each stock in the Matrix list to display the next chart.
  - Look for the following:
    - 1. Price in an uptrend.
    - 2. Large separation between the CIV (Continuous Implied Volatility) Mean and HV (Historical Volatility).
    - 3. CIV Calls (Blue Line) above the 80 percentile of the average range. (Dotted lines represent 80<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> percentile).



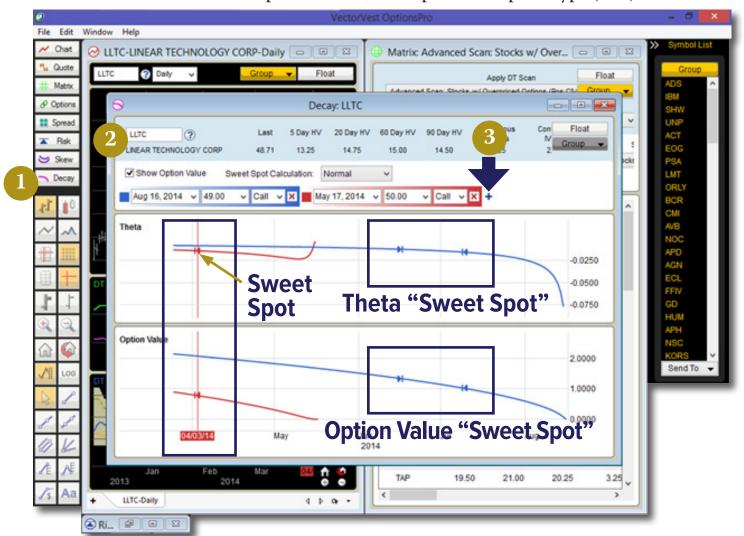
## Step 4. Use the Decay feature to identify the 'Sweet Spot' for your trade (i.e., ideal entry, expiration and strike price).

- 1. Click on 'Decay' in the menu on the left side of the OptionsPro window. *This will open a Decay window. The default symbol is IBM.*
- 2. Enter the symbol of the stock you've selected for your covered call and press the enter key on your keyboard. (Change the group color to gold if you would like to link the 'Decay' study to the list of stocks in the Matrix.)

The Theta Decay window allows you to forecast future values of Theta (Time Decay) on your selected option (Time Decay) and to see the net result of the changes in value to the option premium.

It also creates a visual "Sweet Spot" to where options contracts should be executed to take maximum advantage of pricing before a dramatic increase in Theta occurs resulting in the accelerated decline of your options value.

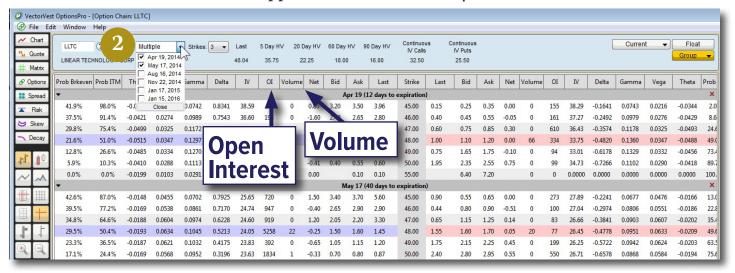
3. To add another option expiration date and strike price, click on the blue plus sign. You will now see another expiration date, strike price and option type (Call).



The LLTC May option is in the "Sweet Spot" until 04/03/14 for the \$50 Strike Price.

#### **Step 5. Check Volume and Open Interest**

- 1. Return to the Matrix window. Right click on the symbol in the Matrix and select 'Option Chain.'
- 2. To modify the expiration date click on the expiration date field, place a check in the box to the left of the desired date and then click 'Close' at the bottom of the menu. The selected dates will be applied to the chart as they are selected.



### Finishing Touches—View Your Complete Trade Using the Risk Graph

- 1. Maximize the original Risk Graph or launch another by clicking the 'Risk' button on the left side menu panel. (If launching a new risk graph, type the symbol you would like to analyze in the symbol box and change the color in the 'Group' window to gold to link this graph to your list of stocks in the Matrix.)
- 2. To choose the expiration month left click on the arrow in the drop down menu; select the desired expiration.
- 3. Strike Price can be chosen by left clicking on the arrow to the right of the drop down menu, available strikes for the month chosen are identified by black text. (Strike prices that are available for the current expiration but are available for other expiration dates appear in light grey text. Moving your mouse over the light grey strike prices will alert you to which expirations have those strikes available to trade. The nearest to the money strike will appear in bold colored text.
- 4. Click 'Apply.'
- 5. Your Credit, Max Profit, Max Risk and Breakeven will appear at the upper right.



And there you have it! Start using these OptionsPro essentials today to elevate your options trading to a whole new level, and if you have time, make sure to take advantage of our OptionsPro tutorial video at <a href="https://www.vectorvest.com/optionsprotutorial">www.vectorvest.com/optionsprotutorial</a>. Our expert staff is also here to help you with any questions you have, just give our dedicated help line a call at 1-888-658-7638.

Here's to bigger, better profits!



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