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Easy Email Plug-in

Requires VTS-Connect minimum version **4.0.0.38**

The ***Easy Email Plug-in*** allows any Expert Advisor to send emails with price-chart attachments using any email provider such Gmail, Yahoo, Hotmail, etc.

What is a Plug-in?

VTS stands for Visual Traders Studio.

The VTS Expert Advisor Builder is a Windows graphical application that enables non-programmers to build complex Expert Advisors by dragging, dropping and connecting logical elements.

The VTS application contains basic functionality to build almost any Expert Advisor.

A VTS Plug-in allows traders to easily implement advanced trading techniques using an add-on user interface.

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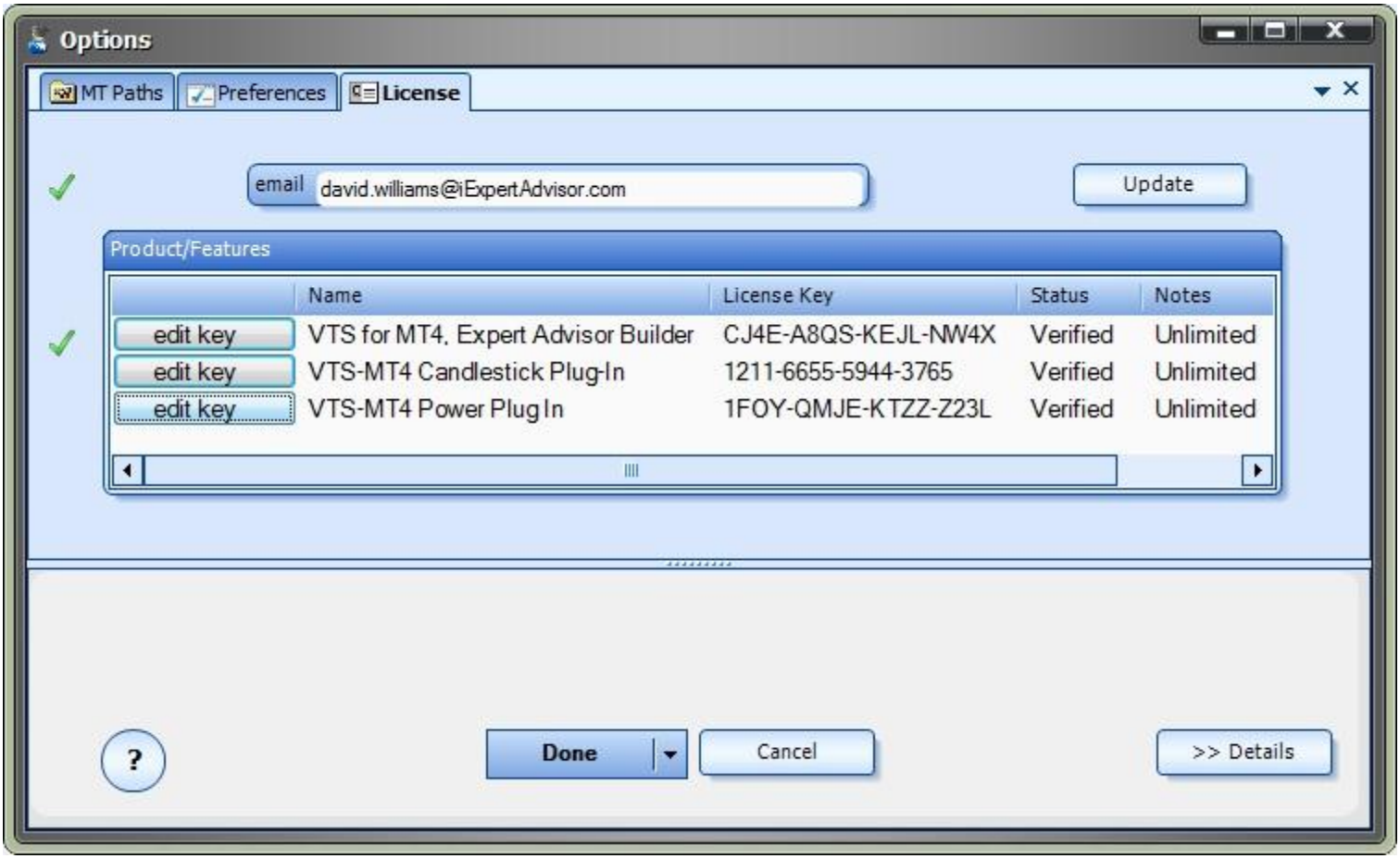
Enable the Easy Email Plug-in

You must enter your License key to enable the ***Easy Email Plug-in***. Your license key for all of your VTS products can be found in the Members Area.

License keys are entered in Visual Traders Studio (VTS) from the License entry tab.

- The **email** address is the email address used to purchase VTS.
- The **License Key** is the key that is sent to the email address.
- The **Verify** button is used to verify the email address and license key.
- The **Add** button is used to add a key.
- The **Remove** button is used to remove a key.
- Double-click a key to edit its value.



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Configure *Easy Email* Settings

The settings for configuring ***Easy Email*** are found on the **Tools->Options->EasyEmail** tab.

NOTE: If you do not see the ***EasyEmail*** tab on the **Options** window, then the license has not been verified. Please check the ***License*** tab on the **Options** window.

Setting Name	Description	Example
From Address	The email address that your email will show that it was sent from. Normally you do not need to set this value when you compose an email within an email program, but this field is required to create a valid email. The **From** address can be the same as the **To** address.	david@iExpertAdvisor.com
To Address	The email address that your email will be sent to.	david@iExpertAdvisor.com
Copy Address	Optional email address to copy your email to.	kelly@iExpertAdvisor.com
Server Name	The smtp server name of your email provider. The **Choose** button lists the values for most popular email providers, however you can type directly in the box. The smtp server name can be found by (1) asking you email provider, or (2) a simple internet search.	smtp.gmail.com
Server Port	The port of your email providers smtp service. For secure connections, the value is usually 465. The **Choose** button lists the values for most popular email providers, however you can type directly in the box. The smtp port number can be found by (1) asking you email provider, or (2) a simple internet search.	465
Email Address	This is the email address that you have with your email provider. (Note: It can also be the **To** Address that emails are sent to).	iexpertadvisor@gmail.com
Password	The password used to connect with the Email Address with your email service provider. **NOTE: This password is stored as clear text. Do not use the same password that you use for high security accounts.**	hotdog

- The ***Show as input*** check boxes next to each setting allow the values to be changed when the Expert Advisor is attached to the chart.

- The ***Lock*** check boxes allow you to lock the information once it has been set. Usually this information only needs to be setup once.

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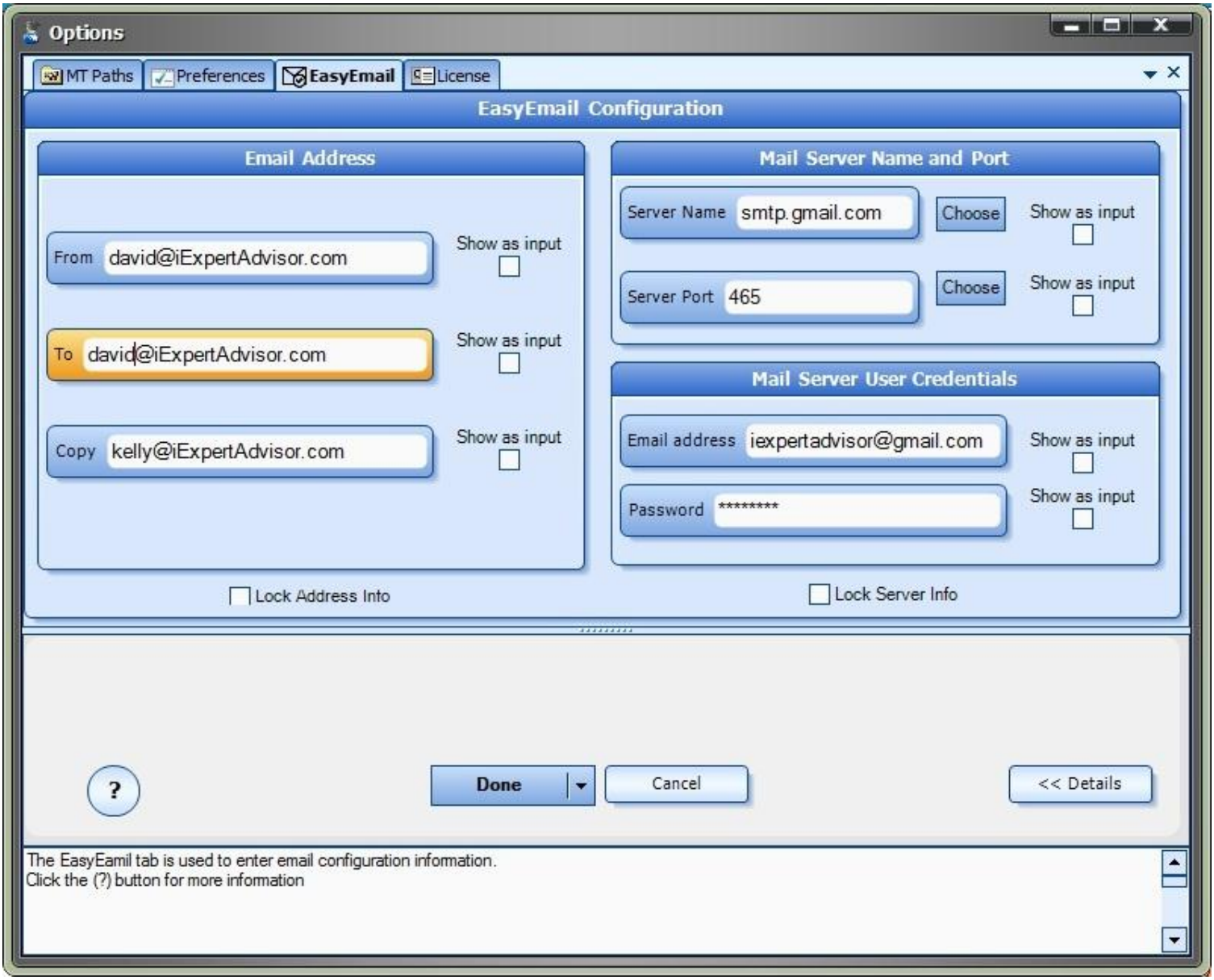
This is screenshot of the ***EasyEmail*** Configuration window.



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Using *Easy Email* from the Communication Manager

There are 3 methods available to send emails using the ***Easy Email Plug-in***. Emails can be sent using:

- The Communication Manager
- Any Element
- The Toolbox function *fnSendEzEmail*

Note: Before any emails can be successfully sent, the Easy Email Settings must be configured.

This section describes how to use the **Communication Manager** to send emails.

The **Communication Manager** is used to send messages from an Expert Advisor based on the occurrence of an event. Complete information about the **Communication Manager** can be found here.

When the ***Send Email*** check box is checked, two additional options appear:

- ***Max times to send***
- ***Attach screenshot***

Max times to send controls how many times the same email will be sent. Normally an email only needs to be sent once. For example, if an email is sent when the account balance falls below $1000, usually only one email message is required.

If there was no method to control *how many* emails were sent, the EA would continue to send emails as long as the condition was true (account below $1000). This would quickly fill an inbox with the same email message.

When ***Attach screenshot*** is checked, a current screenshot of the chart that the EA is running on will be attached to the email.

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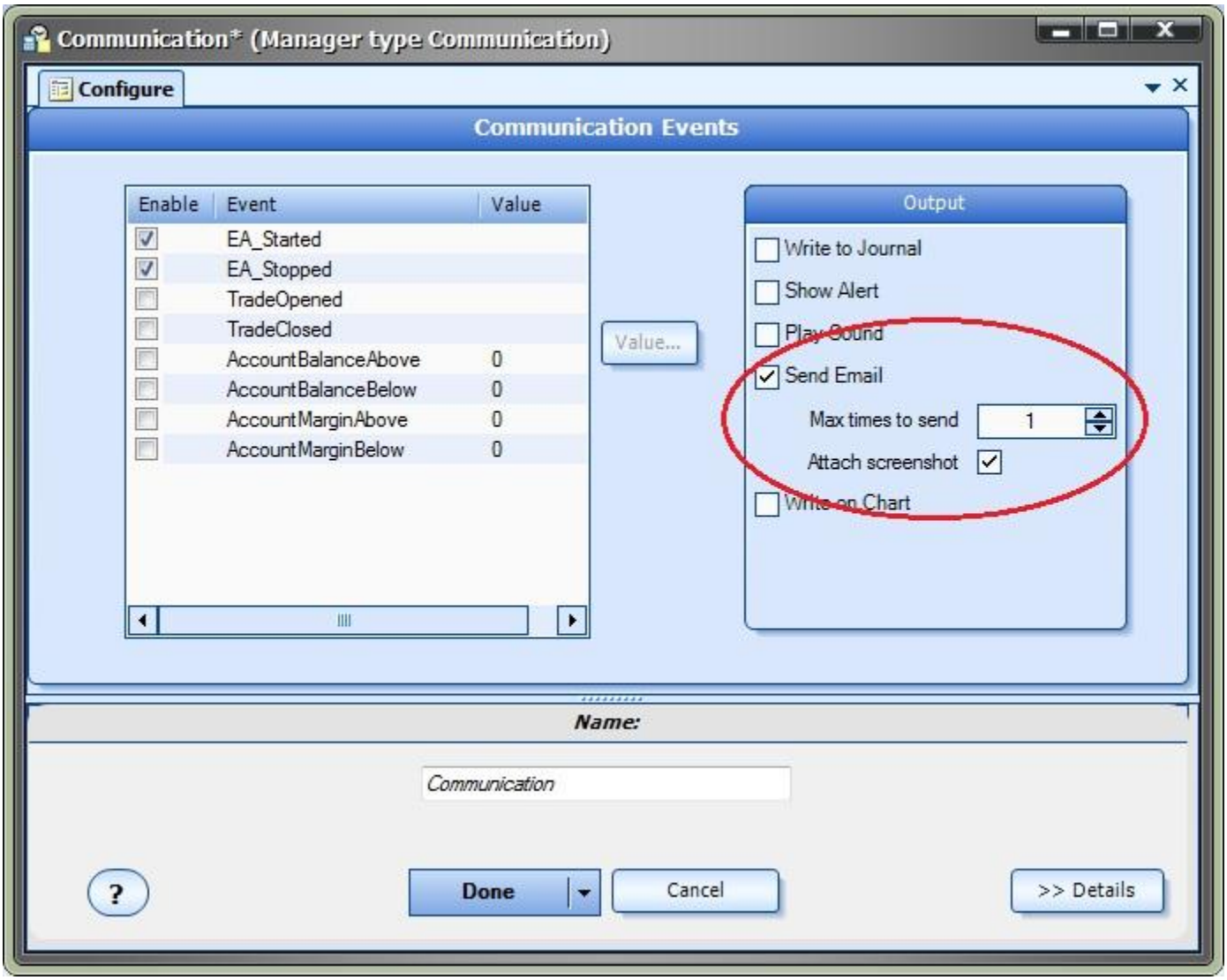

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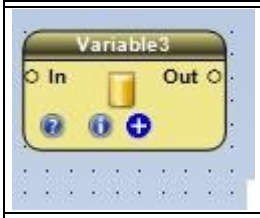
Using *Easy Email* from any Element

There are 3 methods available to send emails using the ***Easy Email Plug-in***. Emails can be sent using:

- The Communication Manager
- Any Element
- The Toolbox function *fnSendEzEmail*

Note: Before any emails can be successfully sent, the Easy Email Settings must be configured.

This section describes how to use the **Any Element** to send emails.

	Selecting the configuration (+) button of an Element will display the ***Configuration Window.*** The **Message** Tab is found in the ***Configuration window***.

The **Message** Tab of an Element allows information to be sent from a running Expert Advisor. Complete information about the **Message Tab** can be found here.

A message (in this case an email) is sent from an Element when the Expert Advisor's flow of execution follows a path that includes the Element.

When the ***Send Email*** check box is checked, two additional options appear:

- ***Max times to send***
- ***Attach screenshot***

Max times to send controls how many times the same email will be sent. Normally an email only needs to be sent once. For example, if an email is sent when a Slow moving average has crossed up through a Fast moving average, usually only one email message is required.

If there was no method to control *how many* emails were sent, the EA would continue to send emails as long as the condition was true (the moving average cross). This would quickly fill an inbox with the same email message.

When ***Attach screenshot*** is checked, a current screenshot of the chart that the EA is running on will be attached to the email.

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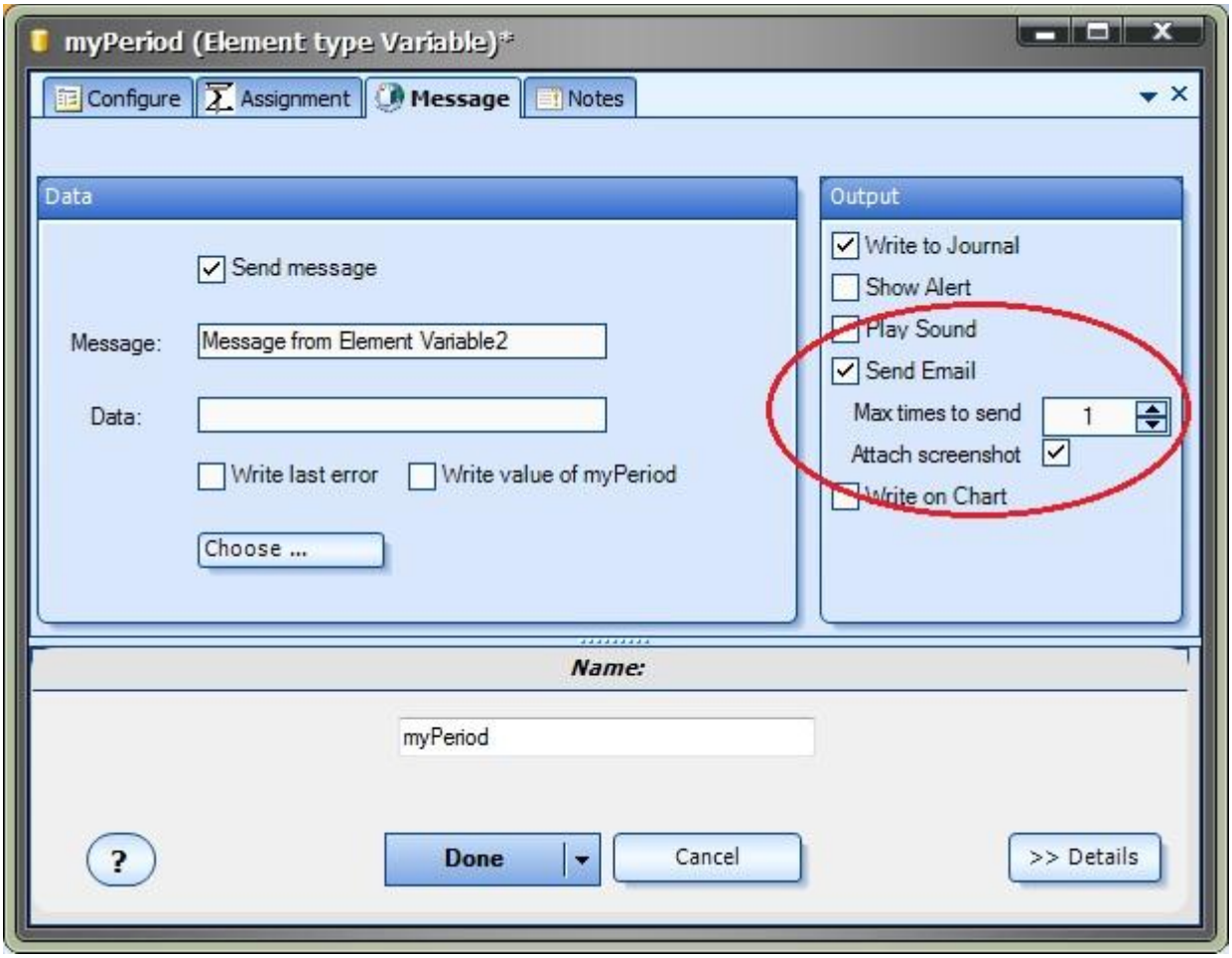

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Using *Easy Email* with the fnSendEzEmail Function

There are 3 methods available to send emails using the ***Easy Email Plug-in***. Emails can be sent using:

- The Communication Manager
- Any Element
- The Toolbox function *fnSendEzEmail*

Note: Before any emails can be successfully sent, the Easy Email Settings must be configured.

This section describes how to use the **fnSendEzEmail** function to send emails.

The ***Communication Manager*** and the ***Element Message Tab*** are the easiest ways to use the Easy Email Plug-in to send emails.

This method is provided for the rare occasions when where drag and drop function control is required. Also, this technique serves as tutorial for creating and using MQL functions.

Background

The MetaTrader platform supports sending emails using a simple built-in function named ***SendMail***.

Unfortunately, the ***SendMail*** function only works with non-secure email servers, and today almost all email providers use secure connections for sending and receiving emails.

In order to establish a secure email connection, additional code must be created to manage an SMTP connection. SMTP stands for Simple Mail Transfer Protocol and is an internet standard for sending and receiving emails.

The SMTP connection code resides in a Dynamic Link Library (DLL). (In this case, the DLL is named *ezemail.dll*)

For an Expert Advisor to use the functionality of a DLL, the DLL must be described and referenced in the MQL code, and the DLL must reside in the *libraries* folder of the MetaTrader platform.

VTS automatically copies the DLL to the *libraries* folder and adds all required MQL code to use the ***Easy Email*** functions.

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The function ***fnSendEzEmail*** is available from the Toolbox under the **Common** menu.

The ***fnSendEzEmail*** function is an MQL function.

Because ***fnSendEzEmail*** is an MQL function, the MQL source code of this function is available from the Toolbox under the **Advanced->MQL** menu.

The name of the MQL source code function has been changed to ***fnSendEzEmailMql*** to create a distinction between the two functions.

When you create an MQL function, the name of the function within the MQL code will be the name of the function on the **Advanced->MQL** menu.

The name of the MQL Element in which the MQL code was entered can be named any available name, for example *MyMql*.

The function on the **Advanced->MQL** menu holds the MQL source code and can be edited at any time.

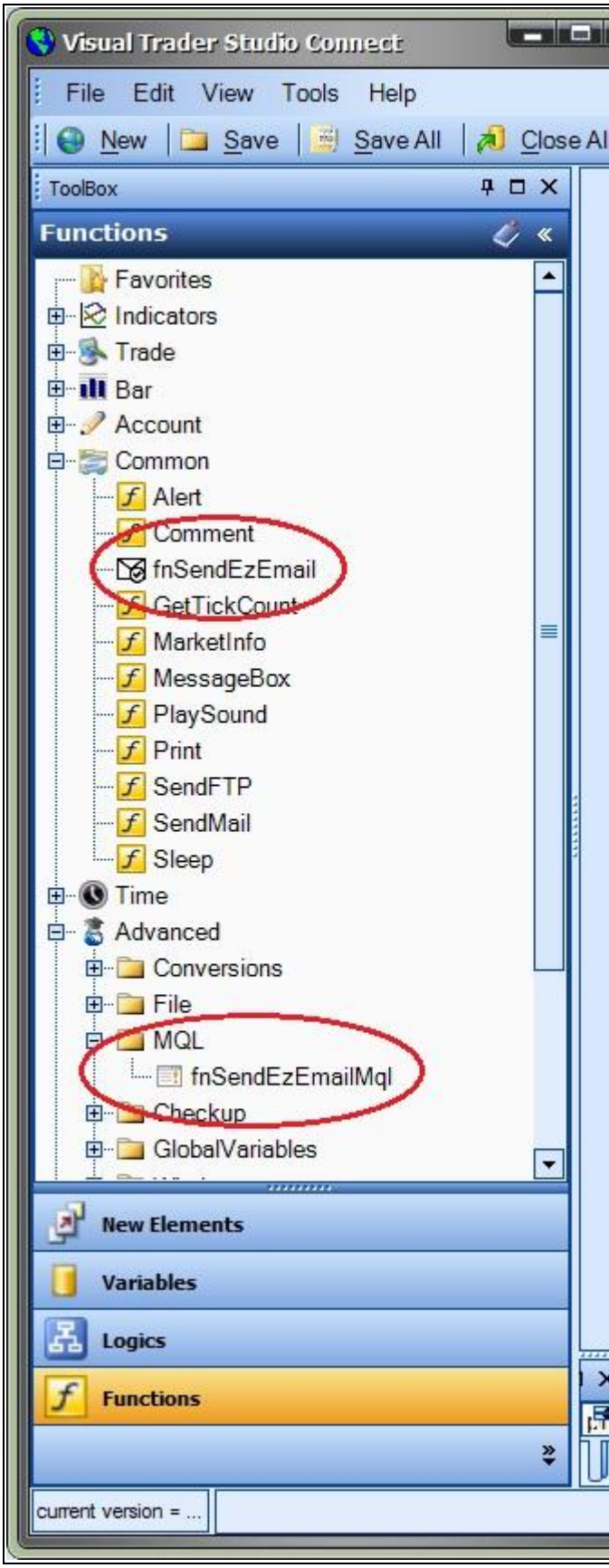
The function *MyMql* represents a call to the function on the **Advanced->MQL** menu. It does not contain the MQL code, only a call to the underlying function with the parameters set specifically.

For example, the function ***fnSendEzEmail*** can be dragged onto to the Drawing Pad, set the ***To*** parameter to a work email address and named *SendEmailToWork*.

Another copy can be dragged onto the Pad, the ***To*** parameter set to a home email address and name *SendEmailHome*.

More information about MQL function is described here.

The parameters of the ***fnSendEzEmail*** function are described below.



NOTE: There is no count available to control how many times an email is sent

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when using the ***fnSendEzEmail*** function. Care must be exercised to ensure a large number of emails are not sent.

Name	Data Type	Description
Server	string	The smtp server name of your email provider. The smtp server name can be found by (1) asking you email provider, or (2) a simple internet search.
UserName	string	This is the email address that you have with your email provider. (Note: It can also be the **To** Address that emails are sent to).
Password	string	The password used to connect with the Email Address with your email service provider. **NOTE: This password is stored as clear text. Do not use the same password that you use for high security accounts.**
Port	integer	The port of your email providers smtp service. For secure connections, the value is usually 465. The smtp port number can be found by (1) asking you email provider, or (2) a simple internet search.
From	string	The email address that your email will show that it was sent from. Normally you do not need to set this value when you compose an email within an email program, but this field is required to create a valid email. The **From** address can be the same as the **To** address.
To	string	The email address that your email will be sent to.
Copy	string	Optional email address to copy your email to.
Subject	string	The subject that will appear in the subject line of the email.
Body	string	The body of the email (the text message).
AttachFile	string	The full path of a file to be attached to the email.

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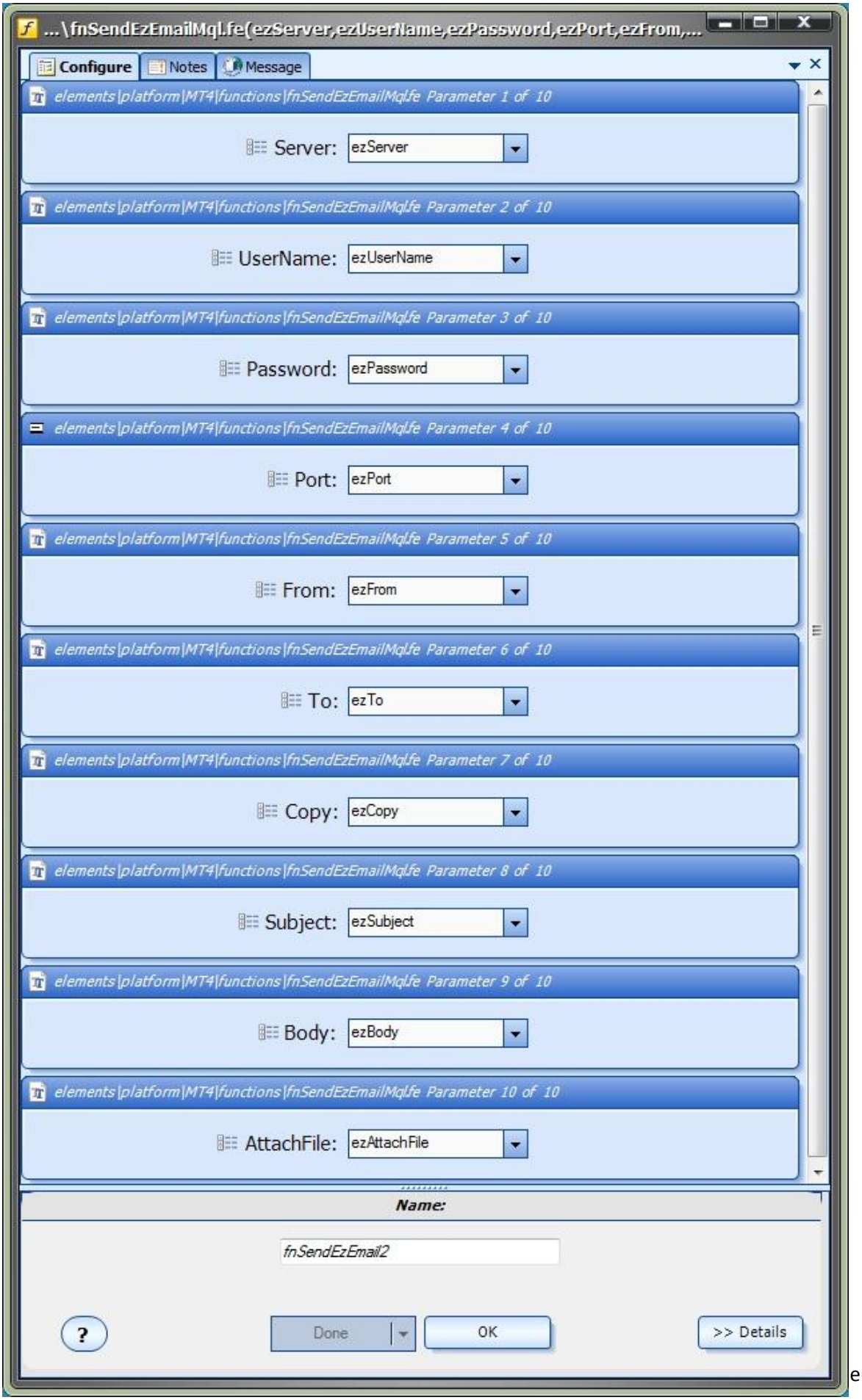

...\fnSendEzEmailMql.fe(ezServer,ezUserName,ezPassword,ezPort,ezFrom,...
Configure
Notes
Message
elements|platform|MT4|functions|fnSendEzEmailMql.fe Parameter 1 of 10
Server:
ezServer
elements|platform|MT4|functions|fnSendEzEmailMql.fe Parameter 2 of 10
UserName:
ezUserName
elements|platform|MT4|functions|fnSendEzEmailMql.fe Parameter 3 of 10
Password:
ezPassword
elements|platform|MT4|functions|fnSendEzEmailMql.fe Parameter 4 of 10
Port:
ezPort
elements|platform|MT4|functions|fnSendEzEmailMql.fe Parameter 5 of 10
From:
ezFrom
elements|platform|MT4|functions|fnSendEzEmailMql.fe Parameter 6 of 10
To:
ezTo
elements|platform|MT4|functions|fnSendEzEmailMql.fe Parameter 7 of 10
Copy:
ezCopy
elements|platform|MT4|functions|fnSendEzEmailMql.fe Parameter 8 of 10
Subject:
ezSubject
elements|platform|MT4|functions|fnSendEzEmailMql.fe Parameter 9 of 10
Body:
ezBody
elements|platform|MT4|functions|fnSendEzEmailMql.fe Parameter 10 of 10
AttachFile:
ezAttachFile
Name:
fnSendEzEmail2
?
Done
OK
>> Details

erved

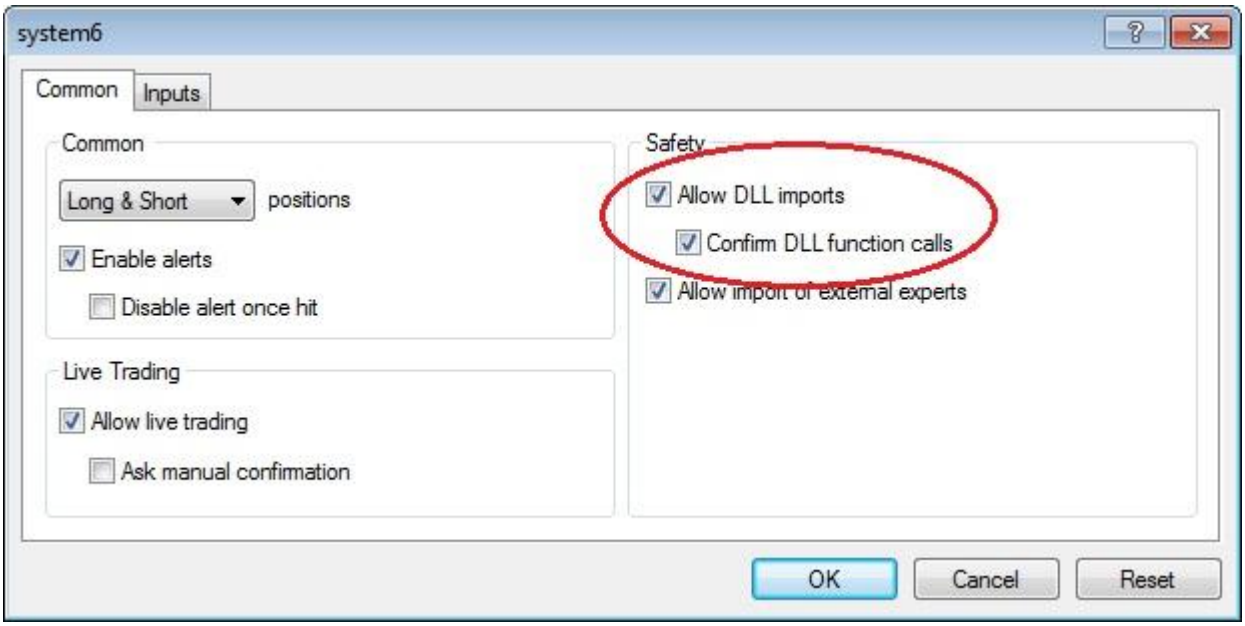
Testing the Easy Email Connection

After ***Easy Email*** has be Enabled and Configured it should be tested on a Demo account.

- From the Welcome screen, click the ***EA Builder*** button to create a new system.
- Uncheck all of the ***Add Drawing*** check boxes so that not Trading Drawings are created.
- This will create a single system drawing with a Start and an End Element.
- Use the Communication Manager method to send an email:
    - Check ***EA_Started***
    - Check ***Send Email***
        - Leave ***Max Times to send*** as 1
        - Check ***Attach screenshot***
- Click ***Done*** to save the changes and close the window.
- Click ***Build*** to build the Expert Advisor.
- Open your MetaTrader platform and attach the EA to a price chart.

When the EA is attached to a chart, in the ***Common*** tab, in the ***Safety*** section, there is a checkbox to ***Allow DLL imports*** and another to ***Confirm DLL function calls***.

- ***Allow DLL imports*** must be checked
- ***Confirm DLL function calls*** should be unchecked



If the ***Confirm DLL function calls*** is unchecked, each call to the DLL function ***ezemail*** will need to be manually permitted.

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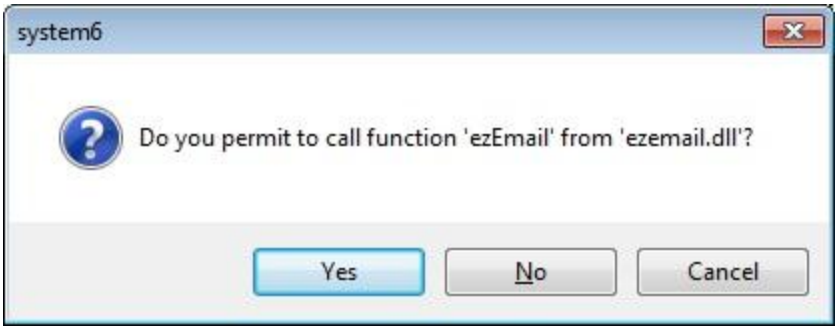
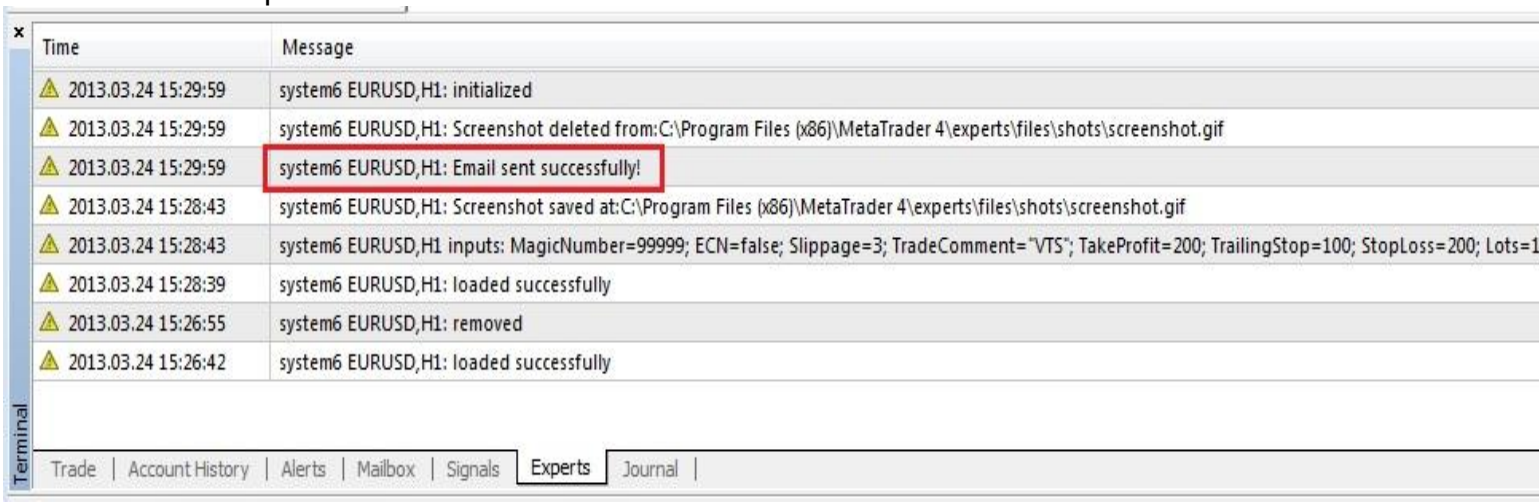


- Select the Experts Tab in the Terminal window of the platform.

Shortly after the EA has been attached to a price chart an email should be sent from the platform to the specified ***To*** address.

If the email is sent successfully, the message ***Email send successfully!*** is written to the Experts tab:



If the email is not sent successfully, the message
Email error. See log file at: experts\files\ezemail.log
is written to the Experts tab:

The full path of the ***experts\files\ezemail.log*** file is found under the MetaTrader platform installtion folder. For example:
C:\Program Files (x86)\MetaTrader 4\experts\files\ezemail.log

- The file ezemail.log is a plain text file and can be opened with any text editor including notepad.

- If the email was unsuccessfully, the file ezemail.log will contain details about the error.

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Sample Errors using Gmail

Error	Error Message
Incorrect UserName	Error with user authentication;Server says: 535-5.7.1 Username and Password not accepted. Learn more at 535 5.7.1 http://support.google.com/mail/bin/answer.py?answer=14257 dz9sm16749589vdc.4 - gsmtp
Incorrect Password	Error with user authentication;Server says: 535-5.7.1 Username and Password not accepted. Learn more at 535 5.7.1 http://support.google.com/mail/bin/answer.py?answer=14257 hi4sm13011409igc.6 - gsmtp
Incorrect Server Name (removed the .com)	Error with connecting server;current server: **smtp.gmail**;getaddrinfo failed for smtp.gmail 465, error: 0x00002af9
Incorrect Port	Error with connecting server;current server: smtp.gmail.com;connect failed, error: 0x0000274c

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