

BLP Refresh Tool

Description

Managing data updates in your spreadsheets is now more efficient with the release of the “BLP Refresh Tool”. The BLP Refresh allows you to define a cell, ranges of cells, worksheets and workbooks to refresh static, real-time and historical data to update exactly the values that need updating rather than being forced to update entire workbooks.

In the past, Bloomberg offered the “Lightening Bolt” which essentially enabled/disabled real-time links as well as refreshed all static links in all open workbooks. This was the only means for refreshing data values short of closing and reopening the workbook. Also, that mechanism did not affect BLPH, BLPB and BLPI formulas – the only way to refresh these was to restart Excel itself since reopening of the book would not have any affect. The problem is exasperated with large spreadsheets that don’t need to have all data updated, i.e. historical data or even much of the descriptive information. It is only necessary to update data values that may have changed and aren’t offered by Bloomberg in a streaming fashion. By providing a customizable data refresh mechanism, data updates can be managed by selecting and updating specific values. This reduces unnecessary system overhead by eliminating unnecessary roundtrip data requests.

Requirements

This “BLP Refresh Tool” is packaged in the April 2006 DDE software and will only work in the following conditions:

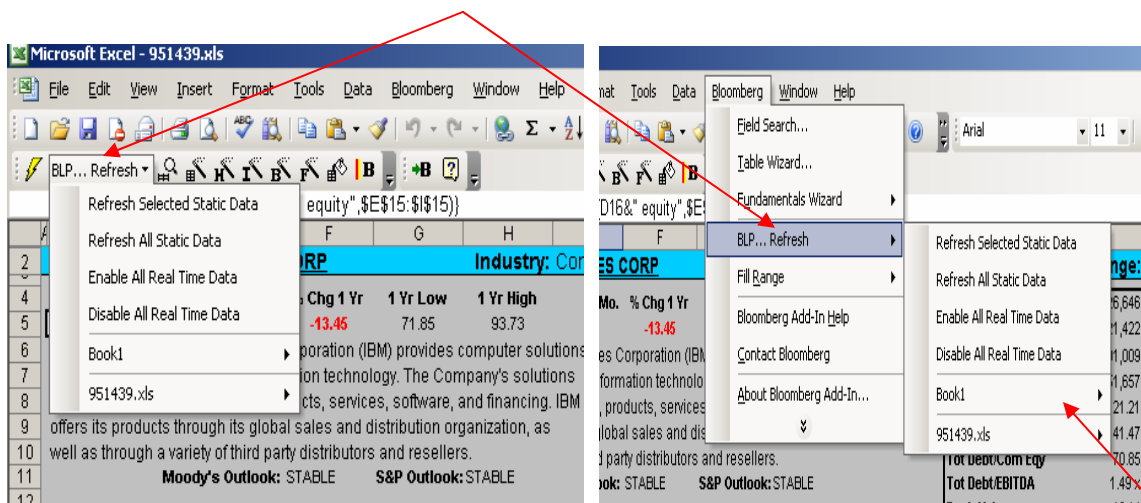
- April 2006 DDE software or later
 - Installation of the Tool will require PC administrator rights to register a Microsoft Excel component. Future versions of the Tool will NOT require administrator rights. This document will be updated when a version not requiring administrator rights is released.
- Office XP or higher
- “Use DDE only” in Bloomberg Add-in is OFF
- Using BLP() style functions
 - Will NOT work with native DDE link types or native RTD link types
 - The Lightening Bolt is the only tool that will refresh all BLP, and native DDE and RTD links with the exception of BLPH(), BLPI() and BLPB().

Notes

- Limited refresh only works after a workbook has been opened. It currently cannot control which data gets updated upon “workbook open” – all non-DDE based data gets updated automatically.
- Real-time data refresh will update **ALL** real-time data for a given *security* regardless of the field selected. If the security is in multiple open workbooks, the security will be updated in all workbooks even if selecting just the current workbook. This is inherent behavior for real-time data as real-time subscriptions are security based.
- For history, intraday and bulk formulas, you must highlight the anchor cell that contains the formula in order to refresh the data set.

Instructions

You will find the BLP Refresh Tool on the Bloomberg API Excel Add-in toolbar as well as in the Bloomberg menu dropdown.



The first line in the menu “Refresh Selected Static Data” will allow you to highlight a cell or range of cells and refresh just those values. (This does not apply to real-time data, just non-realtime).

The next 3 items on the menu; “Refresh All Static Data, Enable All Real Time Data and Disable All Real time Data” control updates for **ALL** open workbooks.

You will notice that you can drill down to a particular workbook you have open. In the above example there are 2 workbooks open; Book 1 and 951439.xls. If you select one of the open workbooks, you will find a similar menu of options with further drill down capabilities to isolate a particular sheet in a workbook.

At any point in time, you can always highlight a cell or range of cells and select the “Refresh Selected Static Data” option from any of these menus to update a specified range.