



The Open Weather Derivative Pricing and Risk Management System

Frequently Asked Questions

What is SWS?

SWS is a software package produced and supported by Speedwell Weather Limited. SWS supports weather derivative pricing, portfolio management and provides full support for the back office process. SWS is an open system which runs on a Windows 32 or 64 bit platform. SWS is available as internally-installed application or it can be hosted by us and delivered over the web. SWS has evolved continuously since its first release in 2002. SWS supports the weatherXchange[®] RFP file format. This format simplifies communication amongst market participants.

Who are Speedwell Weather?

Speedwell Weather was founded in 1999 and provides weather data, probabilistic weather forecasts and weather risk pricing software. Speedwell has offices in the UK and USA. Our regulated subsidiary, weatherXchange Limited provides a platform to help companies access index-based weather risk protection.

What does SWS consist of?

SWS is a client-server application using .NET technology. Installation is simple and can be automated to clients' desktops for easy distribution. SWS requires a database which can be a local installation or a server installation for a multi-user application. Please see the separate sheet "SWS Technical Requirements".

Are there any other components?

Yes. The SWS Data Manager is a separate application that automatically controls the update of station-based weather data, gridded data and forecasts into the SWS database. It also provides direct access to the SWS database, subject to permissioning. There are also windows services that automate the end of day process. The SWS Audit viewer tool allows support team to track any events and comply with auditing requirements.

What is the required hardware specification?

Please see the separate sheet "SWS Technical Requirements".

What about weather data and forecasts?

While Speedwell would be pleased to also provide weather data, data feeds, gridded data and forecasts, we recognise that there are other suppliers. SWS integrates directly with internal and third party suppliers of data and forecasts. It is also easy to integrate any proprietary internal data feeds or forecasts. This data simply needs to be provided in the documented SWS format on an FTP site. SWS supports multi-member ensemble forecasts.

What impact will SWS make on my desktop pcs and servers?

In normal use, SWS client installations will make very limited use of system resources. These will be drawn upon briefly on an ad-hoc basis for periodic structure valuation. SWS also offers sophisticated and computationally intensive P&L and VaR simulation calculations. These may need to be run on a dedicated machine or on an over-night batch basis.

How is SWS supported?

Full support and entitlement to future upgrades is included in the annual charge.

How often are new versions of SWS released?

Approximately every 6 months.

Frequently Asked Questions

Is the client obliged to accept the latest version of SWS?

No, but versions older than one year will not normally be supported.

Who Uses SWS?

SWS is used by insurance companies, energy companies, banks and funds in Europe, Asia and the USA.

How easy is it to integrate with other systems?

SWS is an open system. Other systems can easily access the functionality and data behind SWS. All tabular data can be exported into .csv files or into MS Excel.

What about security?

All the users and permissions are controlled by a central super-user. Historical data changes and ticket changes are traceable through an audit trail. Any access to the database from outside of SWS is secured by a password.

What licencing formats are available?

SWS is available for a single user or multiple users. There is no constraint on functionality, portfolio size or limits to the numbers of calculations.

How is SWS implemented?

Speedwell are pleased to work with clients to integrate SWS into existing back office or middle office systems. We are able to offer an on-site presence to install and train users in the initial stages of deployment. Full support is provided.

Further Information

Regarding software and consultancy services please see www.SpeedwellWeather.com or contact:

Mick Palmer mick.palmer@SpeedwellWeather.com
Dr Michael Moreno michael.moreno@SpeedwellWeather.com

Regarding world-wide weather data and forecasts please see www.SpeedwellWeather.com or contact:

Phil Hayes phil.hayes@SpeedwellWeather.com
David Whitehead (USA) david.whitehead@SpeedwellWeather.com

SWS is used by banks, funds, insurance and energy companies worldwide. If you think SWS could help your business we would be happy to offer you a demonstration of the product's capabilities.

Microsoft Windows SQL Server, Office, Excel, Word and PowerPoint are trademarks of the Microsoft Corporation.

Speedwell Weather
Speedwell Weather System

