



# Woodseer Dividend Forecasting

-

FTP Documentation Version 2.0

December 2018

---

Woodseer is the product of a partnership between Investment  
Tools Limited (ITL) and Exchange Data International (EDI)

[www.woodseer.global](http://www.woodseer.global)

-

[help@woodseer.global](mailto:help@woodseer.global)

## Background

Woodseer is a web-based tool which predicts forward dividends (estimates of dividend payments in the future).

Specific estimates are made for dividend dates and amounts for numerous securities globally, at least two years into the future.

The data set is updated every day with new declarations and ongoing analyst input to refine the predictions.

Woodseer coverage is constantly expanding, full details are available on the Woodseer website: <https://www.woodseer.global>.

Historical data back to January 1st 2012 is included and made available with the data including all Special, Interest and Capital Gains disbursements.

However due to their nature unpredictable nature, future projections for Special, Interest and Capital Gains disbursements are not included.

The data is available through 3 different mechanisms:

1. A RESTful API
2. A flat-file extract
3. A web-based UI

This document pertains specifically to the flat-file extract.

## Data Definitions and Structure

A publicly-listed company can have multiple securities e.g. Class A and Class B shares, ADR, Cedar, etc.

Each security can be listed on one or more exchange, each potentially with different ticker and ISIN codes. Woodseer covers only the primary listing, so each security appears on only one exchange.

In the simplest case, a public company will list on one exchange, so they will have one security (e.g. "Ordinary Shares") with one listing (e.g. on the London Stock Exchange).

Companies may have multiple securities, representing different classes of shares. A security has a name and type.

Each security will have one listing, representing the security listed on its primary exchange. Each listing has a ticker code and ISIN code. Woodseer provides data only for primary listings.

Each security has zero or more dividends, usually with an announced amount and currency. Each dividend has one or more disbursements, which represent how shareholders may receive that dividend.

A disbursement may represent a cash payment in a particular currency, a stock (Scrip) dividend or a return of capital.

For instance, *Royal Dutch Shell* is a company incorporated in the United Kingdom.

It has Ordinary Class A and Class B shares, each traded on more than 10 exchanges globally, primarily on the London Stock Exchange.

The *Royal Dutch Shell* 'A' share had a dividend go ex on 10th August 2017 with an option to receive payment in Euros or Pounds, as well as 1 share for every 59 shares held through the Scrip programme.

In rare cases the dividend is declared in currency and is paid in a different currency. For example *Rio Tinto Ordinary Shares* the dividend is declared in USD but only paid in AUD and GBP.

Woodseer differentiates these amounts by showing the dividend amount and currency in USD with 2 disbursements of that dividend in AUD and GBP.

## FTP/SFTP Access

For clients who are unable to connect to our API, we provide a flat-file extract which is uploaded to an FTP/SFTP server on an hourly or daily basis.

Your account will be configured with access to one or more index or exchange, a portfolio of securities or with full global access.

The files contain a fully denormalized structure including company, security, listing, dividend and disbursement fields.

The first file uploaded will always contain all data and subsequent files will contain diffs from the previous file.

The file is in comma separated value (CSV) format by default, and may optionally be supplied in JSON, TSV, XML or Excel format.

The file name convention will follow the pattern:

`<name>_<entity type>_<timestamp>.<format>`

Where *name* is the lowercase, hyphen-spaced name of the **exchange**, **index** or **portfolio** of stocks this extract is exported from. For example *new-york-stock-exchange* or *bats-uk-100*.

*Entity type* indicates the data the file contains, one of *company*, *security*, *dividend*, *disbursement* or *date-rules*.

*Timestamp* is the date and hour the file was generated. For example if the file contains hourly changes from 1pm to 2pm UTC on January 16th 2018, the timestamp will be *2018011614*.

Format denotes the contents of the file and will be one of *csv*, *tsv*, *json*, *xml* or *xlsx*.

So a complete example of a file name is *russell-3000\_securities\_2018011613.csv*.

If there are no changes since the previous time period, no file is uploaded so a check should be performed for the existence of the file prior to attempting to download.

Earlier files are moved to the history folder on the server once the latest has been uploaded. History is maintained for up to one week.

## Authentication

A password or in the case of SFTP an SSH public key is required to authenticate with our server.

As part of your initial account set up you are provided an account to log into the Woodseer website <https://www.woodseer.global>.

Please supply your public key file to [help@woodseer.global](mailto:help@woodseer.global) to be used in place of a password if using SFTP.

You can check your account's access, as well as view your FTP/SFTP account details through this site.

## Technical Notes

1. All dates are expressed in ISO8601 extended format (i.e. YYYY-MM-DD).
2. The format for updates since a given timestamp are expressed in ISO8601 combined date and time format, e.g.: 2007-04-05T14:30Z (the date and time joined by the letter 'T'). The time should finish "Z" representing UTC.
3. All countries are returned as 2 character ISO 3166-1 (2 alpha) code: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ISO\\_3166-1\\_alpha-2](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ISO_3166-1_alpha-2)
4. The dividend currency is the 3 character ISO 4217 code. More details and the full list are here: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ISO\\_4217](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ISO_4217).
5. The currency can change between dividend payments.

## File Fields

The following table assumes the file is extracted to a plain text format (e.g. CSV). Some fields will be blank where the data is not relevant, e.g. Stock dividends won't have a disbursement amount or currency.

### Companies File

Field Name	Definition	Type	Example
ID	Woodseer company identifier	Integer	309992
Name	Security issuer name	String	Apple Inc

### Securities File

Field Name	Definition	Type	Example
ID	Woodseer security identifier	Integer	99221
Company ID	Woodseer company identifier	Integer	309992
Name	Security name	String	Ordinary Shares
Type	Security type code	String	EQS
ISIN	International Securities Identification Number	String	US0378331005
Exchange	Primary listing Market Identifier Code (MIC)	String	XNAS
Ticker	Primary listing EPIC or code identifying the security on the exchange	String	AAPL

## Dividends File

Field Name	Definition	Type	Example
ID	Woodseer dividend identifier	Integer	8905792
Security ID	Woodseer security identifier (references Securities File)	Integer	99221
Fiscal Year	Fiscal year of the dividend	Integer	2018
Frequency	Frequency of the dividend (see table below)	String	QTR
Flag	Flag of the dividend (see table below)	String	I
Date Entered <sup>1</sup>	Timestamp when dividend was entered or generated in our system	Timestamp	2018-02-01T16:27:33Z
Declaration Date	Date this dividend was declared (announced)	Date	2018-02-01
Ex-Div Date	Date this share must be purchased before to receive this dividend	Date	2018-02-09
Record Date	Cutoff date of the shareholders of record entitled to this dividend	Date	2018-02-12
Pay Date	Date this dividend is paid to shareholders	Date	2018-02-15
Period End Date	End date of the financial period this dividend applies to	Date	2017-12-27
Year End Date	End date of the fiscal year this dividend applies to	Date	2018-09-27
Status	Dividend status - see table below	String	DEC
Amount	Forecast or declared amount of this dividend	Numeric	0.63
Adjusted Amount	Historically adjusted amount to compare with current/future amounts over time, factoring in changes to shares in issue.	Numeric	1.26
Currency	Forecast or declared currency code	String	USD
Last Change	Timestamp of last change to this dividend	Timestamp	2018-02-01T16:27:33Z

<sup>1</sup> Dividends may be generated multiple times as forecasts are amended, so this date merely shows the entry date of this dividend record

## Disbursements File

ID	Woodseer disbursement identifier	Integer	488201
Dividend ID	Woodseer dividend identifier (references Dividends File)	Integer	8905792
Type	Disbursement type - see table below	String	C
Amount <sup>2</sup>	Forecast or paid amount to shareholders (see notes above)	Numeric	0.45
Currency	Forecast or paid currency code	String	GBX
Shares Held <sup>3</sup>	Number of shares held per shares received	Numeric	50
Shares Received	Number of shares received per share held	Numeric	1
FX Date	Date the currency conversion did/will take place where the declaration and disbursement currencies differ	Date	2018-02-14
Non-taxed Amount	Payment amount which is PID (UK), imputation credit (NZ), franked amount (AU), etc.	Numeric	0.3

## Date Rules File

Security ID	Woodseer security identifier (references Securities File)	Integer	99221
Dividend	The dividends this rule applies to	String	QTR 4
Date Field	The dividend date field this rule applies to	String	XDD
Rule	The text description of the rule	String	The 3rd business day of July
PCL	Programmatic Confidence Level - percentage confidence in the accuracy of this rule	Integer	86

<sup>2</sup> Dividends may be declared in one currency and paid in another (or multiple) different currencies

<sup>3</sup> Stock/scrip dividends are often declared as, for example receiving 1 share per 50 held. These are sometimes not whole numbers, so e.g. 1 share per 40.93243

## Dividend Status Definitions

The dividend status may be one of:

Code	Meaning	Definition
EST	Estimate	The dividend dates and amount are estimated and not yet certain
DEC	Declared	The dividend has been officially announced but not yet paid
PAY	Paid	The dividend has been paid and has past
CAN	Cancelled	The dividend has been cancelled by the issuer after being declared
DEL	Deleted	The dividend has been removed from the system because it was entered erroneously

## Dividend Frequency Definitions

The dividend frequency indicates how many dividends were/are expected in the fiscal year:

Code	Meaning	Definition
WEK	Weekly	52 times per year
MTH	Monthly	12 times per year
BIM	Bimonthly	6 times per year (once every 2 months)
QTR	Quarterly	4 times per year (once every 3 months)
TNL	Triannually	3 times per year (once every 4 months)
BNL	Biannually	Twice per year (once every 6 months)
ANL	Annually	Once per year
IRG	Irregularly	No pattern. All Special dividends are by definition <b>IRG</b>
HIS	Historical	Used for recording pre-2010 dividend information. An aggregate of the annual total
UKN	Unknown	The pattern is not known

## Dividend Flag Definitions

The flag can be one of the following:

Code	Meaning	Definition
<b>F</b>	Final	The final (regular) dividend payment of the year (note: occasionally a special dividend comes after a final)
<b>I</b>	Interim	A regular dividend which is not a final
<b>S</b>	Special	An irregular dividend outside the usual payment pattern
<b>N</b>	Interest	An interest payment made by some securities.
<b>G</b>	Capital Gain	Gains derived from the sale of securities within a mutual fund or ETF.
<b>R</b>	Return of Capital	A return of capital is similar to a special dividend with the important exception of not being taxed as income. Returns of capital are not made from profits generated by the business which is the case for ordinary and special dividends.
<b>U</b>	Supplementary	An additional payment split out from the main dividend

## Disbursement Type Definitions

The flag can be one of the following:

Code	Meaning	Definition
<b>C</b>	Cash	The dividend payment is in cash. There will be a currency associated.
<b>S</b>	Stock/Scrip	The dividend is a stock allocation. There will be a number of shares received for a number of shares held.
<b>B</b>	Both Cash & Stock	A combination of cash and stock, there will be a currency for the cash portion and shares held + share received for the stock allocation portion.
<b>R</b>	Capital Repayment	A return of capital (paid out of capital rather than earnings)
<b>P</b>	PID Amount	A cash payment subject to Property Income Distribution tax.
<b>N</b>	Non-PID Amount	A cash payment not subject to Property Income Distribution tax.
<b>L</b>	Nil Dividend	A zero-amount dividend to maintain a pattern
<b>O</b>	Other	Another disbursement type not covered.