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If You Want To Be a Wolf, Run With Wolves An interview with a maverick trader and "a true Elliott wave expert."

By Vadim Pokhlebkin Tue: 18 Aug 2009 13:30:00 ET

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Elliott Wave International is proud to present an interview with Roberto Hernandez, a maverick trader and "a true Elliott wave expert," as his mentor, Dick Diamond, calls him. Roberto graciously agreed to describe for Elliott Wave International's readers some of his favorite trading techniques; he spoke with us on the phone from his office in Mexico City.

(NOTE: As many of you already know, on September 13-16, Dick Diamond and Roberto Hernandez are teaching an intensive 4-day trading course in Vero Beach, Fla. Please note that the course does not focus on Elliott wave analysis. Diamond teaches his own methodology, which is extremely technical, but not Elliott-wave based.)

Q: Roberto, your mentor, Dick Diamond, speaks very highly of your trading skills. Coming from someone like him, a 40-year market veteran, it says a lot. Can you tell us why you find it so helpful?

A: I first heard about the Elliott wave approach back in 2000. I was working at the corporate finance office of Pemex, an oil company, and one of my colleagues who followed crude oil futures told me about it. I was curious, but nothing more: I was a hundred percent "fundamentals" guy back then. I read company statements, balance sheets, spreadsheets, recommendations from investment banks, all that. In 2001, I tried to invest in tech stocks... which was the absolute worst time to do that, as you know. I lost a lot of money.

At that point, I said to myself it's time to try technical analysis. The first thing I read was John Murphy's famous book, "Technical Analysis of the Financial Markets." It had a section on Elliott wave analysis -- that was my second introduction to the method. Then someone told me that there is this company called Elliott Wave International and gave me your website. So I started reading every free resource I could find there, and later got most of your books and took several of your online trading courses. My first Elliott teachers were Tom Denham, who is now your European stocks analyst, and Wayne Stough. Then I bought more of your books and took more advanced seminars.

Q: Did it help?

A: Well, after a while. I basically became an expert on the *theory* of Elliott wave. I could spot a wave pattern on a chart in a second, but it was all theoretical knowledge. At that point, I tried to invest money again, now according to my understanding of the Wave Principle. I lost again.

In fact, I was losing so badly that I was getting kind of desperate. I kept looking at charts of the DJIA futures — 1-minute charts, my favorite timeframe — and I was amazed at how well they followed the Elliott wave pattern. Yet here I was, able to see clearly the wave patterns in the markets, and still losing money trading.

That's when I saw that EWI was advertising Dick Diamond's seminar. It must have been about seven years ago. I knew Dick was a good trader with a 40-year experience and a good friend of Robert Prechter, so I decided to take the course. To my surprise, it had nothing on the Wave Principle. Instead, it was heavy on the use of oscillators. And at that seminar, I had an epiphany: I realized that, paradoxically, being a good analyst and a good trader are two different things. With Dick's course, I closed the gap between the two.

If it weren't for my knowledge of the Wave Principle, I would have never gotten involved with Dick's organization. He liked me because of the Elliott wave forecasts I kept making at that seminar five years ago. Dick, a 40-year trader, was amazed at how accurately I was able to predict the DJIA's intraday movements on a 5-minute live chart. So, we started talking, and soon I became a day trader. That's when my life changed.

Learn how to close the gap between theory and practice at Dick Diamond's September 13-16 intensive real-time trading course. Learn more about this course.



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