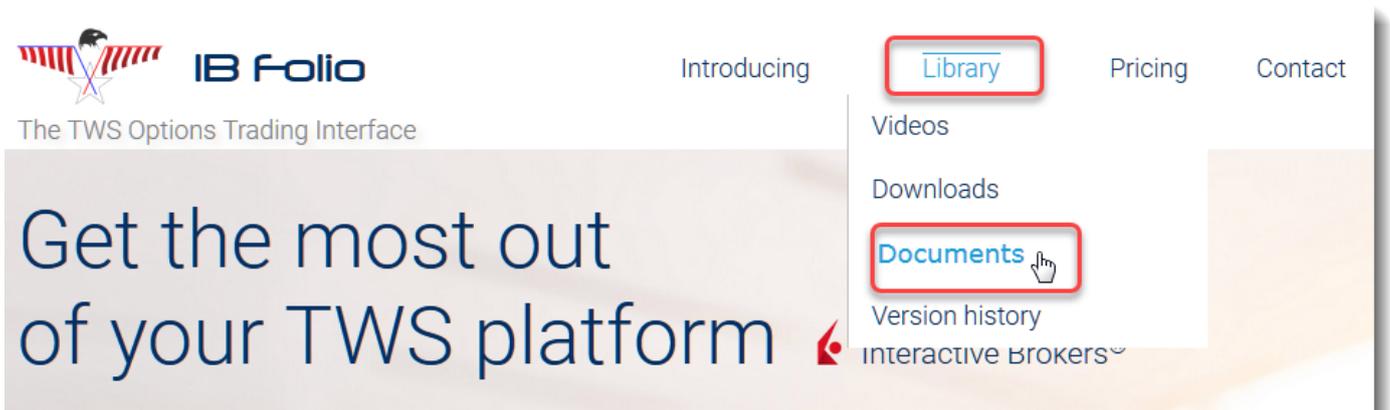# IB FOLIO
QUICK SETUP GUIDE

Document Version 03

This guide can be downloaded (in PDF format) here,
Or from the www.ibfolio.com website, menu LIBRARY, DOCUMENTS.

Direct link :

https://www.ibfolio.com/pdf/IBFolio_Setup_EN.pdf

IBFOLIO

QUICK SETUP

BEFORE INSTALLING IN FOLIO...

1   Setting up the TWS platform (Interactive Brokers)

IB Folio interfaces with TWS platform from Interactive Brokers.

You need to :

1.   Setup and configure the TWS platform
2.   Setup IB Folio

Then using IB Folio means :

1.   Launching TWS
2.   Launching IB Folio

1.1   Setting up and configuring the TWS platform

1.1.1   TWS setup

IB Folio works with the TWS platform, not with Webtrader. If you haven't already, you need to install it by going there (select the **OFFLINE TWS LATEST** version) :

https://www.interactivebrokers.com/en/index.php?f=14099#tws-software
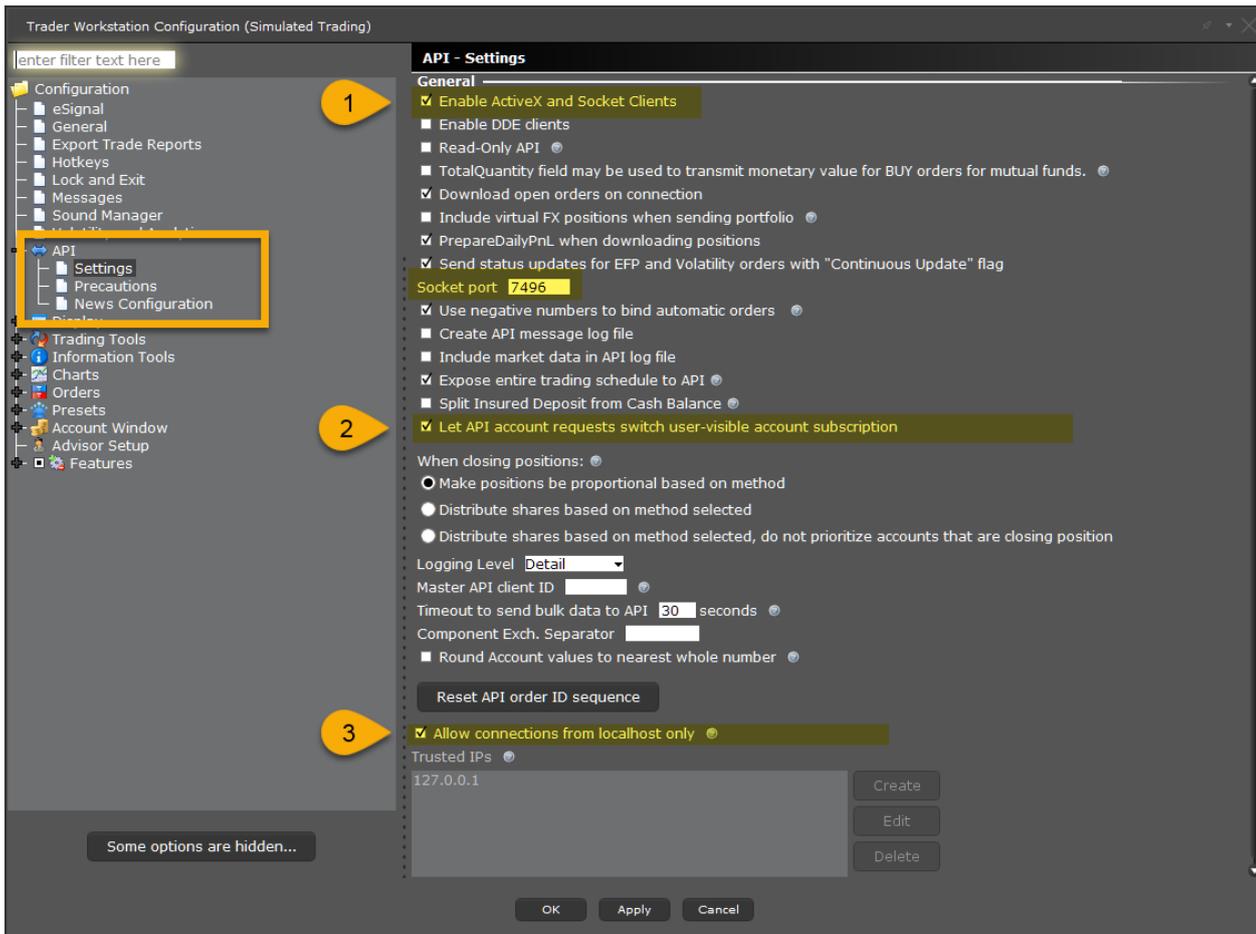
IMPORTANT !
When installing TWS, DO NOT CHANGE THE DEFAULT DIRECTORY (C:\jts)

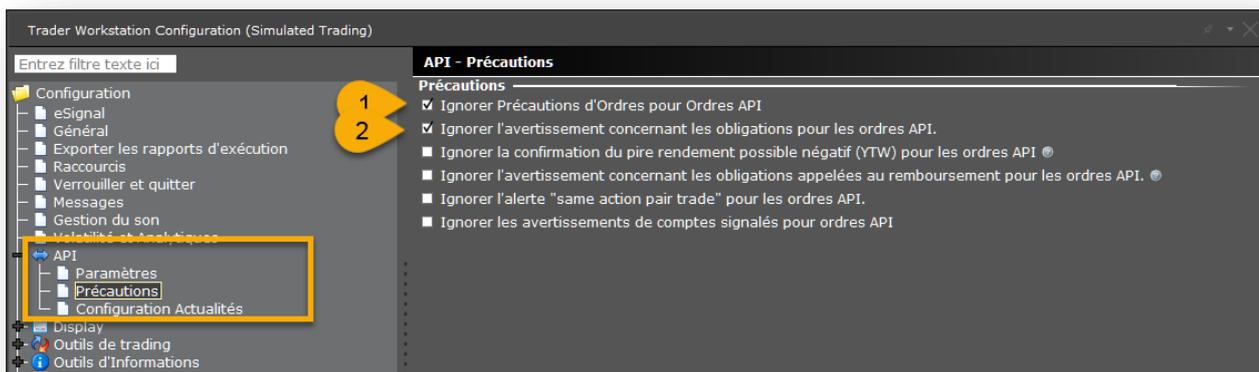#### 1.1.2   Configuring TWS platform API
A specific TWS configuration allows API data exchange between TWS and third parties softwares, such as IB Folio.

On the TWS main screen, please select the menu 'Edit'…'Global configuration…', then click 'API' on the left, and 'Settings' on the right side. Please setup exactly as follows, taking care to check the boxes indicated by the yellow arrows below:

The checkbox (#3) can only be seen if you have an advisor account. In this case, please check it. If you only have one account, the Login Port should be 7496 (TWS's default port).

Please tick also these 2 check boxes to avoid annoying confirmation messages.

1.1.3 Setting up the Base Currency

IMPORTANT! IB Folio is designed to deal with US products (Stocks, ETFs, Options, Futures). Not bonds. Therefore, all figures are displayed with the $ symbol.

IMPORTANT :
It should not be confused:
- The Base currency (or display currency) in the IB account management
- The effective conversion of cash from the account into a currency other than the original currency.

This adjustment is done in your Interactive Brokers account management (through their website), and does NOT convert your account into dollars; it's just the display currency!
Interactive Brokers may take 24 hours to modify your BASE currency:

Finally, we recommend you to set up the base currency (i.e. display currency) to USD.

IBFolio, using data from the TWS platform, needs market data to properly analyse the symbols you trade.

Make sure you've subscribed to the corresponding Interactive Brokers subscriptions. These subscriptions are made in your Interactive Brokers Account Management (Market Data Section).
If you trade US stocks and options, you will need real-time market data for U.S. stocks and options. By default, this data is 'delayed'. Some beginners on TWS are not aware of this delay, and place their orders based on DELAYED data without knowing it.

Example of
DELAYED DATA
(brownish background)

Option Trader
DELAYED DATA
(brownish background)

Another example of
DELAYED DATA
(brownish background and yellow point)
:

To subscribe to market data, please login to your Interactive Brokers Account Management, and setup the Trading Setup… Market Data.

Subscriptions take effect immediately.

A hint for ADVISORS :
All sub-accounts managed by an ADVISOR automatically benefit from subscriptions to market data subscribed by the ADVISOR account alone. So it's USELESS for all sub-accounts to subscribe! Of course, to benefit from the real-time market data of the ADVISOR account, you must, however, connect to TWS with this ADVISOR account.

Launch TWS.

Keep TWS open for IB Folio.

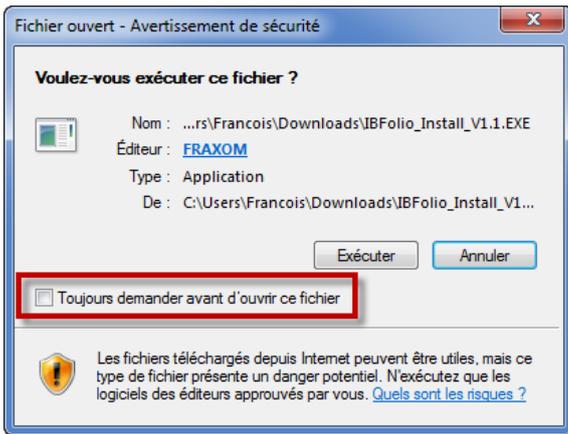# TWS must be launched before IB Folio !

IB FOLIO

WINDOWS SETUP

2   Setting up IB FOLIO

1. Open the website www.ibfolio.com, and select the menu LIBRARY… DOWNLOADS. Please click on the ORANGE button to download the latest IB Folio release. As soon as you click on the orange button, the download should start in your browser (normally, in the browser's *download* folder).

2. Once the download is finished, launch the installer IBFolio_Install_Vxx.EXE

3. It is possible that Windows displays the following message:

You may uncheck the box 'Always ask'. Thus, when you install updates from IB Folio later, Windows should no longer ask the question.
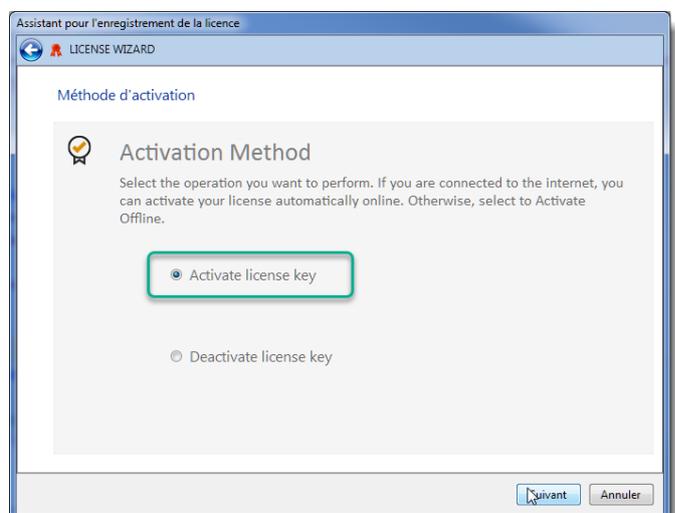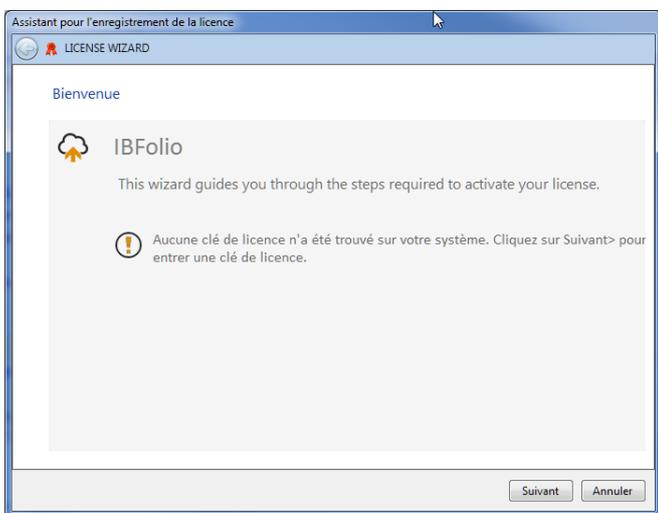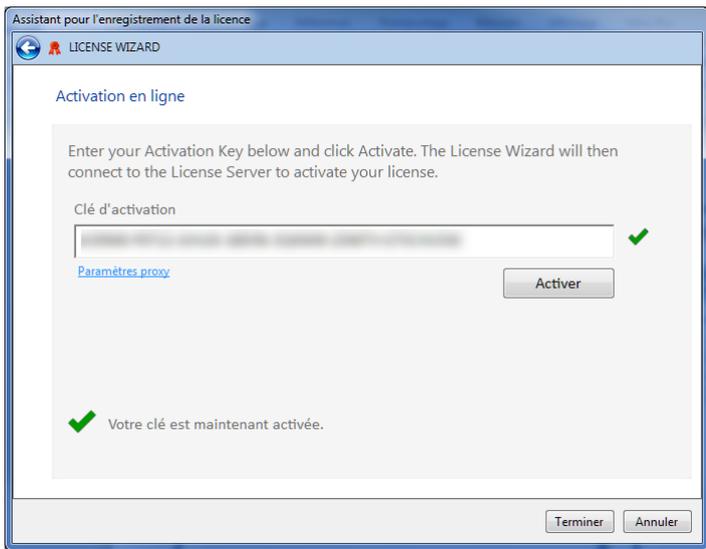
4. Select the INSTALLER language :

5. Select **QUICK SETUP**

6. It is possible that Windows asks if the installation ended well. Please acknowledge:

7. When opening IB Folio for the first time, a License dialog screen asks you to enter your license key. Click on 'Next', and 'Activate License key'

This screen will allow you to enter the **License Key received in your Welcome email** :

Please enter the License Key,
And click on the button 'ACTIVATE'

Then press the button 'Finish'

Your IB Folio is now activated, and must launch normally, displaying the dashboard.

IMPORTANT ! **Interactive Brokers TWS platform should always be launched <u>BEFORE</u> IBFolio.**
If not, IB Folio won't work.

2.1   If you have these issues…

If IB Folio displays an error message mentioning the absence of Microsoft .NET 4.5.2 (**DOTNET**),
You'll need to install Microsoft .NET 4.5.2 (or any later version) by clicking on the following link,
https://www.ibfolio.com/LiveUpdate/NDP452-KB2901907-x86-x64-AllOS-ENU.exe

When .NET installed, launch again IB Folio (no need to reinstall).

In rare cases, you may also need the **'Microsoft C++ 2015-2019 Redistributable Package'**.
IB API should tell you if needed. Normally not.
Download it (https://www.ibfolio.com/LiveUpdate/VC_redist.x86.exe) and install it.
No need to setup the 64 bits version ! 32 bits version will be fine.

We're here to help!
The installation problems should not resist us more than 5 minutes.
Don't hesitate to write us a message.

3   Launching IB Folio

3.1   Launching the software

Before using IB Folio, we recommend you to watch the videos available on our website (Library..Videos section):

www.ibfolio.com

especially the « QUICK START » Video

 The installation normally creates an IB Folio icon, either on the desktop or in the fast launch area at the bottom of the screen.

Always launch first TWS platform, and login.
Then launch IB Folio. Without TWS running, IB Folio won't work !
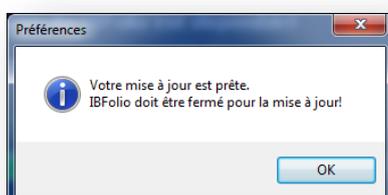
3.2   IB Folio updates

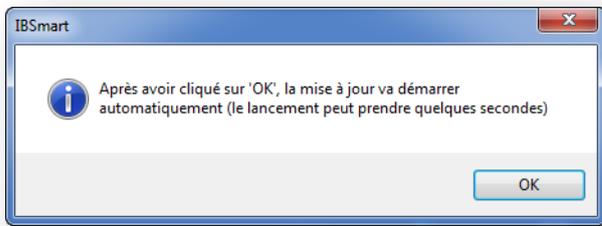When an update is available, IB Folio will notify you when starting.

IBFolio will show you the update screen:
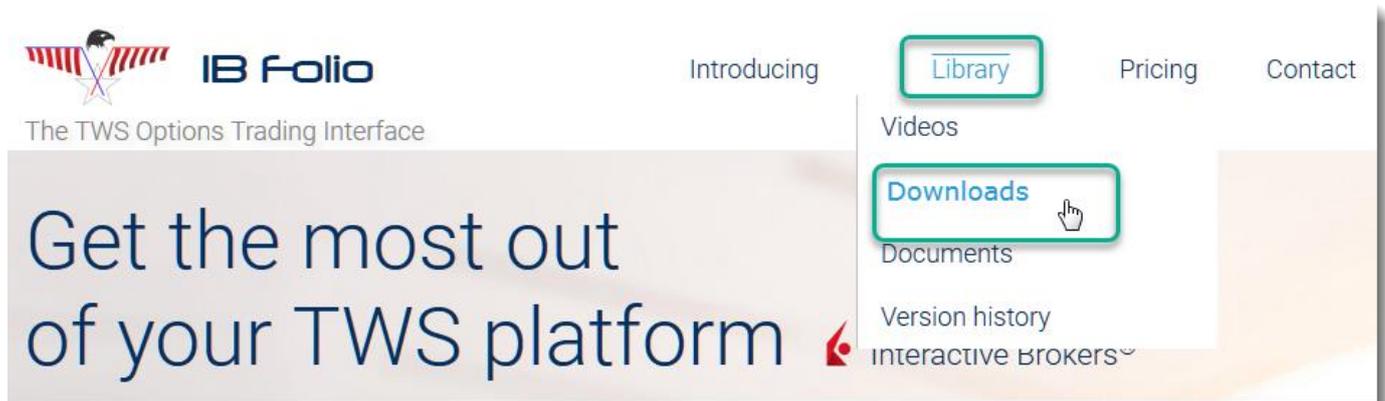
Click the big green button 'Download'

When the download is over, a message appears; click OK

A message warns you that the update will start automatically...Click 'Ok'

Depending on the load of the server and some computer configurations, this direct download from IB Folio may not work. In this case, you can download the setup from the website www.ibfolio.com, menu LIBRARY, DOWNLOADS

Then manually launch the installation, running the downloaded installation file.

Update IB Folio following the same procedure as the first setup, selecting Quick Install, and then 'Next', OK...

4 Initial settings

There are two adjustments to be made at first:

4.1 Selecting a pseudo per account – privacy policy
From the first analysis of a new account, IB Folio will ask you to choose a nickname.
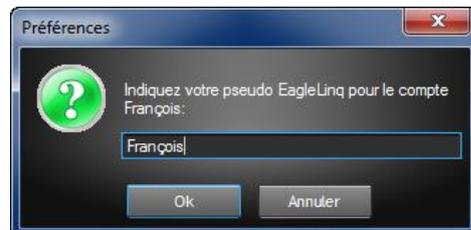
IB Folio is very concerned about your information privacy. To avoid disclosing your IB account number, IB Folio's community tools will instead use a nickname.

- This PSEUDO will be used if you wish to broadcast your new strategies.
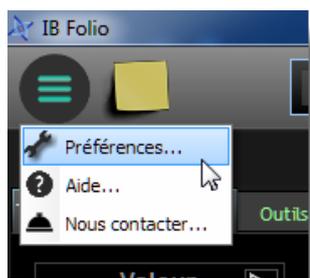

YOU MUST CHOOSE A PSEUDO BEFORE USING IB FOLIO!

Enter your pseudo
(here, François is an exemple, please choose another one!),
And press the button 'Ok'
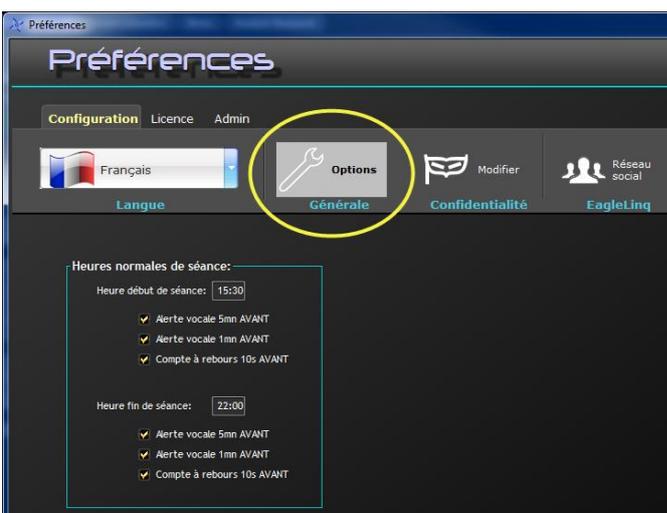

If you have multiple accounts, you can assign them the <u>same</u> nickname, or <u>different</u> nicknames.

4.2   Setting up the market hours

Click on the 'Menu' icon at the top left of the main screen,

and select 'Preferences'

Go to the 'Options' section

Then check the validity of market opening and closing hours

The voice countdown is based on these parameters.

4.3   IB Folio's clock
The clock automatically settles on the time of the TWS platform, for obvious reasons of synchronization.

If you only have one Interactive Brokers account, you can pass this section.

5   Multi-account management and multi-TWS

IB Folio manages 'Advisor' accounts perfectly, as well as several TWS sessions opened simultaneously on several different accounts (up to 8).
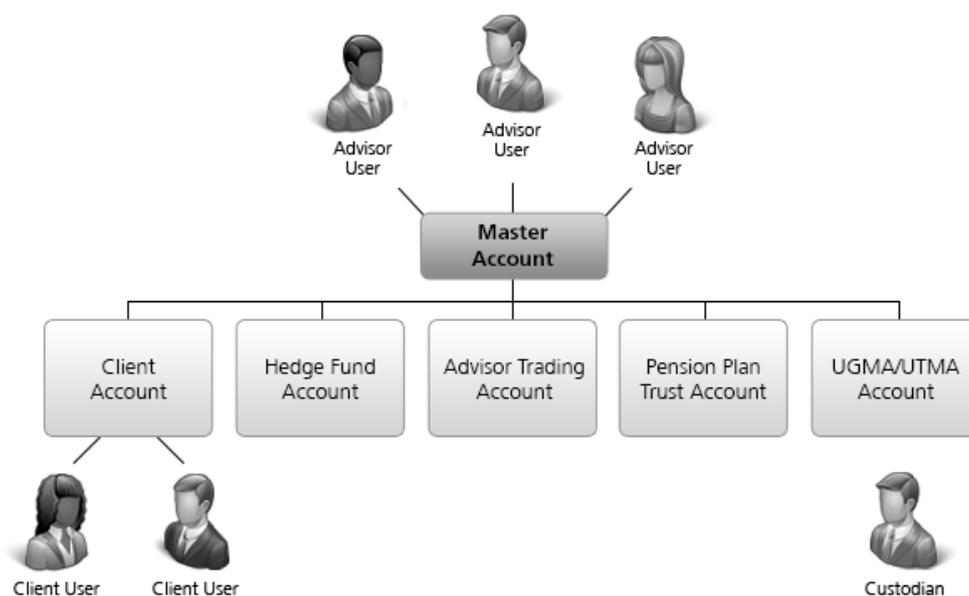
5.1   'Advisor' account management

5.1.1   Principle

Interactive Brokers' 'Advisor' account structure is as follows:
An 'Advisor' (or 'Master', starting with F) account oversees x user accounts (individual or company).

Schéma de la structure de compte Gérant indépendant

When the TWS platform is open with an 'Advisor' account, it is possible to manage and switch to any of the accounts linked from this single TWS platform.

Similarly, when IB Folio connects to an 'Advisor' Account, IB Folio recovers all related accounts, and it is possible to switch from one account to another without leaving IB Folio.

At the launch of IB Folio, the list of accounts shows the account structure:

In this case, IB Folio is connected to an 'Advisor' account.
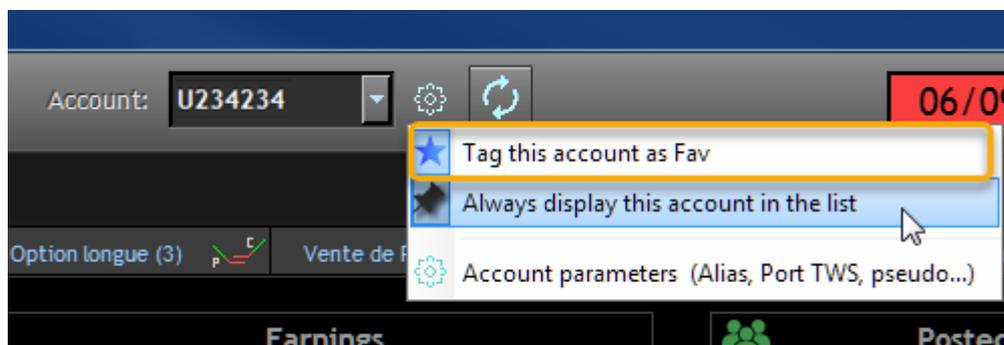
IB Folio has recovered the complete account list. In this case, the Advisor account (F123456) manages 2 other accounts (U123456 and U234234).

5.1.2   Favorite account (default opened account when IB Folio starts)

If you want to always open the same account at the launch of IB Folio, it's worth tagging it as 'Favorite'.

For example, we want to set the U234234 account as the favorite account:

1.   Select the account from the account list.

2.   Once the account is displayed, click on the wheel to the right of the account, and then select the 'Set this account as FAVORITE' option

From now on, IB Folio will seek to open this account as a priority with each new launch. Of course, TWS must be launched beforehand, either with the login of this account or that of its Advisor.

In the list of accounts, a small blue star appears in front of the FAVORITE account.
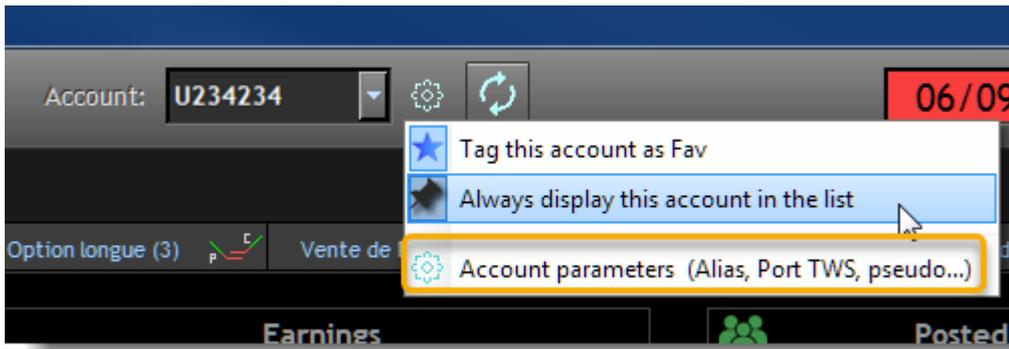
5.1.3   Account Alias

In the case of multi-account management, it may be a good idea to change the account number by a more explicit name.
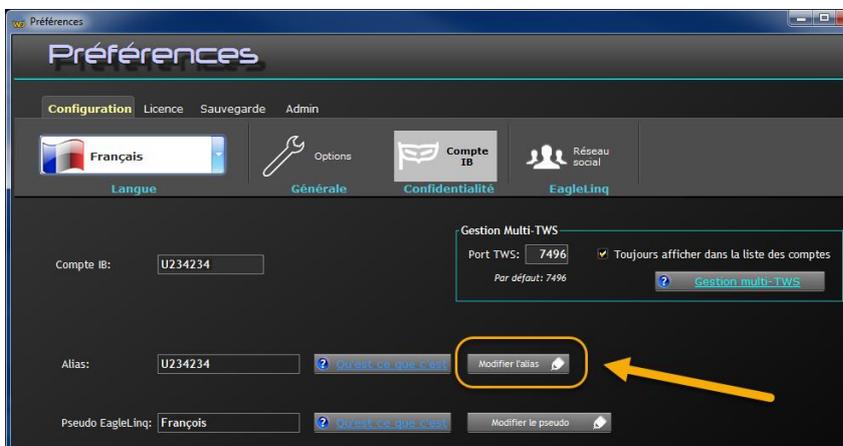
In our example, we will give the name (or alias) 'Trader F' to the account U234234.

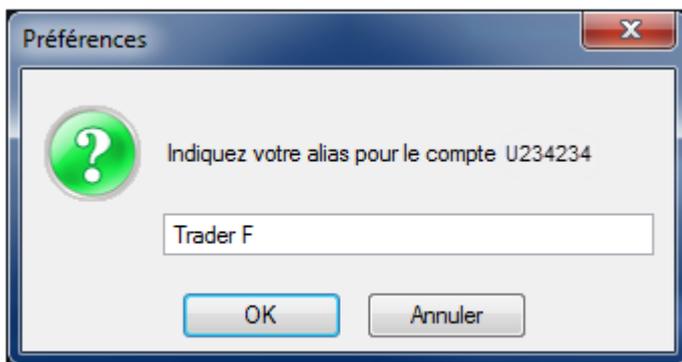1.   Select the account from the list.

2. Once the account is displayed, click on the wheel to the right of the account, and select the 'Account Parameters' option

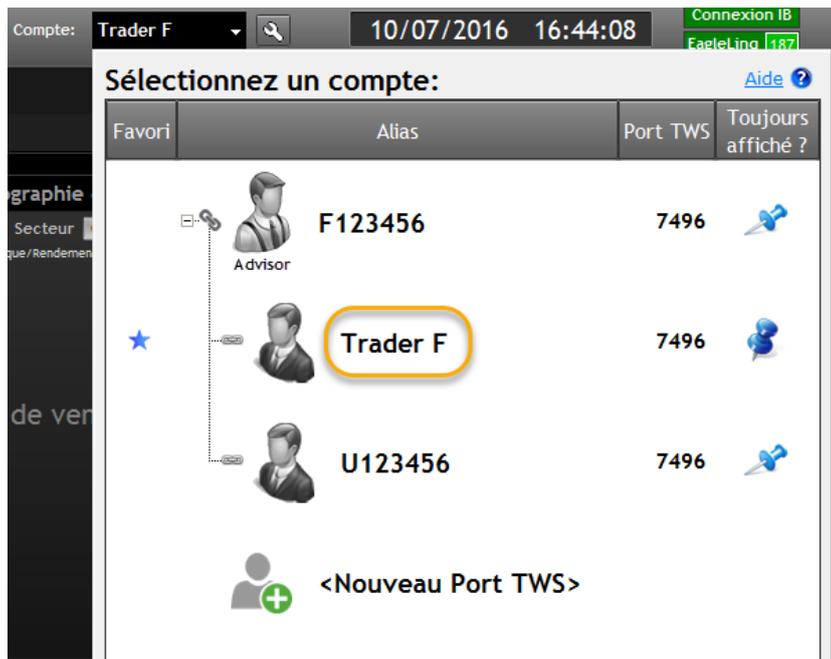You'll see a 'Preferences' window. Click the 'Change alias' button

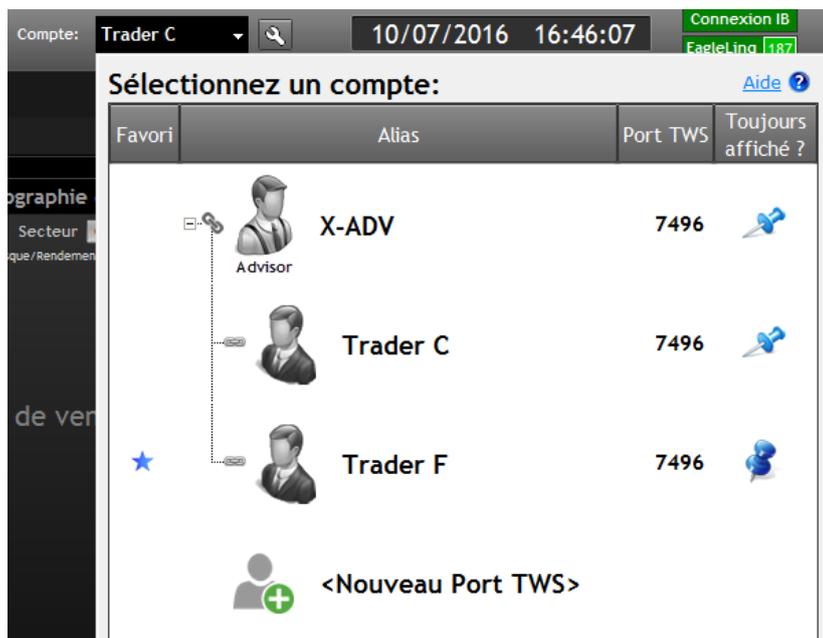3. Enter the desired alias (the alias should not already be taken by another account):

4. Then OK and close 'Preferences' window

The account number displayed in the list has been replaced by its much more explicit alias:

To change all account aliases, repeat steps 1 to 4 for each account.

Our finalized example then becomes:

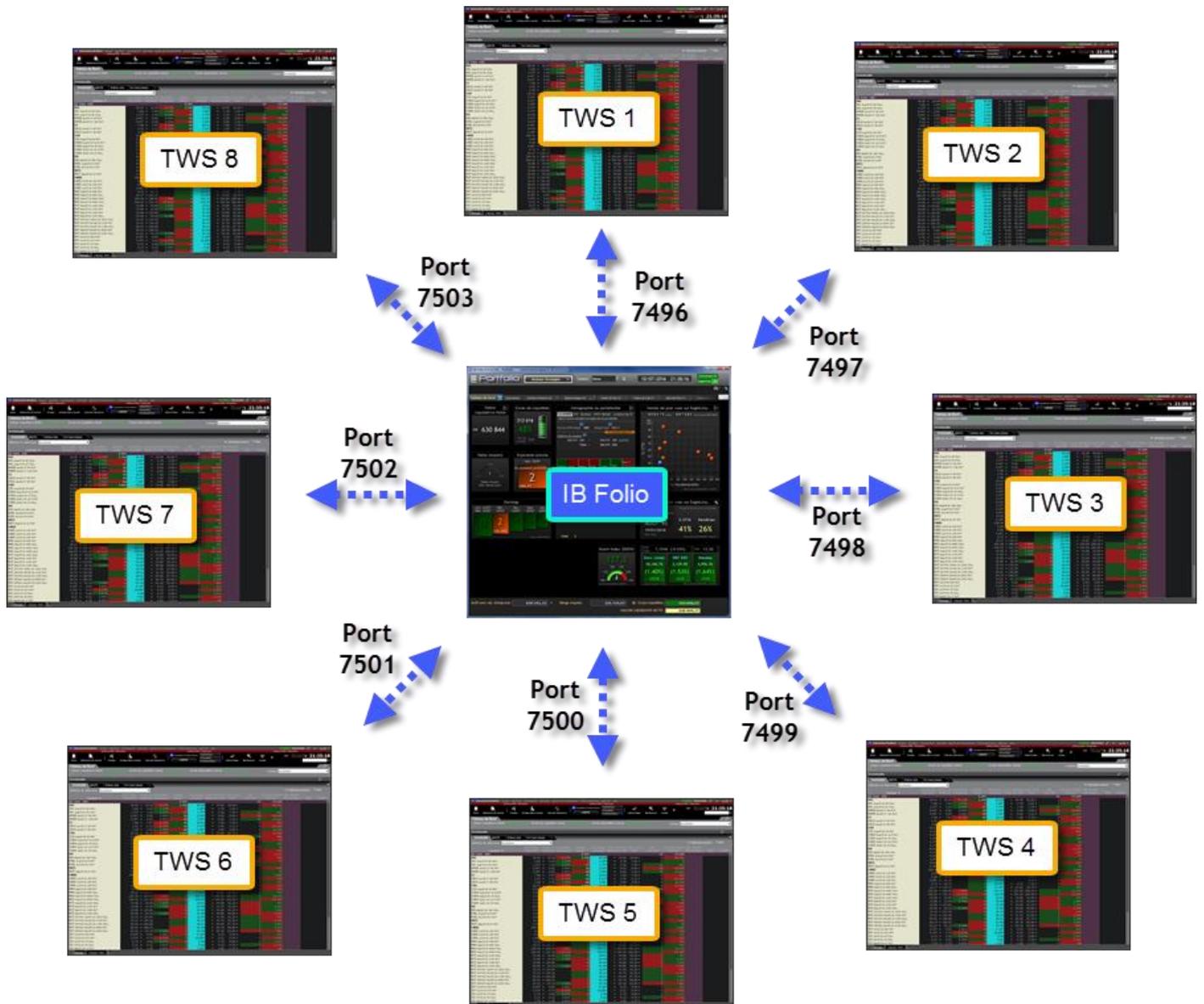## 5.2 Management of multiple TWS platforms open at the same time

5.2.1 Principle

Several TWS platforms can be opened simultaneously (with different logins and accounts). Interactive Brokers allows **up to 8 TWS platforms open at the same time**.

In order for IB Folio to interact with these different TWS sessions, a unique TWS identifier must be set up. This is the PORT (7496 by default), shown in the TWS global configuration window, API section.

Once the identification process is completed, it is possible to switch from one account to another without leaving IB Folio.

5.2.2 How to set up

For the sake of simplification, it's best to start by opening only one TWS platform, with the FAVORITE account, the one you'll always want to open by default, first.

1. Open the TWS platform with the default account. This platform must have the default API configuration, with port 7496 (see above).
2. Launch IB Folio. At the launch of IB Folio, we can see the account structure:

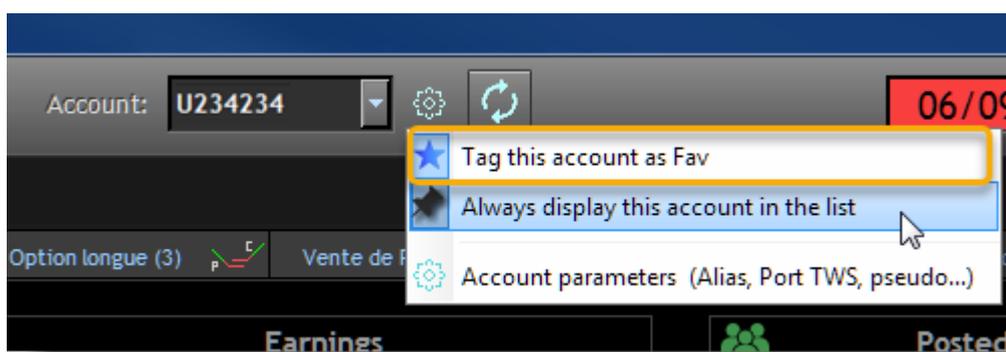In this case, IB Folio is connected to an 'Advisor' account.

IB Folio has recovered the complete account list. In this case, the Advisor account (F123456) manages 2 other accounts (U123456 and U234234).

5.2.3 Favorite account (default opened account when IB Folio starts)

If you want to always open the same account at the launch of IB Folio, it's worth tagging it as 'Favorite'.

For example, we want to set the U234234 account as the favorite account:

1. Select the account from the account list.

2. Once the account is displayed, click on the wheel to the right of the account, and then select the 'Set this account as FAVORITE' option

From now on, IB Folio will seek to open this account as a priority with each new launch. Of course, TWS must be launched beforehand, either with the login of this account or that of its Advisor.
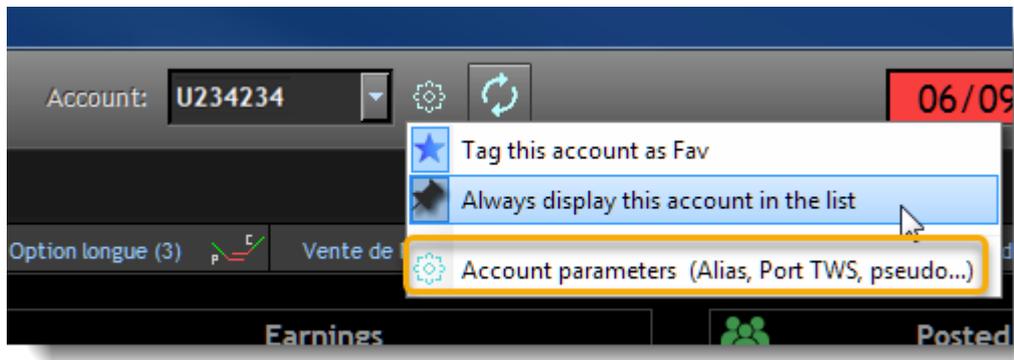
In the list of accounts, a small blue star appears in front of the FAVORITE account.

5.2.4   Account Alias

In the case of multi-account management, it may be a good idea to change the account number by a more explicit name.

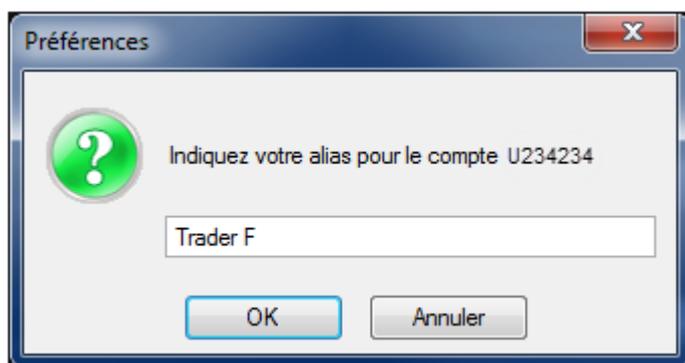In our example, we will give the name (or alias) 'Trader F' to the account U234234.

1. Select the account from the list.

2. Once the account is displayed, click on the wheel to the right of the account, and select the 'Account Settings' option

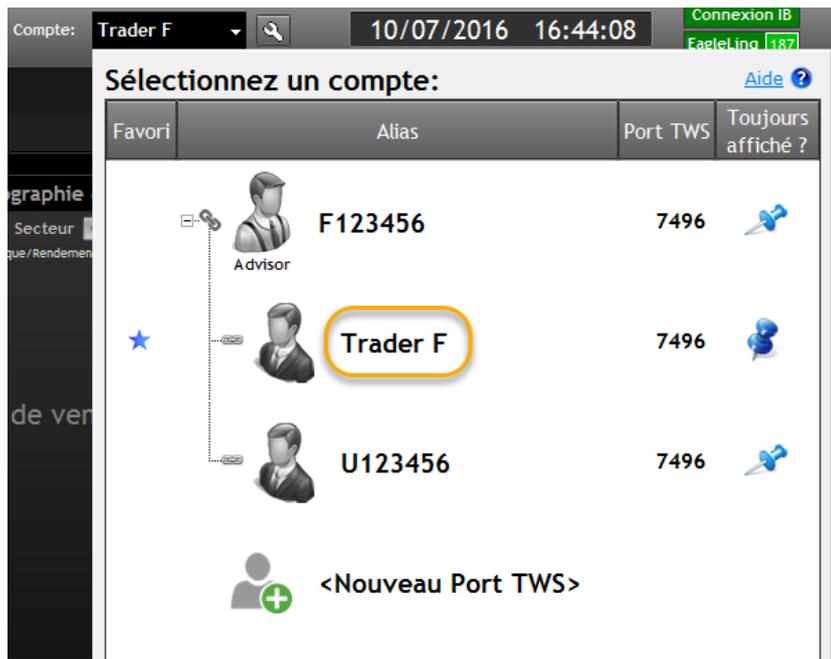You'll see a 'Preferences' window. Click the 'Change alias' button

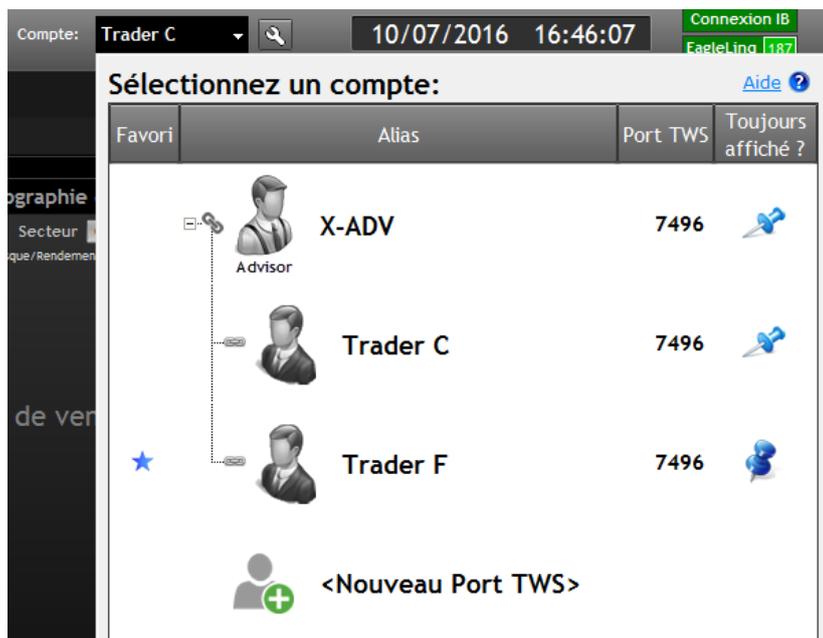3. Enter the desired alias (the alias should not already be taken by another account):

4. Then OK and close 'Preferences' window

The account number displayed in the list has been replaced by its much more explicit alias:

To change all account aliases, repeat steps 1 to 4 for each account.
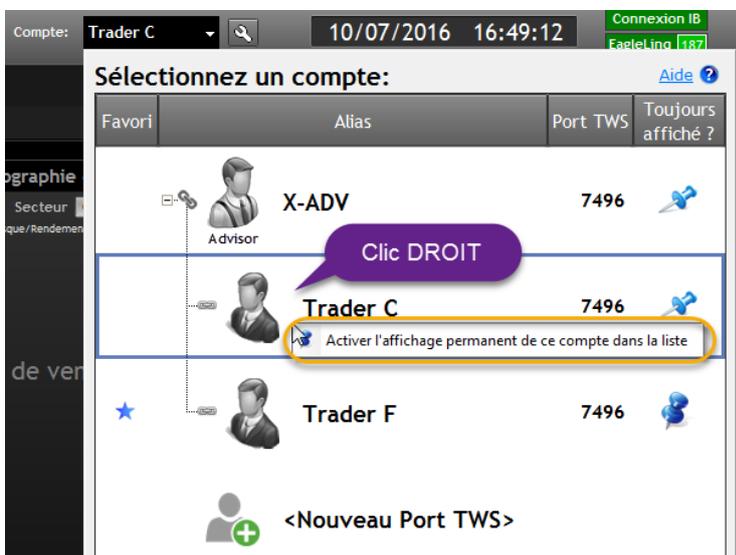
Our finalized example then becomes:

5.2.5   Permanent display (pinning) of accounts

Before adding additional accounts from other open TWS platforms, it is necessary to list which accounts you want to use later. **Like when you indicate the phone numbers of your contacts in your phone's directory, so you can easily call them back later**.
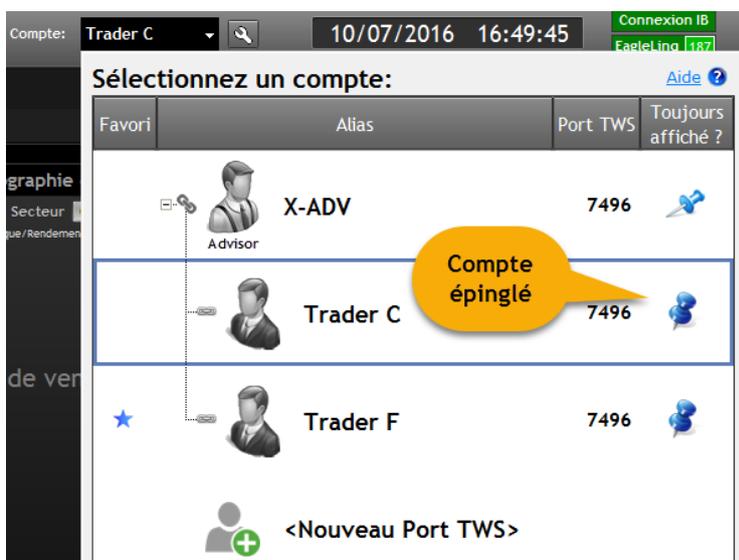
In our example, let's assume that the Advisor X-ADV account is not used: the account is at zero. Opening this account with IB Folio is therefore of no interest.

The FAVORITE 'Trader F' account is the default account. It is therefore automatically pinned, and will always be displayed in the list of accounts. We want the 'Trader C' account to always be displayed in the account list too, as it is a truly (or potentially) managed account.

1. Open the account list

2. Make a RIGHT CLICK on the list, on the desired account line (in our example, 'Trader C')

3. Select the option 'Enable permanent display...'

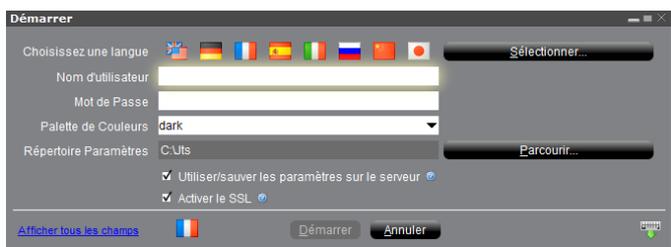

The account becomes then 'pinned':

Thus, this account will always appear in the list of accounts, for further opening and further study, even if IB Folio is opened with a TWS platform opened with another account.

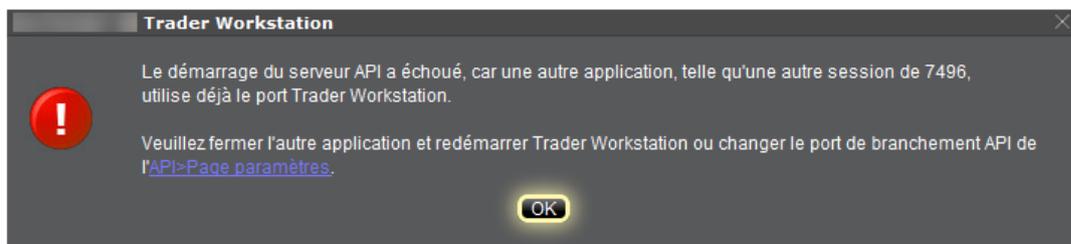This allows IB Folio to easily switch from one account to another.

5.2.6 Additional account / TWS platform
Now let's add another account, open in another TWS platform:

1. Keep IB Folio open

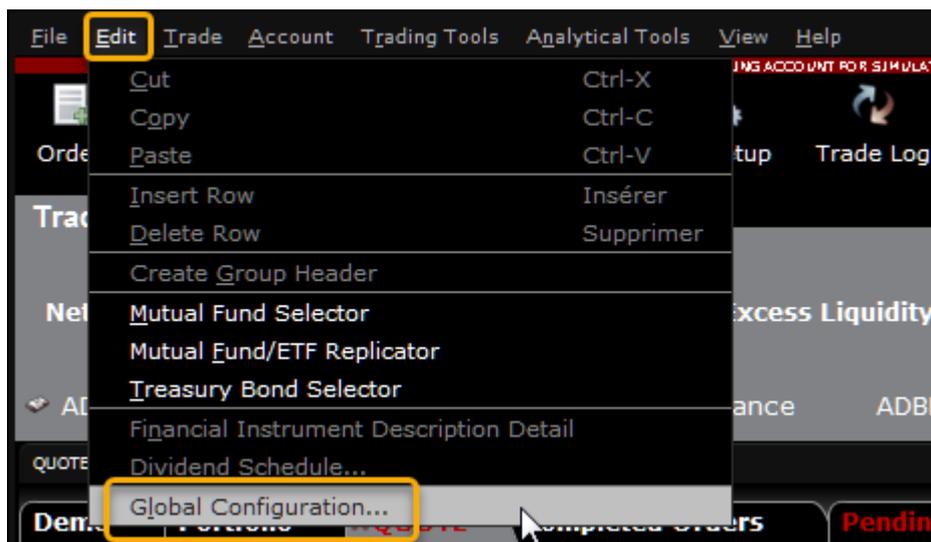2. Open another TWS platform, with a different account than those already opened

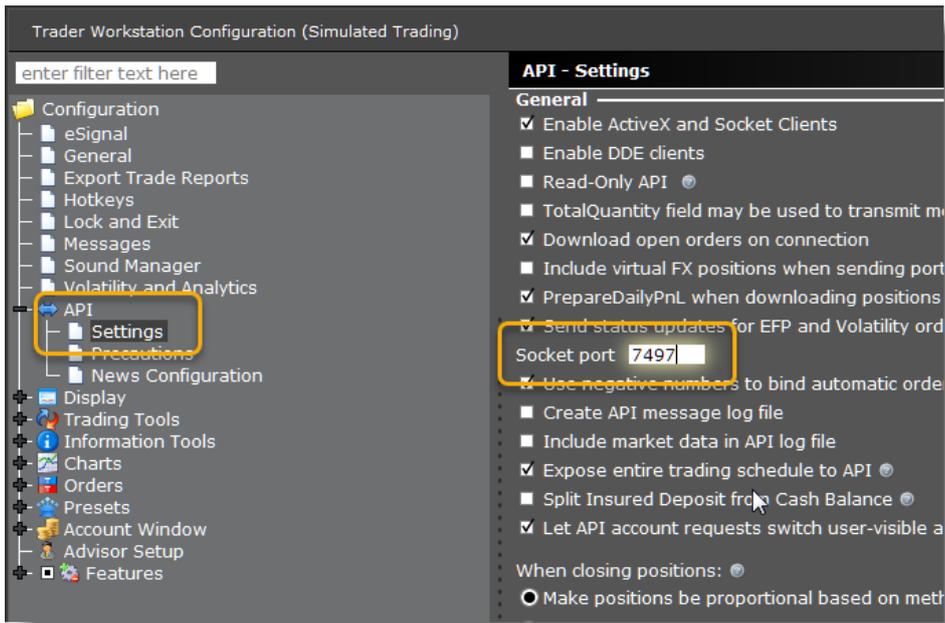3. You'll probably get this message: Port 7496 is already in use
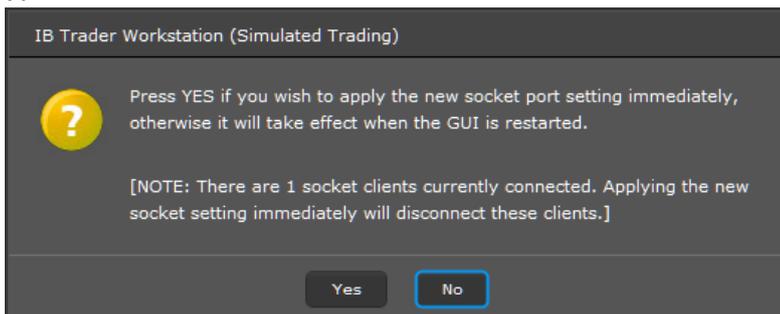

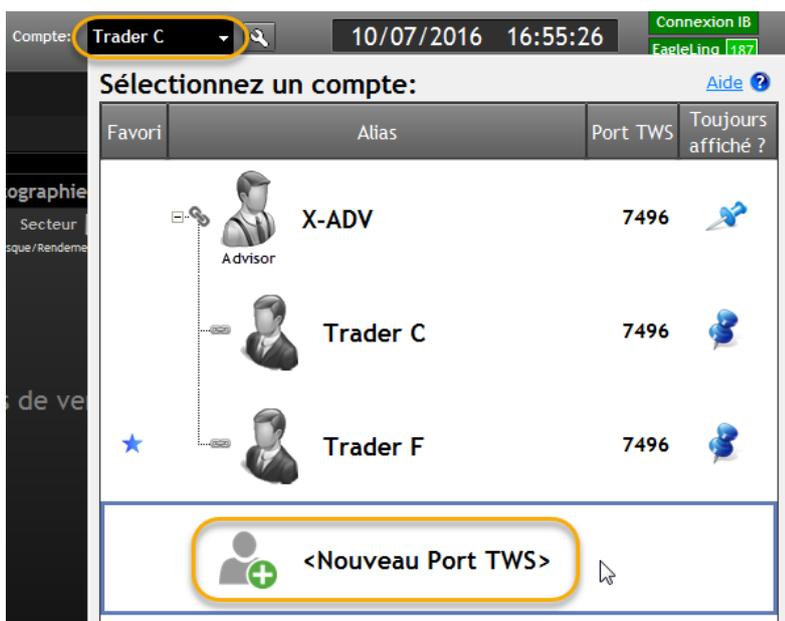   Click OK

4. Open the Global Configuration of this TWS Platform

5. Open API…Settings. Then change **port from 7496 to 7497, or any greater number (7498, 7499, 7500 etc…)
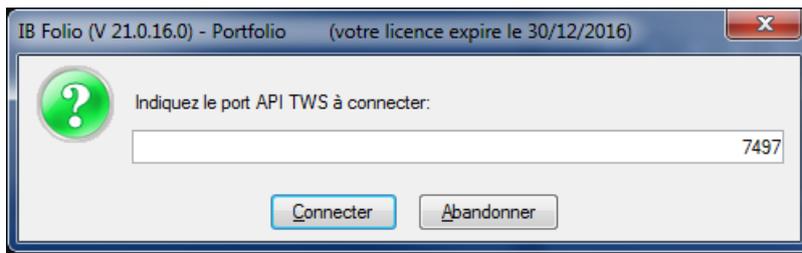not already used by another account**.

6. Answer YES to the following message :
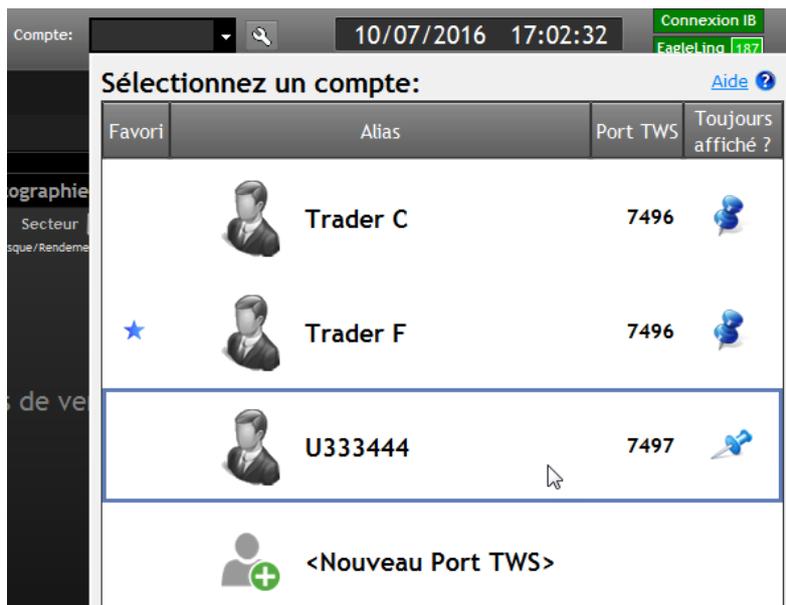7.

8. On IB Folio, unroll the account list by clicking on the current account, then select the option <New TWS port>

9. Enter the TWS port of the new TWS platform to connect to (in our example 7497) :

10. IB Folio now detects the new accounts detected (in our example, the U333444 account) :
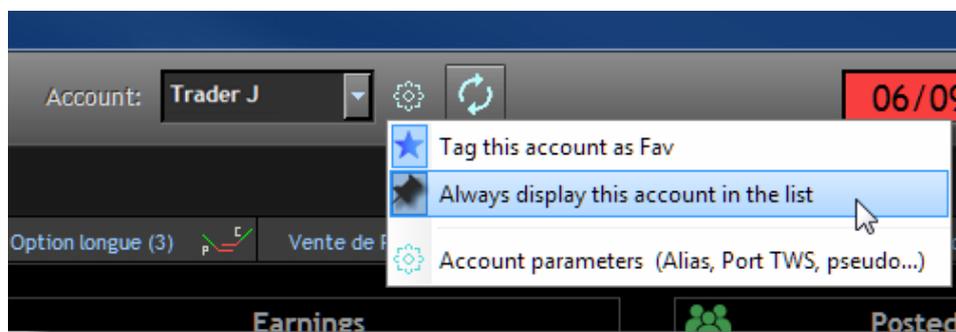

Note that the X-ADV account is missing. This is normal because IB Folio no longer calls port 7496, and the X-ADV account was not pinned.
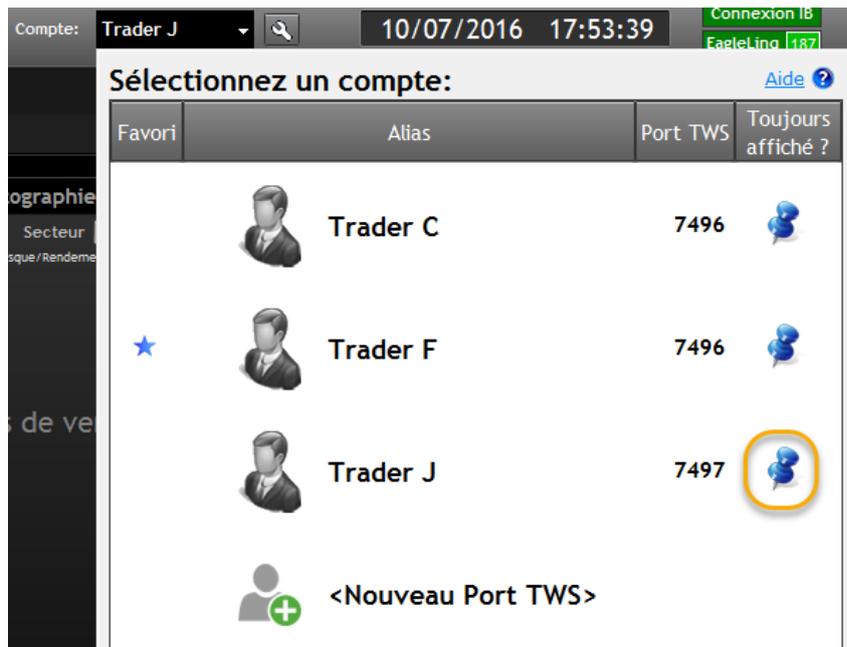
Select this new account by clicking on it.

11. If necessary, change his alias. In our example, we renamed it 'Trader J'.

12. If necessary, pin this new account to the account list directly through the 'Always display this account in the list' using the wheel to the right of the account:
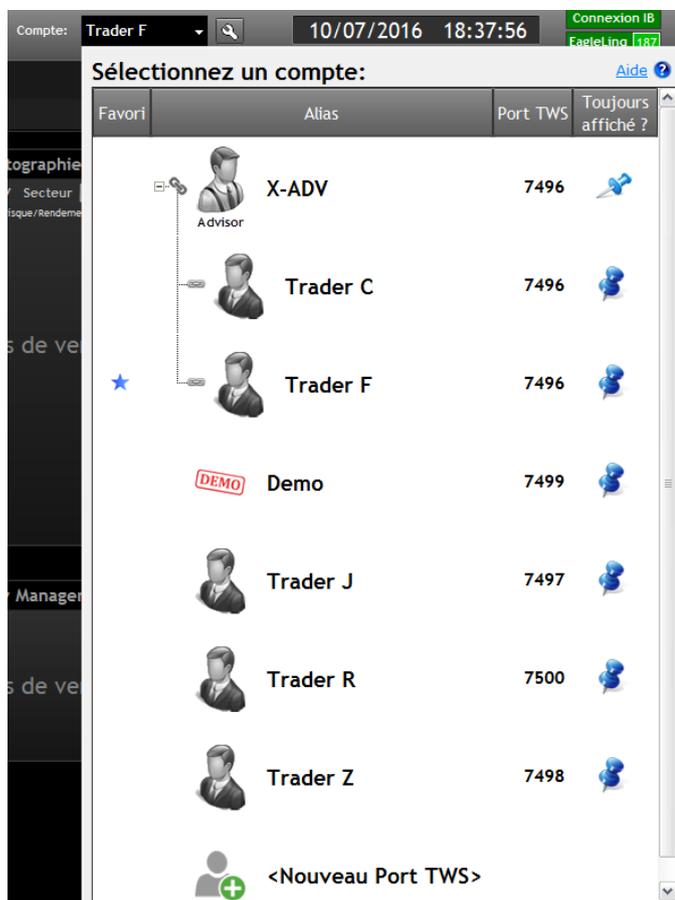
The new 'Trader J' account is well pinned to the list:

13. To add more accounts, repeat this procedure from the beginning.

Here's what a list of accounts looks like after many additions:

If all the corresponding TWS platforms are opened simultaneously, you can switch from one account to another very easily by selecting the desired account from the list.

1 clic, and voila !

6 Hints

- Data returned by IB during off-market periods, especially on weekends, are often folkloric. The use of IB Folio is not recommended during these periods.
- 5mn, 1mn et 10s before the markets open and close, a female voice is counting down. So, don't be surprised if your speakers are switched on!

Before using IB Folio, we recommend you to watch the videos available on our website (Library..Videos section):

www.ibfolio.com

especially the « QUICK START » Video