Brainy's Articles on
Technical Analysis
Moving Average (and Cross-over)

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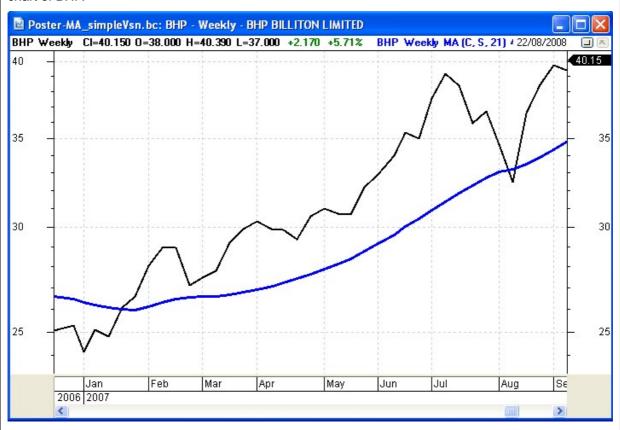
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Introduction

This document (number TA-4210) provides a brief introduction to Moving Averages, and the Moving Average Cross-over. (In the BullCharts charting software, the Moving Average Cross-over is included in the list of indicators.)

What does it look like?

The sample price chart below shows a 21 period moving average (the blue line) on a Weekly price chart of BHP.

Why use a Moving Average?

A moving average plotted on a price chart like the sample above can achieve the following:

- Helps eliminate volatility/noise from the chart.
- Can help to more easily identify a trend.
- MA can be used as a buy/sell signal.
- MA types:- Simple, Exponential, Weighted.
- EMA and WMA gives more importance to recent prices.

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