STOCK MARKET MENTOR

Chart of the Day

Watch what happens at the end of the day if you want to know what's on tomorrow's breakfast menu.

September 14, 2026

Dan Fitzpatrick analyzes how end-of-day institutional order flow provides a reliable indicator for confirming breakouts and reversals, particularly in a choppy market environment where morning breakouts frequently fail. Dan Fitzpatrick highlights that while algorithmic trading dominates the mid-day session, observing price action and volume after 3:30 PM reveals whether institutions are actively building multi-day positions or simply taking profits before the close. Examining enterprise cybersecurity and software equities within the artificial intelligence stack, Dan Fitzpatrick details bullish W-pattern double-bottom reversals in Zscaler ($ZS) and Okta ($OKTA) that printed strong closing volume, contrasting them with intraday reversals in names like CrowdStrike ($CRWD) where late-day selling indicated a lack of institutional follow-through.

Next Steps:

1. Monitor End-of-Day Institutional Order Flow: Evaluate price action and volume between 3:30 PM and 4:00 PM EST to verify if late-day institutional buying supports morning breakout attempts.
2. Track the Zscaler ($ZS) Reversal Setup: Stalk continuation entries in $ZS following its high-volume double-bottom breakout above the $190.00 pivot, targeting a conservative measured move of $220.00.
3. Watch Enterprise Security Momentum ($OKTA & $CRWD): Track Okta ($OKTA) for a sustained trend expansion past $180.00, while avoiding CrowdStrike ($CRWD) until its late-day distribution peters out.
4. Filter Mid-Day Algorithmic Noise: Ignore mid-day price oscillations (10:30 AM to 3:30 PM EST) and focus trade executions exclusively around opening-range triggers and late-session closing strength.
5. Join Stock Market Mentor: Sign up for a 14-day trial for $7 at StockMarketMentor.com to access active trade lists, live strategy sessions, and nightly video analysis with Dan Fitzpatrick, Scott McGregor, and Andy Kwong.

Transcript:

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00:00:01.680 --> 00:00:21.439

Dan Fitzpatrick: Okay, hey guys, Dan Fitzpatrick here, and I want to… I want to talk about, what happens into the close of the day. I mean, there's a lot of crap that happens, but in this case, what I'm really talking about is being able to spot where institutions are continuing

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00:00:21.440 --> 00:00:26.360

Dan Fitzpatrick: to buy a stock that's gone up during the day. A lot of times, especially lately.

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00:00:26.360 --> 00:00:33.650

Dan Fitzpatrick: Breakouts haven't been working. They look really good. The classic breakout

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00:00:33.650 --> 00:00:49.020

Dan Fitzpatrick: Volatility's a little bit low, pretty, pretty tight, and then, oh, we get a nice high-volume pop out the top, starts to go, and we jump on board thinking, that's it, this is the train, let's go. And then, at the end of the day.

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00:00:49.330 --> 00:01:05.690

Dan Fitzpatrick: the trade peters out, the stock reverses, and the next thing you know, you're wondering whether you actually top-ticked the stock, or just came a little bit below top-ticking it. But either… and I've done both, frankly. I'm not proud of it, but it's happened.

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00:01:05.690 --> 00:01:20.439

Dan Fitzpatrick: And so, the moral of the story on that is, you bought too soon. You missed something. Stuff like that. And so, the way to do it, the way to really, really get into this stuff, is to think about it this way.

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00:01:20.450 --> 00:01:24.460

Dan Fitzpatrick: What institutions are doing during the morning

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00:01:24.680 --> 00:01:43.920

Dan Fitzpatrick: they're likely doing all day long. The question is, towards the end of the day, have they got their work done, or are they looking for more the next day? And so the way we really look at that is we track what's happening, say, during the last hour.

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00:01:44.600 --> 00:02:08.560

Dan Fitzpatrick: Maybe, but a lot of times, you gotta wait longer than that. Wait till to see what happens around, 3.30 or so. So I'm gonna show you a couple, that I think are pretty interesting. First, I want to invite you to join Stock Market Mentor. It's $7. You can't kind of beat that. I mean, if you really insist, email me, dan at stockmarketmentor.com, and ask for a discount.

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00:02:08.560 --> 00:02:20.679

Dan Fitzpatrick: And I'll get you in for $6. I mean, the bottom line is, you gotta be there if you want to make money with us, and we're doing that. And part of… I will just tell you, right now, in this choppy market, seriously.

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00:02:21.110 --> 00:02:45.809

Dan Fitzpatrick: Part of making money is making sure that you're not losing money on trades like I'm gonna be showing you here. It's really, really critical. It's fine. People in my shoes are happy to go out here every single day and tell you how you can be a bazillionaire by next Friday. It's not really the case. This is a process, it's not an event, and so I'm gonna help you… I'm gonna help you get through that process, okay?

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00:02:45.810 --> 00:02:47.880

Dan Fitzpatrick: Alright, let me get started.

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00:02:47.880 --> 00:02:51.169

Dan Fitzpatrick: Let me get started with this stuff.

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00:02:51.450 --> 00:02:59.670

Dan Fitzpatrick: Now, I want to look at two stocks here. First of all, Zscaler. Let's look at this on a daily chart.

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00:03:00.540 --> 00:03:01.490

Dan Fitzpatrick: And…

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00:03:02.440 --> 00:03:25.989

Dan Fitzpatrick: There's a few things, there's a few things that come out. This is in the… this is in the AI stack, and there's… I've actually taught a webinar on this. I'm not going to get into detail here, it's not the right venue, but I… I taught a webinar on how these various software companies actually, are an integral part of AI, and what it can do

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00:03:26.010 --> 00:03:35.619

Dan Fitzpatrick: where it can do it, stuff like that. So, Zscaler is definitely in that complex. Now, if we just get rid of this and look at the chart.

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00:03:36.020 --> 00:03:53.080

Dan Fitzpatrick: you know, this has had a Nike… a pullback of Nike-type proportions. But as we look at this here, I mean, doesn't this look like a really, really slick double bottom? And, let me see if I can…

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00:03:53.550 --> 00:04:04.709

Dan Fitzpatrick: do this, and I'm gonna leave these. Okay, right now we've got this low here at 120, then we got this low here at 120. So this is the middle part.

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00:04:04.770 --> 00:04:16.769

Dan Fitzpatrick: This is the middle part up at $190. So, the stock ran from 120 up to $190, back to 120, and then ground around here a little bit, and then where does it… where is it now?

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00:04:17.019 --> 00:04:25.329

Dan Fitzpatrick: right at 190 again. So this is really looking to me like a nice W pattern base reversal.

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00:04:25.370 --> 00:04:41.289

Dan Fitzpatrick: popping out above a really, really nasty-looking 200-day moving average. Remember, the 200-day moving average reading is the average price over the last 200 days. And I mean to tell you, the last 200 days.

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00:04:41.670 --> 00:04:58.460

Dan Fitzpatrick: Okay, right up here, this is where… 200 days ago, okay? Since this time, it's been a pretty bad place to be if you're a bull. So they're only now starting to come… I mean, well, hell, they've been coming into this stock for a while, but we're now seeing

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00:04:58.760 --> 00:05:12.640

Dan Fitzpatrick: shall we say, the fruits of their labor. So now we've got this stock in a range between 160 and 190, as opposed to $120 and 190, so this is tightening up a little bit. Now.

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00:05:13.370 --> 00:05:15.759

Dan Fitzpatrick: Look, I own just a

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00:05:16.010 --> 00:05:25.490

Dan Fitzpatrick: tiny bit of this. I just started a position on this right at the end of the day, and I'll show you why in a sec, but you have to play the odds here.

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00:05:25.490 --> 00:05:47.239

Dan Fitzpatrick: And the odds are, on this, two things. First of all, this looks like a bona fide reversal. This was a big volume day, double average volume. The last big volume day here was on earnings. So, the stock had traded big on earnings, fell back over the next several days, took about 10% off, and now it's back higher. So.

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00:05:47.490 --> 00:05:48.869

Dan Fitzpatrick: This was a…

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00:05:49.460 --> 00:06:08.570

Dan Fitzpatrick: a pop, and then a sell the news, and then now let's buy them. So this is a good reversal in my… in my book. It's a really, really good reversal, and I think Zscaler, just on a typical, kind of an easy measured move, about 30 bucks, or 16%, I'd be looking for…

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00:06:08.570 --> 00:06:13.660

Dan Fitzpatrick: Oh, I'd say 220, as a conservative.

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00:06:13.660 --> 00:06:36.120

Dan Fitzpatrick: as a conservative, estimate, I guess. I'd be looking for this, and that's another 15% move. Probably more, but I don't really… you don't really make money, and probably. So, I've shown you how I do it here. It's just a measured move. Width of the channel here, add it on top on a breakout, which looks like what it's doing, and that's what I'm… that's what I'm looking at. Now.

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00:06:36.120 --> 00:06:40.580

Dan Fitzpatrick: If we watch and see how this stock traded intraday.

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00:06:40.670 --> 00:06:51.559

Dan Fitzpatrick: This is what I'm looking at. Okay, this was 3.30. On 3… at 3.30 today, you can see where volume noticeably

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00:06:53.550 --> 00:07:13.260

Dan Fitzpatrick: Picked up. Been drifting around all day long, the algos were fighting it out, and then now we're saying, whoa, whoa, whoa, wait a minute. We got now about 100,000 shares traded in 5 minutes. That's a little different from back here. Stock closed up. This is telling us that institutions are still buying.

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00:07:13.260 --> 00:07:24.109

Dan Fitzpatrick: And it keeps running up. Now, this is not a big, huge percentage move, but I'm not talking about the percent, I'm talking about the picture. We wonder, are institutions buying this stock

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00:07:24.110 --> 00:07:49.100

Dan Fitzpatrick: or not. And it seems like they are. Now, it's 340. We keep going. This is kind of petering out a little bit, and then finally this is pulling back, into the close. So, you're never… well, I shouldn't say never, but it's rare that you're just gonna get a stock that runs right up and closes at the high, and the only reason it closed, where it did was because the closing bell rang. You're not going to get

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00:07:49.100 --> 00:07:51.939

Dan Fitzpatrick: That kind of thing, but this is really the tell.

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00:07:52.140 --> 00:08:01.090

Dan Fitzpatrick: Right here, for whether institutions are still buying this stock. So this gives me some confidence that even if

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00:08:01.270 --> 00:08:06.800

Dan Fitzpatrick: Even if the stock, even if this pulls, even if this happens to pull back.

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00:08:07.200 --> 00:08:09.999

Dan Fitzpatrick: I think that this breakout, or this…

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00:08:10.600 --> 00:08:31.130

Dan Fitzpatrick: this quasi-breakout, I should say, because it's right up at this same level. I think this is something that's gonna hold, especially since we're looking at IGV, the software index, made a nice move today. Chart's still pretty ugly, but it made a nice move today, so I'm liking Zscaler. Another one is Okta.

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00:08:31.900 --> 00:08:33.130

Dan Fitzpatrick: Same deal.

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00:08:34.780 --> 00:08:59.130

Dan Fitzpatrick: I got a lot of lines there, okay? It's similar, a little bit different, and I'm going to be teaching more of a… of a session on the different aspects. Basically, like, why is the AI stuff going down, and why is the software stuff going up today? It's kind of a big deal. It is. It's a multi-day, multi-week deal. That's the way I'm seeing it, and so I'm going into that in more detail for members.

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00:08:59.130 --> 00:09:06.860

Dan Fitzpatrick: over the weekend. So you guys got some of it today in the live session, but we're gonna be putting it all together.

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00:09:06.860 --> 00:09:13.300

Dan Fitzpatrick: This weekend. So, anyway, Okta, that's the gatekeeper, says, who the hell are you, and what do you want?

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00:09:13.300 --> 00:09:28.579

Dan Fitzpatrick: And can you do it? That's essentially, what this security software is. So, this also had a big move today, heavier than average volume. Last move was here, on earnings. So, we got the same thing.

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00:09:29.010 --> 00:09:32.150

Dan Fitzpatrick: with Zscaler, Choppier there.

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00:09:32.600 --> 00:09:38.790

Dan Fitzpatrick: that we did with Okta, ultimately a move higher. So, this… Ran higher.

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00:09:42.060 --> 00:09:42.920

Dan Fitzpatrick: Okay?

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00:09:43.370 --> 00:09:48.639

Dan Fitzpatrick: Nice. Is it gonna keep going? Well… Not really.

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00:09:48.810 --> 00:10:04.809

Dan Fitzpatrick: It's holding up, holding up, well, I don't know what the heck to do. I don't know, I don't know, I don't know. Boom! There it is. That's your signal right there that this is another stock that's going higher. But, if we look at it, let's get to present day, present time.

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00:10:05.390 --> 00:10:06.220

Dan Fitzpatrick: Okay.

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00:10:06.360 --> 00:10:12.109

Dan Fitzpatrick: If we look at this, we see the same thing. Let me get to a…

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00:10:15.570 --> 00:10:28.989

Dan Fitzpatrick: the post-market. We see this running all the way up, holding its… holding its high, all the way up until the last little bit, into the close. And so, this is another one, though, that overall.

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00:10:28.990 --> 00:10:40.360

Dan Fitzpatrick: we see that this stock did really, really well all the way up until the end of the day. So, these are two stocks that I think you really, really want to look at. I put on…

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00:10:40.360 --> 00:10:41.980

Dan Fitzpatrick: Crowdstrike.

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00:10:41.980 --> 00:10:58.480

Dan Fitzpatrick: which showed, the exact opposite. This has fallen, down into the close. So you want to be looking… bottom line is this, you want to be looking at seeing… to see how stocks trade, not just during the morning. You can kind of forget the middle of the day.

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00:10:58.480 --> 00:11:09.239

Dan Fitzpatrick: That's algorithm central. Nobody cares about the middle of the day. But you want to look at how they open, and then also how they close. If it's an op… if it's a strong open.

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00:11:09.240 --> 00:11:12.710

Dan Fitzpatrick: really needs to have a strong close as well. If it doesn't.

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00:11:13.460 --> 00:11:27.749

Dan Fitzpatrick: You gotta be a little nervous about that, okay? I'll put it that way. So, anyway, that's it for today. I hope this works for you. Members, if you have not watched today's session, it was a long one, but I gave you

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00:11:27.750 --> 00:11:33.060

Dan Fitzpatrick: and I highlighted them, I pounded the table on them, I gave you 3

62

00:11:33.060 --> 00:11:51.680

Dan Fitzpatrick: pro tips. Tips that experienced traders know, but if you're not super experienced, you may not know. So I definitely want you to check that out. Don't blow it off and say, oh, it's just Dan again. Yeah, it is just me again, helping you make some money, alright? Okay, see you guys next time.