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11 February 2021

TrendInvestorPro Annotated ETF ChartBook

Arthur Hill, CMT @arthurhill

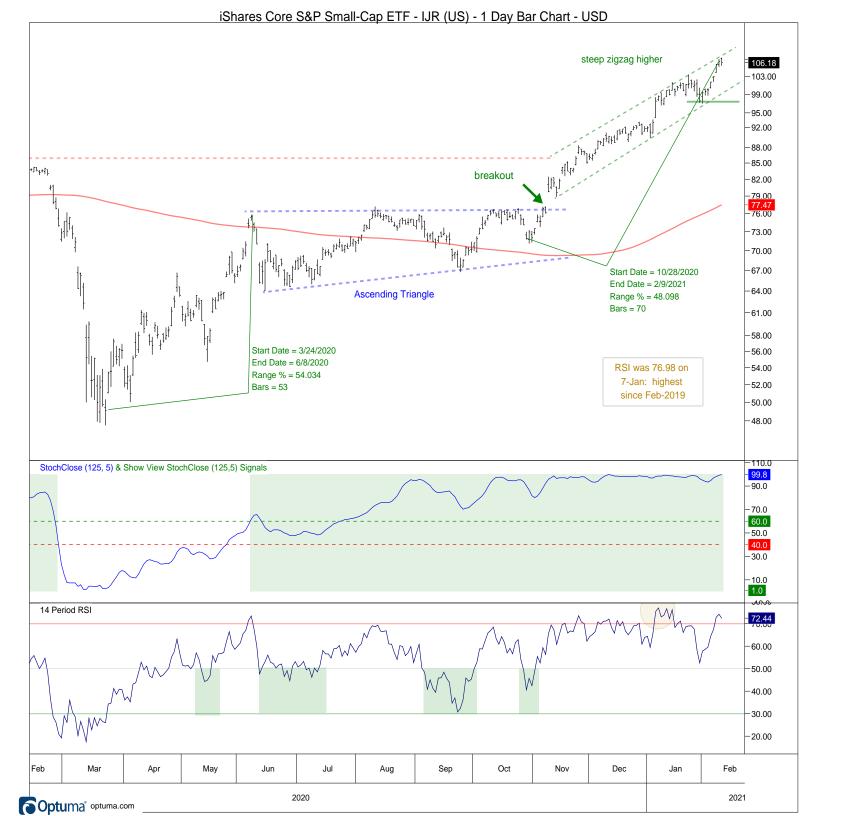






In contrast to IWM, the S&P 500 SPDR (SPY) has a modestly steep zigzag advance since the breakout on November 9th. SPY is up just 19.6% since November, which is less than half of the 49% surge in IWM. Even though the advance in SPY is less steep, SPY still sports a series of higher highs and higher lows since November 9th. The late January low marks the last higher low and a support level of sorts. The gray line shows the rising 50-day SMA for reference. As with IWM and others, a break below the late January low would end the string of higher lows and possibly set the stage for a corrective period. Such a move would also pave the way to an RSI move into the oversold zone and a mean-reversion setup.







The Russell 2000 ETF (IWM) remains with a steep zigzag advance since the early November surge. This zigzag features a string of higher highs and higher lows since early November. This is the most basic definition of an uptrend.

Pullbacks have been limited because RSI has not been below 50 since November 2nd. Also notice that RSI has been above 70 multiple times during this advance. The ability to exceed 70 shows strong pushes to the upside, while the ability to hold above 50 reflects limited selling pressure on the downside. It is a powerful combination.

The green line marks the late January low, which is a benchmark low and a support level of sorts. The string of higher lows remains as long as this level holds. A break here would likely provide the first oversold setup since late October, but could also signal the start of a corrective period, which is long overdue.



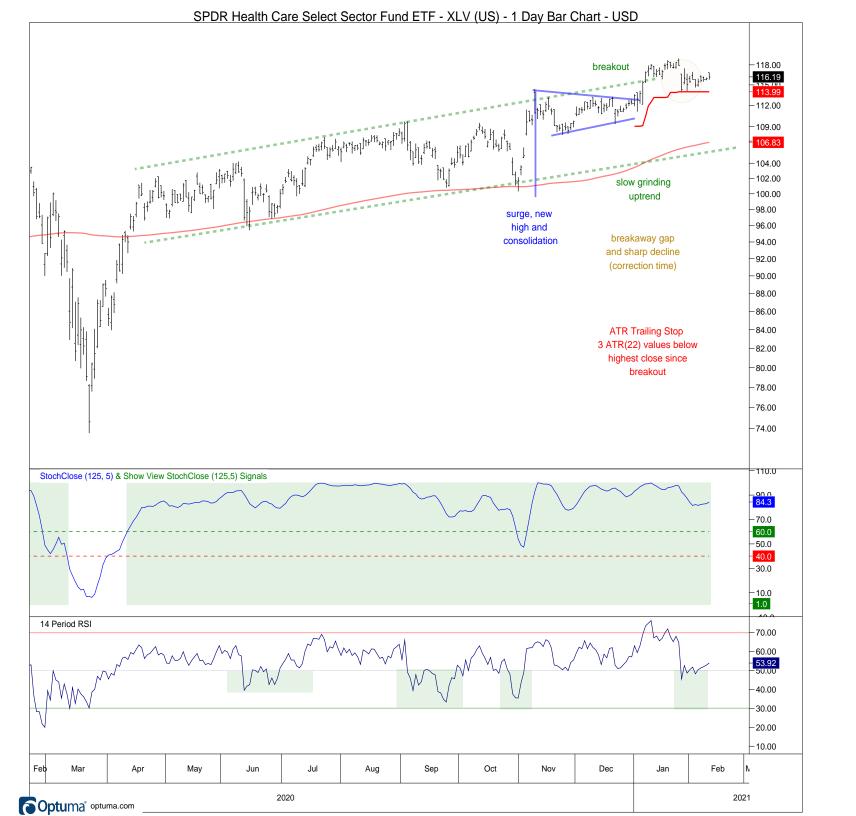
























The Software ETF (IGV) is in the trend monitoring phase after three breakouts since December.

Medium-term, the ETF broke out of the Ascending Triangle in mid December and hit a new high. Short-term, IGV fell back to the breakout zone with a falling flag and broke out. Most recently, A triangle consolidation formed and IGV broke out to new highs. Also notice that RSI dipped into the oversold zone twice in January.



The Semiconductor ETF (SOXX) remains in a strong uptrend and continues to show strong upside momentum overall. RSI reached its highest level in years in mid January and SOXX fell with an outsized decline the last week of the month (yellow zone). The ETF became mildly oversold as RSI dipped into the 40-50 zone and bounced with the rest of the market the last two weeks. While I still view SOXX as quite extended on several timeframes. trend and momentum remain strong and price action is the final arbiter. The late January low marks a benchmark low and the first level to watch for signs of weakness.





The Cloud Computing ETF (SKYY) represents another one of these monster advances since November. The ETF consolidated with the other tech-related ETFs from early September to mid November and then broke out to new highs in late November. SKYY is up almost 50% since late October with just one small pullback along the way. The trend is up, momentum is strong and RSI exceeded 83 on Tuesday. RSI last touched the 83 area in January 2018 and a corrective period followed. As with any strong advance, picking the spot for a pullback or consolidation is full hardy. Nevertheless, SKYY and others remain very extended. Again, this puts them in the trend monitoring phase. The red line shows the ATR Trailing Stop at 107.77 for reference. This is a short-term trailing stop based on the flag breakout.





The Mobile Payments ETF (IPAY) and FinTech ETF (FINX) show just how unreliable short-term support breaks can be. IPAY broke below its mid January lows with a sharp decline in late "January. This ""support break""" was the distraction, not the signal. It is often better to ignore short-term bearish signals when the bigger trend is up because the odds still favor a resolution in the direction of the bigger uptrend. Sure, one day a short-term bearish reversal will result in a bigger trend change, but these signals are more the exception than the norm. The long-term trend for IPAY was up and RSI dipped into the oversold zone (30-50). This oversold condition within a bigger uptrend provided the mean-reversion setup. IPAY obliged with a surge to new highs.







The Home Construction ETF (ITB) remains strong with a breakout, follow through and new high. Overall, ITB surged some 150% in 148 days and then consolidated with a narrowing range for over three months. Apparently, multi-month corrections still exist. ITB broke out with a surge in the second half of January and this signaled an end to the corrective period, and a resumption of the bigger uptrend. The breakout zone held on the little throwback in early February and ITB popped to a new high this week. The December-January lows mark key support for now.



The Regional Bank ETF (KRE) led the market higher with a 79% advance from late September to mid January. The ETF finally pulled back with a falling flag and RSI dipped into the oversold zone, though just barely because RSI did not dip below 45. This was the first dip below 50 since October 1st.

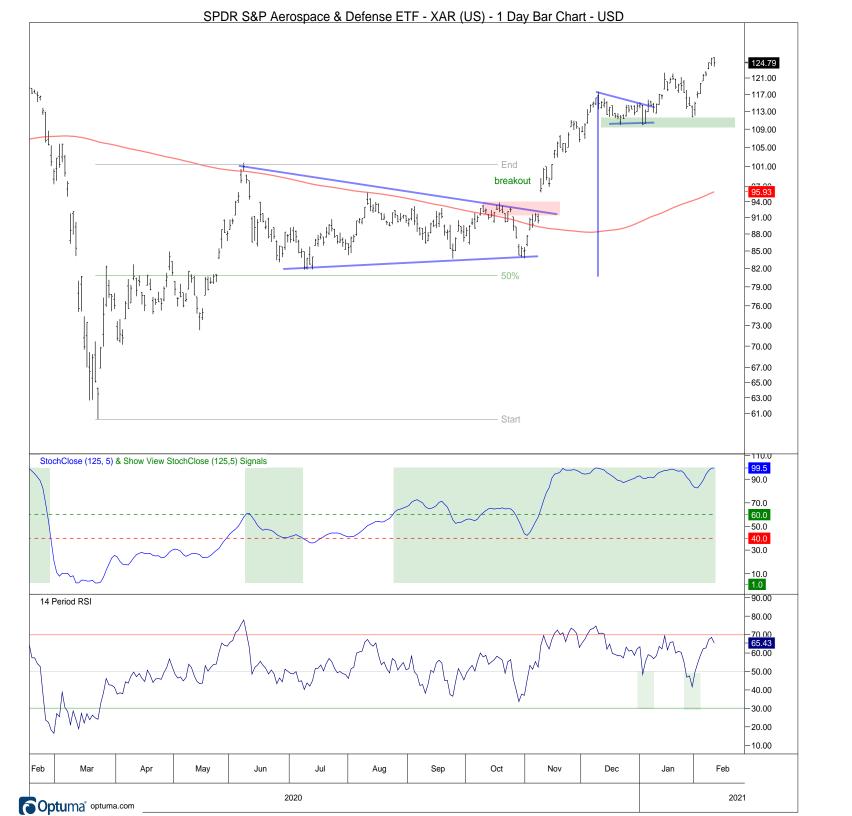
The flag breakout materialized with a gap on February 2nd and KRE is up over 10% the last eight days. Now is the time to manage the trade by considering a profit target, setting an ATR Trailing Stop or making an exit plan. The red line shows the ATR Trailing Stop based on the flag breakout.





The Residential REIT ETF (REZ) continues to make good on its wedge breakout and is challenging the November high. Overall, I see a slow uptrend since April, a falling wedge into January and a wedge breakout working. The green line marks the initial stop-loss and it held as REZ consolidated around the breakout zone. The red line shows the ATR Trailing Stop (2 x ATR(22) for reference.











The Alternative Harvest ETF (MJ) is joining the momentum fray with a 131% gain this year. MJ started the year with a wedge breakout, rested for a week with a small pennant and then surged like there's no tomorrow over the last two weeks. There is, of course, a tomorrow and investors are pricing in a future with legalized cannabis. I suspect that the momentum crowd is also juicing this one. The trend is up and the future is bright, but this is a parabolic advance and RSI is above 90. There is no play for such advances because they can extend or suddenly end. Check out XRT for a recent example.



The Biotech ETF (IBB) broke out in late November, but the move started with the rest of the market in early November and the ETF advanced some 30%. There was one pullback along the way, but RSI did not dip below 50. RSI shows a few pushes above 70 since early December and has not dipped below 50 since November 2nd. This is a long stretch without a dip below 50 and is testament to underlying strength. IBB is also in the trend monitoring phase. Now is time to consider a profit target or trailing stop, or simply wait for the next setup (pullback).



The Biotech SPDR (XBI) corrected from mid July to mid September with a falling channel, broke out in mid September and worked its way higher ever since. The advance accelerated in November as the ETF gained over 50% the last three months. This is one strong uptrend. There were some short pullbacks along the way, but RSI has not been below 50 since November 2nd. As with many of these strong uptrends, XBI is simply in the trend monitoring phase.



The Medical Devices ETF (IHI) represents the strongest of the four ETFs in slow and steady uptrends (XLV, IHI, IHF, PHO). It is the strongest because it hit a new high this week. The other three are quite close to new highs. The IHI chart shows a zigzag uptrend with several pullbacks along the way. Sometimes RSI flirts with the oversold zone for a few weeks and sometimes it bounces out immediately. The dip in late January did not last long as RSI bounced and the ETF moved to a new high. These ETFs are simply in the trend monitoring phase.





The Energy SPDR (XLE), Oil & Gas Equipment & Services ETF (XES) and Oil & Gas Exploration & Production ETF (XOP) also formed bull flags as RSI dipped into the oversold zone at the end of January. All three broke out and extended after their breakouts.

XES is shown with the ATR
Trailing Stop, which is 2 ATR(22)
values below the highest close
since the breakout. This means it
will rise as long as prices rise
after the breakout. XES is
currently up over 12% the last
eight days and up 100% since
late October.



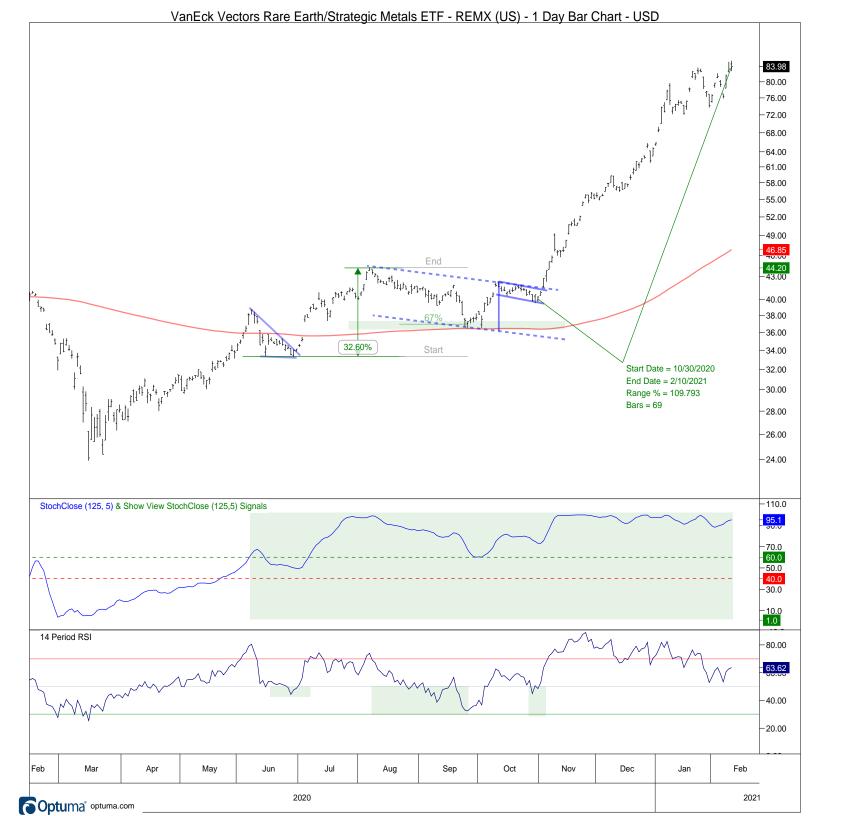






The Metals & Mining SPDR (XME) is somewhat related to base metals because it has aluminum stocks (18.6%) and copper stocks (5.3%). The biggest holding, however, goes to steel stocks, which account for 48%. XME is largely a play on steel.

The chart setup here is pretty obvious: long-term uptrend, RSI oversold, falling flag, flag breakout. The post breakout extension is not as strong as the extensions seen in KRE or XES, but the breakout is still bullish and valid. A close below 33 would call for a short-term re-evaluation.

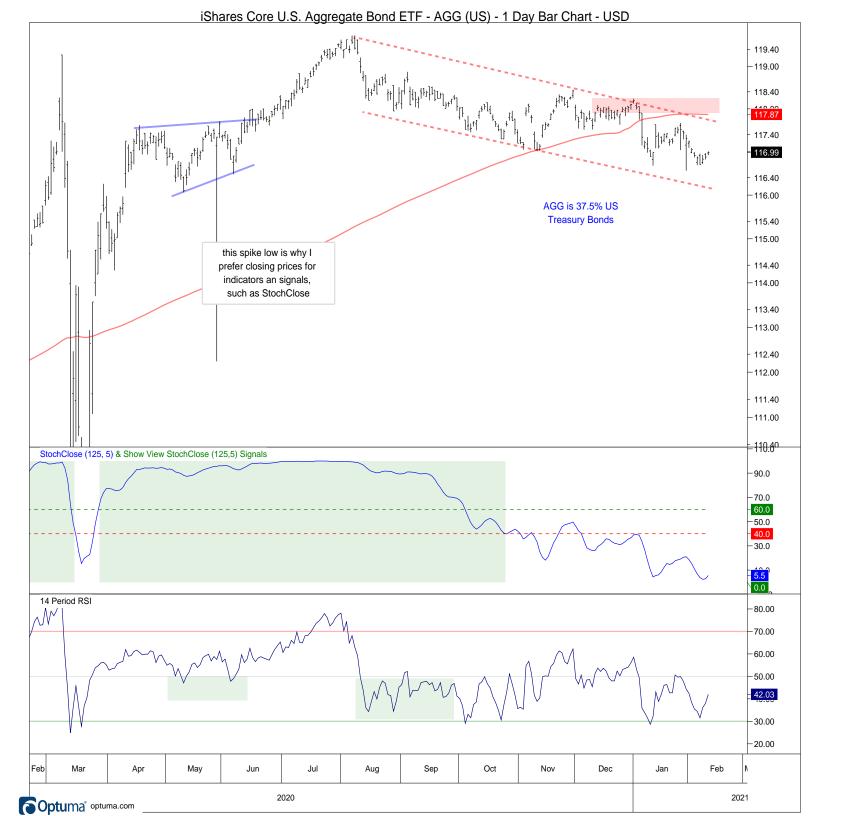


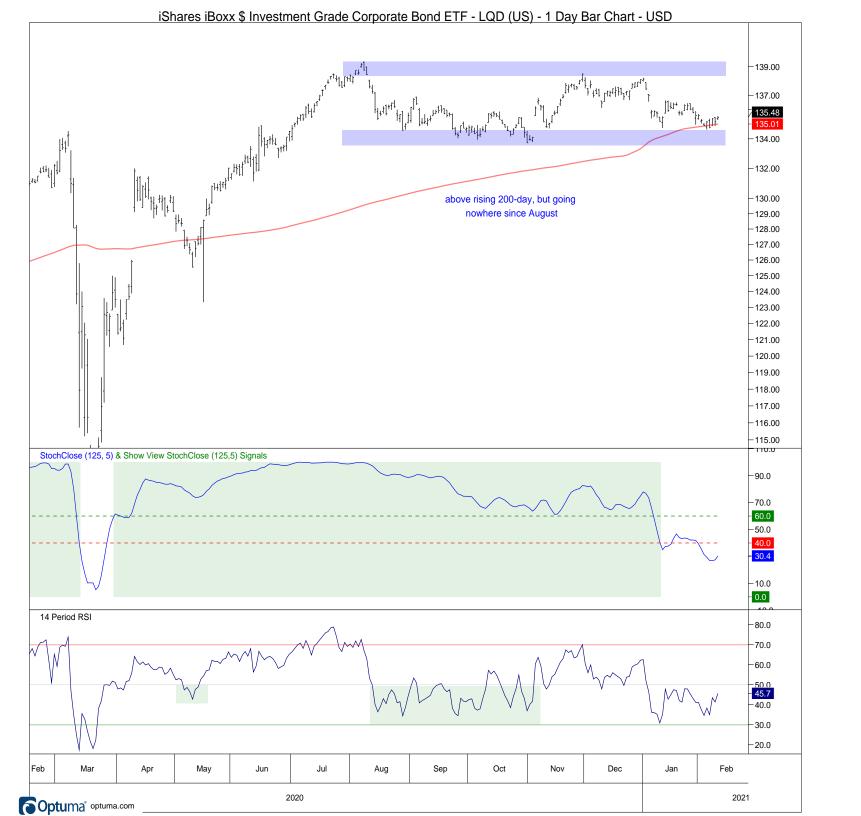
















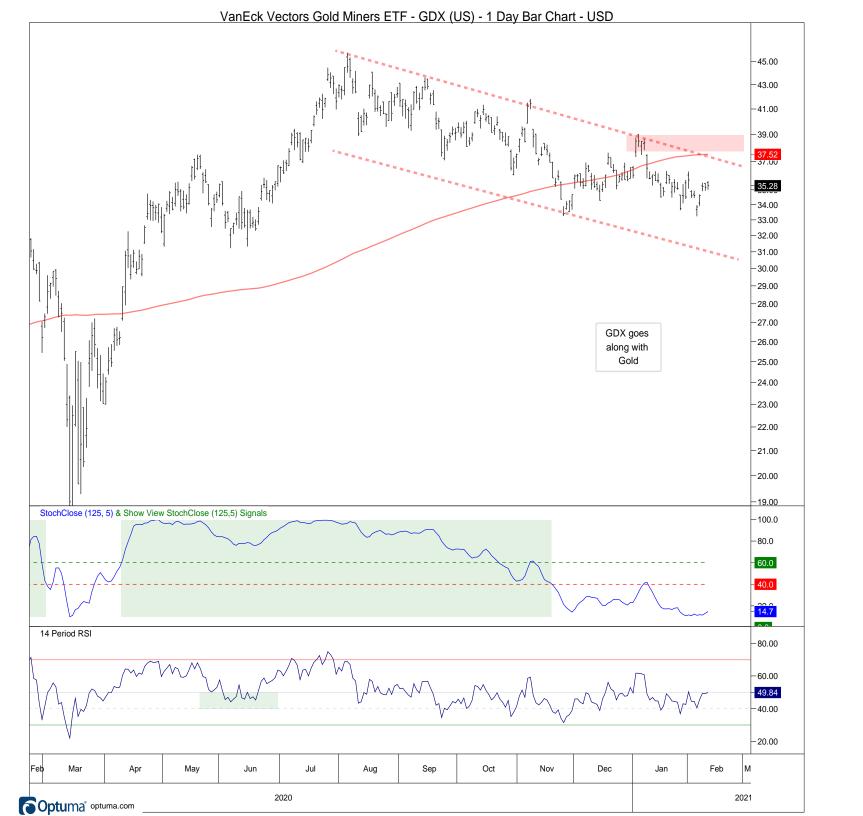








SLV sports a bullish chart overall with a long-term uptrend (price is above the rising 200-day and StochClose is bull). The ETF broke out of a triangle consolidation in mid December and this breakout is holding, even though follow through has been rather choppy. Nonetheless, the breakout zone held and remains valid as long as SLV holds 22.

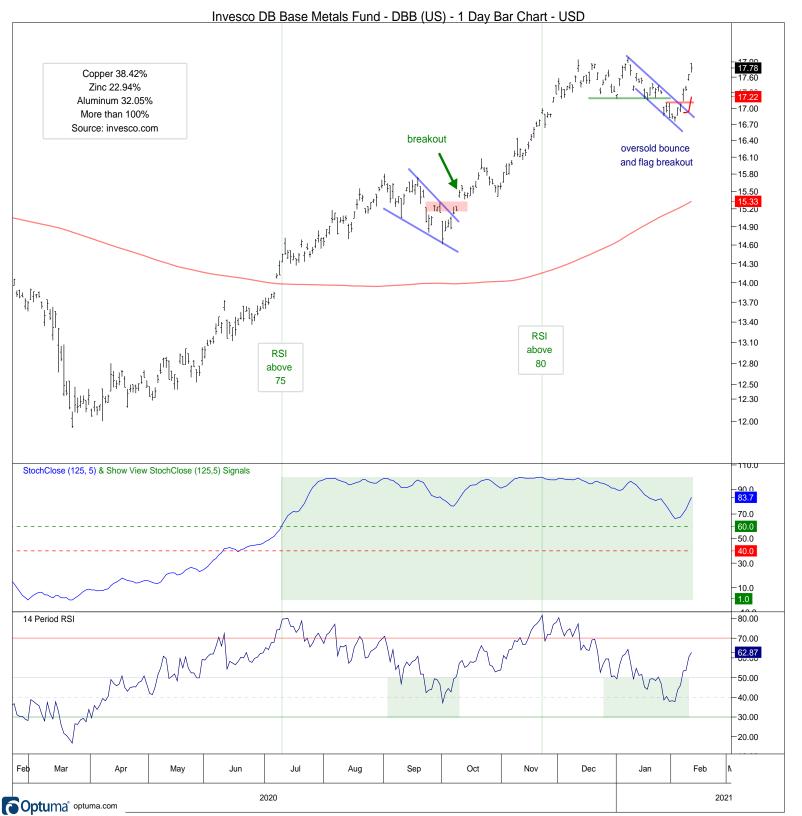






Energy related ETFs got big pops the last eight days as oil surged and the DB Energy ETF (DBE) broke out of its flag pattern. DBE has been trending higher since the mid November breakout with a series of small consolidations along the way. Notice that RSI has not been below 50 since November 6th and recently exceeded 80.

RSI was also above 80 in April 2019, May 2018 and November 2017. These were not good buying opportunities as DBE fell or corrected in subsequent weeks each time. For now, the trend is up and strong. Overbought is not reason enough to turn bearish, but an extreme reading in RSI does argue for some caution going forward.



The DB Base Metals ETF (DBB) provides another example of short-term support breaks being unreliable when they occur in long-term uptrends. Also keep in mind that DBB has three moving parts (Copper, Aluminum and Zinc). Each one of these has its own support level and their support levels don't always match. Support and resistance get even more imprecise for ETFs with dozens of moving parts.

DBB hit a new high in early January, the ETF was above the rising 200-day and StochClose has been bullish since early July. DBB broke support in early February, but this break created an oversold condition within a bigger uptrend as RSI dipped below 40. Furthermore, a flag formed and these patterns are typical for corrections within a bigger uptrend. DBB broke out of the flag and is back near its January high. The red line shows the ATR Trailing Stop for reference.



The DB Agriculture ETF (DBA) broke out in November and worked its way higher with two short pennants along the way (blue lines). The ATR Trailing Stop held the entire way as a steep rising channel took hold. While a channel break and move below the ATR Trailing Stop would be short-term negative, it would just set up the next mean-reversion opportunity when RSI dips into the oversold zone. There is no setup now, just a strong uptrend that requires some monitoring.

