Frequently asked questions:

1. Can we take financial data from the annual reports?

Ans: No. Financial data should be taken only from the website mentioned in the instructions.

2. We find that the ratio on the website does not match with the raw data. Can we recalculate the ratios? For eg: debt equity ratio is given as 0.25, but our computation shows the answer as 0.40

Ans: No. You will **ONLY** use the website values. In the case of the above example, you will use 0.25 as debt equity ratio for your analysis.

3. What if I wish to use a ratio for which the value is not given on the website?

Ans: You may compute. However, the raw financial data should be taken from the website only.

4. Can I include non-financial data (eg: customer satisfaction scores, market share) available in company's annual report or industry relevant data available on other sources?

Ans: Yes (only authentic source, must be cited below the data visualization).

5. Can I take financial data of competitors and other industry benchmark valued to enhance my analysis?

Ans: Yes (only authentic source, must be cited below the data visualization).

6. Should I do strategic business models like Porters / SWOT etc?

Ans: No. Play with numbers only.

7. Where can I find data visualization tools?

Ans: MS excel has options to create various type of graphs and charts. A snap shot is given below:



Alternatively, free resources are available on the Internet. You many use any type of visual presentation that best suit your analysis.

8. Any minimum or maximum number of charts and diagrams?

Ans: No. You must fit it on a SINGLE A0 poster, that's all.

9. Should we give chart titles, data labels, axis labels, reference, etc.?

Ans: Of course (otherwise you will lose marks). The poster should be self-explanatory to any person who has reasonable financial knowledge.

10. Do all the members of the team have to talk during the one minute?

Ans: No. It is your choice as to how many members must talk. Any team member can answer questions of the judges. No penalties for the presentation being handled by one team member. No extra reward for all team members' active participation in Q & A. The focus of the competition is the Poster presentation.

11. The poster should be printed or manually prepared?

Ans: It is better to get it printed. Since it is AO size, you cannot use the university printer. **Do not approach Mr. Sukumar** (Printing in charge) in the university for this purpose. You can get it done from any outside printing service at a minimal cost. If you do not wish to spend a penny, manually prepared posters are also accepted.

12. Can I contact the Accounting and Finance faculty to review my draft analysis?

Ans: Strictly No.

13. Can we take external mentor's help?

Ans: Strictly prohibited.

14. Can we discuss with other teams for suggestions?

Ans: Strictly prohibited.

15. Will I be given attendance if I miss a class on the competition day?

Ans: Yes (Dr. Vijaya will sign the blue form)

16. Should we come in business attire?

Ans. Yes

17. Will you disclose the judges name in advance?

Ans. No

18. Is it compulsory for all the members to come 30 min before the competition to display the poster?

Ans. No, it is enough if one (or any number you decide) member comes 30 min before! However, all the members should arrive 10 min before the event.

19. When will you declare the results?

Ans. Soon after the event!

Still confused? You may email Ms. Rashita Puthiya (<u>R.Puthiya@mdx.ac.ae</u>) or Dr. Vijaya Kumar (<u>v.kumar@mdx.ac.ae</u>) for general queries.