

DISCUSSION ONE:

Prior to beginning work on this discussion forum, read Chapter 6 in the course textbook, *Using Financial Accounting Information: The Alternative to Debits and Credits*.

After reading Chapter 6 in the textbook, address the following:

- Discuss how management can control cash. Your discussion should include what tools management may use to control cash.
- Using the same company and annual financial statements that you chose for your [Week 1 - Discussion Forum](#), Reading and Using the Annual Report Case Study, disclose the company's cash balance, and discuss if you believe the company has too much or too little cash. Be sure to support your opinions with supporting facts.
- Discuss management's responsibility to establish overall basic internal controls. Provide a real-life example from a work situation where you saw basic internal controls in place.

Your initial response should be a minimum of 200 words. Support your response with at least one scholarly and/or credible resource, in addition to the text.

DISCUSSION TWO:

Prior to beginning work on this discussion forum, read Chapters 7 and 8 in the course textbook, *Using Financial Accounting Information: The Alternative to Debits and Credits*.

You may consider using the same company and annual report that you chose for your [Week 1 - Discussion Forum](#), Reading and Using the Annual Report Case Study. This choice will work only if the company is using the straight-line depreciation method. The company's choice of depreciation method can be located in the notes to the financial statement in the annual report. If the company does not use this method or does not have long-term assets, you will need to choose another company. Select a company that a fellow student has not already posted.

Using your selected company's financial statement,

- Calculate the average life, average age, and asset turnover ratios. Discuss what each ratio tells you in the context of your chosen company.
- Calculate the accounts receivable turnover ratio and convert that ratio into days. Discuss what each ratio tells you in the context of your chosen company.

Your initial response should be a minimum of 200 words. Support your response with at least one scholarly and/or credible resource, in addition to the text.

DISCUSSION 3:

Prior to beginning work on this discussion forum, read Chapter 9 in the course textbook, *Using Financial Accounting Information: The Alternative to Debits and Credits*.

Using the same company and annual reports that you chose for your [Week 1 - Discussion Forum](#), Reading and Using the Annual Report Case Study,

- Calculate the current ratio and quick ratio for the latest two years, obtain the industry average ratios from [IBISWorld](#), and analyze the results.
 - The [IBISWorld](#) database is accessible through the Ashford University Library. This database contains industry reports and market research on more than 1,300 United States industries. The reports provide key data, financial ratios, and benchmarks, plus industry forecasts. IBISWorld's Data Wizard tool allows comparisons between a chosen company and industry best practices. If needed, review the [Industry Wizard - Industry Product \(Links to an external site.\)](#)
 - tutorial on how to use this database.
- Discuss what each of these ratios tells you about the company's current financial condition, and how they compare to the industry averages.
- Identify the major causes of any changes in these ratios and discuss your assessment of the company based on these changes.
- Review the balance sheet and the notes to the most recent financial statements, and identify any contingent liabilities.
- Discuss whether or not you agree with how the company chose to treat each contingency on the financial statements (i.e., recorded vs. disclosed, but not recorded).
- Discuss the effect on the financial statements of the company's treatment of the contingency.
- Discuss whether the contingent liabilities change your assessment of the company.

Your initial response should be a minimum of 200 words. Support your response with at least one scholarly and/or credible resource, in addition to the text.

DISCUSSION FOUR:

Prior to beginning work on this discussion forum, read Chapter 10 in the course textbook, *Using Financial Accounting Information: The Alternative to Debits and Credits*.

Using the same company and annual reports that you chose for your [Week 1 – Discussion Forum](#), Reading and Using the Annual Report Case Study,

- Calculate the debt-to-equity ratio and times interest earned ratio for the company for the last two years. Obtain the industry averages for these ratios and any other pertinent information from [IBISWorld](#), and then analyze the results.
- Discuss what each of these ratios tells you about the company's use of debt and how it compares to the industry average.
- Identify the major causes of any changes in these ratios and discuss your assessment of the company based on these changes.
- If you were a lender, discuss whether you would be willing to lend money to the company based on its use of debt.

Your initial response should be a minimum of 200 words. Support your response with at least one scholarly and/or credible resource, in addition to the text.