Course Project Horizontal Analysis – Week 2

Your outline should include (but is not limited to) the following.

I. Choice of Companies and an Overview of Their Operations and Industry – Briefly outline what each company does and its industry. (5 points)

II. Discussion of Current Issues Impacting Financial Statements – Include any relevant current event information, news that has affected financial statements, or world events that could impact the businesses. Research will have to be done on this. Some good sources of information include the most recent annual reports for each company (these can be found online for all publicly-traded companies; utilize the most current year-end annual reports available), Yahoo! Finance, the MSN Money website (this will provide current information on your company and some ratio information), and various business magazines. You can find the websites suggested under the Webliography tab in the course. (5 points)

III. Relevant Ratios and Discussion – List and discuss what ratios you think are relevant to your companies and industry. Go to the Excel spreadsheet (sample posted) in Doc Sharing, review the ratios listed under the ratio tab, and pick what you think may be relevant. In one to two paragraphs, briefly discuss ten ratios you think may be important, and include ratios from the different categories. The ratios will be automatically calculated on the spreadsheet. **The automatic calculation is only if you used the sample spreadsheet. If you created your own spreadsheets you will have to calculate the ratios.**(10 points)

IV. Excel Spreadsheet - Input the financial data for your company into your spreadsheet. These numbers should be found in the company's most recent year-end annual reports (utilize the most recent available year-end numbers. Use Excel formulas as much as possible in your spreadsheet design. Complete a separate spreadsheet for each company. Please submit both spreadsheets. (20 points)"

V. References

Written content and explanations should be completed in a separate (Word) document.

Again you are completing a Word document and submitted Excel worksheets (two).