FAME Database

LRC Helpsheet

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Financial Analysis Made Easy (FAME)

FAME is a database containing detailed financial information about public and private companies in the UK and Ireland. It contains information for 1.4 million companies including turnover, company news, profit and loss, ratios, and other financial information. FAME can be used to produce reports on individual companies, or for company peer group analysis.

There are two ways of searching FAME – quick search, and criteria lists.

Searching for Information Using Quick Search

To quickly find information, you can enter a company name, registered number, company director name, postcode, or UK SIC classification into the search box.

You will then get a list of companies that match your keywords. To view the standard company report, click on the name of the company.

You can export, email, or print the company report; read it on screen; or select specific sections e.g. legal and accounts; size and main activity; industry and brand names; industry research; financials and ratios; credit data; gazette data; stock data; directors and contacts; ownership; mortgage data; filing details; advisors and auditors; trading addresses; news and deals; notes; and peer reports.

Searching for Information Using Criteria Lists

You can also use FAME to build lists of companies that meet a range of criteria, e.g. location, turnover, sector, and number of employees.

Example: Searching by Location

You can keep adding different criteria until you are ready to see the list of results of companies. To remove a criteria click the 'x' next to the criteria name.

When you have your list of results, you can read individual company reports by clicking on the name of the company, or you can select a group of companies to analyse.

Company Analysis

FAME allows you to perform six types of company analysis:

1. Segmentation Analysis

Segmentation analysis allows you to create a two dimensional analysis on selected companies and variables. It can create a profile of a particular market, for example what industries are based in which regions, or what is the turnover of companies in a certain region. There are two default segmentation analyses that you can choose, or you can use the segmentation wizard to create your own.

2. Peer Analysis

Peer analysis allows you to compare a company with other companies from its peer group in fully customisable tables and graphs, e.g. key financials, net turnover. You can select the companies using the list builder, or FAME will produce a list of peers that match the company you searched for.

3. Aggregation Analysis

Aggregation analysis allows you to sum up the lines of all the selected companies accounts and view this account in customisable tables and a variety of graphs. There are two default analyses – balance sheets and profit and loss accounts, or you can use the aggregation wizard to create your own.

4. Statistical Distribution Analysis

Statistical distribution analysis allows you to analyse how a specific variable is distributed in a group of companies. The default analysis looks at turnover; however you can use the statistical distribution analysis wizard to build your own.

5. Concentration Analysis

Concentration analysis allows you to determine the weight of each selected company for any financial variable, e.g. total assets. The default analyses will look at turnover; however you can use the concentration wizard to create your own.

6. Linear Regression Analysis

Linear regression analysis is used to determine the relationship between two random variables by plotting, in a two dimensional graph, all the observations, and constructing a straight line that best fits the data. The default analysis looks at turnover by number of employees, or you can use the linear regression wizard to build your own analysis.

Exporting and saving reports and analyses

To download a report, click on at the top right of the page. Select which version of Excel you are using and whether you want to download the report for the company that you currently have displayed, or for all the companies that you have in your list. Click OK to begin the download.

Example: Creating a Statistical Distribution Analysis

- Search for a company or create a list of companies (see above).
- Select a minimum of five companies by ticking the box next to their names.
- Select 'Statistical distribution' and then 'New analysis' to open the wizard.
- Choose the variables you need for your analysis, then click 'Next'.

- Choose the year(s) you wish to analyse and then click 'Next'.
- Choose the type(s) of chart you need, edit the display options (e.g. currency) by selecting 'Display options', and then click 'Finish'.
- You can then export, send, or print your analysis report.

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