

Financial Shenanigans How To Detect Accounting Gimmicks Fraud In Financial Reports Third Edition

When companies suffer a dramatic even catastrophic drop in their share price, it is the investors who lose their shirts and employees their jobs. But often, a company's published accounts offer clues to impending disaster, providing you know where to look. Through the forensic examination of more than 20 recent stock market disasters, Tim Steer reveals how companies hide or disguise worrying facts about the robustness of their business. In his lively style, he looks at the themes that underlie the ways companies hide the truth and he stresses that in an assessment of a company's accounts, investors should always bear in mind that the only fact is cash; everything else - profit, assets, etc - is a matter of opinion. Full of invaluable lessons for investors, the book concludes with some trenchant observations on what is wrong in the worlds of investment, audit and financial regulation, and what changes should be introduced. In 2009, high-profile fraud cases like the Ponzi schemes of Bernard Madoff and Arthur Nadel vividly illustrated the harm done to investors who placed their trust in these apparently successful money managers and then discovered their money had never been invested at all. News stories featured 90-year-olds forced by necessity to work in supermarkets, elderly people losing their homes because their life savings were gone,

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and wealthy retirees suddenly unable to pay their electricity bills. Charities were forced to curtail their services, lay off staff, and even close their doors forever as their funds evaporated. Almost every day, there are stories in the media about dishonest employees who have robbed their organisations of hundreds of thousands of dollars. Not so well-publicised are the countless smaller thefts occurring every day from cash registers, warehouses, and business bank accounts. Sadly, the organisations that have the most to lose small businesses, family-run companies, churches, and charities are often the most vulnerable because of their size and inexperience. According to the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners, accounting fraud cost over \$994 billion in 2008, and the average organisation lost 7 percent of its total revenue to fraud. How can you prevent this from happening to you as an investor, business owner, or a person attempting to acquire or merge with another firm? Read this book and you will be able to understand, detect, and avoid accounting fraud. You will learn how to identify fraud, how to spot minor abnormalities that may hide fraud, how to spot forgeries, and how to prove your case, as well as what to immediately suspect and methods for uncovering scams. You will know what signs to look for, including excessive turnover of lawyers and auditors, changing professionals in the middle of a transaction, inconsistent information, and significant declines in stock prices. In addition, you will know how to recognise the common manoeuvres, earnings manipulation, premature and fictitious revenue, overvalued assets, undervalued liabilities, bogus revenue, expenses that have

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been shifted to another period, overstating revenues, understating expenses, and the misuse and misdirecting of funds. This new book is filled with studies and discussions of fraud cases and how they could have been avoided, checklists for detecting accounts misdeeds, and advice from analysts, CFOs, and CPAs. This manual will be an indispensable aid for serious investors, industry pros, acquisition and merger managers, and small business owners alike. After reading this book you will no longer have to worry about accounting fraud and you can increase your company's profits. Financial fraud, whether large or small is a persistent feature of the financial markets. If you scratch the surface of the investment world you'll find a continuous stream of major financial scandals which are almost unbelievable in the sheer scale of their subterfuge. The Con Men shines a spotlight on some of these gargantuan frauds from the last 25 years. It questions how these men did it, why they did it, how there were able to get away with it, proposes strategies and tactics so that the reader can avoid being swindled.

Techniques to uncover and avoid accounting frauds and scams Inflated profits . . . Suspicious write-offs . . . Shifted expenses . . . These and other dubious financial maneuvers have taken on a contemporary twist as companies pull out the stops in seeking to satisfy Wall Street. Financial Shenanigans pulls back the curtain on the current climate of accounting fraud. It presents tools that anyone who is potentially affected by misleading business valuations from investors and lenders to managers and

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auditors can use to research and read financial reports, and to identify early warning signs of a company's problems. A bestseller in its first edition, *Financial Shenanigans* has been thoroughly updated for today's marketplace. New chapters, data, and research reveal contemporary "shenanigans" that have been known to fool even veteran researchers.

This question and answer book is the perfect resource guide for equipping individuals with key information about everyday money matters. Questions and answers deal with 100+ of the most-asked questions from *The Dave Ramsey Show*—everything from budget planning to retirement planning or personal buying matters, to saving for college and charitable giving. This is Dave in his most popular format—ask a specific question, get a specific answer.

Accounting for Value teaches investors and analysts how to handle accounting in evaluating equity investments. The book's novel approach shows that valuation and accounting are much the same: valuation is actually a matter of accounting for value. Laying aside many of the tools of modern finance the cost-of-capital, the CAPM, and discounted cash flow analysis Stephen Penman returns to the common-sense principles that have long guided fundamental investing: price is what you pay but value is what you get; the risk in investing is the risk of paying too much; anchor on what you know rather than speculation; and beware of paying too much for speculative growth. Penman puts these ideas in touch with the quantification supplied by accounting,

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producing practical tools for the intelligent investor. Accounting for value provides protection from paying too much for a stock and clues the investor in to the likely return from buying growth. Strikingly, the analysis finesses the need to calculate a "cost-of-capital," which often frustrates the application of modern valuation techniques.

Accounting for value recasts "value" versus "growth" investing and explains such curiosities as why earnings-to-price and book-to-price ratios predict stock returns. By the end of the book, Penman has the intelligent investor thinking like an intelligent accountant, better equipped to handle the bubbles and crashes of our time. For accounting regulators, Penman also prescribes a formula for intelligent accounting reform, engaging with such controversial issues as fair value accounting.

A comprehensive look at financial statement fraud from the experts who actually investigated them This collection of revealing case studies sheds clear insights into the dark corners of financial statement fraud. Includes cases submitted by fraud examiners across industries and throughout the world Fascinating cases hand-picked and edited by Joseph T. Wells, the founder and Chairman of the world's leading anti-fraud organization ? the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE) ? and author of Corporate Fraud Handbook Outlines how each fraud was engineered, how it was investigated and how the perpetrators were brought to justice Providing an insider's look at fraud, Financial Statement Fraud Casebook illuminates the combination of timing, teamwork and vision necessary to understand financial statement fraud and

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prevent it from happening in the first place.

50 powerful tools to uncovering accounting gimmicks based on case histories of corporations that brought in millions of investment dollars before being financially exposed.

From the “Sherlock Holmes of Accounting,” the tools you need to stay a step ahead of the crooks “Howard Schilit is the authority on forensic accounting. Financial Shenanigans is invaluable reading for market participants seeking to identify deceptive behavior in company financial statements.” Julian Robertson, legendary investor and founder, Tiger Management “A must-read! The authors teach forensic financial statement analysis in an easy-to-digest format with lots of war stories. Guaranteed to help investors in their quest to avoid ticking time bombs in their portfolios.” Marc A. Siegel, board member, Financial Accounting Standards Board “This is a timeless guide to better understand how financial malfeasance can be spotted early. Financial Shenanigans teaches all of us fraud-detection-made-easy.” Jules Kroll, pioneering private investigator and founder of Kroll Associates and K2 Global “Required reading for every investor who desires to avoid financial losses. This new edition is a classic and better than ever.” Thornton L. O’glove, author, Quality of Earnings “If the original Financial Shenanigans was the Bible of detecting accounting frauds, then this latest

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version is the Talmud of cooked books. Regulators, audit committee members, and business journalists should be required to read this work if they are involved in public companies.” Boris Feldman, partner, Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, Palo Alto “An incisive and entertaining review of the recipes used by corporations and executives to ‘cook the books.’ It’s a must-read for investors, lawyers, corporate directors, and anyone else interested in the integrity of the accounting and governance process.” Joseph A. Grundfest, professor of law and business and codirector, Rock Center on Corporate Governance, Stanford Law School

About the Book: With major financial scandals popping up in greater numbers—and with more inevitably on the way—it has never been more important for you to understand what dishonest companies do to trick investors. Since the early 1990s, *Financial Shenanigans* has been helping investors unearth deceptive financial reporting at the most critical time— before they suffer major losses. Now, the third edition broadens its focus to include the newest, most sophisticated techniques companies use to mislead investors. Referred to as the “Sherlock Holmes of Accounting” by *BusinessWeek*, Howard Schilit and renowned forensic accounting expert Jeremy Perler take you deeper into the corporate bag of tricks, exposing new levels of accounting gimmickry and arming you with the investigative tools you need to detect: Earnings Manipulation

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Shenanigans: Learn the latest tricks companies use to exaggerate revenue and earnings. Cash Flow Shenanigans: Discover new techniques devised by management that allow it to manipulate cash flow as easily as earnings. Key Metrics Shenanigans: See how companies use misleading “key” metrics to fool investors about their financial performance. Financial Shenanigans brings you completely up to date on accounting chicanery in the global markets, shining a light on the most shocking frauds and financial reporting miscreants. This insightful, detailed guide written by recognized experts on the subject provides the knowledge and tools you need to spot even the most subtle signs of financial shenanigans.

Praise for The Financial Numbers Game "So much for the notion 'those who can, do-those who can't, teach.' Mulford and Comiskey function successfully both as college professors and real-world financial mercenaries. These guys know their balance sheets. The Financial Numbers Game should serve as a survival manual for both serious individual investors and industry pros who study and act upon the interpretation of financial statements. This unique blend of battle-earned scholarship and quality writing is a must-read/must-have reference for serious financial statement analysis." --Bob Acker, Editor/Publisher, The Acker Letter
"Wall Street's unforgiving attention to quarterly earnings presents ever increasing

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pressure on CFOs to manage earnings and expectations. The Financial Numbers Game provides a clear explanation of the ways in which management can stretch, bend, and break accounting rules to reach the desired bottom line. This arms the serious investor or financial analyst with the healthy skepticism required to drive beyond reported results to a clear understanding of a firm's true performance." --Mark Hurley, Managing Director, Training and Development, Global Corporate and Investment Banking, Bank of America "After reading The Financial Numbers Game, I feel as though I've taken a master's level course in financial statement analysis. Mulford and Comiskey's latest book should be required reading for anyone who is serious about fundamentally analyzing stocks." --Harry Domash, San Francisco Chronicle investing columnist and investment newsletter publisher

Learn how to detect any corporate sleight of hand—and gain the upper hand with smart investing Investing expert John Del Vecchio and “Motley Fool” Tom Jacobs offer a compelling argument that the secret to stock-market success today isn’t finding the next Google or eBay, but avoiding the next AIG or Enron. To that end, they offer simple, clear techniques for detecting when and how legitimate companies make their numbers look better than they are. What's Behind the Numbers? offers seven rules for finding companies playing

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with—rather than by—the numbers and explains how to avoid losing money by determining exactly when a stock is about to head south. John Del Vecchio, CFA, serves as a Principal of Ranger Alternative Management and principal of Parabolix Research, Inc. Tom Jacobs is lead advisor for the Motley Fool Special Ops, a stock service where he manages a special situations and opportunistic portfolio. He is cofounder of Complete Growth Investor LLC.

In 2002, Einhorn spoke publicly about Allied Capital--a leader in the private finance industry--presenting it as an excellent short opportunity. Einhorn describes the incredible events that followed his speech and how Allied and the investment community attacked him to protect the company--and its stock price. Informative and intriguing, "Fooling Some of the People All of the Time" details how the current environment on Wall Street--and the world of hedge funds in particular-- not only allows for such behavior, but how it protects the companies and attacks those who attempt to uncover them.--From publisher's description.

Gain a deeper understanding of Asian financial reporting and how to detect irregularities The Asian region, and particularly China, is becoming a hotbed of investment activity. There have been quite a few accounting scandals in Asia in the recent years – now rivaling those we have seen in the Americas and Europe. Assessing potential or active overseas investments requires reliance on financial

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statements, the full parameters of which may vary from region to region. To effectively analyze statements, it is necessary to first understand the framework underlying these financial statements and then lay out a protocol for detecting irregularities. It's impossible to create and implement a practical plan without a deeper knowledge of the various factors at play. *Asian Statement Analysis: Detecting Financial Irregularities* provides a framework for analysis that makes irregularities stand out. Authors Chin Hwee Tan and Thomas R. Robinson discuss international financial reporting standards, including characteristics particular to the Asian region. Tan and Robinson's combined background in academia and Asian finance give them a multi-modal perspective and position them as top authorities on the topic. In the book, they address issues such as: Detection of irregularities independent of particular accounting rules The most common irregularities in the Asian market Similarities and differences between U.S. and Asian accounting techniques An overarching framework for irregularity detection The book uses real-world examples to illustrate the concepts presented, with the focus on Asian companies. As the first ever in-depth study on manipulation and irregularities in the Asian market, *Asian Financial Statement Analysis: Detecting Financial Irregularities* is uniquely positioned to be a valuable resource in the move toward the next phase of global reporting standards.

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Provides an introduction to financial accounting for non-financial managers by way of a transaction-based, business training tool. Includes real-life examples of how financial statements are built and how they interact to present a true financial picture of the enterprise.

A practical guide to making more informed investment decisions Investors often buy or sell stocks too quickly. When you base your purchase decisions on isolated facts and don't take the time to thoroughly understand the businesses you are buying, stock-price swings and third-party opinion can lead to costly investment mistakes. Your decision making at this point becomes dangerous because it is dominated by emotions. The Investment Checklist has been designed to help you develop an in-depth research process, from generating and researching investment ideas to assessing the quality of a business and its management team. The purpose of The Investment Checklist is to help you implement a principled investing strategy through a series of checklists. In it, a thorough and comprehensive research process is made simpler through the use of straightforward checklists that will allow you to identify quality investment opportunities. Each chapter contains detailed demonstrations of how and where to find the information necessary to answer fundamental questions about investment opportunities. Real-world examples of how investment managers

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and CEOs apply these universal principles are also included and help bring the concepts to life. These checklists will help you consider a fuller range of possibilities in your investment strategy, enhance your ability to value your investments by giving you a holistic view of the business and each of its moving parts, identify the risks you are taking, and much more. Offers valuable insights into one of the most important aspects of successful investing, in-depth research. Written in an accessible style that allows aspiring investors to easily understand and apply the concepts covered. Discusses how to think through your investment decisions more carefully. With The Investment Checklist, you'll quickly be able to ascertain how well you understand your investments by the questions you are able to answer, or not answer, without making the costly mistakes that usually hinder other investors.

Practical examples, sample reports, best practices and recommendations to help you deter, detect, and prevent financial statement fraud. Financial statement fraud (FSF) continues to be a major challenge for organizations worldwide. Financial Statement Fraud: Prevention and Detection, Second Edition is a superior reference providing you with an up-to-date understanding of financial statement fraud, including its deterrence, prevention, and early detection. You will find a clear description of roles and responsibilities of all those involved in corporate

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governance and the financial reporting process to improve the quality, reliability and transparency of financial information. Sample reports, examples, and documents that promote a real-world understanding of incentives, opportunities, and rationalizations Emerging corporate governance reforms in the post-SOX era, including provisions of the SOX Act, global regulations and best practices, ethical considerations, and corporate governance principles Practical examples and real-world "how did this happen" discussions that provide valuable insight for corporate directors and executives, auditors, managers, supervisory personnel and other professionals saddled with anti-fraud responsibilities Expert advice from the author of Corporate Governance and Ethics and coauthor of the forthcoming Wiley textbook, White Collar Crime, Fraud Examination and Financial Forensics Financial Statement Fraud, Second Edition contains recommendations from the SEC Advisory Committee to reduce the complexity of the financial reporting process and improving the quality of financial reports. Praise for Financial Statement Analysis A Practitioner's Guide Third Edition "This is an illuminating and insightful tour of financial statements, how they can be used to inform, how they can be used to mislead, and how they can be used to analyze the financial health of a company." -Professor Jay O. Light Harvard Business School "Financial Statement Analysis should be required reading for anyone who puts a dime to work in

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the securities markets or recommends that others do the same." -Jack L. Rivkin
Executive Vice President (retired) Citigroup Investments "Fridson and Alvarez provide a
valuable practical guide for understanding, interpreting, and critically assessing financial
reports put out by firms. Their discussion of profits-'quality of earnings'-is particularly
insightful given the recent spate of reporting problems encountered by firms. I highly
recommend their book to anyone interested in getting behind the numbers as a means
of predicting future profits and stock prices." -Paul Brown Chair-Department of
Accounting Leonard N. Stern School of Business, NYU "Let this book assist in financial
awareness and transparency and higher standards of reporting, and accountability to all
stakeholders." -Patricia A. Small Treasurer Emeritus, University of California Partner,
KCM Investment Advisors "This book is a polished gem covering the analysis of
financial statements. It is thorough, skeptical and extremely practical in its review."
-Daniel J. Fuss Vice Chairman Loomis, Sayles & Company, LP
The bestselling classic from the "Sherlock Holmes of Accounting"—updated to reflect
key case studies from the past quarter century and the dishonest tactics used to
mislead investors. This fourth edition of the bestselling guide shines a light on the most
shocking frauds and financial reporting offenders, and gives investors the tools they
need to spot deceptive financial reporting in the global markets. This unparalleled guide
provides the investigative tools you need to detect: * Corporate cultures that incentivize
dishonest practices* The latest tricks companies use to exaggerate revenue and

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earnings* Techniques devised by management to manipulate cash flow as easily as earnings* Companies that use misleading metrics to fool investors about their financial performance* How companies use acquisitions to hide deterioration in their underlying business You'll learn everything you need to know to unearth deceptive reporting and avoid costly mistakes. This new edition focuses on the key case studies from the past quarter century and brings you up to date on accounting chicanery in the global markets. Howard Schilit and his team of renowned forensic accounting experts reveal the most shocking frauds, expose financial reporting miscreants, and unveil the latest methods companies use to mislead investors.

The first real-world guide for training equity research analysts—from a Morgan Stanley veteran Addresses the dearth of practical training materials for research analysts in the U.S. and globally Valentine managed a department of 70 analysts and 100 associates at Morgan Stanley and developed new programs for over 500 employees around the globe He will promote the book through his company's extensive outreach capabilities Unlike most investors, who live in fear of failure, Scott Fearon actively seeks it out. He has earned millions of dollars for his hedge fund over the last thirty years shorting the stocks of businesses he believed were on their way to bankruptcy. In *Dead Companies Walking*, Fearon describes his methods for spotting these doomed businesses, and how they can be extremely profitable investments. In his experience, corporate managers routinely commit six common mistakes that can derail even the most

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promising companies: they learn from only the recent past; they rely too heavily on a formula for success; they misunderstand their target customers; they fall victim to the magical storytelling of a mania; they fail to adapt to tectonic shifts in their industry; and they are physically or emotionally removed from their companies' operations. Fearon has interviewed thousands of executives across America, many of whom, unknowingly, were headed toward bankruptcy – from the Texas oil barons of the 80s to the tech wunderkinds of the late 90s to the flush real estate developers of the mid-2000s. Here, he explores recent examples like JC Penney, Herbalife and Blockbuster Entertainment to help investors better predict the next booms and busts—and come out on top. Shining a light on the most shocking frauds and financial reporting offenders, this unparalleled guide gives investors the tools they need to spot deceptive financial reporting in the global markets. --

Over 200,000 copies sold! Thomas R. Ittelson's master work for entrepreneurs, non-financial managers, business students, lawyers, lenders, and investors - the bestselling book of its kind, with over 200,000 copies in print - has gotten even better with this 20th anniversary edition. Ittelson is an expert at translating complicated financial topics in an accessible way for non-financial audiences. In this book, he empowers readers by clearly and simply demonstrating how the three major accounting statements interact to offer a snapshot of a company's financial health. This book teaches readers how to use specialized accounting vocabulary and makes accessible the structure and purpose of

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the three major numeric statements that describe a company's financial condition. Each statement paints a different and essential picture - the "three-legged stool" of company reporting: The income statement shows the manufacturing (or service offerings) and selling actions of the company that result in profit or loss during a period. It gives a very important perspective on the company's performance, its profitability. The cash flow statement details cash into and out of the company for a period. You need money to make money. Running out of cash is bad. Duh. The balance sheet records at the end of a period, an instant in time, what the company owns and what it owes, including the owners' stake, called shareholders' equity. With two new major topic sections (nonprofit organization accounting and pricing theory for profitability) and spot color reformatting to improve comprehension, this third edition of Financial Statements is simply the clearest and most comprehensive introduction to financial reporting available. No accounting background is required.

Praise for Financial Statement Analysis FOURTH EDITION "I love this book. It helps to develop the questioning mind—the mind of a financial detective. It teaches the art of skepticism and critical thinking. Readers go beyond definition and calculation and learn interpretation." —Philip L. Cooley, PhD, Prassel Distinguished Professor of Business, Trinity University "Over my decades of involvement with high-yield bonds, Marty Fridson has been the leading speaker of truth. As he so accurately states in Financial Statement Analysis, the credit investor is required to engage in a game of cat-and-

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mouse with company management's intent on minimizing their cost of capital by putting a positive gloss on their financial statements. The Fourth Edition of Marty's terrific book is the bible on how to detect and deal with these efforts." —Howard Marks, Chairman, Oaktree Capital Management "Financial Statement Analysis is a unique text; it combines great academic work with numerous real-life examples to form a highly useful reference for equity investors, debt holders, and investors who straddle both asset classes. Whether you are an investor, an investment advisor, or a teacher, Financial Statement Analysis will prove very valuable." —Margaret M. Cannella, former head of Global Credit Research, J.P. Morgan and Adjunct Professor, Columbia Business School "Marty has seen it all! He has had a front-row seat to see the birth, death, and rebirth of the high-yield bond market . . . several times over! In the Fourth Edition of Financial Statement Analysis, Marty clearly demonstrates that despite the enactment of Sarbanes-Oxley in 2002, and other attempts to curtail abuse of the system, one needs a critical analytical eye to be certain that management is not trying to obfuscate the truth. The case studies provide excellent and timely examples of some of the techniques that companies have used to mislead investors." —Edward Z. Emmer, former global head of Corporate and Government Ratings and Equity Research, Standard & Poor's "Those who read financial statements without understanding the strategic context in which they are written will land on the losing end of the gripping episodes with which bond-market legend Marty Fridson illustrates in the Fourth Edition

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of his classic reference, Financial Statement Analysis. And all of us who depend on the markets sending capital to its best use should hope that investors read this book first."

—David Musto, Professor of Finance, the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania "This book rightly urges resolute skepticism when inspecting financial statements. Its great value, though, is in the plain-spoken stripping down of real-world and illustrative examples that show how to see past the numbers to the practicalities and incentives behind them—and so help analysts and journalists alike ask the right questions." —Richard Beales, Assistant Editor, Reuters Breakingviews

Essentials of Forensic Accounting Essentials of Forensic Accounting is an authoritative resource covering a comprehensive range of forensic accounting topics. As a foundation review, a reference book, or as preparation for the Certification in Financial Forensics (CFF®) Exam, this publication will provide thoughtful and insightful examination of the key themes in this field, including: Professional responsibilities and practice management Fundamental forensic knowledge including laws, courts, and dispute resolution Specialized forensic knowledge such as bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, and valuation Through illustrative examples, cases, and explanations, this book makes abstract concepts come to life to help you understand and successfully navigate this complex area.

Business scandals are always with us from the South Sea Bubble to Enron and Parmalat. As accounting forms a central element of any business success or failure, the

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role of accounting is crucial in understanding business scandals. This book aims to explore the role of accounting, particularly creative accounting and fraud, in business scandals. The book is divided into three parts. In Part A the background and context of creative accounting and fraud is explored. Part B looks at a series of international accounting scandals and Part C draws some themes and implications from the country studies.

A complete guide to Forensic Accounting and Finance, this book is ideal for advanced-level students and new or mid-level forensic accounting professionals looking to boost their specialist knowledge as part of their CPD, for accountants who wish to build more knowledge in this skills area or advanced undergraduates who feel ready to stretch themselves. Demand for expertise in this field is growing, and Forensic Accounting and Finance offers a complete, accessible and affordable guide, combining coverage of principle theory with the real and practical needs of the professional. Written by a strong academic and practitioner author team and in association with the Network for Independent Forensic Accountants, this book covers all forensic accounting topics from forensics as an extension of auditing and the basic principles of forensic accounting, to financial analysis and modelling, financial reporting, financial crime, and IT systems. Forensic Accounting and Finance shares current examples and case studies, highlighting cultural differences for key topics with updated regional legislation information available online for those looking for a truly global approach which is always

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up to date.

Explains what business numbers mean and why they matter, and addresses issues that have become more important in recent years, including questions about the financial crisis and accounting literacy.

Successful methodology for identifying earnings-related reporting indiscretions Creative Cash Flow Reporting and Analysis capitalizes on current concerns with misleading financial reporting on misleading financial reporting. It identifies the common steps used to yield misleading cash flow amounts, demonstrates how to adjust the cash flow statement for more effective analysis, and how to use adjusted operating cash flow to uncover earnings that have been misreported using aggressive or fraudulent accounting practices. Charles W. Mulford, PhD, CPA (Atlanta, GA), is the coauthor of three books, including the bestselling The Financial Numbers Game: Identifying Creative Accounting Practices. Eugene E. Comiskey, PhD, CPA, CMA (Atlanta, GA), is the coauthor of the bestselling The Financial Numbers Game: Identifying Creative Accounting Practices.

This topical and easily understood handbook explains how bankruptcy can affect a corporation and its capital structure and how investors can profit from the corporate bankruptcy process.

A Must-Read for Any Investor Looking to Maximize Their Chances of Success Big Mistakes: The Best Investors and Their Worst Investments explores the ways in which

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the biggest names have failed, and reveals the lessons learned that shaped more successful strategies going forward. Investing can be a rollercoaster of highs and lows, and the investors detailed here show just how low it can go; stories from Warren Buffet, Bill Ackman, Chris Sacca, Jack Bogle, Mark Twain, John Maynard Keynes, and many more illustrate the simple but overlooked concept that investing is really hard, whether you're managing a few thousand dollars or a few billion, failures and losses are part of the game. Much more than just anecdotal diversion, these stories set the basis for the book's critical focus: learning from mistakes. These investors all recovered from their missteps, and moved forward armed with a wealth of knowledge than can only come from experience. Lessons learned through failure carry a weight that no textbook can convey, and in the case of these legendary investors, informed a set of skills and strategy that propelled them to the top. Research-heavy and grounded in realism, this book is a must-read for any investor looking to maximize their chances of success. Learn the most common ways even successful investors fail Learn from the mistakes of the greats to avoid losing ground Anticipate challenges and obstacles, and develop an advance plan Exercise caution when warranted, and only take the smart risks While learning from your mistakes is always a valuable experience, learning from the mistakes of others gives you the benefit of wisdom without the consequences of experience. Big Mistakes: The Best Investors and Their Worst Investments provides an incomparable, invaluable resource for investors of all stripes.

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FINANCIAL STATEMENT FRAUD Strategies for Detection and Investigation Although financial statement fraud is the least frequently encountered fraud, it is by far the most costly, at a median loss of \$1 million per case. Yet, the indirect losses from financial statement fraud—jobs, support, morale, and loyalty—are also significant and almost impossible to measure. Learn how to spot the warning signs before the damage is done. Financial Statement Fraud explores the many different methods of perpetrating financial statement fraud, the accounting principles that are exploited, and the methods to detect and prevent fraud in any organization. Assuming an understanding of basic financial statements and the purpose each serves, as well as basic accounting concepts, author Gerard Zack highlights the many different types of fraud schemes. Financial Statement Fraud provides auditors, fraud investigators, government agencies, and investment analysts with detailed descriptions of the most common or emerging schemes involving the preparation and issuance of fraudulent financial statements. Filling the need for practical guidance on financial statement fraud and the roles and responsibilities within companies, Financial Statement Fraud features: References to pertinent U.S. and international accounting standards violated in the preparation of fraudulent financial statements A wide range of detection tools, from the simplest of ratios to complex analyses and tests, as well as fraud indicators A comprehensive, global approach that includes U.S. GAAP and IFRS Red flags and ratios to help you detect financial statement fraud schemes Coverage of auditor liability: when is an

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auditor liable for failing to detect fraud? Real-world cases that illustrate many of the fraud schemes featured throughout the book. A companion website includes copies of SEC Accounting and Auditing Enforcement Releases (AAERs), complaints that were filed, and various other documents associated with most of the cases cited in the book. These documents provide all of the details associated with each case, enabling researchers to perform their own analysis to more fully understand the schemes and relate them to the detection tips provided in the book. Financial statement fraud can cost an organization more than just revenue. Arm yourself with the knowledge to identify where it happens, when to expect it, and how to detect it with the expert guidance found in Financial Statement Fraud.

A one-of-a-kind book that shows you how to cash in on the latest investing trend--short selling "The Art of Short Selling is the best description of this difficult technique."--John Train, Train, Thomas, Smith Investment Counsel, and author of The New Money Masters "Kathryn Staley has done a masterful job explaining the highly specialized art of short selling. Her approach to telling the true stories of famous investment 'scams' will keep the readers spellbound, while teaching the investor many crucial lessons."--David W. Tice, Portfolio Manager, Prudent Bear Fund "Selling short is still a misunderstood discipline, but even the most raging bull needs to know this valuable technique to master the ever-changing markets."--Jim Rogers, author, Investment Biker On the investment playing field, there is perhaps no game more exciting than short selling. With

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the right moves, it can yield high returns; one misstep, however, can have disastrous consequences. Despite the risk, a growing number of players are entering up, sparked in part by success stories such as that of George Soros and the billions he netted by short selling the British pound. In *The Art of Short Selling*, Kathryn Staley, an expert in the field, examines the essentials of this important investment vehicle, providing a comprehensive game plan with which you can effectively play--and win--the short selling game. Whether used as a means of hedging bets, decreasing the volatility of total returns, or improving returns, short selling must be handled with care--and with the right know-how. As Staley points out, "Short selling is not for the faint of heart. If a stock moves against the position holder, the effect on a portfolio and net worth can be devastating. Investors need to understand the impact on their accounts as well as the consequences of getting bought in before they indulge in short selling." *The Art of Short Selling* guides you--clearly and concisely--through the ins and outs of this high-risk, high-stakes game. The first--and most important--move in selling short is to identify flaws in a business before its share prices drop. To help you tackle this key step, Staley shows you how to evaluate company financial statements and balance sheets, make sense of return ratios, detect inconsistencies in inventory, and analyze the statement of cash flows. Through real-world examples that illustrate the shorting of bubble, high multiple growth, and the most stocks, you'll proceed step by step through the complete process and learn to carry out all the essentials for a successful short sell,

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including quantifying the risk factor and orchestrating correct timing, as well as implementing advanced valuation techniques to execute the sell/buy. Packed with landmark, cutting-edge examples, up-to-the-minute guidelines, and pertinent regulations, *The Art of Short Selling* is a timely and comprehensive reference that arms you with the necessary tools to make a prepared and confident entrance onto the short selling playing field.

Describes accounting theory and the dubious practices that have emerged in recent years, urging reform to restore the integrity of the accounting profession

Recent catastrophic business failures have caused some to rethink the value of the audit, with many demanding that auditors take more responsibility for fraud detection. This book provides forensic accounting specialists? experts in uncovering fraud? with new coverage on the latest PCAOB Auditing Standards, the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, options fraud, as well as fraud in China and its implications. Auditors are equipped with the necessary practical aids, case examples, and skills for identifying situations that call for extended fraud detection procedures.

Detect accounting fraud before it's too late Accounting fraud is the deliberate manipulation of accounting records in order to make a company's financial performance seem better or worse than it actually is. Accounting scandals often have catastrophic consequences for shareholders and employees. Thus, analysts and auditors must be equipped to detect accounting fraud. This book is a comprehensive guide to detecting

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accounting fraud for auditors investigating accounting fraud and analysts/managers seeking to prevent it. A wide variety of warning signs are described, as are several techniques for detecting and addressing fraud. Understand the motivations and warning signs behind accounting fraud Get to know how accounting fraud is done and how to detect it Avoid the losses that often come from accounting fraud Benefit from case studies throughout to that help illustrate the author's points It's unfortunate that managers, auditors, and analysts must be wary of accounting fraud—but this book equips you with the know-how to detect it before it's too late.

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Provides techniques to determine the potential of an emerging growth company for investment purposes, and examines the history of several companies to use as examples

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