

English Summary for Week 2 (10 minutes)

Good afternoon everyone.

To conclude today's session, let me summarize in English what we covered in Week 2: **An Introduction to Accounting Information Databases.**

1. Key Legal Framework

We first reviewed the main laws and regulations governing financial reporting:

- The **Securities and Exchange Act** (especially Articles 14 and 36).
- The **Regulations Governing the Preparation of Financial Reports by Securities Issuers.**
- The **Certified Public Accountant Act** and related auditing standards.
- Rules on **independent directors and supervisors.**
- And the requirement that companies with **capital over NT\$10 billion** must disclose their annual financial reports within 75 days after year-end.

These rules form the backbone of corporate disclosure in Taiwan.

2. Reference Materials and Data Sources

We then introduced some important references:

- **Company Annual Reports and Stockholder Information.**
- The Taiwan Stock Exchange's **Market Observation Post System.**
- The U.S. SEC's **EDGAR database**, which includes filing forms and codes, as well as Taiwanese firms issuing **ADRs in the U.S.**

- Mainland and Hong Kong exchanges, such as the **Hong Kong Stock Exchange**, the **Shanghai Stock Exchange**, and the **Shenzhen Stock Exchange**, all of which publish periodic company reports.
- Commercial portals like **Yahoo Finance**, which provide stock data and financial news.

These sources are essential for both academic research and practical financial analysis.

3. Rankings and Market Information

We also explored ranking systems and market value comparisons:

- **Taiwan market capitalization rankings.**
- **Global company rankings.**
- Lists of companies by **market value in Shanghai and Shenzhen**, and the differences between **A-shares and B-shares**.

Such rankings help us understand market dynamics and investor perspectives.

4. Key Institutions

We introduced several professional institutions:

- The **Accounting Research and Development Foundation** in Taiwan.
- The **Financial Supervisory Commission (FSC)**.
- The U.S. **Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB)**, which publishes accounting standards and concepts.
- The **Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB)**, which issues auditing reports.
- The **International Accounting Standards Board (IASB)**, responsible for IFRS and continuing amendments.

These bodies establish the frameworks that ensure comparability and transparency in reporting worldwide.

5. Standards and Due Process

Finally, we discussed how accounting standards are developed through a **due process** that includes:

- **Discussion Memoranda**
- **Exposure Drafts**
- And the final **issuance of standards**

This process ensures that stakeholders—regulators, professionals, and the public—can all contribute before rules are finalized.

Closing

In summary, today we learned:

1. The **laws and regulations** that guide financial reporting.
2. The **key databases and sources** for company information.
3. The **market rankings** that provide broader financial context.
4. The **institutions** shaping standards and oversight.
5. And the **due process** that guarantees transparency in setting accounting rules.

Together, these elements form the global infrastructure of accounting information, which we will rely on throughout this course.

Thank you.