Challenge #397: Auto Insights Special Edition – Financial Insight: Spend Analysis

Description:

The Academy Team is pleased to present our first challenge of the Auto Insights Weekly Challenges: Special Edition! Today, and the following two Mondays, November 13 and 20, 2023, we will publish challenges that you need to use Alteryx Auto Insights (AAI) to solve.

To participate, you will need access to Auto Insights, which is part of the Cloud Platform. If you do not have AAI already, you can take this opportunity to start a free Cloud Trial. Additionally, remember that you can access interactive lessons in Maveryx Academy for extra assistance.

Now, let's dive right into your first challenge!

At **Built Things**, a construction company with offices across the USA, you are a financial analyst, reporting directly to the finance manager. The Finance Team recently gave the green light to the Engineering Department's investment in materials for a new construction project. However, the team was surprised when the invoice exceeded the approved budget significantly. In response, the finance manager decided to lead a review of the company's expenses and requested your assistance in preparing and presenting a report to the CFO.

The dataset you will use to solve the challenge is **Finance Month-end Analysis**. This dataset shows the monthly spending incurred by Built Things. Each row represents a company spend and has information about the vendor, site location, product description, project, order, and contract details. The date range is from December 2019 to November 2022.

Task:
Create a Mission (KPI Deep Dive Report) using the preloaded **Finance Month-end Analysis** dataset (available in the Datasets tab) using the **Spend** column as your **Measure**.

In your report, address the following questions about the company's expenses:
1. How much did the spend increase from September 2022 to October 2022?
2. What were the top three drivers of this change?
3. Add a Breakdown (Project Name). Which project had the highest increase in spend?
4. For the project identified in the previous question, what are the top three products that Built Things spent the most on?
5. What is the relationship between spend and the number of contracts? Select the most accurate implication of this insight.

If you find any other interesting insights, make sure to highlight these!

Your final task is to use **Magic Documents** to create a PowerPoint presentation for the CFO, primarily focusing on cost reduction. Remember that you are presenting to an executive, so keep your presentation professional!

Solution:
To share your solution, please respond to the questions in the following [form](#) AND upload your PowerPoint presentation to this post.

If you answer all questions correctly AND upload the extra task to this post in the first week after its publication, you will be entered in a drawing to win Alteryx swag! Even if you are not one of the three lucky individuals to win swag for this Auto Insights challenge, posting your solution to the challenge will still count towards earning Weekly Challenge badges!

Enjoy solving this first Auto Insights challenge!

Maveryx Academy Team