Sarah L Mabrouk* (smabrouk@frc.mass.edu), Framingham State College, 100 State Street, P.O. Box 9101, Framingham, MA 01701-9101. Spreadsheets Make EXCELlent Tools for Exploring Statistics.

MS Excel is an internet-independent platform with which one can create tools that can be used for classroom demonstrations, for concept explorations, and for projects and assignments as well as to provide additional practice exercises, some with graphical, numerical, and/or symbolic representations. Ideas for these tools have arisen from difficulties that students experience with various concepts and methods as well as from student questions and email requests in response to tools that I have posted on my web site. The tools currently posted on the Interactive MS Excel Workbooks page of my web site, http://www.framingham.edu/faculty/smabrouk/Interactive/, allow the user to explore concepts in elementary and intermediate algebra, college algebra, precalculus, calculus, and introductory statistics courses. In this presentation, I will discuss and present some of my favorite tools to create and to use for class, tools designed to help students to understand the five-number summary. I will discuss the development of these tools as well as showcase related tools that others may find to be useful with their classes, the Analysis ToolPak add-in, and security level considerations for MS Excel XP, 2003 and 2007. (Received September 20, 2007)