Five Elements Integration is an extended version of the Five Elements workshop, which applies to a selected business issue the direct, hands-on understanding of business-integration provided by the experiential workshop.

One of the key communication issues in organisations is the tendency of departments or functions to form 'silos', viewing the whole solely from their own perspective and regarding their own priorities as those of the whole organisation. The workshop uses two well-known models - Group Dynamics, and Chinese 'five elements' - to provide experiential understanding of natural flows and transitions in perspective during project life-cycles and in work-flows. It highlights inherent clashes in perspective which occur across these cycles, and the variety of methods available to resolve them. Participants also explore the different types of leadership and management skills needed at each stage to gain the maximum overall effectiveness within the organisation, and to 'hold the centre' for the organisation as a whole.

Using this awareness as a base, participants explore a selected business-integration issue through a ‘café’-style facilitated discussion, merging the insights of individuals, small groups and the entire workshop in creating innovative solutions to real business issues.

**Context:** typically used in addressing whole-of-business strategy and integration issues

**Outcomes:** improved communication and cooperation across the organisation; improved leadership skills; collective insight and creativity; improved ‘buy-in’ into business decisions

**Format:** experiential workshop / facilitated discussion

**Duration:** 6-7 hours (3 hours workshop, 3-4 hours facilitated discussion)

**Participants:** 15-30; all skills, all levels, preferably from diverse backgrounds and roles

**Keywords:** skills, leadership, communication, integration, strategy, foresight