

What do Forum Group members think of the Program?

"I have been invited to join forums conducted by other organisations, but opted instead to join the Family Business Forum Group when it was launched. My reasons for doing so were that I valued the common link all members would have with family business issues, and the structure of the Forum Group would be somewhat less demanding in terms of time than others I had considered. Additionally, I viewed the Forum Group structure as adding value to deliberations where fresh insights could be brought to bear on shared problems in a confidential environment."

David Wittner, Wittner Shoes (VIC)

"The Forum Group is just like a prosperous family management team – without the bad bits!"

Steven Patterson, Matisse Derivan (NSW)

"My time in the Forum Group has been not only the most enjoyable but with every session I have been surprised not only at what I have learnt, but what input I could offer. The time is now part of my schedule, not something I have to fit in."

Roz Shaw, Hawkins Family Group (QLD)

"FBA Forum Groups provide an open but totally confidential means of discussing issues, both business and personal, that would otherwise not be able to be discussed and those issues solved. It's our once a month 'confessional!'"

Andrew Mostyn, Craig Mostyn & Co Pty Ltd (WA)

"The ability to talk freely about the issues we all face within our family working environments, sharing those issues among a non-judgmental group of experienced and knowledgeable peers who are more than ready to share their knowledge and support to those around is a priceless opportunity to benefit from being part of FBA - I would highly recommend you join a Forum Group now!"

Kent Aughey, Ashington Investments (SA)

Expression of interest

Express interest **now** and look forward to a **rewarding FBA** experience.

Yes, I am interested in joining a Forum Group.

Your personal details

Title: _____

Full name: _____

Business name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Check with your local Executive Officer for Forum Group fees in your chapter.

What happens now?

Once this form is received, your local Executive Officer will contact you with further details.

Please mail or fax to:



**Family Business
Australia**

National Office, Level 1, 450 St Kilda Road
Melbourne VIC 3004

Phone (03) 9867 5322 - **Freecall** 1800 249 357

Fax (03) 9867 5344

Email info@fambiz.org.au

For your local contact details
please visit our website

www.fambiz.org.au



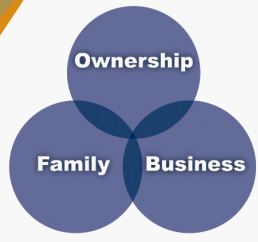
Forum Group Program

**Addressing the issues
most relevant to your
business and family**





What do Forum Group members think of the Program?



FBA has created the Forum Group Program to deal with the unique issues created by the overlap of family, business and ownership.

Understanding Family Business

Family Business Australia understands the unique mix of family and business and has established the FBA Forum Group Program that provide a professional, supportive and totally confidential forum to address the issues of greatest significance to you and your day to day operations and the long-term wellbeing of your business.

Why are FBA Forum Groups unique?

FBA Forum Groups differ considerably from other groups. Our attention is always focused on our members who, with the direction of an experienced facilitator and the wisdom of respected guest speakers, are encouraged to participate in discussions with others confronted by similar issues, ranging from minor financial concerns to the often difficult processes of succession or separation.

All levels within the family business, regardless of age and position, will discover that these informal and relaxed gatherings provide real answers, practical solutions and knowledge and skills to overcome problems.

Who can join?

- Forum Groups are open to all family business FBA members
- There are a maximum of 12 participants in each Forum Group
- FBA ensures that there are no conflicts of interest between Forum Group members
- Members of the same business or family are placed different Forum Groups.

What are the benefits?

- Interaction with professional peers
- Exposure to leading family business strategies
- An opportunity to listen to each other, provide support
- Discussion of issues that affect your business
- Provision of a supportive and trusting environment
- Expert explanation of technical and general issues
- Gaining from other members' different perspectives

Flexible formats

The Forum Groups meet approximately 10 times per year for several hours. The group decides when and where the meetings will occur.

"Family businesses are in the unique situation of needing to balance commercial realities with family issues, in this fundamental way they differ from other commercial enterprises. Inter-generational conflict, sibling rivalry and family ethics are family issues, however, in family businesses they also become business issues, and in these areas Forum Groups can assist. All Forum Group members have dealt with conflict within families, or are wrestling with succession issues. They understand the difficulties of balancing key employee needs and family needs and the fact that it can be lonely at the top."

Angela Ciliberto, C-Direct (VIC)

"Getting to know other family business people through Forum Groups has helped with the isolation I have felt in being in the family business. It has made me realise that we all have similar issues and our experiences can help each other solve problems."

Janelle Bulmer

Dynaweld Industrial Supplies Pty Ltd (NSW)

"This has been one of the best investments in time and money I have ever made. I have left every meeting with at least one "take home point". It never ceases to amaze me how we all have similar issues to deal with, no matter the size of our business, and being able to lay an issue on the table and have it discussed and dealt with is not only gratifying but heartwarming. Forum Group membership is highly recommended."

Kelvin Slade, Slade Bros Plumbing (QLD)