

# 5 Steps to Execution

My experience has been that we are rarely lacking strategy and planning, they are abundant. What we do lack is [execution](#) around those plans, which is the major problem we face running a business.

We follow a 5 step process to gain execution on our strategies, and it's had a major impact on our business.

To set the stage, think of your goals this way: After creating your [BHAG \(Big Hairy Audacious Goal\)](#), you will usually set shorter term goals that create the path to reaching your BHAG.

Here at [Efficiency](#), we have our [BHAG](#), 3 to 5 year Goals, 1 year Goals and then Quarterly Goals.

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## Designing Your Life at E0 Barcelona

I've attended [E0](#) Universities for several years now, but this year was unlike any I've ever attended. I went for the first time to Barcelona, Spain. The theme of the University was "Design Your Life". The idea was to focus on what you really want out of life, and what you're doing to get there. It's like choosing a personal BHAG – your very own [Big Hairy Audacious Goal](#).

As entrepreneurs, we set goals all the time, but experience has taught me that we tend to view business goals and life goals as one in the same; that by reaching our business goals we receive all we want out of life. Shouldn't our businesses

really be the means to our personal goals and the life legacies we want to create? This isn't the case, in that, more often than not we let our businesses consume our lives and distract us from our families, spousal relationships, and our own personal paths.

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## 3 Keys to Business Greatness!

If you asked me the business authors out there who I think provide the most value, I would have to say [Jim Collins](#) and [Peter Drucker](#). Both of these guys have provided huge insight to the business community on how to run a successful company. Like most businesses, we at Efficiencie are starting the year formulating strategies and goals to make forward progress toward our destination, and reading Collins' and Drucker's material has always been good preparation.

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## Energizing for the New Year!

As this year ends like all the ones before it, we strive to go into the New Year with a fresh outlook and usually one or more resolutions to improve our lives. I often ask others around me about their resolutions and usually find that at least one always has to do with improving health. For an entrepreneur whose world is filled with constant changes, ups, and downs, health and energy are key to pushing forward.

We often hear about how much time we need and how there are never enough hours in a day and so on. We cannot add time. We

all have the same number of hours in a day. The level of effort and energy we put into that time can be changed. Much is being written about our need to manage our energy and approach our day and schedule with an energy focus instead of a time focus.

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## What are your dreams?

What an interesting week! Last week, I traveled to New York City to participate in the [Entrepreneurs' Organization](#) Injected Campus event, which brings the regional EO Forums together. We met in lower Manhattan to be close to the [New York Stock Exchange](#).

This year during our event, the NYSE opening bell was rung by [InvenSense](#), a company that makes the motion possible in the Wii and in smartphones. InvenSense was launching their IPO and was going public. I had always wanted to be there in person to see the opening bell, but it also made me think of my own dream of being up there to ring the bell with the IPO launch of my own company. That evening, it felt a little closer as my friends on the Global EO Board got to be on stage and ring the closing bell! WOW! Click [here](#) to see the video I took of the opening bell.

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## Are You Still Doing It?

Not so many years ago my company, [Efficiency](#), went off into our annual meeting and planned our coming year. We set goals

for the company, discussed and planned the great things we would do the coming year, and naturally returned all fired up. 3 months later, in our quarterly meeting, we were in the same place we'd been at the start of the annual meeting. The nuances of day to day business had laid a thick blanket over the plans we made, and without the help of all of us to lift it, it wasn't going anywhere.

This is so similar to the never-ending New Year resolutions we all succumb to making, and rarely find ourselves victorious in keeping. Good intentions dissipate in the trials of life, love, work, and school. How funny is it that year to year nothing changes?

With January coming to an end, how many of you find your commitments are already fading? It's easy to become overwhelmed by the big picture. We fail to see that these goals we set don't happen overnight, they happen gradually, one step at a time.

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## **Do You Have Rhythm?**

I don't mean this in the sense of how well you move on the dance floor. I'm talking about in your business. Do you have a rhythm within your organization that keeps everyone in sync? Do you know the importance of rhythm?

Let me start from the beginning. Rhythm is not limited to the sound of music. Rhythm is the cadence and flow applied to any kind of movement or activity. It's natural and instinctive. If you go back to childhood and think of nursery rhymes, they don't just rhyme, they are rhythmic. You don't have to think about what comes next because you already know.

This is key in the business world. Having regular, rhythmic meetings that keep your team clicking to the same pulse will allow a connect and sync to occur, thus keeping people on the same page and helping to prevent important issues from falling through the cracks.