

Richard Lewis

2011 9NEWS Leader of the Year

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DENVER - The Denver Metro Chamber Leadership Foundation, 9News and the Colorado Leadership Alliance announced this week that Richard Lewis is the 2011 9News Leader of the Year. [\[more... \]](#)

Lewis, founder, president and CEO of RTL Networks, is an avid supporter of the Denver Metro Chamber and the Denver Metro Chamber Leadership Foundation, serving on the board of directors of the Chamber and graduating from the Leadership Foundation's flagship program, Leadership Denver, in 2006.

"We are very pleased that Richard Lewis is the 2011 9NEWS Leader of the Year," said 9NEWS President and General Manager Mark Cornetta. "He joins a prestigious list of strong leaders who care deeply about our state's future. Richard is an outstanding business leader who manages to commit a great deal of his time to our community and specifically to the advancement of Colorado's youth. He sees a need and steps in to fill it. Richard exemplifies the

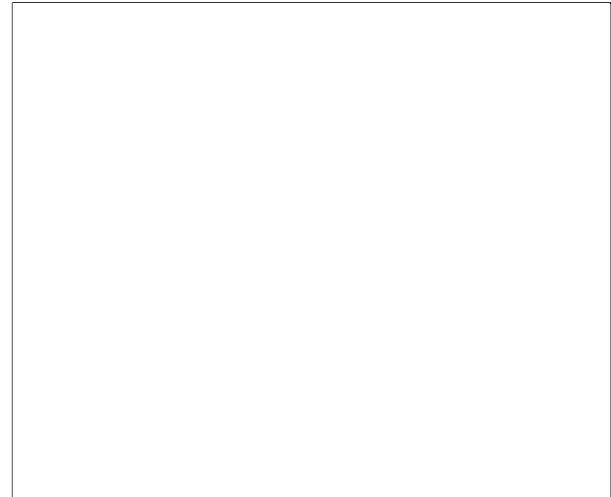
definition of the 9NEWS Leader of the Year."
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Mr. Lewis has been awarded with a number of previous recognitions including the 2008 Colorado Minority Small Business Person of the Year from the Small Business Administration. In 2006, RTL Networks was named Small Business of the Year for the United States Department of Defense, Pikes Peak Region.

Lewis is also currently a board member for the Colorado Enterprise Fund and a participant in the Aurora Chamber of Commerce's Leadership Aurora program, class of 2011. Lewis' experiences, insights and success have also afforded him the opportunity to serve as a panels and guest speaker for a number of small business and entrepreneurial forums.

Maureen McDonald, executive director of the Denver Metro Chamber Leadership Foundation, said "Rich is passionate about inspiring diverse communities to rally around issues of shared interest and to

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make a difference in our quality of life in Colorado. He has certainly distinguished himself as one of our alumni, and we are really pleased that he has been selected for this award."

Lewis is a strong advocate for small business, youth and education in Colorado and is a proud single parent to his 12-year-old son Tyler, who represents the "T" in RTL. Founded in 2002, RTL Networks provides IT products and service solutions to government and business clients.

The company has received a variety of recognitions for quality, innovation and growth. RTL has been acknowledged multiple times by ColoradoBiz Magazine and the Denver Business Journal and has earned its place on the prestigious INC 500 list, as the 331st fastest growing private company in the U.S. in 2010.

Before starting his own venture, Lewis served in senior management positions for Cisco Systems, Qwest and Avaya, where he developed and executed strategic plans and provided network consulting to Fortune 500 and national service providers.

Lewis is a graduate of the United States Air Force Academy and William and Mary's MBA program. Additionally, he holds a Master's degree in computer systems security from Colorado Technical University.

As an Air Force officer, Lewis served in various national and international assignments, including Operation Southern Watch. During his 10 years on active duty, Lewis received a number of

commendations, including the Air Force Outstanding Unit, the Air Force Organizational Excellence Awards, a Joint Service Achievement Medal and two Air Force Commendation Medals. Mr. Lewis was honorably discharged at the rank of Captain.

For more information or to sign up for the event, [CLICK HERE](#).

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