

Andy Lewis, CEO, Paragon Solutions Group, Inc.

Lewis brings extensive technology leadership experience from more than 25 years with companies such as Visa, EMC, Barclays Bank, Lloyds TSB and Galileo International. He believes in challenging the norm where needed and leading the charge to make the world of the IT Department more effective. As the founder of Paragon Solutions Group, Lewis wanted to address the pressing needs of the IT Department; enabling great teams to achieve great things and deliver great results. He has built a team of proven professionals who can help IT organizations focus to achieve their success.

Prior to this, Lewis came from EMC's office of the CIO where he served as the CTO/CIO for the western region. In this position, Lewis provided experience-based advisory and advocacy services to EMC's customers as they embarked on their journey to the cloud and shared best practices from EMC IT's internal initiatives. Lewis also led EMC on their ability to gain executive relevance and put this into practice by developing stronger enterprise client CIO relationships as their executive sponsor.

Previously, Lewis served as CTO and Senior Vice President/Head of Global Engineering for Visa where he managed all aspects of transforming their global IT along with the IT fiduciary responsibilities of infrastructure and personnel. While at Visa, Lewis' thought leadership served as the basis for the design and delivery of the company's advanced IT operating model.

Lewis also served as CEO and president of an IT consulting company that focused on process excellence and executive gap analysis. He has co-authored books on the topic of Storage Area Networks, has published many times in executive IT trade magazines and has been an active participant in many CIO/CTO councils. Over the years, Lewis has had the opportunity to partner academically with MIT, Santa Clara and Stanford Universities and previously attended the University of Gloucester, England.

Prior to Paragon, as the CIO/COO of a traditional Value Added Reseller (VAR), he took the challenge and manned the helm of creating a 'next-gen VAR' by integrating the need for consideration of clients' key assets – processes and personnel. He defined and executed the strategy, go-to-market plan and cultural sales transformation. Executing on Lewis' efforts took this ~\$50MM company to a ~\$250MM company within three years, preserving eroding margins, increasing wallet-share, diversifying income streams while adding the 'value' back to customers. Lewis also saw the need, initiated and co-founded a solution that assisted clients in the complex cloud selection and deployment processes. A virtual hyper-converged technology provider subsequently acquired this product.

In his spare time, Lewis enjoys his family on their homestead in Colorado where he is an avid gardener.