

Richard A. Spires



Richard A. Spires is currently an independent consultant providing advice to companies and government agencies in strategy, digital transformation, operations, and business development. In 2021, Mr. Spires published the book *Success in the Technology Field*, a guide for those looking to advance their careers in information technology and cyber security.

From 2015 to early 2020, Mr. Spires served as the CEO and a Director of Learning Tree, International, a leading provider of workforce development and hands-on IT and management training services.

Mr. Spires was appointed and served as the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Chief Information Officer (CIO) from 2009 till 2013. He also served as the Vice-Chairman of the Federal Government CIO Council and the Co-Chairman of the Committee for National Security Systems (CNSS), the committee that sets standards for the US Government's classified systems.

Mr. Spires held several positions at the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) from 2004 through 2008. He served as the Deputy Commissioner for Operations Support, having overall responsibility for the key support and administrative functions for the IRS. Mr. Spires served as the IRS' CIO, with overall strategic and operational responsibility for a \$2 billion budget and a 7,000-person organization. He led the IRS's Business Systems Modernization program for two and half years, one of the largest and most complex information technology modernization efforts ever undertaken.

Mr. Spires has won a number of awards for his leadership in IT, including the 2020 ACT-IAC Industry Executive Leadership Award, 2012 Fed 100 Government Executive Eagle Award, TechAmerica's 2012 Government Executive of the Year, and Government Computer News 2011 Civilian Government Executive of the Year. He was inducted into the George Washington University Engineering Hall of Fame in 2019 and named a Distinguished Alumnus of the University of Cincinnati's College of Engineering in 2006.

Mr. Spires received a B.S. in Electrical Engineering and a B.A. in Mathematical Sciences from the University of Cincinnati. He also holds an M.S. in Electrical Engineering from The George Washington University.