

Michael J Gates

Michael J Gates is Group Managing Director for Richard Lewis Communications - a UK-based international organization in the field of cross-cultural training, chaired by Richard D Lewis, the world-renowned cross-culturalist. Prior to his group role, he was Nordic Director. Michael took his M.A. in English Language and Literature at Oxford University, where he was a Scholar of St. Catherine's College. Before establishing the Finnish branch of Richard Lewis Communications in 1990, he had worked in radio production with some of the top names in British entertainment.

He has been involved in cross-culture for the last 17 years, supporting dozens of blue-chip companies world-wide. Richard Lewis and he developed the concept of cultural profiling in Finland, as part of the preparations for their successful EU Presidency in 1999 and in 2006. He also conducted a cross cultural training seminar for the Austrian Office of the Chancellor (Bundeskanzleramt Österreich) in 2009 in preparation for their EU Presidency. He will train the Bundeskanzleramt Österreich again in October 2010.

His presentation of the culture active tool for cultural profiling won the award for the 'most innovative technology' panel at the CIBER Global Interdependence conference at the University of North Carolina in March 2002. He has taught the cross-cultural module to new MBA students at Duke Fuqua business school, North Carolina, and other US clients have included Microsoft, the World Bank and Accenture. European clients include Nokia, TeliaSonera, the Hertie School of Governance, Berlin and Oxford University, UK. He has published jointly with Richard Lewis, including some observations on Finnish leadership. He is a board member of the Finnish-British Trade Association.

He is of mixed British/Austrian parentage, lives near Helsinki, is married to a Finn, and has five children.

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