

# Lewis Energy wins Employer of the Year honor

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Texas Workforce Commission Chairman Andres Alcantar and Commissioner representing labor Ronny Congleton present the Texas Workforce Solutions Employer of the Year Award to representatives from Lewis Energy Group. Pictured from left are: Workforce Solutions for South Texas Executive Director Rogelio Trevino; Congleton; Lewis Energy Group HR Director of Operations Michael Garcia; Alcantar; LEG Human Resources Manager Ruth Dominguez; LEG Human Resources Coordinator Edna Martinez; Workforce Solutions for South Texas Deputy Director Sandra Barrera. (Courtesy photo, Texas Workforce Commission)

San Antonio-based Lewis Energy Group was named the Employer of the Year by the Texas Workforce Commission. The commission is holding its 18th Texas Workforce Conference this week in Grapevine.

Lewis has an operations center in Encinal in La Salle County that has grown from 200 employees to 1,200 in two years. The company expects to hire another 350 employees in the next year.

Lewis was chosen from 27 private-sector employers. Nominees were recognized for contributions to their community's workforce through innovation and collaboration with the Texas Workforce System. Lewis has partnered with Workforce Solutions for South Texas and other economic and education entities, including the Eagle Ford Consortium. The company operates more than 1,400 wells in South Texas.

"I commend Lewis Energy Group for their collaboration with Workforce Solutions for

South Texas and other workforce partners to positively impact the many communities affected by the Eagle Ford Shale play," said TWC Chairman Andres Alcantar, in a press release. "LEG's efforts have created a wealth of opportunities for students and job seekers who desire certification in the technology skills required by the full-time jobs created by the Eagle Ford Shale play."

Lewis Energy also donated \$1 million to Laredo Community College for construction and worked with the college to develop two certifications for entry-level oil and gas jobs. The welding certificate program offers students paid internships. And a partnership with United and Laredo independent school districts created dual-credit programs for high school students to earn entry-level oil and gas certifications.

"Lewis Energy Group's scholarship and outreach efforts have encouraged many workers to look to the welding and energy industries for well-paying and rewarding careers," said TWC Commissioner Representing Employers Hope Andrade, in a press release. "We want to thank LEG for its continued commitment and hard work to support success in this region and throughout our great state."