

Richard Schnieders
Recently Retired CEO
Sysco Corporation

Richard J. Schnieders is the retired chairman and CEO of Sysco Corporation, the global leader in selling, marketing and distributing food products to restaurants, healthcare and educational facilities, lodging establishments and other customers who prepare meals away from home.

A 1970 graduate of the University of Iowa with a bachelor's degree in mathematics, Rick was recruited in 1982 to join the executive development program at Sysco's Memphis subsidiary. While there, he progressed through a variety of managerial and executive positions becoming president and CEO in 1989.

In 1992, Rick was asked to move to Sysco's corporate headquarters in Houston to serve as senior vice president of merchandising for the corporation. He was promoted in 1997 to senior vice president, merchandising and multi-unit sales, and later that year he became a member of Sysco's Board.

He was appointed executive vice president, foodservice operations in 1999, and in 2000 he assumed the added duties of chief operating officer. He was named president and COO of Sysco Corporation in 2000, and in 2003 he became the fifth chairman and chief executive officer in Sysco's history. After a 27-year career at Sysco, Rick retired in June 2009.

While at Sysco, Rick served as trustee with the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation, as chairman of the University of Minnesota's Food Industry Center, as board member with the Greater Houston Partnership, as fellow of the institute with The Culinary Institute of America, and as a board member of the public company Aviall, Inc.

Rick currently holds community board positions at the The Menil Collection, Save the Children, and Share Our Strength and currently serves on the board of a private company, Revolution Foods. He and his wife Beth reside in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and are the parents of two grown daughters, Caroline and Margaret.

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