Lewis Shepherd is an R&D executive with VMware, the pioneering Silicon Valley virtualization technology company and the world's leading private-cloud-computing provider. As Senior Director of National Technology Strategy, he helps shape strategy for the Palo Alto-headquartered VMware Research Group and leads disruptive prototyping efforts of specific relevance to federal government agencies, particularly the national security community.

He also currently serves as a Special Government Employee in the Pentagon's Strategic Capabilities Office (SCO), and holds TS/SCI clearance.

He previously spent seven years at Microsoft as the Director and CTO of the Microsoft Institute for Advanced Technology in Governments, a global practice providing R&D innovations for enterprise-scale mission problems, leading a team working diverse projects in artificial intelligence, big data, cloud computing, cyber defense, and holographic computing. His private consulting clients have included SpaceX, Goldman Sachs, and several hedge funds.

From 1984-2002 Shepherd was active in Silicon Valley in government, technology, and research, including helping create and grow two startups (one failure, one success: batting .500). After the 9/11 attacks he moved to DC and helped lead Intelligence Community innovation at the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) as Senior Technology Officer and SES-rank head of Requirements and Research. His DIA team of technologists built multiple IC-wide capabilities, including the original versions of well-known systems Intellipedia, the IC Data Layer, and A-Space.

Shepherd is an Adjunct Professor at George Mason University, has traveled internationally for the U.S. State Department as a technology envoy, and has served on the Defense Science Board's study on information operations and hybrid warfare. He has degrees from Stanford University (where he was a Rockefeller Graduate Fellow), the University of Virginia, and the Université Libre de Bruxelles (Belgium). He has also been a guest-lecturer at the Stanford Graduate School of Business, the UVA McIntire School of Commerce, Princeton University, Georgetown University, George Mason University, and many international universities.