

## Contact

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## Top Skills

Waste to Energy  
Project Management  
Biofuels

# William Lee

Founder and Master Distiller at Gate 11 Distillery  
Soddy-Daisy, Tennessee, United States

## Summary

Veteran distiller and pioneering bioenergy executive who has built an award-winning micro-distillery at the historic Chattanooga Choo Choo Railway Terminal.

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## Experience

Gate 11 Distillery  
Founder and Master Distiller  
November 2017 - Present (7 years 3 months)  
Chattanooga, Tennessee, United States

Whitefox Technologies Ltd  
Strategic Advisor  
June 2018 - May 2023 (5 years)  
London, England, United Kingdom

Ridgcroft Refining LLC  
President and CTO  
October 2014 - November 2017 (3 years 2 months)  
Soddy Daisy, Tennessee Area

In 2014, Lee founded Ridgcroft Refining LLC - a specialty chemicals processing and technology design company with target markets in the fragrance, flavors and beverage alcohol industries. The company is currently developing a craft distillery project to be located in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

ACS CANN Subdivision  
member  
2016 - 2016 (less than a year)

Frontline BioEnergy LLC  
Chief Executive Officer  
June 2009 - December 2013 (4 years 7 months)

Report to a five member Manager Committee of owners - complete P&L responsibility

Bringing senior executive leadership to an energetic and innovative technical team focused on waste to energy utilizing gasification technologies  
Developed a new Business Development team to strengthen marketing effort  
Prioritizing waste to energy project development  
Refined and articulated a stronger value proposition with broad applicability across renewable energy sectors  
Led a successful Series A investment round with founding partner Chippewa Valley Ethanol Company  
Currently developing plans to conduct a Series B investment round  
Served as Director (2005 to 2009)

### Waste to Energy Group

Member

2010 - 2010 (less than a year)

### CHIPPEWA VALLEY ETHANOL COMPANY

General Manager

January 1996 - October 2009 (13 years 10 months)

Reported to the Board of Directors of a 950 member cooperative

Twelve straight years of ethanol production increase

Consistently above industry ethanol yield averages

#### Finance/Risk Management:

Worked with cooperative bank lenders to finance original plant, major expansion and current operations

#### Construction Management/Plant Start-ups:

Managed the \$28 million turn-key plant construction project for the initial 15-MM gpy plant - 1996

Constructed and started up a \$3 million commercial industrial alcohol refinement system - 2000

Constructed and started up a \$26 million, 20-MM gpy expansion - 2003.

Constructed \$20 million biomass gasifier project to replace natural gas inputs

#### Marketing:

One of five founders of Renewable Products Marketing Group (RPMG)

Founder and President of CVEC's wholly-owned subsidiary Glacial Grain Spirits (GGS), created and developed a specialty alcohol businesses including Prairie Organic Vodka. Created a direct marketing program for E-85 that was expanded to a network of over 115 regional retailers.

#### Innovation/New Technologies:

In 2005, was one of five co-founders of Frontline BioEnergy, LLC which worked in partnership with CVEC to install a biomass gasification system to displace natural gas energy inputs at CVEC's ethanol facility.

Responsible for managing the scale-up of gasifier capacity from 5 tpd pilot to 75 tpd commercial system

Installed technology to separate oil from our corn solubles with applications including feed oil ingredient, bio-diesel input and gasification feed-stock.

In 2003, created a novel purification technology to produce Shakers Vodka

#### Glacial Grain Spirits

President

1997 - 2009 (12 years)

#### Delta-T Corporation

Manager of Projects

1994 - 1996 (2 years)

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## Education

#### Washington University in St. Louis

BS, Chemical Engineering · (1980 - 1984)

#### University of Tennessee-Knoxville

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Geology/Earth Science, General · (1969 - 1973)