



Mark Yancey, CTO

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Mark first joined BBI International in 2001 as Manager of Consulting. By 2008, Mark had grown the BBI consulting business to a 25-person engineering and project development team that completed more than 200 technical projects and assisted clients in the development of six ethanol plants and one biodiesel plant from “concept to construction.” These plants produce over 300 million annual gallons of biofuels and represent over \$500 million in capital investment. All of these plants are in operation today. From 2006 to 2009, the BBI process engineering team developed BBI’s patented biomass-to-ethanol technology. Mark is a co-inventor on the patent. In 2009 Mark left BBI to start NEAtch, which successfully provided renewable energy and consulting services for five years. In 2013 Mark rejoined BBI as Vice President of BBI Project Development. After rejoining BBI, Mark oversaw the development and successful commercialization of BBI’s patented corn fiber-to-ethanol technology under the D3MAX LLC name. Mark retired from BBI in 2020, but continues as the CTO of D3MAX and now the CEO of SAFFiRE. Prior to joining BBI, Mark was the Industrial Partnership Team Leader for the Biofuels Program at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) in Golden, Colorado. Mark’s NREL duties included identifying and analyzing new opportunities for the application of technologies for the production of ethanol from lignocellulosic biomass. During his nine years at NREL, Mark managed a wide variety of projects including the technical and economic evaluation of converting forest residues, wood waste, wheat straw, rice straw and spent brewer’s grain to ethanol. Mark has a detailed understanding of ethanol production from both starch and sugar-based feedstocks as well as lignocellulosic biomass feedstocks. Mark has a BS degree in Chemical Engineering from Stanford University. With over 35 years of experience in renewable energy, Mark brings a wealth of business and technical experience to SAFFiRE.