

Management Team

Maverick Biofuels is managed by an experienced start-up team and experts in organic chemistry, biofuels, and chemical engineering.



Sam Yenne, MBA, Ph.D., Chief Executive Officer and Co-Founder

Sam Yenne is the Chief Executive Officer and Co-Founder of Maverick Biofuels. He is also responsible for overseeing commercialization and implementation of the Maverick Biofuel production technology. This includes development of project plans, establishing vendor relationships, and overseeing the process optimization efforts. Sam has over 20 years of product discovery and development expertise in the life sciences and related industries. Sam earned his MBA from Duke University, his Ph.D. from Virginia Tech, and his B.S. and M.S. degrees from the University of Idaho.



David Bradin, Chief Technology Officer and Co-Founder

David Bradin is Maverick's Chief Technology Officer and Co-Founder, where he is responsible for providing strategic and technical leadership. David is the inventor of the technology on which Maverick Biofuels was founded. David is an organic chemist and a patent lawyer. For the past five years, Bradin has been actively engaged in the start-up of biofuel related ventures to commercialize his intellectual property. David has been a member of the American Chemical Society since 1989, and is a member of the Georgia Bar Association (currently inactive), the North Carolina Bar Association, and the American Intellectual Property Law Association. He received his bachelor's degree in chemistry from Wittenberg University, and his master's degree in organic chemistry from the Ohio State University.



Jeffrey Harrison Ph.D., Chief Engineering Officer

Jeffrey Harrison has more than 25 years experience working in the field of alternate energy, energy conversion processes and business development. In his 17 years at Texaco Inc., he held positions as a Senior Research Chemist, Group Leader, Technology Manager and VP Upstream Gas Development. In that period, he identified and implemented several new technologies, including gasification and Fischer-Tropsch processes, that ultimately contributed significantly to the increased profitability of the company's upstream and downstream businesses. Since leaving Texaco, Jeffrey successfully led two early stage fuel cell technology companies through the technical and business transitions fundamental to their growth and maturation.



Karl von Gunten, Vice President of Marketing and Communications

Karl von Gunten is the VP of Marketing and Communications at Maverick. With more than 25 years of experience in marketing and public relations, Karl brings a deep knowledge of products and trends to the communications business. Prior to joining Maverick, Karl was director of business development, managing supervisor, at Gibbs & Soell Public Relations and vice president at Brodeur Worldwide, where he oversaw the regional office and managed PR efforts for industry leaders such as IBM, Nortel, Acterna, and Internet Security Systems. . Karl began his career at IBM where he helped launch the IBM PC in the early 1980s. He serves as an adjunct professor for Duke University Pratt School of Engineering and holds a B.A. in Physics from Wittenberg University.



Eric Cumming, Vice President of Corporate Development

Eric Cumming is Vice President of Corporate Development of Maverick Biofuels. Eric has nearly 30 years of executive and entrepreneurial experience in technology, building systems, energy and venture funding. His energy experience ranges from the development of residential and light commercial solar energy equipment, to high-end systems-built residential custom building projects. Eric's roles have included product development and technology architecture, as well as product management and investment fund raising. Eric earned his MBA from the University of Michigan and his B.Sc. from Oakland University.