JOE FENTEN, P.E.

Licensed Professional Engineer • Electrical Power Systems • Engineering Leadership

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ENGINEERING PROFILE

A licensed electrical engineer who has designed the systems, built the plant, and run the business.

Licensed P.E. in South Carolina with 15+ years in electrical power systems: low and medium voltage distribution, power and control systems, load flow and NEC compliance. Design and calculation work at Oconee and Robinson nuclear stations, the Department of Energy's Savannah River Site, and process plants for Kimberly-Clark, BP, Eastman and Chemetall. As principal of Hat Tip Electrical, delivered commercial and industrial designs, including a $500K infrastructure upgrade that improved system efficiency 30%.

I also founded South Carolina's first craft distillery, designed and commissioned the facility, sold it to a family office, and ran the combined business for eight years: a $10M P&L across two production facilities. Since then I have led operations as a COO. I know how engineering decisions show up in cost, uptime and safety, because I have owned the results.

Seeking an engineering leadership, plant or industrial operations role where technical depth and operating judgment both matter. Open to permanent or interim, and open to relocation.

CORE EXPERTISE

Power Distribution (LV & MV) • Power & Control Systems • Load Flow Analysis • NEC Code Compliance • Electrical Specifications • Energy Efficiency • AutoCAD • MicroStation • ETAP • Project Planning & Estimating • P&L Ownership

ENGINEERING EXPERIENCE

Hat Tip Electrical, LLC

2017 – 2024

Principal Engineer (P.E.) & Electrical Design Consultant • Greenville, SC

End-to-end electrical engineering for commercial and industrial clients: power distribution, lighting, grounding and equipment layout, delivered with architects, general contractors and facility managers.

- **Power distribution:** designed low and medium voltage distribution systems and control panels for new construction and retrofit projects.
- **Infrastructure upgrade:** led a $500K upgrade of electrical infrastructure, improving system efficiency 30%.
- **Energy efficiency:** completed energy audits that cut usage 20% across multiple facilities.
- **Commissioning and uptime:** oversaw procurement and on-site integration of equipment, improving uptime 25%.
- **Code compliance:** maintained 100% compliance with NEC and local electrical codes.

Jacobs Engineering

2012 – 2014

Electrical Engineer • Greenville, SC

- Electrical design for **Kimberly-Clark, BP and Chemetall** process projects, delivering power distribution systems on schedule and to performance requirements.
- Prepared NEC-compliant construction design packages, estimates and scopes of work; led field investigations and built staffing plans to meet project deadlines.

Duke Energy | Progress Energy | Shaw AREVA MOX Services 2009 – 2012

Implementation Accountable, Calculation Engineer & Electrical Design Engineer • South Carolina

- Oconee Nuclear Station (Duke Energy): wrote the temporary procedures guiding installation of engineering changes for Major Projects.
- Robinson Nuclear Station, Unit 2 (Progress Energy): revised AC auxiliary electrical distribution system calculations to resolve identified problems and modifications.
- Savannah River Site MOX Fuel Fabrication Facility (Department of Energy): led detailed electrical design of process units, including drawings, lists, databases, technical documents and calculations.

Wood Group (Mustang Engineering) | Hartness International 2007 – 2010

Electrical Design Engineer & Field Controls Engineer • Greenville, SC

- Electrical design for Eastman's Tritan monomer processing facility: SmartPlant database, lighting design, load calculations and material estimating. Then line controls, programming and field startup for packaging projects at Diageo, Coca-Cola and C&S Wholesale Grocers.

BUSINESS & OPERATING LEADERSHIP

Ownership and executive roles that ran alongside and after the engineering career.

Dark Corner Distillery | Brass Ring Spirits Brands 2010 – 2022

Founder & President (CEO) — Family Office Ownership • Greenville, SC / Hilton Head, SC

- **Built the plant:** designed, built and commissioned South Carolina's first craft distillery, including the facility, production process and product formulations. Sold to a family office in four years.
- **Ran the business:** owned a $10M P&L and 40 employees across two production facilities; implemented SAP and S&OP, improving on-time delivery 20%.
- **Pivoted production:** converted to hand sanitizer within weeks of the COVID shutdown and secured multiple Fortune 500 contracts.

Brightline Painting | Hook Security | TechCXO 2023 – 2026

Chief Operating Officer & Integrator • Greenville, SC

- COO of a $21M multi-market contractor and a high-growth cybersecurity SaaS company, and fractional COO for five founder-led companies. Built financial controls, operating systems and leadership teams.

EDUCATION & CREDENTIALS

Clemson University — Bachelor of Science, Electrical Engineering
Professional Engineer (P.E.) — SC State Board of Registration
EOS Trained Integrator • Lean Manufacturing • Six Sigma • Kaizen • SAP Technology Consultant Certificate