

Contact

www.linkedin.com/in/keith-bearden-736821 (LinkedIn)
www.doehler.com (Company)

Top Skills

Strategic Planning
Executive Management
Outsourcing

Languages

German

Keith Bearden

CEO | Board Member | Private Equity | Managing Director
| Operating Partner | President | CPG | Food & Beverage |
Nutraceutical

Winchester, Tennessee, United States

Summary

Innovative, accomplished strategic executive with expertise in domestic and international business operations. Significant experience in multiple manufacturing and service organizations, including consumer packaged goods, industrial ingredients and food services. Knowledge in multiple business functions including executive leadership, sales, marketing, operations, finance, auditing, engineering and information technology. Successful entrepreneur, CEO of domestic and international companies. Expertise at turnarounds, building high performance teams and creating strategic plans that drive success.

Experience

Alter Eco

Board Member

March 2022 - Present (1 year 6 months)

United States

We're all about creating the cleanest and greenest craveable food. We make food that restores rather than depletes. From soil to shelf, our snacks are the cleanest and greenest on Earth.

NextWorld Evergreen

Advisor

January 2019 - Present (4 years 8 months)

San Francisco Bay Area

NextWorld Evergreen is the flagship investment strategy for NextWorld, an integrated capital organization that combines investment and nonprofit activities in one ecosystem. NextWorld Evergreen is dedicated to generating investment returns to increase the capacity of NextWorld's philanthropic initiatives focused on climate change, conservation of natural resources, and improving the livelihoods of the most vulnerable.

We invest in conscious consumer brands that create enduring value through quality, trust and purpose. These characteristics are the definition of evergreen values.

E78 Partners

Senior Executive Consultant

December 2022 - Present (9 months)

Founded in 2016, E78 Partners provides solutions to help middle-market finance, technology and private equity leaders accelerate value creation. With the deep operational and industry experience from over 400 associates, we form a unique partnership with every client to become an element of their success.

E78 has been recognized by a number of authorities and industry leaders for our growth and achievements. Inc. Magazine has named E78 to their Inc5000 list as one of the fastest growing companies in America. Consulting Magazine placed E78 in the top 3 fastest growing companies in the world, and Oracle NetSuite has listed E78 as Partner of the Year multiple times in various categories. E78 is committed to helping our clients become the most efficient, valuable, and highest performing organizations in the world.

Revolution Tea

Chief Executive Officer

February 2021 - May 2023 (2 years 4 months)

Phoenix, Arizona, United States

Revolution Tea offers only full leaf teas dried by the sun with love and care. Full leaf teas, select herbs, real fruit pieces, essential oils and all natural flavors. Never tea fanning's and dust. At Revolution Tea we invite you to taste the difference.

LIFEBRANDS Natural Food GmbH

Chairman Advisory Board

June 2017 - May 2023 (6 years)

Hamburg Area, Germany

LIFEBRANDS US is a global manufacturer and distributor of sustainable food and beverage products. From the product and brand idea to production, design and marketing:

We develop, produce and distribute healthy and sustainable food and beverages of the highest quality.

With a family tradition of more than a century in the coffee, tea and cocoa business, we combine our strong German roots and deep know-how with sustainable and fair trade - future-oriented and sometimes unconventional.

Our portfolio of approximately 500 sustainable product recipes will have a positive impact on your business.

American Botanicals, LLC
Chief Executive Officer
March 2020 - July 2022 (2 years 5 months)
Eolia, Missouri, United States

Wholesale spice companies buy, sell, and export hundreds of different conventional, organic, and wildcrafted products in bulk. We specialize in filling custom orders of spices, herbs and botanicals while meeting customer product specifications. Be cautious and do your research when buying products from wholesale herb suppliers and spice distributors. Our products are never treated with chemicals or additives nor are they handled in a way that would reduce the quality.

As we continue to supply health manufacturers, pharmaceutical companies, cosmetic companies, and food manufacturers throughout the world with wholesale and bulk organic spices, herbs, and botanicals, we are committed to maintaining the integrity of the product. To support the sustainability of the supply chain, we also lease properties for wild collected crops and certified organic production.

Advantage Capital
Operating Principal
September 2019 - July 2022 (2 years 11 months)
Greater Nashville Area, TN

Investing in Small Businesses - Growing Local Economies - Delivering Returns

At Advantage Capital, we're looking for businesses that are ready for growth. We're also looking for managers and owners who are passionate and have vision for their businesses. If you're a leader with a desire for success, we want to help you.

Sweet by Nature Inc.
Member Board Of Directors
February 2016 - July 2022 (6 years 6 months)

Cunningham, Tennessee

Where can you find an instant (powdered) water enhancer (think Crystal Light), that is 100% organic, non-GMO and sustainably sourced with ONLY 2 INGREDIENTS. The answer is - Sweet by Nature.

Sweet by Nature is an instant water enhancer that is based on the ancient herb, Honeybush, from South Africa. We control the quality and the supply chain by owning the farm and nursery in South Africa.

Not only is Sweet by Nature the cleanest label in the industry, it is also amazingly healthy with higher antioxidants than green tea and 8 of the 14 essential vitamins and minerals. To learn more visit, www.sweetbynatureinc.com.

Cambridge Commodities Inc.

CEO

July 2018 - September 2019 (1 year 3 months)

Auburn, CA

Earth Circle Ingredients is an ingredient supplier and solutions provider to the sports nutrition, dietary supplement, animal nutrition, health & wellbeing, and food industries across the US.

As part of the Cambridge Commodities group, we import nutritional ingredients from all over the globe and distribute to companies in the USA, Europe and rest of the world. We bring the newest ingredients to market, drive trends and are constantly looking forward to supply products that meet the demands of consumer driven marketplaces.

Our vision is to improve lives through our ingredients, providing healthier, better for you foods to make a difference to the world. Our customers are at the heart of everything we do and all of our processes are designed to help them create market-leading products through our commitment to quality, service and innovation.

Austin Peay State University

Adjunct Professor

September 2017 - May 2019 (1 year 9 months)

Clarksville, Tennessee Area

Adjunct Professor in Computer Science Department at APSU.

Earth Circle Organics

CEO

October 2017 - June 2018 (9 months)

Reno, Nevada Area

We are an importer and international distributor of raw and organic superfoods. At Earth Circle Organics we believe that the food we put into our bodies is one of the most important aspects of our lives. Our mission at Earth Circle Organics is to educate, expand, and supply the market for sustainable-sourced raw and organic products and to operate with the highest integrity in all of our activities. This is why we source organic and minimally processed products with the highest standards of quality and integrity. We partner with farmers and producers who have a strong commitment to improving livelihoods of local communities.

Florida WorldwideCitrus

Executive Consultant

January 2017 - March 2017 (3 months)

Bradenton, FL

At Florida Worldwide Citrus, we focus on bringing our customers the highest quality products and the best customer service. Our business is built on passion that started over 30 years ago and our creative approach to natural flavor design is built on finding the right balance between art and science. We are small enough to be nimble but large enough to accommodate virtually any need.

As a new partner and President & COO, I will be working with the team here to expand our portfolio of customers and products, while continuing to provide the high level of service to our existing customers.

DöhlerGroup

CEO

July 2014 - December 2015 (1 year 6 months)

Greater Atlanta Area

Facilitated the integration of Beverage House, Inc. into Doehler North America, a division of Doehler, GmbH (www.doehler.com). Doehler is one of the largest global producers of natural food and beverage ingredients.

Managed the transition, hired additional staff, acquired additional companies and transitioned leadership to a new team based on agreed objectives.

Beverage House

Chief Executive Officer

March 2014 - June 2014 (4 months)

Cartersville, GA

Led the manufacturing, operations and finance organization at Beverage House. Led the sale of BH to Doehler GmbH.

On Sabbatical

Ski Bum

January 2014 - March 2014 (3 months)

YOGI TEA GmbH

Chief Executive Officer International Operations & Global Chief Information Officer

January 2008 - December 2013 (6 years)

Hamburg, Germany

Restructured company and established a growth and improved profitability trajectory. Consolidated operations in Europe to Hamburg, Germany and Imola, Italy, established sales and marketing departments and orchestrated move of products into International Mass Markets. Drove growth of over 200% during economic recession while increasing profits over 20%. Successfully opened up business in Russia, Asia, and Middle East.

As global CIO, led the successful implementation of Oracle e-Business Suite and Exact ERP Solutions. Implemented a global infrastructure tying all divisions together through consolidated applications and domains. Developed a service oriented structure within IT through implementation of Information Technology Infrastructure Library (ITIL) practices and led the successful outsourcing of the majority of infrastructure support services.

Virtual Information Executives, LLC

Founder & President

October 2005 - January 2008 (2 years 4 months)

Founded and managed a successful executive consulting firm. Led the business development and grew the firm to twelve consultants in less than two years. Developed a trademarked approach to technology value analysis called IT SnapShot™. Established over 30 clients in three years in industries including healthcare, private equity, financial services, publishing, manufacturing, government, non-profit and services. Personal clients and roles included the following:

- Golden Temple - CIO / Executive Advisor
- The Columbian - CIO / Executive Advisor
- Aequitas Capital - Executive Advisor / Due Diligence Manager
- Mercy Corps - Executive Advisor
- Empire Health Services - CIO – MEDITECH Implementation / Upgrade
- Unitus Community Credit Union – CIO / NCUA Compliance Audit
- Providence Healthcare - Technology Advisor – NextGen and EPIC System Selection
- St. Patrick Hospital - Technology Advisor – NextGen and MEDITECH Review and Upgrade
- Fisher Implement - CIO / Executive Advisor
- AKT Financial Services – SOX Compliance Audits
- McMinnville Water & Light - Technology Advisor
- Metro of Portland - Executive Advisor
- Cadet Manufacturing - Technology Advisor

Chehalem Parks & Recreation District

Board Member

May 2002 - January 2008 (5 years 9 months)

Newberg, Oregon

Publicly elected Board Member for Chehalem Parks & Recreation District (CPRD) overseeing community parks, adult education and after school programs, community center facilities and youth and adult sports programs. Espoused the mission of CPRD, which is to connect and enrich the community through parks, recreation, open space, natural resources, and educational opportunities. Executive financial advisor for development of a community golf course, Chehalem Glenn.

Society of Information Management

Board Member

May 2002 - March 2007 (4 years 11 months)

Provided direction for organization to bring together technology professionals and community. Worked with local schools and universities to develop curriculum applicable to business needs.

Oregon Technology Business Center

Advisory Board Member

February 2004 - January 2007 (3 years)

Organization provided support for start-up companies. Advised organization and start-up companies on how to develop solid business plans and sustainable financial models. Also reviewed technology to advise on effectiveness and practical application within the targeted market.

Chehalem Cultural Center

Board Member

September 2002 - June 2006 (3 years 10 months)

Newberg, OR

Board Member for Chehalem Cultural Center involved in developing strategic plan for revitalization of a historic building for the use as Cultural Center. Worked with other Board Members to develop grant proposals and bond measures to generate funds for development.

Tatum CIO Partners, LLP

CIO Partner

December 2004 - October 2005 (11 months)

CIO Partner focused on helping companies maximize their potential with a singular focus on accelerating business performance through effective use of technology to create more value. Personal clients and roles included the following:

- Empire Health Services - CIO / Turnaround Team Member
- Fisher Implement - CIO / Executive Advisor – Full IT Outsourcing
- GE Capital – Due Diligence Advisor / SAS 70 Audit
- Brandrud Corporation – Technology Advisor – MAPICS Syteline Implementation
- InCode Telecom – SOX Compliance Audit

Newberg Early Birds Rotary Foundation

President

February 2000 - May 2004 (4 years 4 months)

Newberg, OR

Established foundation as part of local Rotary International branch. Developed policies and established funding and giving guidelines to support longevity of the foundation. Successfully contributed to over ten community projects during first four years of existence.

A-dec, Inc.

VP of Information & Shared Services, CIO

October 1998 - May 2004 (5 years 8 months)

Promoted to lead administrative departments of Information Technology, Finance, Legal, Regulatory Services, and Property & Facilities with P&L responsibility. Developed strategic business plan that allowed company to outpace category growth by over 50%. Established administrative area strategic plans to support company objectives. Fiduciary responsibility for retirement fund (fund worth over \$150MM) and profit sharing accounts. Directed ISO and FDA registration and compliance. Company revenues over \$250 MM. Direct management over 60 employees.

Sequent Computer Systems

Director of Worldwide Operations

1998 - 1998 (less than a year)

Managed outsourcing of data centers to EDS. Prior to outsourcing, responsible for data centers and technology infrastructure for entire company. Managed multiple data centers and over 80 technical employees in three global locations. Company revenue over \$1 B.

Dow Chemical

Project and Applications Manager

July 1983 - June 1997 (14 years)

Managed projects and applications to support Environmental, Health and Safety (EH&S) areas for Dow globally. Directed project prioritization and management of Information Technology governance with EH&S. Responsible for emergency response systems for environmental compliance. Company revenue over \$40 B. Direct management over 80 employees.

Education

Austin Peay State University

Bachelor of Science (B.S.), Computer Science · (1979 - 1983)

Austin Peay State University

Bachelor of Science - BS, Computer Science · (September 1979 - May 1983)