Kai Whitelocke

Phoenix, AZ • 734.645.4770 • kailaswhitelocke@gmail.com • linkedin.com/in/kailaswhitelocke • he/him

EDUCATION

Arizona State University **Tempe, AZ**

Bachelor of Science, Mechanical Engineering **Dec 2022**

- National Merit Scholar (2018), Dean's List
- **Honors Thesis – Evolve Academy:** Co-founded a virtual youth sports coaching startup, developing the business plan, customer acquisition strategy, and investor pitch
- **Barrett GlobalResolve, Team Lead:** Led business model development within a 7-person interdisciplinary team developing commercialization strategies for a Kenyan low-smoke cookstove

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Burns & McDonnell **Phoenix, AZ**

Burns & McDonnell is a global engineering and construction firm focused on critical infrastructure. Within 1898 & Co., its management consulting arm, I lead teams of 5–20 on complex renewable energy projects.

Energy Advisory Consultant, 1898 & Co. **Jun 2026 – Present**

- Managed renewable generation development planning for a $15B portfolio, coordinating 14 project managers, engineering teams, schedules, and risk to support investment decisions through pre-construction
- Developed enterprise software adopted across 10+ offices, replacing Excel-based workflows and saving ~3,000 hours annually while improving calculation accuracy and deliverable quality
- Mentored 6 analysts through technical training while leading practice-wide training sessions up to 60

Renewable Energy Lead Analyst, 1898 & Co. **Jan 2025 – May 2026**

- Redesigned end-to-end bid development processes for 7 renewable projects valued at ~$7B, coordinating 30+ stakeholders across 3 organizations and reducing proposal timelines by 70%+
- Presented process improvement recommendations to utility executives, facilitated executive workshops
- Implemented workflow management processes supporting $1M+ in cost reduction

Energy & Utilities Analyst, 1898 & Co. **Jan 2023 – Dec 2024**

- Led technical and commercial diligence for renewable acquisitions and financings ranging from $50M–$800M, identifying project risks that informed investment decisions and strengthened buyer negotiating positions
- Directed planning across utilities, contractors, and system operators for a $30B transmission portfolio, minimizing outage risk and maintaining grid reliability

Mechanical Design Intern, Power Division **May 2022 – Dec 2022**

258 Strategy LLC **Ann Arbor, MI**

Founder, Principal **Sep 2018 – Dec 2023**

- Founded an e-commerce resale company and scaled from $0 to $200K+ in annual revenue through wholesale sourcing, pricing optimization, and marketplace strategy
- Hired, trained, and managed 4 remote contract employees supporting operations, fulfillment, and customer service
- Negotiated supplier and warehouse partnerships, reducing logistics costs and state tax exposure by 18%
- Managed hundreds of SKUs across multiple wholesale relationships, maintaining approximately 50% gross margins through pricing and inventory optimization

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP, SKILLS, AND INTERESTS

Management Leadership for Tomorrow (MLT), *MBA Prep Fellow* **Mar 2026 – Present**

Camp Catanese, *Volunteer and Lecturer* **Mar 2026 – Present**

- Organized logistics and educational programming for 900 first-generation college-bound middle school students across three annual camp sessions while teaching engineering and college readiness

Arizona Future City, *Judge* **Jan 2023 – Present**

- Evaluate engineering proposals submitted to annual competition from ~100 middle-school students while mentoring teams and promoting STEM education and careers

Skills & Certifications: Engineer in Training (2023), Certified Lean Change Agent (2024)

Interests: Golf (<10 handicap; former 1.8), Traveling without an itinerary, Building web apps