



Cohen Neal

Senior Operator

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STRENGTHS

- 👁 **Process Awareness**
Field rounds and control readings helped catch changing conditions early, giving coworkers time to respond before quality shifted.
- ✅ **Quality Judgment**
QA sampling and test results guided practical corrections. A second look at unusual readings often protected downstream product.
- 🔧 **Mechanical Troubleshooting**
Temperature, vibration, flow, sound, and visual clues shaped maintenance calls. Coworkers valued clear details during urgent repairs.
- ♥ **Safety Leadership**
Hazard reviews and PPE checks kept attention on real conditions. Speaking up early made confined and elevated work safer.
- 👥 **Shift Collaboration**
Clear handoffs connected operators, QA, and maintenance. Small details in records often prevented a larger issue overnight.

SKILLS

- Production Operations
- Ethanol Processing Corn Oil
- Distillers Grains
- Process Equipment QA Sampling
- Process Testing
- Process Monitoring

SUMMARY

Senior production operator with four years of experience supporting ethanol and grain processing operations, progressing from supervised production support into independent equipment operation and shift level leadership. Skilled in ethanol, corn oil, and **distillers grains** processing, process monitoring, QA sampling, process stream testing, operating parameter documentation, **preventive maintenance**, **corrective maintenance**, sanitation, and safe use of automated and manual equipment. Applies field observations and quality results to practical **process adjustments** that protect product specifications, throughput, and dependable plant performance. Experienced in rotating shifts, confined spaces, elevated structures, respirator use, PPE, hazard identification, safety records, investigational runs, and maintenance escalation. Coaches newer operators, supports strong shift handoffs, and helps resolve equipment concerns before they affect production.

EXPERIENCE

Senior Production Operator

Heartland Renewable Processing 📅 July 2025 - Present 📍 Bloomington, Illinois

Leads assigned area operations across ethanol, **corn oil**, and distillers grains processing during 12 hour **rotating shifts**. Supports safe production, quality control, equipment reliability, sanitation, training, and shift level coordination while working independently in demanding plant conditions.

- Directed **ethanol**, corn oil, and distillers grains operations during rotating shifts, protecting **throughput** and product specifications.
- Reviewed process readings and field observations, adjusting equipment conditions before deviations affected downstream quality.
- Interpreted QA samples and process tests, tracing abnormal results to operating conditions and initiating corrections.
- Performed **preventive maintenance** on pumps, valves, and conveyors, escalating specialized repairs with useful diagnostic details.
- Led hazard reviews across dusty, noisy, confined, and elevated areas, reinforcing respirator and fall protection requirements.
- Coached newer operators on rounds, **sanitation**, tool care, records, and escalation practices for consistent shift execution.

Production Operator

Prairie State Fermentation 📅 January 2024 - June 2025 📍 Springfield, Illinois

Operated grain processing systems through field rounds, control checks, quality testing, maintenance support, and sanitation work. Protected stable ethanol and coproduct production while recording deviations, supporting investigational runs, and communicating risks during shift handoffs.

- Operated grain processing systems through field rounds and control checks, maintaining stable **ethanol** and coproduct production.
- Collected **process stream samples** and completed QA testing, using specification limits to guide timely operating decisions.
- Identified equipment concerns through temperature, vibration, flow, sound, and visual checks, improving maintenance response quality.
- Completed **preventive maintenance** and sanitation work, preserving safe access and equipment readiness for continuous operations.
- Recorded controlled investigational runs and process changes, giving production and QA teams reliable evaluation data.
- Maintained shift records and communicated hazards, deviations, and unresolved concerns during handoffs to preserve continuity.

Production Technician

Midland Grain Processing 📅 October 2022 - December 2023 📍 Decatur, Illinois

Preventive Maintenance

Corrective Maintenance

Troubleshooting

Safety Procedures

Hazard Identification

Confined Spaces PPE

LANGUAGES

English Native

Spanish Beginner

MY CAREER



● Senior Production Operator at Heartland Renewable Processing (1.2 Years)

● Production Operator at Prairie State Fermentation (1.4 Years)

● Production Technician at Midland Grain Processing (1.2 Years)

Completed supervised operating rounds and production support across grain handling and processing equipment. Built mechanical troubleshooting, quality documentation, safe material handling, sanitation, and independent work readiness in confined, elevated, dusty, and continuous process environments.

- Completed supervised operating rounds, documenting checkpoint readings while learning relationships among grain processing conditions.
- Performed sweeping, loading, unloading, and sanitation tasks in dusty areas while following **PPE** and material handling practices.
- Used manual and automated tools for routine equipment care, building mechanical **troubleshooting** skills under operator guidance.
- Supported sample collection and basic quality checks, recording results accurately before authorized production adjustments.
- Reported leaks, abnormal equipment conditions, and hazards promptly, helping experienced operators isolate risks and coordinate corrections.
- Completed **safety** and operational training, preparing for independent work in confined and elevated production areas.

PROJECTS

Process Quality Investigation 📅 2025

Supported controlled production investigations by recording process changes, field observations, sample results, and operating responses. Careful records helped production and QA teams assess temporary departures from normal procedures and make sound follow up decisions.

Rotating Shift Reliability 📅 2024

Improved shift continuity through structured rounds, equipment observations, sanitation checks, and clear handoffs. Practical field notes helped operators and maintenance personnel respond earlier to developing process and equipment concerns.

LEADERSHIP & AWARDS

- Recognized by shift leadership for dependable operation of ethanol and coproduct processing equipment.
- Selected to coach newer operators on rounds, sanitation, records, tool care, and safe escalation practices.
- Trusted with shift level hazard reviews across confined, elevated, noisy, and dusty production areas.

EDUCATION

High School Diploma

Decatur Central High School 🎓 GPA: 4.0 📅 2022 📍 Decatur, Illinois

Coursework: *Industrial safety, mechanical systems, production operations, technical mathematics*

CERTIFICATIONS

- OSHA 10 Hour General Industry 📅 2024
- Confined Space Entry and Respiratory Protection Training 📅 2025

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Biofuel Processing:** Ethanol, corn oil, distillers grains
- **Process Control:** Process monitoring, control readings, operating parameters
- **Quality Assurance:** QA sampling, process testing, specification limits
- **Equipment Operation:** Automated equipment, manual equipment, process machinery
- **Maintenance:** Preventive maintenance, corrective maintenance, tool care
- **Mechanical Systems:** Pumps, valves, conveyors
- **Safety Equipment:** Respirators, hard hats, hearing protection
- **Workplace Safety:** Hazard identification, fall protection, safety procedures
- **Plant Sanitation:** Housekeeping, sanitation schedules, area cleaning

- **Operational Records:** Shift records, regulatory records, process documentation
- **Investigation Methods:** Investigational runs, process observations, corrective action
- **Material Handling:** Loading, unloading, lifting materials

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Production operations teams supporting ethanol and grain processing facilities.
- Workplace safety and equipment reliability initiatives within continuous process operations.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Work Status : Authorized to work in United States. No sponsorship required.

REFERENCES

AVAILABLE ON REQUEST