

PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT & TECHNICAL DESIGN MANAGER

Description:

•To support the business in the development of technical design. To build relationships and act as a liaison to the supplier base. To support the product design and ensure timely delivery of the product from concept to delivery – all while maintaining the product cost against the assortment plan.

•To work with Design to develop the range (including all seasonal core) and provide specific technical information to the supplier in order to meet prototype, salesman sample, and bulk production schedules. Develop and supply all fabric, trims along with design work with the licensee on all development issues in order to achieve dually sourced products.

•To work with Merchandising and Planning in understanding the priority of each style within the assortment in order to achieve the right product placement within the assortment. It is with this understanding that leadership is required along with diplomatic negotiation in order to achieve the best financial results as needed by the business.

•To work with the Head of Sourcing and Production to synchronize sourcing base by category -- based on manufacturing specialties, cost requirements, country of origin, timelines, etc.

Responsibilities:

- To provide all product specification and quality requirements to each supplier*
- To fit the garments during the prototype, salesman sample and post production all within the calendar requirements*
- To work with the licensee throughout the process in order to synchronise all fit and technical information as well as approval of detailed sample in regards to quality and fit*
- To participate in design calendar and align to business needs where necessary*
- To provide all necessary support to cross divisional functions – for example create a synergy in quality and supplier with the production division*
- To assist in any and all functions as related to improvements of the garment from points of measure, grading rules, product line management information, trim development as well as sealed salesman samples to provide on time delivery for production*
- Responsible for quality testing and standards required for all markets – and evolve the business and supplier base to execute the tolerance required by the most limited export locations (for example Chinese labelling requirements and testing)*
- Ability to communicate and provide technical and engineering specifics for products (where applicable) at showroom openings as well as licensee and new markets*

Experience:

7-10 years management experience required preferably in the luxury goods industry – specific to tailored garments

Pattern making skills and exposure to cutting of tailored garments

Experience in producing product specifications against a demanding calendar

Must be able to work across a broad range of products

Must have strong communication, follow - up and team orientation

Must be able to work from an existing brand image and engineer product relevant for specific markets without changing the design intent

Strong computer knowledge and ability to learn through new and advanced technology