

TOAST

TECHNICAL PRODUCT DEVELOPER – KNIT/JERSEY, LEATHER AND SWIMWEAR

Born in a Welsh barn in 1997, TOAST has grown from loungewear and nightwear to become a unique lifestyle brand, creating and curating simple, functional, beautiful clothing, home ware and editorial.

TOAST is renowned for its thoughtful, contemporary design and commitment to traditional textiles and craftsmanship.

TOAST has studios in both London and Swansea and is one of the very few UK clothing brands with its own full pattern room.

TOAST has shops throughout the UK and can be found in many John Lewis stores. TOAST has an online shop www.toa.st

The emphasis within the TOAST workplace is:

Thoughtfulness - in all we do and all we say, in our actions and our interactions

Simplicity - in our aesthetics, communications, processes and solutions

Creativity - and the encouragement of fresh thinking and the free exchange of ideas

Collaboration - both among ourselves and with other inspiring individuals, organisations and traditional craftsmen

As part of the TOAST team, you are a catalyst for the brand's successes. To realize our ambitions we need you to share our interests and values, have an enthusiasm for TOAST itself as well as a deep knowledge and love of your own specialist area.

In return for your dedication, TOAST will offer a supportive and friendly working environment with flexible working hours and generous staff discounts. You will receive a comprehensive induction, including product and brand training, that helps to plant a deep understanding of TOAST that can be carried confidently through your work and into the outside world.

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REPORTS TO Product Development Manager

LOCATION London

ROLE OVERVIEW

- To deliver product that follows the TOAST ethos of simplicity, originality, creativity and thoughtfulness.
- Responsible for developing technically correct product, from sketch through to shipment sample, that represents the vision of the Design Team, meets the TOAST quality/fit and achieves the company target margin.
- To liaise daily with the Design, Production and Merchandise Departments, as well as supply base, to ensure product is delivered in line with the critical path.
- To embrace the company values and consistently communicate in a positive and collaborative manner.

ROLE IN DETAIL

- Responsible for raising styles on internal systems and maintaining PD specs and trackers, in order to accurately communicate requirements to Production, Merchandising and supply base where necessary.
- Strong critical path management ensuring deadlines are met to meet company requirements.
- To develop technically correct, commercial products that represent the concept & vision of the Design Team in line with the Range Plan & company Business Calendar.
- Working closely with the Design Team to ensure the pricing architecture & target margins set out in the range plan are met, working together on solutions to ensure we meet company budgets.
- Working closely with the supply base to understand their strengths and capabilities, maintaining good & effective working relationships.
- Working closely with the supply base for cost negotiation, cross costing as well as the resourcing of fabrics, trims and components.
- Input product data into pre-system (excel spreadsheet) for copy writer in line with the company critical path and work closely with the web team to review images and proofs for the website.
- Responsible for on time receipt of proto samples and photo samples to a required standard in line with review meetings and shoot deadlines, communicating effectively with all teams.

- Issue graded specs to supplier and support grading queries.
- Measure all proto, photo and sealing samples and record results.
- Ensure smooth running of fit process, to ensure the perfect fit, quality and design aesthetics, from proto through to sealed sample, liaising with Pattern Room & Design to resolve any issues.
- Maintain technical workbooks, to include garment specification sheets, and assess and comment on samples, communicating feedback to external contacts.
- Working closely with the supply to receive base test reports and recommended care instructions, liaising with Technical & Code of Conduct Manager on any fails and finding solutions highlighting any risks to Product Development Manager.
- Be proactive in establishing improved quality and make standards.
- Maintain a customer focussed approach in understanding of fit and quality issues.
- Attend Bi-annual store days to better understand the TOAST customer.
- Travel to supply base to meet all suppliers and ensure a collaborative and close working relationship.
- Manage day to day workload in a timely manner, in line with company critical path.

EXPERIENCE AND SKILLS REQUIRED

- A good understanding of the TOAST brand, its product and design aesthetic.
- Excellent understanding of the development process and garment construction.
- Multi Product Experience.
- Strong negotiation skills.
- Expert in developing product from start to end with understanding of all implications and timings of bulk production.
- A team player who can work on team projects as well as on an individual basis.
- At least 2 years' experience as a Product Developer or Garment Technologist in a relevant brand.
- Clear and concise communicator with strong organisational skills, and able to manage a diverse workload.
- Computer proficient essential: MS Office, Excel, (bonus Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop skills).

HOW TO APPLY

If you are interested in applying for the role, please email a covering letter and CV to Susan Evans, Human Resources on Evanss@toa.st