

Organization: The LANG Companies, Inc.

Job Title: **Product Development Specialist**

Reports to: Creative Services Manager

Job Type: Full time

Company Profile:

Headquartered in Waukesha, Wisconsin, The LANG Companies, Inc., is an industry leader with over 30 years of experience producing art and design driven, exceptional quality gift and specialty products, indoor and outdoor home décor, and sports licensed products including greeting cards, calendars, drinkware, tableware, puzzles and games, and stationery. Our diversified product portfolio is marketed under three widely-recognized, company-owned brands; LANG®, Wells Street by LANG® and Turner Licensing™.

Responsibilities:

Product Development Specialist candidates must have the ability to conceive of and develop high quality, visually superior merchandise that will maintain our reputation as a leading producer of traditional and contemporary gift, stationery and ceramic merchandise. The ideal candidate will have an entrepreneurial motivation and thrive in a fast-past environment. We are looking for candidates with a sharp eye for detail and aesthetics and the ability to define and shape market-leading gift products across several categories.

Functions and responsibilities include but, are not limited to:

Product Planning:

- Working with the Brand Teams, this position is responsible for development, implementation, maintenance and troubleshooting of each brand's products for all categories related to the corporate brands.
- Review all product categories with Brand teams to determine new project opportunities, concepts and trends that will expand the breadth of each category's product mix.
- Review factory and landed costs versus MSRP to ensure each product meets margin standards.

Concept/Design Development:

- Create highly detailed spec sheets, die-lines and have strong communication skills with our Asian Operations team in order to create new templates and improve existing templates across all product lines.
- Communicate with the Production Manager to approve new templates and samples from our factories prior to the designers beginning work on new projects.
- Effectively collaborate with internal Production team to ensure mock-ups are properly constructed for presentation purposes to our sales team.

Project Management:

- Maintain cost, duty and shipping information for each project in the PD data management files.
- Daily communication with Brand Management, Production Manager and Asia Operations Team in regards to over-seeing consistent quality levels of new products and re-orders from new factories.
- Work with Inventory Planning and Sourcing to ensure on-time shipments and highest quality level of manufacturing.
- Work with Brand Management to ensure accuracy of product information listed on our website and in our catalogs.
- Collaborate with Operations and Sourcing Team on product testing best practices.
- Manage workflow and maintain tight deadlines of multiple and simultaneous projects.

Required Skills & Experience:

- Bachelor degree.
- Minimum 5+ years of experience in related field such as Product Development, Industrial Design, Project Management, Manufacturing or Graphic Design.
- Experience in working with product templates and writing product specs sheets.
- Direct communication with graphic designers, production designers and factory representatives.
- Experience in use of Excel, Adobe Illustrator, In-Design, Photoshop. CAD experience a bonus.
- Highly organized with proven ability to multi-task, meet strict deadlines and work in a fast paced environment.
- Exceptional verbal and written communications skills.
- Experience effectively coordinating with international suppliers

The LANG Companies, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employers and complies with all applicable employment laws.