

PORTA ROMANA

Porta Romana is an English company, based in Farnham, Surrey. Our brand is synonymous with luxury lighting and furniture, supplying many of the most prestigious hotel, yachts, and residential projects around the world. The Porta Romana team is around 125 employees, based either in Farnham or at our London showroom. All our product development, casting, decorative finishing, assembly, and wiring work is undertaken in-house, and we also work with many other skilled artisans around the UK and beyond, to create pieces for our collection.

PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

Porta Romana is seeking an energetic, team leader with strong technical skills who thrives on the diverse challenges of creating hand-crafted products. With a keen interest in the interior design industry and its trends, technical developments and a desire to push the boundaries in materials and to contribute authoritatively to product strategy. The role carries full responsibility for managing the product development process, from initial concept to market launch, including new designs, product enhancements, design collaborations, sustainability initiatives, all aligned with company strategic objectives. It also plays a key role in the development of our growing bespoke and customisation business.

The successful candidate will be adept at building strong relationships with a wide network of skilled makers and collaborating across all business departments.

What you'll do

Managing new product development process

- Creating a project plan for each new collection, in line with a sales and marketing brief.
- Translating ideas and concepts from the Creative Director into actionable plans.
- Managing the prototyping, costing, regular review of iterations to the project timeline
- Consulting with wider teams (Purchasing, Assembly, Operations, etc.) for supplier and technical input and the creation of all necessary drawings and Bills of Materials.
- Managing supplier and maker communications, fostering strong relationships and addressing issues as they arise.
- Ensuring that all new products are tested, fit for purpose and have the appropriate installation instructions and packaging.
- Presenting collections to the Directors' team for final approval.
- Overseeing the preparation of quality control packs, design registrations, technical data sheets and a full handover to production teams.
- Supplying information and the new products to the marketing team in line with launch timetable for photography shoots and showroom installations
- Delivering training to sales teams before launch.

Change control, Continuous improvement and sustainability

- Managing action points from the change and improvements process, identifying any cost implications, ensuring sign-off from design and technical specification.
- Providing strategic input on existing products, identifying areas for improvement and compiling edit lists for Director approval.



PORTA ROMANA LIMITED

Registered Office Northbrook, Farnham, Surrey, GU10 5EU.

Registered in England and Wales Company

Reg. No: 3950316 VAT Reg. No: 164863873

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- Providing leadership on product and materials sustainability reporting and initiatives to reduce carbon emissions associated with the production of our collection.
- Expanding the supplier base by exploring new materials, techniques, skills, and identifying opportunities for better pricing or quality.

Bespoke projects and Design collaborations

- Working closely with the Custom and Bespoke Project Managers provide support for custom, bespoke, and hospitality projects
- Advising on the costs and feasibility of custom requests, ensuring that response times align with sales requirements.
- Managing product development workload distribution
- Overseeing sign off for design and technical specification for bespoke projects
- Managing design collaborations from concept to delivery, including scope definition, collaboration agreements, and contractual terms. Ensuring existing collaborator contracts are up-to-date with additional iterations as needed.

Budget management and Management team

- Managing the origination and resourcing budget and provide regular review with directors
- Contributing to a collaborative and hardworking management team, supporting strong communication across departments and alignment to company objectives
- Involvement in Special Projects, providing technical design input for trade shows, marketing initiatives, and internal projects.

Team Leadership & Development

- Managing the product team, including recruitment, training, and professional development.
- Providing mentorship and guidance to team members to drive performance and innovation.

What you'll need

- Experience in developing designs from creative concept to manufacture with 3-4 years relevant work experience
- An impressive knowledge of materials and materials properties
- Software skills, Proficient in AutoCAD, Solidworks (ideally with Visualize) and the Adobe Package CHK
- Good understanding of 3D printing software
- A proficient project manager
- With strong commercial and negotiating skills
- An excellent communicator and team leader

What you'll get

- Real Living Wage Employer
- 28 days holiday increasing to 33 days with length of service (inclusive of bank holidays)
- Access to Perkbox Benefits Platform – offering a variety of discounts across well-being and lifestyle



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- 4% company pension contribution (after 3 months service)
- Company Sick Pay
- Weekly subsidised Yoga classes
- Annual Company Performance Bonus of up to £1,150 (paid tax free after one years service)
- Free fruit (restocked weekly), coffee, teas, hot chocolate in our fully stocked kitchens
- Car pooling incentive scheme
- Regular social and charity events - including monthly breakfast meetings, monthly and annual employee recognition awards, Summer BBQ and Christmas party.
- Free parking
- Staff Discount
- EAP Programme
- Employee Referral Scheme
- Cycle to work scheme

At Porta Romana, we believe in treating our whole team fairly, in every respect, whether that's offering equal opportunities or ensuring fair pay. To successfully achieve our mission,

'A team of excellence crafting beautiful objects to be loved for a lifetime and more'

we encourage collaboration and creativity, fostering an environment in which every idea or question is valued. Always encouraging a fresh perspective, we actively seek to create a team with diverse backgrounds and experiences who will contribute positively to our company.

Join us in shaping a workplace where creativity flourishes, inclusivity thrives, and every member of our team contributes to our shared success.

Contract: Permanent / Full Time
Core Hours: Monday to Friday, 9.00am - 5.00pm
Place of work: Northbrook Business Park, Farnham, GU10 5EU
Reporting to: Managing Director / Creative Director

To apply please send your cv with covering letter detailing your career highlights and aspirations to HR@portaromana.com



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