

Vikas Ravi

Garments Design Development | Garment Technology | Garments Production

With over 26 years of international exposure, Gopakumar functioned as a veteran in the production, technology, and design development phases of the garments sector. Directed product growth strategies aligned with brand vision and facilitated business needs through curating a vendor base that positions the company for current and future growth, setting and managing company expectations on gross margins, and effectively leveraging volume allocation to create further opportunities for specialized production. Led the charge on product category expansion by bringing in new concepts / product ideas, overarching market perspective and a strong point of view to the development of new product categories. Further supported the Research and Development of new/innovative materials and design concepts, established product standards and evaluating processes to maintain consistency in fit and quality. Collaborated with cross-functional departments, cultivated and nurtured relationships with suppliers and vendors to facilitate the enhancement of quality, and overall optimization of cost / lead times, and effectually addressed buyer requirements. Coordinated with the senior management in the product development and the design teams by setting clear objectives, providing on-going performance feedback, mentoring and coaching to facilitate the innovation and delivery of impeccable products. He is now looking to broaden his horizon by taking on senior management positions in garment production and technical management departments.

info@visualcvs.com ✉

+91 8838658243 ☎

India 📍



Work Experience

October 2011 – Present

Senior Technical Manager, Production Advisor
PT. Pin Apparels | Chennai, India

As the Production Advisor of the organization, Gopakumar is recognized and credited for introducing new range of “Dresses” to the women’s wear. Additionally, he also held the ownership towards understanding the current global fashion trend and utilized data driven matrices to project resources needed to create a fresh outlook towards trendy samples in line with market and customer-buying psychology.

He held close accountability towards meeting set quality and production norms in line with business goals and objectives. Collaborated between the design and development teams of the organization in liaison with the design teams of their clients to leverage the integration of innovative concepts in the product designs. Served as a key resource in the factory production planning to assist in achieving set targets, and drove regular production development processes in the establishments through communication with global vendors throughout the product’s lifecycle. Further partnered with design teams for the product development approval, and attended multiple *fit meetings* across Hong Kong and USA to interact with buyers to acquire new business opportunities for the organization.

Major Clients Acquired: Talbots | Lauren | AnnTaylor | J.Jill | Banana Republic
Others: S.Oliver | Espirit | Express | Chico’s | Whitehouse Black Market Apparels

2003 – September 2011

Technical Manager – Pattern and Sampling and Fit Technician
Ambattur Clothing Limited | India

Gopakumar, as the Technical Manager, oversaw the coordination, management, timely delivery and quality assurance of products through consistent feedback to various teams including the pattern, CAD/CAM, marker and sampling departments of the organization. Facilitated the planning, scheduling and monitoring of the production activities to improve runtime while maintaining high quality and timely delivery of different projects to global buyers. Supervised the day to day activities and performance of assigned personnel to maintain task assignment and workload while meeting production goals in line with the business / project objectives. Completed end to end planning, direction and co-ordination of all the technical processes carried out in various departments of production line with consideration to changing customer needs and fulfilling them.

Value Addition:

Liaison with Buyers –

- Developed new blocks for the buyers.
- Ensured the samples met the buyer requirement ethics and fit, through reviewing the pre-fit samples and providing corrections.

Core Skills

- ▲ Production Advisory
- ▲ Patterns and Fitting
- ▲ Garment Production Technology
- ▲ Draping of Garments
- ▲ Troubleshooting
- ▲ Stakeholder Management
- ▲ Sampling
- ▲ Quality Assurance
- ▲ Domain Knowledge
- ▲ Product Design
- ▲ Research and Development
- ▲ Cross-functional Team Management
- ▲ Vendor Management
- ▲ Production Facility Management
- ▲ Monitoring KPIs
- ▲ Strategic Prospecting
- ▲ Sales Support

Personal Attributes

- ▲ Critical thinking
- ▲ Strong collaboration skills
- ▲ Eye for detail
- ▲ Customer-focused service orientation
- ▲ Effective Listening
- ▲ Time Management
- ▲ Communication Skills
- ▲ Team Collaboration
- ▲ Demo Skills
- ▲ Personal Integrity
- ▲ Organization Skills
- ▲ Conflict Management
- ▲ Leadership
- ▲ Motivator
- ▲ Negotiation
- ▲ Presentation

- Coordinated with buyers for fit issues and tech pack adaptations.
- Supplied further understanding of fit issues through video conferences with buyers.

Design and Development –

- Directed operations for products from the development phase till production.
- Oversaw the costing marker validation.
- Provided technical advice to the designers in the selection of fabrics for specific styles.
- Extended technical training in patterns, sampling and quality assurance.
- Developed patterns and sampling for design presentations.
- Graded size set patterns and adding shrinkage.
- Further amassed knowledge and expertise in women's fit garment patterns, men/women garments.

Technical Skills

- ▲ MS Office
- ▲ Adobe Photoshop
- ▲ Outlook Express
- ▲ Accumark (GGT) Version 8.2

Gerber – Based Softwares:

- ▲ Accuplot 100
- ▲ SP 200 Pattern Cutter
- ▲ Infinity Plotter

Areas of Critical Impact

Design and Development

- Oversaw all stages of the design development.
- Supported the teams in the garment development process, fabrics, patterns and construction.
- Ensured that designs were trend relevant for target audiences.
- Led the growth in Women's Wear category through funnel approach and increased the adoption.
- Communicated feedback, market research for integrating usage and attitudes of Women wear categories.
- Assured that a robust design development handoff took place with all the appropriate components to build a complete tech pack to meet the requirements of the buyers.

Patterns, Fitting, Sampling

- Advised on risks with sampling, fit and execution within specific product categories.
- Partnered with Design and PD to meet design intent and margin targets for new fits and products.
- Collaborated with buyers and buyer tech members to ensure that samples, finishing and fit stay consistent across all programs within a specific product category.
- Attended international Fit Meetings with buyers to collate their feedback to the fit samples shared with them.
- Worked with technical teams to calibrate, train, educate, and understand factory and employee capabilities.
- Experienced in patternmaking, grading, sampling and fit for multiple product categories.

Quality Assurance

- Directed internal processes related to product quality and production.
- Implemented and assessed target goals / KPIs for production and product quality areas.
- Collaborated with internal and external teams to strategize and plan critical projects to ensure production of quantitative and qualitative work.

Production

- Drove the development, implementation and execution of production processes.
- Maintained a deep understanding of key productivity metrics and ensured clear communication process for such metrics between the senior management and the other employees.
- Provided leadership and direction to department heads which included providing and executing short and long-term developmental goals.
- Developed and managed the department's budgets and timelines, along with travelling internationally to buyer locations to facilitate business opportunities.

Academics / Trainings

- 1994 | Diploma – Pattern Making | Madras Institute of Fashion Technology, Chennai
- 1990 | Secondary Schooling | Sacred Heart Matriculation School, Chennai
- 2008 | Levi's Guide for Garment Development – Training | Colombo, Sri Lanka