

Basics

Job Title Associate Apparel Developer
Reports To Senior VP, Business Development
FLSA Status Exempt
Direct Reports No

About Mizuno

Mizuno USA's roots stem from its parent company, Mizuno Corporation. Mizuno Corporation was established in Osaka, Japan in 1906 by Rihachi Mizuno. Today, Mizuno USA is located in Peachtree Corners, GA and continues to manufacture and distribute high quality golf, baseball, softball, running, track & field, and volleyball equipment, apparel, and footwear.

Since our founding, we have taken special pride and pleasure in being able to participate in the exciting world of sports and providing sports equipment of the highest quality. Each and every one of us is guided by the ideal of true sportsmanship. That was true over 100 years ago and is still true today. It is evident in our corporate philosophy which, simply stated, is "Contributing to society through the advancement of sporting goods and the promotion of sports."

Are you a competitor driven by overcoming extraordinary challenges? Are you motivated by being a vital team member? Do you aspire to join a brand that makes a difference in the communities we serve? Mizuno USA is seeking top performers like you carry on the legacy of one of the world's most iconic sporting goods brands.

Every Mizuno USA teammate is a champion of our Mission and commitment to one another and athletes everywhere as they strive for ultimate achievement at every level of competition.

Let us know if you're game-ready!

Summary

The Apparel Development team designs and develops apparel specifically for the North American market. Receiving direction from product teams in the Team Sports, Running and Golf divisions, the Apparel Development team creates truly unique products that meet Mizuno's global brand standards, delivered on-time and in-budget. The primary responsibility of the Associate Apparel Developer is to develop seasonal material assortments that will be utilized in Mizuno USA's apparel development.

The Associate Apparel Developer will also aid and monitor all trim developments by maintaining and approving color standards and processes across all product categories. This role reports directly to the Apparel Development Manager and works collaboratively with Product, Design, and Technical Design teams.

The ideal candidate is creative and passionate about developing product. They welcome the opportunity to work on a highly collaborative team with cross-functional support and is willing to take on additional tasks as needed.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

The Associate Apparel Developer will perform tasks like the following:

- Together with the rest of the Apparel Development Team, develop differentiated, unique, high value, marketable, and saleable materials to be used in development.
- Engage in ongoing and frequent communication with Apparel Designer and others with regard to seasonal material development.
- Submit Seasonal Tech Sheet to Apparel Development Manager.
- Collaborate with Design to finalize seasonal palette of colors and ensure physical and virtual color standard and Submits library is maintained and replenished as required.
- Select and develop sub materials as well as secondary processing (printing methods, etc.).
- Review, evaluate, and approve color lab dips, strike-offs, and sample Submits in consultation with Apparel Development Manager.
- Maintain seasonal fabric binders with swatches, fabric detail sheets, and mill cards.
- Monitor and approve new materials to meet Mizuno's strict global standards.
- Contribute to production strategy in consensus with the Apparel Team.
- Monitor delivery periods for samples.
- Collaborate with Mizuno Japan Apparel Development to establish global material database.
- Track and follow through on change requests.
- Advise teams on material/color related issues.
- Communicate color-related corrections and comments to overseas factories.
- Review Submits with Apparel Development team as needed.
- Create Submit comment forms in Microsoft Excel and PLM.
- Monitor and maintain factory WIP (Work in Progress) charts and send out recaps.
- Monitor product development time and action calendars for fits with timely approval of components to support on time deliveries.
- Manage and maintain accurate information in PLM.
- Attend product development and production related meetings including design handoff meetings with Designers, Technical Designers, and Production Managers.
- Assist with all Sales, Design, and SMU requests as needed.
- Execute additional administrative tasks as needed.
- Additional responsibilities include reviewing and processing all sample Submits, making clear Submit comments, backing up and maintaining accurate records and files, tracking product samples throughout the development process, and maintaining development calendar.

Qualifications

- Bachelor degree in Design, Technical Design, Textiles, Fashion Merchandising, or similar discipline
- 1 to 3 years of experience in apparel design, technical design, or product development
- Knowledge of industry trends in pricing, materials, and quality
- Knowledgeable about fibers and yarns
- Proficient in Color Theory
- Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite
- Proficient in Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop
- Familiarity with PLM a plus
- Excellent analytical skills
- Attention to detail and organization
- Ability to multi-task and prioritize workload according to business needs
- Ability to work in a fast-paced environment
- Ability to adapt to rapid changes with a positive attitude
- Ability to work cooperatively in teams
- Able to build relationships cross-functionally
- Self-motivation and bias toward action
- Ability to communicate clearly verbally and in writing
- Good visual presentation skills
- Competitive sports background preferred

Physical Demands/Essential Functions

- Prolonged periods sitting at a desk and working on a computer in an open office environment.
- Must be able to lift up to 15 pounds at times.

Whenever possible, Mizuno USA, Inc. strives to promote from within if the skills and necessary qualifications meet the requirements for the position. Internal and external candidates will be considered for the position and the best candidate will be hired.

Mizuno USA, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer: All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment and will not be discriminated against based on their race, gender, disability, veteran status or other protected classification.

EOE M/F/D/V

Visit <https://www.careers-mizunousa.com/jobs> to apply, or send your resume and cover letter to mizunocareers@mizunousa.com and include the Job Title in the Subject line.