

RWD

Job Description

POSITION: HEAD OF DESIGN - YACHTS

REPORTING TO: CEO/BOARD

RESPONSIBLE DAY-TO-DAY: CEO/MD/DIRECTORS

DESCRIPTION:

RWD are seeking a highly creative and inspirational Head of Design to represent our fast-paced yacht design studio. We need someone who is passionate about design at the highest level, integrates well within but can also lead and inspire the creative team and for whom originality, creativity and quality of work is everything. The successful candidate will need to be adaptable and enthusiastic and play a pivotal and significant role in our busy and unique studio. RWD is a stimulating and award-winning company to work for; we have a genuine team ethic where work is demanding and rewarding in equal measures. The studio is idyllically located in the New Forest for a great work/life balance and there will be frequent international travel to visit our global client base and shipyards.

ROLE:

Responsible for inspiring, leading and directing the creativity of the company, the Head of Design works closely with the Directors, Head of each Creative Department, and every member of the Creative team to produce award winning designs for each and every project. Taking an overseeing and inspiring role on each of the projects' creative 2D & 3D design direction, the mentoring of all Creative staff and liaising with the other departments on multiple projects within the company. Guiding the ideation and visualisation of the design vision and the design detail throughout the duration of each our projects. You will lead the creativity of both internal and external resources to ensure that every project is completed to the highest standards of yacht design with absolute originality and innovation in order to maintain and build on RWD's reputation as industry leaders. Every project must be a successful collaboration between RWD, the client and shipyard.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES AND TASKS:

- Work with the Team Principals, Heads of Interior, Exterior and FF&E and Directors to ensure a full understanding of the design brief and design direction and creatively lead each project to successful completion
- To present and represent RWD at client and project meetings and industry events, including overseas visits, and run client meetings with or without a Director present
- Take responsibility for each project's design coordination, manage and direct work and ideas of others, including senior and junior designers, FF&E, Graphics department and external visualisers
- Work closely with the Team Principals, Heads of Interior, Exterior and FF&E and Directors to ensure design work is industry leading, produced in a timely manner, to ensure project schedules are met and ensure all stakeholders are kept up to date of progress

CONTACT

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STUDIO

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- Ensure our creative teams are communicating and translating the interior and exterior design information to the client, shipyard and suppliers in a clear and effective manner
- To have excellent communication skills and to eloquently convey ideas with sketches and drawings and to form and develop new design concepts
- To direct and provide conceptual designs for the layout of General Arrangement Plans
- To have a broad range of design skills from sketching initial concepts to fine detailing
- To have an expansive knowledge of materials and finishes
- To have a leading knowledge and appreciation of new design influences and trends in all its forms
- To stay aware and ahead of current competition and abreast of industry trends and developments
- Direct and approve detail design drawings suitable for shipyard or sub-contract manufacturers to understand and work from, and to ensure that those producing drawings information are effectively communicating the project's design vision
- Direct and oversee interior and exterior styling and design throughout the project lifecycle
- Direct and oversee hardware specification lists and finish schedules
- Liaise with the FF&E team to give design direction and ensure integrity of design throughout the design process
- Brief Graphics department where required
- Assist and participate in performance review process

KNOWLEDGE, ABILITIES & SKILLS:

- Proven designer with at least 15+ years' experience in luxury yacht or top end residential design or any other leading field of bespoke design
- An ability to lead, inspire and manage people and an exceptional, creative, passionate and innovative designer
- Proven client relationship skills with excellent communication skills, both written and verbal.
- Ability to think on your feet, making project decisions that ensure client expectations are met, whilst also knowing at what point to escalate to the Project Director/MD for support
- Strong presentational skills and ability to communicate and translate design to the client and shipyard
- Exceptional, creative, passionate, innovative designer
- Ability to focus on individual detail whilst maintaining a good overall view
- Strong IT skills: Indesign, Photoshop, AutoCAD, MS Office (where relevant to fulfil the job role and description, as described above)
- Hand sketching
- Excellent time management skills and a high level of commercial awareness

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

- Creativity at the highest level
- Achievement of personal goals agreed in performance review