

STEPHEN RABADAN

SCREEN PRINT PRODUCTION SPECIALIST

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Haddad Brands, New York, NY. 2010 - 2020

A Billion Dollar producer of decorated, licensed children's apparel and accessories for Nike, Levis, Jordan, Converse, Hurley, Crayola and Lego Brands.

SENIOR PRODUCTION AND PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT MANAGER Haddad Brands, New York, NY. 2018 - present

In 2018, promoted to Senior Production and Product Development Manager. I train a 5-member Graphic Operations team and 15 to 20 graphic designers in color separation, specialty ink applications and art production procedures. I meet daily with the Product Approval and Sourcing teams to review current submits and resolve production issues as needed. I visit trade shows in the US and Asia each year to research new ink and applique treatments. I develop custom print effects and test findings with our lab in Wuxi China. Successful projects are standardized and distributed to production factories. In 2019 my technique development work has helped bring watermelon scented, hydrochromic, photochromic and thermochromic ink techniques into production. Each season I try introducing 4 new innovations to Haddad's lines.

SCREEN PRINT PRODUCTION MANAGER (GLOBAL) Haddad Brands, New York, NY. 2013 - 2018

In 2013 I was given a direct report and my role expanded to cover all of Haddad's screen printing, heat transfers and sublimations. I began training new hires to the 6-person Product Approval team to help reduce submit counts from overseas factories to levels achieved domestically. Working directly with our biggest manufacturing partner printing over 100 million pcs annually in Vietnam I prepared a set of 5 challenging graphics designed to test their printers on technical aspects of our work. The goal was to focus all of our production in the 3 best performing facilities. The factory agreed with the results of my tests, and consolidated our work as requested. This has led to an increase of first submit approvals from this factory. It is now a standard procedure to run a similar set of tests with any new factory or country we begin working with.

SCREEN PRINT PRODUCTION MANAGER (DOMESTIC) Haddad Brands, New York, NY. 2010 - 2013

I was hired at Haddad Brands to improve their quick turn domestic print operation producing 9 to 12 million tees annually. Primary issues were poor internal prepress procedures and inconsistent contractor quality. First, I worked directly with each printer documenting equipment limitations. To address inconsistencies in production, separations were brought in house with printing limits in mind and distributed to printers. Finally, I developed and instituted a reporting process for print submits now used throughout the company. Within one year, consistency was achieved across all domestic printers. Our color separations and print reporting gave us the tools we were missing to predict and control our printing. With these tools in place Haddad saw an increase in quality and a reduction in resubmits from an average of 3 when I arrived to over 90% of our domestic work being approved on first submit.

F&M Expressions, Mahwah, NJ. 2009 - 2010

F&M Expressions was A New Jersey based heat transfer manufacturer producing millions of custom heat transfers for resort destinations.

HEAT TRANSFER DESIGNER / PRODUCTION ARTIST

Coordinating with the art director I designed 30% of the 2010 line of resort oriented plastisol transfers. As concepts were sold to accounts, designs were customized and prepared for production. I arranged artwork onto printed sheets and color separated the arrangement for printing. For the summer 2010 season I designed 60 graphics in 2 to 8 colors and prepared 15000 custom plastisol transfers for production. Customizing graphics for resort locations was resource intensive. I employed some of the same automation techniques developed at Outerstuff to improve efficiency here and allow for more complex graphic development.

Outerstuff LTD, New York, NY. 2001 - 2008

Outerstuff Ltd. manufactures athletic goods and decorated children's apparel under license for NFL, NBA, NBA and College teams. The Company offers a range of products, such as outerwear, sportswear, fleece, micro fleece, and accessories including headwear, gloves, scarves.

SCREEN PRINT PRODUCTION MANAGER / GRAPHIC DESIGN

I was responsible for design and prepress for Outerstuff's imprints program. I managed a team of three designers generating team specific versions of NFL, NBA, and College licensed team artwork. Converting artwork for the many licensed teams sold each season was time consuming work for a small team. My team relied heavily on automation, relying heavily on scripting functions in software and custom templates to complete accurate art production packages.

EDUCATION & TRAINING:

MATSUI COLOR : Water based ink system and product training Los Angeles, CA, 2018

VIRUS : WOW Days, Wet on wet ink system training, Roselle Illinois, 2017

CHT BEZEMA : Water based and Silicone Ink system training, Tubingen Germany, 2015

RYONET : Screen Print Small Business Operations Training, Long Island, NY 2009

COLLEGE : Jersey City University, Jersey City, NJ 1992 - 1994 | Ramapo State College, Mahwah NJ, 1995 - 1997

SOFTWARE: Adobe Creative Suite, Microsoft Office Suite, Separation Studio

PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS: Graphic Design for Apparel Color Separation For Screen Print Factory Evaluation Allover Print Design Prepress for Screen Print PVC/Phthalate Free Production Illustration Print Technique Development Water Based Ink Production Hand Printing and Dyeing New Product R & D Plastisol Ink Production