**Vortex Optics Industrial Designer**

Job Type: Full-Time/40-45 Hours per week  
Location: Middleton, WI  
Department: Engineering  
Compensation: Base Salary + Full Benefits  
Contact: Mary Grummer at careers@vortexoptics.com

**Job Description:**

Do you have an interest or a passion for the sport of hunting or sport optics? There is no better place to blend your interest and your career than Vortex Optics. As an Industrial Designer you will create and drive design solutions from initial brief, through design completion and into manufacturing. You will be key to creating desirable and exciting products that win at shelf and enhance the end-user experience. Design trends and acute brand awareness will strongly influence your work as you quickly search for ideal solutions that build brand equity and satisfy business requirements.

Whether designing individually or as a team member, you will be a binding element between the Industrial Design team, Marketing, New Product Development, Manufacturing Engineering, and outside agencies.

In addition to form development and problem solving, you will also be involved in the development of color, materials, and finishes that optimize design solutions and establish a strong connection with the end users. You will be responsible for optimizing projects by understanding the variations in a design and how those variations affect the value of the product’s function.

**Key Responsibilities for this Position:**

- Draft sketches and illustrations of potential products or work on enhancing an existing product to make it more appealing to consumers.  
- Use blueprints, detailed drawings, or computer-aided designs to demonstrate product potential.  
- Fabricate models using samples.  
- Revise models according to client specifications.  
- Research design trends and product limitations.  
- Work with engineering, marketing, production, and/or sales departments to establish and evaluate design concepts for manufactured products.  
- Test designs in focus groups or surveys.  
- Perform research on appearance, safety, function, serviceability, budget, production costs/methods, and market characteristics.  
- Attend trade shows and exhibitions.  
- Travel to production facilities to supervise manufacturers' efforts.  
- Work on package design  
- Create trademarks to appear on advertising materials or company marketing collateral.  
- Demonstrated knowledge of computer-based concept/design/graphic packages (Photoshop, Illustrator, Sketchbook Pro)  
- 2D and 3D product prototyping skills (sketching and model making) required.  
- Excellent 3D surface modeling and form development skills on PC based systems  
- Mechanical aptitude and understanding of materials and manufacturing processes.  
- Demonstrated knowledge of project management and ability to drive product designs from concept through production and maintain tight timelines and project schedules  
- Create compelling designs based upon Ideation, Research and Product Requirements  
- Develop mastery of the respective brand design languages and apply purposefully on designs  
- Overseeing rapid prototype creation and model delivery for your projects
**Skills/Competencies Required:**

- A passion for design and the ability to connect it to business needs
- Strong leadership skills that maximize your effectiveness with others and those you’re directing
- A keen ability to empathically design for the end user
- Proficient in 3D CAD
- Strong materials and manufacturing knowledge
- Excellent written and oral skills with the ability to convey and connect to design intent
- Solid Photoshop and Illustrator skills
- Speed in sketching including paper, digital, and whiteboard visualizations
- Ability to work effectively in a team environment as well as individually.
- Preferable knowledge of MS Office applications. Excellent communication and presentation skills; ability to present design concepts effectively
- Proven track record of creative innovation and ability to quickly conceptualize ideas.
- Excellent creative problem solving
- Self-motivated and a positive attitude
- Ability to work well with, and influence established teams
- Must have strong project and time management skills
- Graphics and branding capabilities, a plus
- SolidWorks and/or Pro-Engineer, a plus
- Ability to work in a fast-paced environment with cross-functional teams and foreign manufacturers
- Use CAD software tools for conceptual design, detailed design and analysis
- Research new materials, components and techniques for equipment being designed and maintained

**Job Requirements:**

- Bachelor’s Degree in Industrial Design or related degree with strong demonstrated design skills
- 5 years of experience in the field
- Strong in computer-aided design tools, CAD surfacing, rendering, and graphics design
- Familiarity with standard manufacturing processes, concepts, practices and procedures in sheet metal fabrication, CNC machining and injection molding preferred
- Strong understanding of deadlines and commitment to schedules
- Performs well under pressure
- Detail oriented approach
- Creative problem solving skills
- Able to work independently or in a group
- Must be eligible to obtain and maintain Secret level security clearance

**Company Description:**

Vortex has a staff of dedicated people who come to work and make great things happen for our customers and dealers. We have a highly regarded line-up of products that are designed to our own specifications, inspected and serviced at our modern facility located in central Wisconsin. Vortex has dealers located throughout the US, Canada, Europe and several major countries.