
Advice Needed - finding machinists

Posted by NicolaWiddowson - 2006/09/03 15:55

I'm currently setting up a new alternative clothing company but I'm completely new to the industry, I was hoping to get some advice from the more experienced out there...

I'm thinking of outsourcing the basic machining of the garments as piecemeal work for people to do at home. Is this still done any more? If so, what's the going rate for items? And how could I go about getting in contact with people who might be interested?

Thanks very much,
Niki

Re:Advice Needed - finding machinists

Posted by JenniferHolloway - 2006/09/05 07:03

Hi, I am Jenny Holloway and just to explain my background I was a buyer for Littlewoods, a Selector for M&S and a senior buyer for Principles for Women. I then had my own label Retro for 10 years before being the manager of London Fashion Forum the original company that set up www.fashioncapital.co.uk.

The advice you need really is far more indepth than a statement on the website and that's why we set up www.fashion-enter.com. If you check this out you will see the type of support we offer. FashionCapital is really a generic portal site that signposting of help and aid whereas Fashion Enter is for serious designers to get to grips with their company. There is a membership fee but this also includes the opportunity to sell your garments in the boutique Enter at Croydon. Plus there is a wholesale division too that is called "Representing..." and a Japanese buyer has already placed 32 orders.

I would be more than happy to meet up with you and go through this query properly however the short answer to your question is yes there are machinists out there that can help you but they are like gold dust. There are organisations such as the London Apparel Resource Centre that also has a sample making facility. Their number is 020 8802 5555 when you get through ask to be put through to the sample room and then arrange a visit to see them all.

All the best

Jenny

Re:Advice Needed - finding machinists

Posted by JenniferHolloway - 2006/09/11 07:23

Hi, check out the forum...theres a machinist from Coventry looking for work!

Ideal timing for you

Jenny

Re:Advice Needed - finding machinis

Posted by MissFortune - 2007/08/23 00:09

I'm trying to start up an alternative fashion label too. Due to the small quantities I want to have made up I have been wondering if it would be in my interest to try employing machinists myself. I'm worried that, as a one man band, this will take up a lot of time that I don't have. Also, I'm worried it could all go wrong due to my inexperience in instructing machinists and employing people in general!

Re:Advice Needed - finding machinis

Posted by MissFortune - 2007/08/23 00:10

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Re:Advice Needed - finding machinis

Posted by JenniferHolloway - 2007/08/23 23:22

Hi I have a conversation with Catarina Eden who is a designer who is setting up her own production line. Perhaps you can help each other out here. I have known Catarina for years and she is honest and very trustworthy.

Good luck her number is 07766963780

Jenny

Re:Advice Needed - finding machinis

Posted by stitchstitch - 2007/08/26 23:07

I set myself up as a small run / sample machinist mainly due to not being able to find one myself, to help with my own business. I'm based in South London. I work from home with all my own equipment. I supply invoices for all work undertaken so that you don't have to worry about having an employee (i'm registered self employed). If you'd like more info, email me at red_elmo23@hotmail.com
