



University of Wisconsin - Stout: Preparing Graduates for the New Frontier of Packaging

Challenge

Specifications are a key communication tool when it comes to the supply chain. It's legally binding documentation with huge implications for both internal and external stakeholders. Poor specification management can result in production delays, incorrect orders, and slow speed-to-market.

Currently, most companies don't have systems in place to manage specifications. Without proper spec management in place, new packaging graduates are forced to figure out the best way to house data and manage packaging development, perpetuating the industry norm of poor specification management.

Solution

Robert Meisner, the Packaging Program Director at University of Wisconsin-Stout, saw an opportunity to break the cycle with Specright.

Approached by alumni at Milwaukee Tool, Meisner's students were presented with the task of developing more cost effective packaging for some of their lighting products. Senior packaging students had just 13 weeks to develop packaging solutions that met Milwaukee Tools' needs.

With Specright, students were able to quickly create and rout digital specifications with both Milwaukee Tool and potential suppliers. This significantly reduced the time it took to make revisions, get quotes from suppliers, analyze costs, and finalize designs.

Impact

For the students, the strict project timeline mirrored expected industry turnaround speeds. The amount of revisions and feedback showed them the importance of using Specification Management software and the value packaging data can provide when managed well.

Today's world demands a lot from packaging professionals: it needs to be more sustainable, omnichannel, and developed faster than ever. With a knowledge of Specright, students will enter the workforce with the right skills and tools to get the job done.



"Having an automated system like Specright is important. Get used to sharing docs with their team and outside their organization. That's the way business is going. We're not faxing things anymore, business doesn't work like that."

Packaging Student

University of Wisconsin - Stout