



(Left to right: Louise, Kim, Rebecca, Heena, Anne, Anna, Amy)

The key departments that drive our business are led by WOMEN, and here's why;

Samantha Fernandes | 18 April 2019

Jacques Technologies has undergone major changes in the company structure over the last two years. The transition of moving from a family owned business to a now multinational organisation requires a strong, dynamic team of leaders to move the company forward.

We are an inclusive and collaborative team of professionals and we would especially like to recognise the efforts taken by the women at our company, all of whom have largely contributed to the recent changes. Innovation and forward-thinking are at the core of Jacques, and we disregard the common gender 'norms' of leaders in this industry.

The key departments that drive our business are led by women, and here's why;

Business Support and Finance

Our Business Support Manager Anne Gauci has been with Jacques for seventeen years. She has seen the company grow significantly since she first joined in the early 2000's. Anne manages the financial and business support functions of the company. She oversees the integration of our business processes, profit mapping, strategic analysis, and risk management. Anne has worked collaboratively with our Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system consultant to provide the backbone of our data reporting and analysis. This has increased our ability to function together as one seamless unit and improved the productivity and efficiency of our business processes, and decision making. Anne's role does not stop there; our parent company requires monthly, quarterly, and yearly reporting outcomes with a high degree of accuracy which Anne provides diligently to meet the regulatory outcomes of a globally positioned company.

Anna-Maria Seelinger, our Business Support Officer works alongside Anne to manage this department. Anna brings her expertise from Germany where she worked for Nokia Siemens Networks as a Business Administration specialist. Anna joined Jacques at a crucial stage when the company became part of a multinational entity. She has played an active role in managing accounts and supporting the continuous improvement within the company; including internal process changes, coordinating with our Project Management, Quality Assurance, and Production teams. Her organisational skills and take-charge attitude give Anna a holistic overview of the business processes. This allows her to pick out the key issues and provide solutions to the problems at hand.

In the last year, this dynamic duo has managed this department seemingly effortlessly, where in reality was long hours of sheer hard work. We are confident that this department could not be in better hands.

Product Innovation and Marketing

Our Product Innovation and Marketing Manager - Rebecca Richardson has been working with Jacques for twelve years. She is a driven, strong woman with a wealth of knowledge of the company and the industries we work with. Her position requires a specific skill set that is rare to find in a single individual. Her skills extend from product innovation, product design, branding, to detailing our product specifications to the tee. Her experience in running her own company for five years gives her the business edge that Jacques requires in this department. Rebecca and her team have morphed our products from communication terminals to customisable consumer solutions. It is a multifaceted role that involves innovation and design, as well as forecasting market trends at a global level. Rebecca seamlessly manages this entire team as well as her little ones at home – all in a day's work. She is an inspiration to young women to understand that working moms can have successful careers while balancing their work and families.

Amy Liu, our (product) designer has been with Jacques for the past two years. In this short period of time, her contributions have transformed the digital design aspects of our products. Her background in Architecture and Industrial Design is a vital component to her role at Jacques where she is part of the Design and Development team. As a communications manufacturing company, we are required to design our products from an innovative, physical, and emotional aspect. Amy works alongside the web developers to enhance the user interface design - maximising usability for the end user. As part of product development, she generates prototype drawings selecting the appropriate elements required to ensure consumers have a seamless interaction with our products. Her skills in graphic design have given our products a fresh look, with a more appealing appearance from a consumer's perspective. Her role started out with designing artwork for tradeshow and has transitioned into designing for product development, user experience, and user interface design.

Engineering

Louise Buchly, our technical draftsperson has been with Jacques for twelve years. Louise's role within the research and development (R&D) arm of Jacques is both varied and challenging – Kits, 3D modelling, stress analysis, the list goes on. The goals within the R&D department is to ensure a cohesive integrated set of outcomes are achieved, the supportive outcomes Louise brings to the table ensures these values are attained. With our coming next generation developments Louise has played a vital role in ensuring this important facet of our business development is on time and accurate. She creates all the technical drawings for our engineers and production team. She also generates Printed Circuit Board (PCB) drawings for our R&D and production departments. These drawings are the starting point of our product development process.

Production and Quality Assurance

The core department of our company is Production led by – Heena Kapadia – our Production and Quality Assurance Manager. Starting out her career at Jacques, Heena is the youngest manager at our company and has moved across multiple teams where she gained valuable skills that contribute to running this department. Heena has a background in electronics and computer engineering, and expertise in testing, and documentation, all of which are required for this department. By managing technical support and research and development, her team can identify flaws and develop solutions for the next release of products. Once the products are tested, quality assured, and approved – they are ready for release into the market. Starting out as an electronics engineer, to testing and documentation manager – to her current role of production and quality assurance manager – it is clear that Heena is a fast learner, highly motivated, and constantly developing her skills. Her role in documentation and quality assurance has played a massive role in our company's transition over the last year and assisted with our business process maps across every department.

Kim Tran is our Electronics Assembler and has been with Jacques for ten years. Kim plays an integral part in the development of bespoke innovation products in our engineering and production departments. She not only plays a key role in the R&D department at Jacques, but also works with the engineering team to build, confirm, and approve prototypes to release. She started her career at a hearing aid manufacturing company before she brought her talent to the Jacques team. Jacques is proud to design, test and develop products all in-house. As part of her role, Kim populates components onto a circuit board while developing new product releases. She works directly with the hardware engineering team where she intricately solders each component to an empty PCB, to deliver a testable product for our engineering department. She also works with the production team when there is need to test PCBs for new products. Kim's interest in assembly began as a child and she has followed her passion while breaking stereotypes, she is also a working mom.

The women at Jacques represent a vast talent pool, each of these individuals are qualified and experienced in multiple areas which has provided opportunities to each of them to advance in their careers. We are proud to have these fierce leaders in an industry that is 'traditionally' male-dominated.