

Biography

Grant Davidson

Grant Davidson is Vice President at Philips Design, responsible for the management relationship with the Healthcare Sector, and for the related design activities.

Grant's first contact with Philips Design was during his student placement from November 1977 to February 1978. He returned to Philips Design as an employee in 1979, and has been with the company ever since. Starting out as a Product Designer for audio/video systems, he progressed to Design Manager for Philips Car Systems (1986) and then Senior Design Account Manager for Domestic Appliances & Personal Care (DAP), now part of the Philips Consumer Lifestyle Sector.

At DAP he was responsible for the overall design strategy and design culture of the division, as well as its global design activities. The DAP design team grew from a 16-person operation when he was appointed in 1991 to a global operation involving more than 60 people when he left 10 years later. He was also in charge of the human resources side, and actively pursued a policy of multicultural recruitment. As a result, there are now 16 different nationalities spread across the DAP design locations.

In 2002, Grant took on a senior management position in the Philips Design Headquarters in Eindhoven, heading up the Marketing & Sales activities, and driving the competence development of the client relationship managers.

With the advent of Philips Vision 2010, and the resolution for growth in the three Philips Sectors, Grant has taken on the challenge to ensure that Philips Design is positioned optimally to provide the Philips Healthcare Sector with the level of design service necessary to achieve their objectives.

Grant Davidson was born in 1957 in Drayton, England to Scottish parents. His family immigrated to New Zealand in 1960, where he attended school and graduated from Wellington Polytechnic with a diploma in industrial design.

Achievements

- Art direction of the Philips/Alessi line project (1992 – 94)
- Art direction on the Vision of the Future Culinary Art project (1998 – 99)
- Awarded Doctor of Science (honoris causa) in 2008 by Massey University, NZ, in recognition of outstanding contribution to industrial design.

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