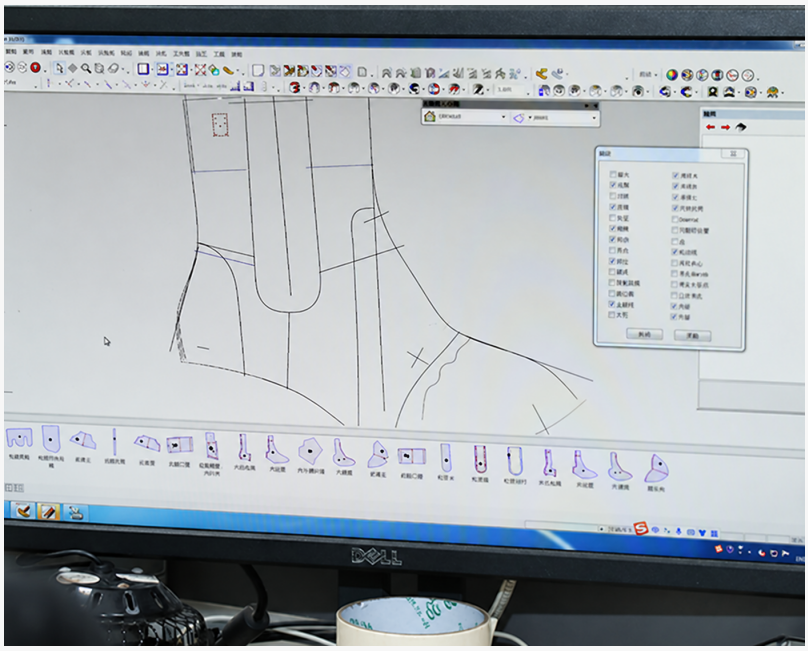
Joes Footwear Reports 90%+ First-Sample Approval Rate as It Refines CAD-to-Sample Development

DONGGUAN, GUANGDONG, CHINA, October 2, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Joes Footwear, a private-label footwear development and manufacturing company, reports that more than 90% of its customer-facing first footwear samples are approved without requiring a new last, heel shape or paper pattern, according to company data. Minor adjustments may still be requested within that definition of approval.



A Joes Footwear CAD screen showing digital pattern development for a footwear sample.

The company's standard target is to deliver a customer-facing first sample within 15 days after receiving a complete tech pack or reference shoe together with the information needed to begin development. For eligible projects, a first sample can be completed in as few as seven days when the customer selects an existing Joes Footwear construction, no new last or heel is required, and the specified materials can be sourced from available stock.

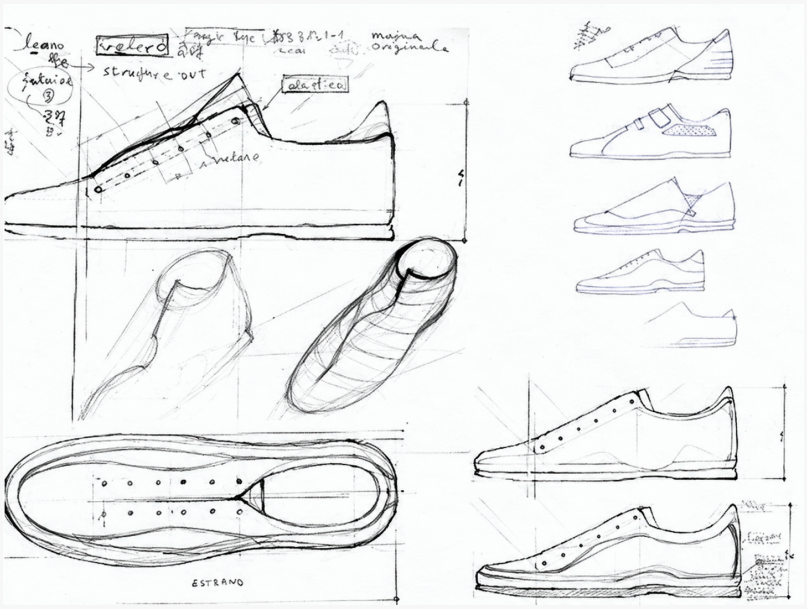
The approach is designed to create a closer connection between the technical brief supplied by a brand and the physical sample it ultimately receives.

Starting from a customer's tech pack or reference shoe, the sample-room team identifies the heel, materials and hardware, develops the last and paper pattern where required, and produces an internal prototype from the ground up.

That first internal shoe is inspected, tried on and wear-tested by the team. Adjustments are made before the sample is sent to the customer, meaning the customer-facing “first sample” is normally the second physical iteration produced within the sample room.

Joes Footwear says this is an established workflow carried out by an experienced sample-room team, rather than a newly introduced development stage. The company continues to refine how consistently the process is executed across customer projects.

“Building a prototype from a tech pack involves more than assembling the visible materials,” said Donald Li of Joes Footwear. “Our team checks the last, heel, pattern, materials and construction, then wears and reviews the internal prototype before the customer-facing sample is sent.”



Representative image illustrating footwear concept sketching within Joes Footwear’s design-development process.



Representative image illustrating shoe-last development within Joes Footwear’s footwear sampling workflow.

Moving More Decisions Upstream
A rendered shoe can communicate silhouette, color and overall appearance, but a manufacturable shoe requires additional engineering decisions.

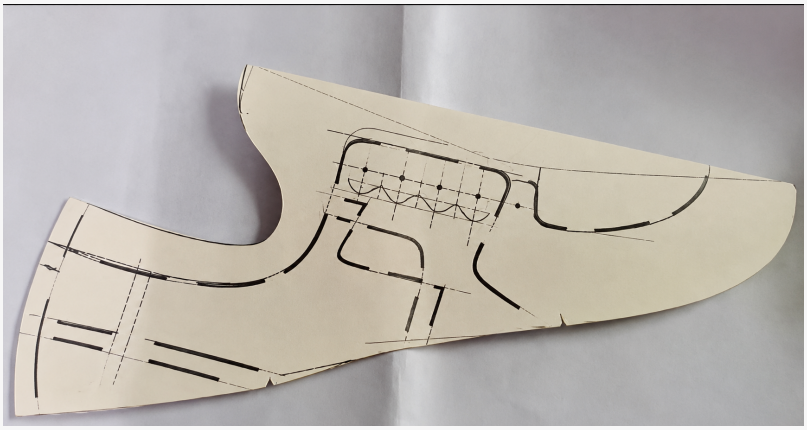
The 2D pattern determines how upper components are cut and assembled. The shoe last — the three-dimensional form around which a shoe is developed — influences proportions, toe shape, heel position and fit. Material behavior and construction methods can further affect how the finished shoe looks and performs.

By reviewing these elements together before sampling, the company aims to identify potential discrepancies earlier rather than relying on repeated physical samples to resolve them.

This is particularly relevant in footwear categories where relatively small changes can materially affect the finished product. In high heels and bridal footwear, for example, adjustments to last shape, heel geometry, upper materials or construction can influence both appearance and

wear.

Physical prototyping remains an essential part of the process. Once the digital and technical specifications have been established, a trial pair allows the development team and customer to evaluate the actual fit, structure, materials and construction before progressing toward final approval and production.



Representative image illustrating paper-pattern development within Joes Footwear’s CAD-to-sample workflow.

Using First Samples as a Development Benchmark

The first physical prototype is where multiple development decisions converge: the customer's brief, patterns, lasts, heels, materials and construction all have to work together in a single shoe.



Representative image illustrating the transition from sample development to production within Joes Footwear’s footwear manufacturing workflow.

Joes Footwear says its reported first-sample approval rate of more than 90% refers to the customer-facing sample that follows its internal inspection and wear test. A sample may be counted as approved when only minor changes remain and no redesign of the last, heel shape or paper pattern is needed.

Changes to the last, heel shape or paper pattern fall outside that definition because they require the core development work to begin again. The company has not attached a measurement period or sample count to the reported rate.

The CAD-to-sample workflow forms part of Joes Footwear's broader OEM and ODM services, covering footwear design, pattern development, shoe-last development, material sourcing, sampling and production planning.

Brands can learn more about Joes Footwear's footwear development and private-label services at https://www.joesfootwear.com/partner/ .

About Joes Footwear

Founded in 2009 and based in Dongguan, China, Joes Footwear provides private-label footwear development and manufacturing services for fashion brands. Its capabilities include footwear design, technical development, pattern making, shoe-last development, prototyping, material sourcing, sampling, production and quality oversight across multiple footwear categories.

Joes Footwear
Joes Footwear
+86 135-0983-3035
email us here

This press release can be viewed online at: https://www.einpresswire.com/article/946048405

EIN Presswire's priority is source transparency. We do not allow opaque clients, and our editors try to be careful about weeding out false and misleading content. As a user, if you see something we have missed, please do bring it to our attention. Your help is welcome. EIN Presswire, Everyone's Internet News Presswire™, tries to define some of the boundaries that are reasonable in today's world. Please see our Editorial Guidelines for more information.
© 1995-2026 Newsmatics Inc. All Right Reserved.