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Patternmakers Required by Exporters.  
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### Abstract

The ready-made garment production industry is one with prime importance of Thailand in terms of exporting by having been the first priority of income sources for many consecutive years. At present situation, most Thai exporters use product forms from their customers. Consequently, the pattern making process becomes an important step, and assumes the role as the heart of all ready-made garment production process.

The objective of this study was to investigate expertise of women ready-made garment patternmakers in terms of theoretical knowledge and professional skills as perceived by exporters. The population of this study were 99 female patternmakers from 99 companies which were members of the Thai Garment Manufacturers Association. The questionnaires used as a tool for gathering data was close and rating scale of 5 levels. The data were analyzed by means of percentage, mean score and standard deviation.

The finding of the study was that professional competencies, both theoretical knowledge and professional skills, were most equally essential for patternmakers. The three aspects of theoretical knowledge rated most essential were sewing, designing and sizes of specific customers' age. Those two rated very essential were body structure of people in various countries and types of women wear. The seven aspects of professional skills rated most essential were the skills for allowing seams, using computer, using marks and abbreviation, utilizing tools and equipment, making proper patterns, making and altering patterns and using materials. The professional skill which was rated very essential was sketch-design.