

Nils Achenbach

Industrial Designer and Technology Enthusiast, specializing in People-Centered Experiences integrating Hardware, Software and Services.

Graduating in the Advanced Product Design MFA at Umeå Institute of Design in May 2024.



PERSONAL AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Born 19.05.1999 in Aschaffenburg, Germany
Raised in St. Peter, in the heart of the black forest.

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LANGUAGES

German (native), English (full working proficiency)
and French (good command)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

02.2023 - 08.2023
6 months

COLOPLAST A/S I HUMLEBAEK, DENMARK
Junior Industrial Designer

Coloplast specializes in personalized healthcare, offering products in Ostomy Care, Continence Care, Wound & Skincare, Interventional Urology, as well as Voice & Respiratory Care.
I was able to apply my design skills to a major strategic portfolio planning project and to the development of future visions within Ostomy Care, including the creation of a sustainability roadmap.

Development and presentation of innovative care concepts integrating physical, digital, and service solutions, envisioning future global patient care and refining the future brand vision for Coloplast's corporate identity.

Successful collaboration with numerous stakeholders, including upper management, project managers, senior designers, marketing managers, user research specialists, production site managers, usability engineers, and material specialists.

08.2022 - 02.2023
6 months

ABOVE AB, ARC ARISE CONSULTING I MALMÖ, SWEDEN
Industrial Design Intern

Proactively contributed to a high number of high-level client projects across consumer electronics, medical devices, automotive interaction studies and storytelling.

Strong focus on prototyping ideas for client presentations and CAD modelling for design iteration. Creation of final appearance models, ensuring high-quality and tangible representations of hardware/software design concepts.

Applied photography and videography skills across various projects, enhancing the communication of design visions, social media campaigns and internal projects.

Worked closely and effectively with principal designers, senior designers, and internship colleagues, meeting tight deadlines through strong coordination.

02.2021 - 08.2021

6 months

BROSE FAHRZEUGTEILE SE & CO. KG | BAMBERG, GERMANY**Working Student + Bachelor Thesis Project**

After a prior successful collaboration during my bachelor studies, I was offered a position to develop creative concepts and visualizations for next-generation mechatronic systems.

Contribution to the development and visual communication of advanced mechatronic components for vehicle doors, sensing components, and seats using CAD, animation software, and rendering tools.

For my bachelor thesis, I focused on enhancing vehicle performance and passenger comfort by reimagining the air conditioning management in electric vehicles. This included an innovative approach of integrating infrared heating elements into door panels to improve energy efficiency and EV range in low temperatures.

Successful collaboration and stakeholder management with experts in air conditioning management, vehicle crash safety, and mechanical engineering.

The project was patented in autumn 2021.

08.2019 - 02.2020

6 months

PHOENIX DESIGN | SHANGHAI, CHINA**Industrial Design Intern**

The studio is engaged in product creation, ideation and prototyping and is globally recognized for excellence in design, known for securing the 1st place in the iF World Design Index and receiving the title "Red Dot: Design Team of the Year 2018."

Here I was focussed on designing products tailored for the Asian market, enhancing my ability to communicate design visions effectively, collaborating with Senior Designers and interacting with Chinese clients from the wellbeing and bathroom accessory sector.

Gained proficiency and confidence in iterative design processes, including ideation, prototyping, CAD modeling, and CGI visualization.

I was able to embrace the challenges and opportunities of living independently in one of the world's largest and most dynamic cities at the age of 19, significantly impacting my personal and professional development.

EDUCATION**08.2021 - PRESENT**

Graduation in May 2024

ADVANCED PRODUCT DESIGN (M.F.A.) | UMEÅ, SWEDEN**Umeå Institute of Design**

To continue my education in a renowned Masters program I was able to secure one of only 12 spots in the top-ranked design education program of UIE, recognized for the best design education in the Americas and Europe by the Red Dot Design Ranking for seven consecutive years.

Developed and refined sophisticated industrial design skills, focusing on crafting thoughtful product solutions addressing environmental, economic, and societal challenges and establishing my unique profile as a designer with a focus on hardware-software integration and people-centered design practices.

Conducted projects with well known organizations like Electrolux, the Swedish National Police Department, Cisco, and Agile Robots, enriching my experience across various industries and enhancing my design process with independence, creative strength, and confidence.

Elected to the role of Advanced Product Design (APD) program representative, advocating for student interests with the program director and faculty and contributing to the evolution of the program syllabus for future generations of design students.

In 2021, I was awarded a scholarship by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), in recognition of my academic achievements in the field of design.

09.2017 - 08.2021

4 Years

INTEGRATED PRODUCT DESIGN (B.A.) | COBURG, GERMANY

University of Applied Sciences Coburg

Studies in a comprehensive program covering product design, human-product interaction, engineering, material science, design for manufacturing, business strategy, marketing, graphic design, aesthetics, and visual perception.

Acquired skills in both digital and manual design tools, using well-equipped workshop facilities to create prototypes and mock-ups, effectively bringing design concepts to life.

Enhanced knowledge through specialized lectures on material sciences, manufacturing technologies, technical mechanics, and ergonomics, extending my understanding of real-world needs of the industry and future innovations.

Honored with a gold medal by University President Prof. Dr. Christiane Fritze for exceptional academic performance, after completing my thesis with honors.

09.2009 - 04.2017

8 Years

GERMAN AND FRENCH HIGHSCHOOL DIPLOMA | FREIBURG IM BREISGAU, GERMANY

Lycée Franco-Allemand Freiburg

Education in a binational and bicultural program under the 1963 Franco-German „Elysée“ treaty, fostering close cultural and educational cooperation between Germany and France.

From the age of ten until graduation, I was experiencing a learning environment with both German and French students, promoting inclusivity, teamwork, and the development of a European identity.

Focused on an intensive language education in German, French, English, and philosophy, enhancing linguistic proficiency and critical thinking skills.

Took part in a five-week academic exchange program in Brussels, Belgium.

Voluntarily pursued courses in arts education, gaining theoretical knowledge about classical and contemporary art, as well as photography, culminating in an arts diploma.

TOOLBOX & SKILLS

My digital toolbox comprises Affinity Publisher, Affinity Designer, Affinity Photo, Keynote, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe InDesign, Adobe Lightroom Classic, Adobe After Effects, Final Cut Pro X, Rhino 7, Keyshot 11, SolidWorks, Miro, and Figma.

For physical prototyping, I collected hands-on experience in 3D Printing (FDM, SLS, SLA), CNC milling, laser cutting, paper/cardboard and PU foam prototyping, processing and manufacturing with foil, film and adhesives, plastics deepdrawing, manual and automated sewing and knitting, CNC cutting and plotting, silicone injection molding, color mixing and spray painting.

PERSONAL INTERESTS AND HOBBIES

Digital Studio and Travel Photography with Canon mirror-based and mirrorless systems. Currently working with the 5D IV and R3 System. Strong interest in the latest developments in cinema-grade cameras and lenses.

Aviation Enthusiast: Fascination for the complexities of aircraft operations and premium cabin experiences. Exploring new cultures and destinations.

Certified Lifeguard, member of 18 years in the German Life-Saving Society (DLRG).

Following the advances in consumer electronics. A strong interest in the latest technology news and design trends, staying informed and inspired by product reviews and opinions.

Passion for preparing traditional German family recipes, appreciation for the art of French fine dining cuisine, and love for the rich flavors of Indian food.

Umeå, February 2024

