### Initial Specification Example

## **1. Function**

1.1 - It must store design and art equipment, but allow easy access to the items

The function of the unit will be to store design and art equipment, but still allow easy access so it can be used in a work situation i.e. you would be working on a design and then reach across and get the right piece of equipment immediately.

1.2 - It must store the items safely

*It must store the design equipment safely, so they don’t get damaged if the unit gets knocked or when the unit is moved.*

1.3 - It must be moveable

It will be moveable so it could be positioned when in use to ease access and then slid away when not in use.

1.4 - It must have sections that are detachable

*Some sections need to be detached so certain elements could be taken elsewhere*

*i.e. colouring pencil section could be taken to another room to enable work. This will hopefully make the unit more personal to the user.*

**2. Appearance**

2.1 - It must look good and be aesthetically pleasing, as well as practical.

*Designers will not use something that lacks style or would look out of place either in a design situation or an office situation. Colour, shape and visual impact will need to be considered very carefully.*

2.2 - It must be an object of desire

*I would like to create an object of desire, in which its appearance creates an important object in its own right within the users room.*

**3. Shape**

3.1 - The shape of the unit has to allow the storage of the equipment easily, but still be interesting.

*The unit may possibly include the design work as well; the largest paper to be practically held would be A3. But I need to keep an open mind about the actual shape at this time. I do not want to limit my design possibilities at this stage.*

**4. Size**

4.1 - The unit will need to be big enough to provide space for all of the equipment as well as design work up to the size of A3.

*The transportation units (the sections that can be removed to enable you to work elsewhere) will need to be of varied sizes, but not to big. I would say no larger than a brief case if possible so they don’t look peculiar when being carried separately.*

4.2 - It must be in portion so it would not look out of place in any working environment from an office to a design studio to a student’s bedroom.

*I will need to look at these environments to get an idea of the sort of space we are considering as well as the sorts of items these areas would have*

**5. Colour**

5.1 - The colours must be suitable for the product and for the environment it will be used in.

*This will be very important and I will need to look at how colours go together and the impact they can produce. ICT can help here as I can colour 3D images quickly to see they effect. Also I will need to consider how these colours can be applied as this may limit may options depending upon the materials I use.*

**6. Target Group**

6.1 - The initial target group will be students studying in the Design and Arts field from GCSE to University.

*This will be the initial target and I have opened it up to art-based students as well so not to limit the market. Using it in this field will allow me to fully assess its potential and make any adjustments and development as they appear, as I know many people who are studying an art or design based course.*

6.2 - The unit must be flexible enough to be adapted, to enable it to be used in a full range of offices and alternative environments.

*Once the unit is tested I would hope with the minimum amount of adapting that it could be used in any office or work situation. I would need to consider this even at this early stage because I would want to keep the adapting to the minimum. This would ensure a product like this could grow in use.*

**7. Finish**

7.1 - The finish must look good and make the product look professional and an item of quality.

*I will need to try out a range of finishes and methods of applying finishes once I have selected my material to ensure I can make a valid assessment of which one I could use.*

7.2 - The extras such as handles must reflect this quality factor.

*I will need to search the web and visit a few shops to find some high-quality handles and fixtures and fittings.*

7.3 - The finish must be robust to withstand knocks and misuse

*This will have to be part of the testing programme as well to see how finishes with standing different types of knocking*

**8. Materials**

8.1 - The materials must be appropriate for a unit of this type both with regards to appearance and to construction

*I will need to consider very carefully what materials are appropriate for each element. Such as frames may be better in metal using mild steel tubing or large flat areas some form of manufactured board. For style or appearance hard wood would give a natural effect but with pine you could use colour using wood stain or paint or stencils. Trays could be made in plastic by vacuum forming or if they were to be produced in a manufacturing company they could be injection moulded to get some really nice detail.*

**9. Industrial Application**

9.1 Evidence of Industrial application must be evident.

*I will be using jigs, etc, but I will need to ensure they could be reused or improved if they were to be used for batch production or even mass-production. The construction process will need to be able to be adapted if the product was to go into batch or mass-production. I will be using ICT for many elements from costing, time management to CAD.*

9.2 The end product must be adaptable for the mass-production market.

#### Even though I am basically making a one-off prototype I will need to consider this throughout the design and development section. I will need to look at knockdown fittings and fixtures and how flat pack unit work with regards to assembly.