Present State and Challenges for Women Seafarers in Korea

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ABSTRACT: This paper surveyed & analyzed the career path of the 586 female cadets who graduated from the Korea Maritime University. According to the analysis, 154 graduates have the seafaring experience onboard, while 432 have no chance to work onboard. The figure indicated that one of the challenge is the number of female maritime officers who can engage in the boarding works was relatively limited. However, it is significant implication that about 80% of the graduate have been employed in a maritime industry including shipping, shipbuilding, public sectors and etc.

KEY WORDS: Women seafarers, Career path, Maritime industry, Category of job, Shipboard career

Object of the Survey

Career Path
- Object of the Survey
  - Total 586 graduates: 47th (graduated 1995) - 64th (2012)
- How to survey
  - Female Student Union (Address book)
  - Telephone
  - KMU Alumni Address Book, published in 2009
- What to survey?
  - Shipboard experience, if so, how long?
  - Their first job and current occupation

Number of Graduate (1995~2012)

<table>
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<th>Year</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<td>2003</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>364</td>
<td>344</td>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>6,735</td>
<td>6,149</td>
<td>586</td>
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</table>

1995~2002: No limitation on the Intakes

Introduction

- Go to Sea Campaign by IMO:
  Periodic BMCO/ISF studies have highlighted an anticipated shortage of seafaring officers worldwide, and IMO initiated “Go To Sea” Campaign to attract entrants to the shipping industry.
- Female maritime officers can be an appropriate alternative to solve above problem?
- College of Maritime Sciences of KMU:
  Sent out about 600 female graduates from 1995 to 2012, and still sending out about 60 female graduates every year to become maritime manpower
- The purpose of this study:
  - Examine working fields of the female graduates of KMU
  - Derive further implications through the survey, and
  - Share our experience of MET in Korea

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IMO Secretary General

On 15 October 2010. at KMU

Seafarers play crucial role in smooth running of international trade and overall performance of the global economy

Summary (1)

1) About 80% of the female graduates got their first job in the maritime industry including on board, shipping, shipbuilding, public sector and etc. This figure indicates that Female officer training policy is successful.

2) After 6-7 years of Graduation, however, the marriage rate increased significantly (10% to 25%). Consequently the job rate in maritime industry has been decreased from 80% to 60%.

3) About 1/4(25%) of the female graduates has a seafaring experience on board, and their average sea service period is about 2.2 years

4) The percentage to work on-board more than 3 years as ships' officers has increased significantly from 16% to 42%.

Summary (2)

5) It is clearly identified that “Seafaring experience” guarantee better job opportunity for female graduates too.

6) However, the number of female maritime officers who can engage in the boarding works was relatively limited. It is time to share our ideas to improve this challenge.

7) Female graduate found new place of working in Shipyard, Engine Parts manufacturer, Classification society. (24p to 74p)

8) It is recommendable that MET Institutes undertake the survey periodically. And it would help undergraduate students to find out better career path in their life.