UNOLS Crew and Technician Recruiting and Retention

RVOC Meeting April 22 - 24, 2008



"Where do we come from? What are we? Where are we going?" (Gauguin, 1897)

A Brief History.....

- July 2007: UNOLS council receives a letter from RVOC and RVTEC chairs focusing on recruiting and retaining qualified crew and technicians
- July-Oct 2007: Numerous conference calls and feedback from fleet
- October 2007: RVOC chair presents preliminary findings to UNOLS council (more data to be collected)
- November 2007: Similar presentation presented to RVTEC with very lively feedback
- Dec-March 2008: Complete surveys and continue to get feedback and ideas from fleet
- April 2008: Presentation to RVOC for additional feedback and ideas

Issues

- Lower salaries across the fleet with increased competition from higher paying employers
- Lack of confidence in long-term viability of the UNOLS fleet
- Higher costs for credentials and training and a lack of funding to support these costs
- Increase in both the regulatory and operational demands on crew and technicians
- Good jobs ashore for technicians and engineers
- Shrinking and Aging workforce

What are we doing?

- Continue to define the problems (or how bad is bad)
 - 1. "Near Misses" survey
 - 2. Comprehensive Salary survey
- Assess how industry is dealing with these problems
- Develop ideas to address this within the UNOLS fleet

"Near Misses"

	U. of Texas*	Duke	Skidaway	HBOI	UDEL	BBS	URI	MLML	U of HI	U of HI (tech)	LUMCON	U of Minn	OSU	U of W	WHOI	TOTALS
"Near Misses" for 2007**	2	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	11	0	4	0	4	6	6	37
Crew positions searched for this year	?	6	3	7	1	4	1	2	29	4	7	0	8	16	38	126
Approx. staff hours spent on crew searches	48	120	60	60	72	160	80	120	350	100	100	0	240	256	2080	3846
*numbers are for 2006																
**Defined as being within 48 hours of a s	cheduled cru	ise w/	o having t	he min	imum r	equire	d cre	w availa	able							
Notes:																
Total number of responses was 13																
Many indicated they were "regularly" look	king for crew	a wee	k before a	a sche	duled d	epartu	ıre									

Salary Survey

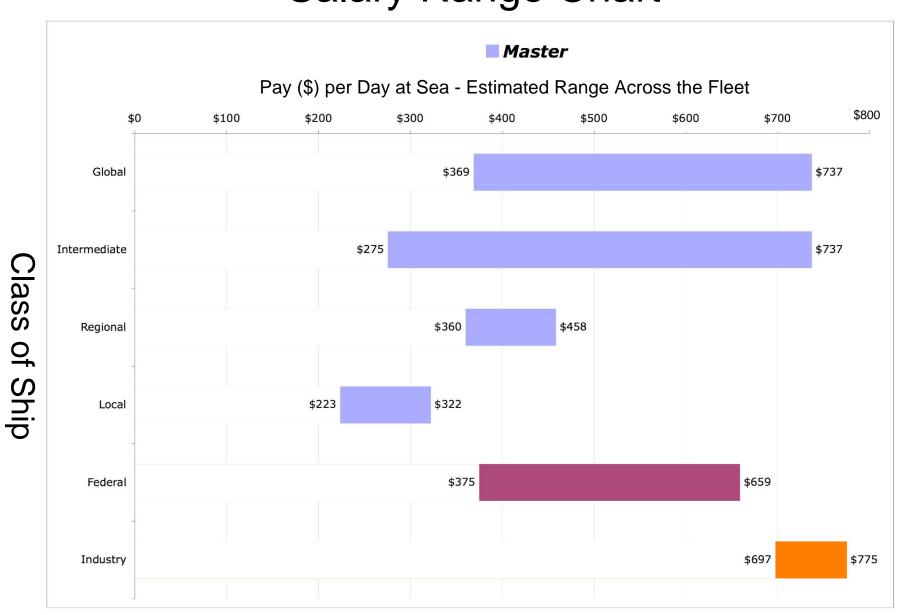
- 19 Ships
- 17 Tech Groups
- Government = NOAA/MSC Comparables
 - (uncertain of sea pay differential)
- Industry = one set of numbers for container ship.

Salary Comparison Charts

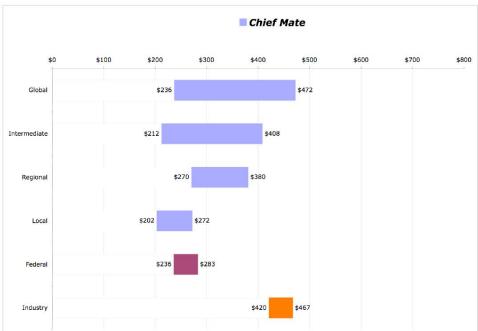
- We tried to "dumb it down" to what a person would earn per day at sea or ashore.
- Still not easy without asking a lot of questions about how pay is determined.
- Comparisons for techs was limited to NOAA.

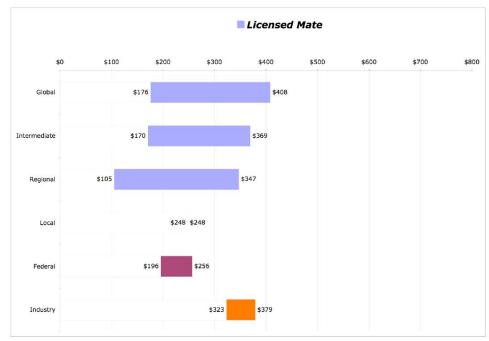
Initial assessment is that our salary levels are not that much different than competing ships of similar employment, but lower than industry when you account for the amount of paid time off that mariners receive.

Salary Range Chart

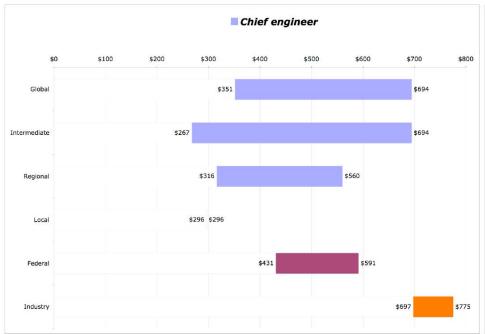


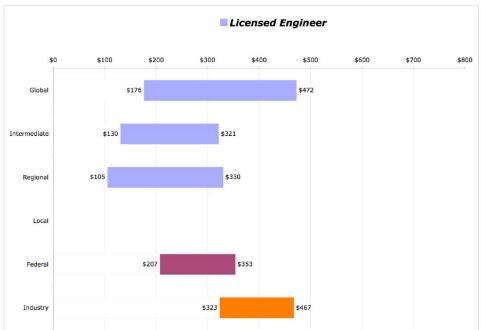


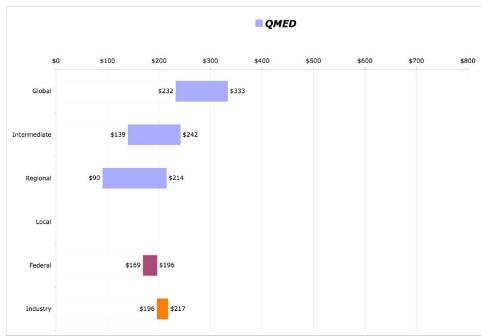


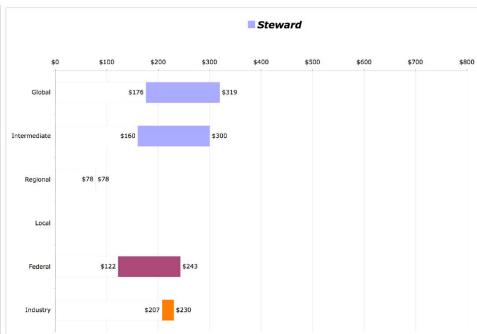


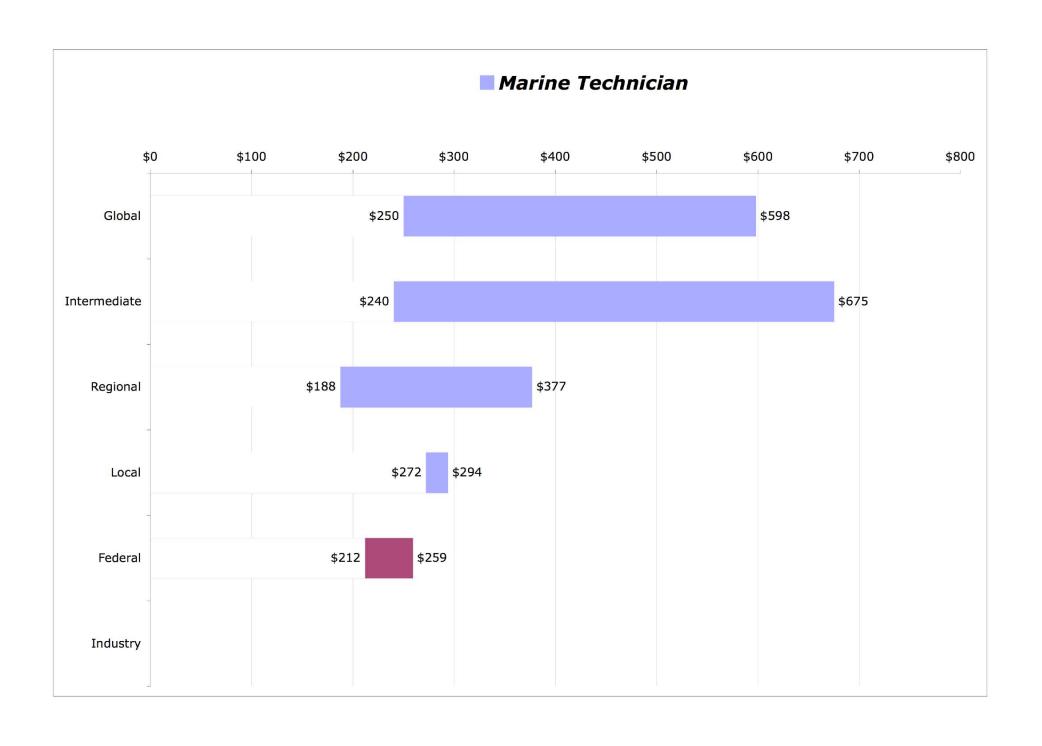




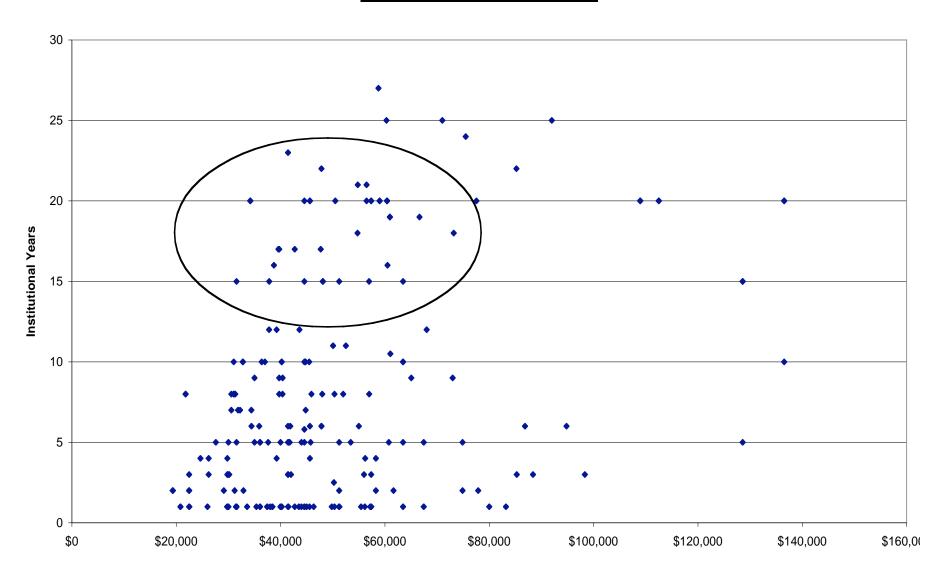








Retention vs. Salary



Now what?

Possible Solutions

- Budget Priorities investing in people vs. investing in equipment (Agency/SSSE?)
- More formalized sharing/management of relief personnel (UNOLS/Agency)
- Promotion of the UNOLS fleet(UNOLS/Agency)
 - 1. Recruiting Brochure or video
 - 2. Attending Job Fairs
 - 3. Visiting Maritime Schools
- Promotion of UNOLS "hawse pipe" (training)
- Reduce other operating costs regulatory relief

Goals

- Fleet-wide feedback on problems and solutions
- Endorsement from UNOLS Council
- Support from Agencies
- Action by Operators, Technical Services Managers, UNOLS office
- DO NOT GIVE UP.

Comments....

