

Advertorial

Not Just Sailors and Dockworkers

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"MARITIME PROFESSIONALS" sounds like men in bleached jumpsuits, toiling away in faraway shipyards, but according to Ms. Jia Lin Goh, this could not be further from the truth.

A National University of Singapore (NUS) alumna from the Faculty of Engineering, Jia Lin is currently a project manager for ABS, an international classification society that promotes "the security of life, property and the natural environment, primarily through the development and verification of standards for the design, construction and operational maintenance of marine-related facilities".

Jia Lin's job is to liaise internally with engineers and on-site surveyors and externally with clients who are either shipowners, shipyards or vendors so that projects are delivered on schedule.

She is an example of how the maritime industry has changed over time. It is no longer a male-dominated field, but has "more female professionals, unlike before," she said.

Another reason Jia Lin is anchored to the maritime industry is the intellectual challenge her job presents.

"In every new project, I learn new things. It's very demanding, [because] every project is different and every client is different," she said.

"Also, the market here is dynamic, with changes constantly taking place."

While her mechanical engineering background has given her the analytical foundation, Jia Lin stressed that the maritime field is open to people from a broad range of disciplines.

"Anyone can play a part within the maritime industry," Jia Lin said, referring to the myriad of career opportunities such as research and development (R&D), ship management and financing as well as other specialisations.

One thing she enjoys best about her job is "the friendly, family-like work environment, where we work as one team to find solutions for our clients."

She advised students not to be close-minded and have rigid mindsets about various industries.

"Cultivate the right attitude and be open to learning new things," she said.

