

Building a new SQ decision-making model to improve the service quality of vocational training

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Abstract

As the financial tsunami hit around the world's economy, numerous industries were forced to respond to the problem of overcapacity by substantial layoffs. In this business cycle, Taiwan's unemployment rate in a single month has reached to 6% in 2009. Therefore, reducing the negative impact of unemployment on Taiwan's economy system has become an important issue for Taiwanese government. Recently, one of the policies of Taiwanese government is focused on proactively promoting the vocational training mechanism to provide appropriate pre-employment training for workers, and thus the ability to achieve the objective of regulating the employment market. In doing so, understanding the current service quality (SQ) status of vocational training institutions and then enhancing its SQ is fairly substantial. With regarding to SQ decision-making models, the Importance-Performance-Gap Analysis (IPGA) model was proposed by extending the Importance-Performance Analysis (IPA) model and adopting SQ gap theory to obtain attribute performance. However, it failed to consider the two-dimensional phenomenon between attribute performance and overall customer satisfaction indicated in Kano model.

Actually, most studies have focused on classifying SQ attributes into different quality factors and then drawn the improvement strategies. But in fact, the percentage response for each SQ attribute is also a critical determinant on enhancing customer satisfaction. Thus, the main purpose of this study is to integrate Kano model, the weighting perspective of percentage response, and SQ gap theory to build a novel SQ decision-making model. Then, a certain vocational training institution case is employed and the implications will be provided for managers.

Keyword : service quality, importance-performance-gap analysis (IPGA), Kano model, vocational training