



The Swedish Mercantile Marine Foundation assists seafarers and works for their improved safety, work environment and well-being.

The foundation grants financial support for research and development that benefits seafarers, financial support and direct assistance to individual seafarers as well as rewards for workplace improvements, maritime rescue efforts and more.



*The foundation's office personnel and board, which includes representatives of the Swedish shipping industry's social partners: the Swedish Shipowners' Association, Seko Seafarers and the Maritime Officers' Association.*

*The Swedish Mercantile Marine Foundation*

We support  
research  
that benefits  
seafarers



[www.sjomanshus.se](http://www.sjomanshus.se)



ANNA VANDERLINDE

*The Award Day 2022, where recipients of awards and grants were presented and celebrated. This year, the foundation's 50th anniversary was also celebrated.*

## *To all work environment researchers*

The ongoing energy transition in shipping is currently generating much research. The research projects are mainly technology oriented, which is understandable when taking into account the challenges that the shipping industry is facing.

In the discussions about sustainability the focus has shifted away from people and work environment. I think this is reflected in the reduced number of preparatory works and applications for research funding during recent years.

We see a growing need for research in the field of work environment. It is by research we build new knowledge to convey to students and to benefit onboard employees and shipping companies.



There is no shortage of topics for research in the field of work environment. The Swedish Mercantile Marine Foundation welcomes your application!

Pelle Andersson,  
Seko Seafarers / the Swedish  
Mercantile Marine Foundation



## *The purpose and core activities of the Swedish Mercantile Marine Foundation*

The Swedish Mercantile Marine Foundation carries out its grant activities based on statutes established by His Majesty the King on May 5, 1972. The beginning of the foundation dates all the way back to 1748, when the Merchant Shipping Act established how seamen's missions were to be run.

The purpose of the foundation is to help and work for the benefit of seafarers, active now or previously, and their relatives.

The foundation promotes education for seafarers and works for their improved safety, work environment and well-being.

This is done through financial support for research and development that benefits seafarers, financial support and direct assistance to individual seafarers, rewards for workplace improvements, maritime rescue efforts and more.

The foundation distributes around SEK 12 million every year.

The Award Day is the foundation's most public event and perhaps the one for which the foundation is best known in the maritime industry. However, the awards are only a small part of what the Foundation does, at least from a financial perspective.

Its core activity is the annual awarding of financial support and direct assistance to individual seafarers. Every week, the foundation takes emergency action for seafarers who ask for help, such as reimbursement for emergency dental care or other health problems.

Many seafarers have spent all or part of their working lives on foreign ships, leaving them in a grey area without the same access to social security as those who have worked ashore.

The aim of the foundation is to help, where necessary, people and their families who work or have worked as seafarers.



STAN RUIJL

*Researchers Sarka Langer and Cecilia Österman, during field studies in Svalbard for their study on risk assessment of seafarers' exposure to harmful air pollutants, which was granted support from the foundation.*

## *Examples of project grants*

Ship dynamics – Anders Rosén & Hans Liwång, KTH Royal Institute of Technology. Finalized in 2020. The three phases of the research project were granted a total of SEK 3.4 million.

Engine room ergonomics – Monica Lundh, Chalmers University of Technology. Project began in 2006 and was finalized in 2018. Granted a total of SEK 16.3 million.

RISSYL (risk assessment of seafarers' exposure to harmful air pollutants) – Sarka Langer, IVL Swedish Environmental Research Institute & Cecilia Österman, Linnaeus University. Finalized in 2018. Granted a total of SEK 2.7 million.

FIRO (on handling of fire in new energy carriers on deck) – Lotta Vylund & Franz Evegren, RISE Research Institutes of Sweden. Finalized in 2018. Granted a total of SEK 2.5 million.

Occupational safety and health for service crew on passenger ships – Carl Hult, Linnaeus University. Finalized in 2017. Granted SEK 1.3 million. Cecilia Österman's public dissemination of results and recommendations from the project was granted another SEK 358,000.

Bystander intervention training – Johan Hartler, Chalmers University of Technology & Andreas Backman, Linnaeus University. Finalized in 2020. Granted SEK 175,000.