

SUMMARY IN ENGLISH

When the captain came down to the fishing boat SARA on the morning of 29 December 2014, with the intention to go out fishing, he first went down to the cabin and inspected the heating stove that had been in operation during the night. The heating stove was equipped with a cleaning needle which he pulled in and out a few times. Then he started the engine and went ashore to fetch bait for the next fishing trip. As he went onboard after about 10 minutes he noticed that the wheelhouse was full of smoke. The fire could not be extinguished and the rescue services were alerted. The entire superstructure of SARA burned down and the ship was a total loss and was scrapped shortly thereafter.

The cause of the fire was likely a leak of oil at the O-ring that seals around the needle. The oil that leaked or the gas it delivered was ignited by the already hot stove.

A contributing factor to the rapid flashover was that the fuel pipe was made of rubber, which burned off and the tank contents of 60 liters of diesel oil leaked into the fire.

Recommendations

The Swedish Transport Agency is recommended to appropriately inform owners of vessels under 20 gross on:

- The importance of controlling that heating stoves are installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. *(RS2015:01R1)*
- The benefits of installing smoke detectors on board. *(RS2015:01 R2)*
- The possibility and benefits of registering trainings and certificates in the national seafarers' registry. *(RS2015:01 R3)*