

SUMMARY IN ENGLISH

On the 26th of November 2011, en route from Kunda to Oxelösund, a towing unit consisting of the tugboat KARL-ERIK and the barge OXELÖSUND anchored to the north of the island Dagö with the intention to seek shelter from an approaching storm.

Two days later on the 28th of November 2011 the unit started to drag its anchor. Two attempts to re-anchorage the unit was made. During the second attempt a crewmember was washed overboard by a large wave.

The Estonian sea rescue service was alerted and a sea rescue later found the crewmember deceased.

The cause of the accident was a course alteration to port during the re-anchoring that led to the barge's starboard side being exposed to high seas and resulted in that a crewmember working on the barge's forecastle was washed overboard. The alteration of course was likely the result of an unsuccessful attempt to keep the unit's heading by propulsion/rudder during the hoisting of the anchor.

Contributing factors were that the anchorage did not give shelter from north-westerly winds and that the unit was anchored in rough weather exceeding the design limitations of anchoring equipment.

The fact that the operator had not provided the master with adequate decision support may have contributed to the cause of event.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Swedish Transport Agency (Transportstyrelsen) is recommended to:

- in co-operation with the Maritime Joint Work Environment Council spread information regarding the importance of continuous risk assessments and risk reducing actions during deck work in rough weather, *(RS 2014:06 R1)*
- take action to spread information to the shipping industry and the merchant marine academies regarding the importance of route planning and to take the design limitations of anchoring equipment in account when choosing anchorage, *(RS 2014:06 R2)*
- with respect of the findings regarding surveys and certification (chapter 2.8), evaluate these findings and if needed take measures to ensure that Swedish vessels fulfill applicable rules and regulations. *(RS2014:06 R3)*