



LUND UNIVERSITY

Understanding Maritime Safety Culture and its Possible Implications for Practice

Ek, Åsa; Runefors, Marcus; Borell, Jonas

Published in:
Arbete och hälsa

2011

[Link to publication](#)

Citation for published version (APA):

Ek, Å., Runefors, M., & Borell, J. (2011). Understanding Maritime Safety Culture and its Possible Implications for Practice. *Arbete och hälsa*, 45(5), 19-19.

Total number of authors:

3

General rights

Unless other specific re-use rights are stated the following general rights apply:

Copyright and moral rights for the publications made accessible in the public portal are retained by the authors and/or other copyright owners and it is a condition of accessing publications that users recognise and abide by the legal requirements associated with these rights.

- Users may download and print one copy of any publication from the public portal for the purpose of private study or research.
- You may not further distribute the material or use it for any profit-making activity or commercial gain
- You may freely distribute the URL identifying the publication in the public portal

Read more about Creative commons licenses: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/>

Take down policy

If you believe that this document breaches copyright please contact us providing details, and we will remove access to the work immediately and investigate your claim.

LUND UNIVERSITY

PO Box 117
221 00 Lund
+46 46-222 00 00

19) Understanding maritime safety culture and its possible implications for practice.

Åsa Ek, Marcus Runefors, Jonas Borell

Ergonomics and Aerosol Technology, Faculty of Engineering, Lund University

In many industrial sectors it is recognized that the safety culture affects the safety performance, the safety work and improvement processes for safety. However, safety culture studies in the maritime sector are rare as well as research on organizational factors in maritime ergonomics. In order to maintain and improve safety within the maritime sector more knowledge is needed about safety culture and its expression in artifacts, attitudes and behaviours. The current approach to safety culture is focused on good organizational learning and is based on nine safety culture aspects which were investigated using questionnaires on board six Swedish passenger ships in international traffic (four ropax vessels and two high speed crafts). The aim of the study is to investigate the relationships between the nine safety culture aspects, using cluster analysis. Found cluster solutions or groupings of the safety culture aspects can give more knowledge about the maritime safety culture concept and serve as a base for safety culture and safety improvements. Although determining the number of clusters is a subjective process, the result showed similar cluster solutions across vessels. Often the aspects Safety-related behaviours/Risk perception/Attitudes towards safety constitute one cluster and the aspects Working situation/Communication another. Reporting and Learning often ends up in two separate clusters/aspects. This is also the case for Flexibility and Justness. Furthermore, having a somewhat differing safety organization, ropax vessels and high speed crafts could have different characteristics regarding the safety culture. However, very similar cluster solutions were found for four of the six vessels including the two high speed crafts. The found results yield potential for better understanding of safety culture aspects. For example, the Reporting of incidents and the Learning from collected information were not especially closely related as they often belong to different clusters. In practice, and in many sectors, the learning from incident reports is often weak or lacking.

NR 2011;45(5)

55th Nordic Work Environment Meeting
(Nordiska Arbetsmiljömötet)

The Work Environment – Impact of Technological, Social and Climate Change

*Editors: Maria Albin, Johanna Alkan-Olsson, Mats Bohgard,
Kristina Jakobsson, Björn Karlson, Peter Lundqvist,
Mikael Ottosson, Fredrik Rassner, Måns Svensson, and
Håkan Tinnerberg.*

VETENSKAPLIG SKRIFTSERIE

ARBETE OCH HÄLSA

NR 2011;45(5)

55th Nordic Work Environment Meeting
(Nordiska Arbetsmiljömötet)

The Work Environment – Impact of Technological, Social and Climate Change

*Editors: Maria Albin, Johanna Alkan-Olsson, Mats Bohgard,
Kristina Jakobsson, Björn Karlson, Peter Lundqvist,
Mikael Ottosson, Fredrik Rassner, Måns Svensson, and
Håkan Tinnerberg.*

ARBETE OCH HÄLSA

|

VETENSKAPLIG SKRIFTSERIE

ISBN 978-91-85971-32-9

ISSN 0346-7821