

## The routines in place when Skellefteå tests state-of-the-art undergarments

**For almost four months, the fire brigade in Skellefteå had seven protective undergarments with activated carbon, a retirement gift from Stefan Magnusson and Healthy Firefighters, which the magazine "Brandmannen" wrote about in issue 4/2023. When they now have been available for the smoke divers for a time, notes fire chief Ola Lindström that routines are in place.**

The undergarments are available in four different sizes, are individually labeled but not personal. Instead, smoke divers on the shift take the undergarments with him to his place and judges itself whether to use, depending on alarm type.

- Of course, that's mainly where we're at structural or vehicle fire like that is clever to use it, says Ola Lindstrom. If the undergarment has been exposed to smoke, it should be washed and hung back. The smoke diver must also document the use in a log with information about laundry, what type of event it was used at and approximately how long it has been used.

A few months into the trial period is, some of the undergarments have been washed a couple of times, others not at all. After a year, a larger evaluation is made to see how the undergarments should best be used and whether they may have to buy more sets.

- It is positive so far. As an employer is it our duty to give the conditions for a good and safe working environment. Then it's up to every firefighter to be his own guardian and decide from time to time if the undergarments should be used or not. The biggest work environment gain I see is for the instructors. There is the exposure as the absolute greatest.