

A SPECIAL PLACE TO WORK

International Opportunities

Sandvik’s cross-cultural atmosphere has been evident throughout the company’s history, with many employees enjoying international visits and longer-term work opportunities. For this book, we surveyed a cross-section of US workers on the question: “Have you ever gone to Sweden or another country for Sandvik? If so, how was the experience?” Here’s a selection of replies from long-timers.

“Visiting Sandviken, it was an eye-opening experience to see how huge the company is and the impact it has on the local economy.”
—*Leigh Ann Knutzen, Communications Manager and Executive Administrative Assistant (start date 1975)*

“I have been to Sweden many times for conferences or training. It is the best way to transfer knowledge for your daily job at home.”
—*David Van Dyke, Process Planning Engineer (start date 1976)*

“I have had the opportunity to visit our factories in Tampere, Finland, and Lyon, France. It was exciting to see how our products are produced. I enjoyed meeting colleagues whom I dealt with for a number of years but never had the pleasure of meeting face-to-face. It also gave me a sense of their regional cultures and helped me understand how best we could work together as a team.”
—*Brenda Garner, Inventory Process Owner (start date 1978)*

“Throughout my career I have been to seven different countries. Every trip has been exceptionally well-planned, and every experience has been extremely positive.”
—*Jack Lynch, Industry & Rotating Products Manager (start date 1979)*

Flags, left to right: Sweden, Australia, France, Finland

“I have been to many countries for Sandvik. By doing so I have been able to meet many people who I now call friends. I have been able to learn many new techniques that have helped me enhance my career.”
—*Rick Leibach, Procurement/Quality Systems Manager (start date 1984)*

“Yes, I’ve been to Sweden. Very professional and enjoyable. The hospitality is first-class.”
—*Bill Achtau, Service Manager (start date 1978)*

“I was born and raised in Sweden and heard of Sandvik even as a little girl. I have not traveled for Sandvik but on one of my trips back home my whole family was invited to visit Kanthal [a Sandvik company] in Halstahammar. What a wonderful experience to be able to see how wire is manufactured.”
—*Inger M. Dumont, Production Control Coordinator (start date 1990)*

