

NEEM - SITREP no. 12, Sunday 12 July 2009.

This SITREP covers the period July 6 – July 12, 2009 (inclusive).

Movement of personnel:

- July 6 Christine Schøtt Hvidberg (DK), Bo Hvidberg (DK), Dorthe Dahl-Jensen (DK), Lars Moeller (D), Katrin Wolff (D) from CPH to SFJ by Air-Greenland.
- July 7 Vas Petrenko (US), Anais Orsi (US), Zoe Courville (US), Kaitlin Keegan (US) from SCN to SFJ by the 109th.
- July 10 Dorthe Dahl-Jensen (DK), Sverrir Hilmarsson (IS), Elizabeth Elliot (AUS), Axel Boiesen (DK), Trevor Popp (DK), Vas Petrenko (US), Aslak Grindsted (DK), Daphne Buiron (F), Katrin Wolff (D), Louise Thilthorpe (UK), David Etheridge (AUS), Ernesto Kettner (DK), Ian O'Reilly (UK media), Katja Nyborg (DK media), Zoe MacDonald (UK media) from SFJ to NEEM by the 109th.
- Frank Wilhelms (D), Maurine Montagnat Rentier (F), Mads Ellehøj (DK), Fernando Valero-Delgado (D), Celia Sapart (NL), Ivana Cvijanovic (DK), Anna Elisabet Sturevik Storm (S), Mai Winstrup (DK), Melaine Behrens (D), Raimund Muscheler (S), Anna Wegner (D), Hong Sang-Bum (COR), Takayuki Kuramoto (J), Fabien Gillet (UK), Ian O'Reilly (UK media), Katja Nyborg (DK media), Zoe MacDonald (UK media) from NEEM to SFJ by the 109th.
- Anna Elisabeth Sturevik Storm (S) from SFJ to CPH by Air-Greenland.
- July 11 Frank Wilhelms (D), Fernando Valero-Delgado (D), Celia Sapart (NL), Melanie Behrens (D), Raimund Muscheler (S), Anna Wegner (D), Hong Sang-Bum (COR) from SFJ to CPH by Air-Greenland.
- July 12 Louise Wolff Ravneberg (DK), Lars Guski (DK), Romain Duphil (F), Anne Munch Solgaard (DK), Adrian Schildt (CH), Jesper Sjolte (DK), Katy Pol (F), Sebastian Bjerregaard Simonsen (DK), Atsushi Miyamoto (J), Lars Möller (D), Anaïs Orsi (US), Zoe Courville (US), Kaitlin Marie Keegan (US), Julien Courteaud (F), Mauro Rubino (IT) from SFJ to NEEM by the 109th.
- Tim Brücher (DK), Markus Frey (UK), Susanne Lilja Buchardt (DK), Anders Svensson (DK), Nerys Menna Lewis (UK), Jeppe Jønch Andersen (DK), Alex Pyne (NZ) from NEEM to SFJ by the 109th.
- Maurine Montagnat Rentier (F), Takayuki Kuramoto (J) from SFJ to CPH by Air-Greenland.

Movement of Cargo:

- July 10 400 lbs of 2" x 4" wooden beams, 14304 lbs (2 pallets) of drilling fluid, 568 lbs of plexiglass and flexible walls, 3640 lbs of food and field gear from SFJ to NEEM by the 109th.
- 1300 lbs of field gear, 3600 lbs of ice core samples in boxes, 1350 lbs of empty drum pallets from NEEM to SFJ by the 109th.
- July 12 8930 lbs of scientific equipment, food, field gear, plywood and steel gratings, and 11000 lbs of fuel from SFJ to NEEM by the 109th.
- 1300 lbs of field gear, 2560 lbs of empty drum pallets from NEEM to SFJ by the 109th.

The following shipments have arrived in SFJ:

8 colli of 299 kg from UCPH, AWB 631-26296535.

1 colli of 16 kg from CEA Saclay, Gif-Sur-Yvette, Fedex tracking no. 866072951802-0407

Camp activities:

The week has been dominated by the flights and by exchange of the camp personnel. New people have been trained in the cfa, logging and drilling teams. Pallets with science equipment and drilling fluid has been received and Ice pallets and empty drum pallets have been build for retro to Kangerlussuaq. Weather was reported to the FOM office, and the skiers were received in camp.

Skiway:

The skiway has been groomed and prepared for the flight missions this year. The skiway is now fully upgraded to flight conditions with 1 mile visibility and a cloud ceiling of 300 ft. The full weight of the skier at take off in Kangerlussuaq is 145 klbs.

Construction:

Only minor constructions this week. The core buffer has been prepared to store as much ice as possible so we can store all the brittle ice from 600 m to 1220 m in the buffer. The snow wall behind the buffer has been moved back and a platform constructed so the top shelves can be used.

Drilling:

Drilling is running in a stable mode. Training and exchange of drillers have slowed the production this week. Also very careful handling of the brittle ice is needed as any stress on the ice cores results in severe breaks. A celebration was made when the depth of 1000 m was reached.

The shallow 3 inch drill has been assembled for the firn-air program and the electronic repaired.

Driller's depth: 1069.89 m, production this week is 165.89 m.

Logging:

Logging proceeds in the brittle zone. After being stored for 2 weeks in the core buffer, it is possible to log the brittle ice cores and cut the ice in 1.65 m sections. The logging is very time consuming due to the many breaks and the logging teams have been expanded so we can try to catch up with the drilling before we start drilling in the more plastic ice found below the brittle zone.

Logging depth: 725.9 m.

Science Trench:

No processing because we are in the brittle zone. New cfa teams have slowed the amount of ice processed but already after a few days the teams are working in 24 hour shifts again.

CFA depth: 332.75 m.

Other science activities:

Sunday morning the last scientists for the air-firn program and the physical properties of the firn arrived. The firn-village has been established again 2 km from the NEEM camp and equipment moved to the site.

Weather at NEEM:

After winds up to 30 knots on Monday the weather has in general been sunny and clear during the days, but with groundfog rolling in early night and staying until the sun burns it away late morning before noon.

NEEM camp population: 36

Kangerlussuaq activities:

Main activity Monday and Tuesday was finishing pallets with drilling fluid and building new pallets with drilling fluid (total 4.5 pallets). Tuesday we received the 109th, and planned the flights to NEEM this week. Tuesday and Wednesday we built pallets with food, scientific equipment, building materials and ordered items, and received the personnel going to the NEEM camp. Two flight missions to NEEM were planned, but we ended up with a total of four missions, (Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday night/early morning), where two missions had to return to SFJ without landing at NEEM. Weather conditions with high daily temperatures and varying night/morning groundfog made landing conditions unstable. We received people from the NEEM camp and assisted them with finishing cargo and travel to Europe. Pallets with drilling fluid have been built for the coming mission period, and we have worked on getting supplies for the camp.

Weather in Kangerlussuaq:

Warm and sunny with clear blue sky. Sunday cloudy with showers. Temperatures in the beginning of the week up to 25 °C, generally around 20 °C. Mosquito level declining from moderate to low.

NEEM Field operations office,
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