

NEEM - SITREP no. 14, Sunday 25 July 2010

This SITREP covers the period July 19- July 25, 2010 (inclusive).

Movement of personnel:

July 19 Simon Sheldon (DK), Tina Brand (DK), Aslak Grindsted (DK), Sepp Kipfstuhl (D), Sverrir Æ. Hilmarsson, Mark Curran (AUS), Henry Rufli (CH), Angelika Dummermuth (S), Julia Zabori (S), Alex Pyne (NZ), Darcy Robert Mandeno (NZ), Jesper Langballe (DK), Robert Corell (US), Birgitte Bønlykke Olsen (DK), Marianne Orbesen (DK), Eric Crosson (US), Uffe Hansen (DK), Lilo Berg (D), Silvia Schön (D), Nils O. Andersen (DK), Ralf Hemmingsen (DK), Thomas Bjørnholm (DK), Yves Frenot (F), Jakob Schwander (CH), Jens Ramskov (DK), and Stéphane Foucart (F) from CPH to SFJ by Air Greenland.

Nicolas Chateauneuf (F) and Emmanuel Beke (F) from Illulisat to SFJ by Air Greenland.

Dan Pasteris (US), Jim White (US), David B. Stroud (US), Robert Freeland (US), and Dan Satterfield (US) from Schenectady to SFJ by 109th.

July 20 Simon Sheldon (DK), Tina Brand (DK), Aslak Grindsted (DK), Sepp Kipfstuhl (D), Sverrir Æ. Hilmarsson, Mark Curran (AUS), Henry Rufli (CH), Angelika Dummermuth (S), Julia Zabori (S), Alex Pyne (NZ), Darcy Robert Mandeno (NZ), Dan Pasteris (US), Jim White (US), Jesper Langballe (DK), Robert Corell (US), Birgitte Bønlykke Olsen (DK), Marianne Orbesen (DK), Eric Crosson (US), Uffe Hansen (DK), Lilo Berg (D), Silvia Schön (D), Nils O. Andersen (DK), Ralf Hemmingsen (DK), Thomas Bjørnholm (DK), Yves Frenot (F), Jakob Schwander (CH), Jens Ramskov (DK), Stéphane Foucart (F), Nicolas Chateauneuf (F), Emmanuel Beke (F), David B. Stroud (US), Robert Freeland (US), Dan Satterfield (US), Lucia Sala (IT), Lilo Berg (D), Lise Barnéoud (F), Silvia Schön (D), Bo Hvidberg (DK), Erik Hvidberg (DK), Niels Hvidberg (DK), Trine Schmidt Jensen (DK), Mark Doll (US) from SFJ to NEEM by 109th.

Gregory Teste (F), Gunnar Magnus Arntorsson (IS), Jeppe Jønch Andersen (DK), Sigfus Johnsen (DK), Thorbjörn Karlin (S), Margaretha Hansson (S), Jean-Louis Tison (B), Thomas Läßle (D), René Hviid (DK), Steffen Bo Hansen (DK), Ilka Weikusat (D), Peter Abbott (UK), Jesper Langballe (DK), Robert Corell (US), Birgitte Bønlykke Olsen (DK), Marianne Orbesen (DK), Eric Crosson (US), Uffe Hansen (DK), Lilo Berg (D), Silvia Schön (D), Nils O. Andersen (DK), Ralf Hemmingsen (DK), Thomas Bjørnholm (DK), Yves Frenot (F), Jens Ramskov (DK), Stéphane Foucart (F), Nicolas Chateauneuf (F), Emmanuel Beke (F), Lilo Berg (D), Lise Barnéoud (F), Silvia Schön (D), Bo Hvidberg (DK), Erik Hvidberg (DK), Niels Hvidberg (DK), Mark Doll (US) from NEEM to SFJ by 109th.

Jeppe Jønch Andersen (DK) from SFJ to CPH by Air Greenland.

July 22 Gunnar Magnus Arntorsson(IS), Sigfus Johnsen(DK), Thorbjörn Karlin(S), Margareta Hansson (S), Jean-Louis Tison(B), René Hviid(DK), Steffen Bo Hansen(DK), Ilka Weikusat(D), Peter Abbott(UK), Jesper Langballe (DK), Robert Corell (US), Eric Crosson (US), Uffe Hansen (DK), Lilo Berg (D), Siliva Schön (D), Nils O. Andersen (DK), Ralf Hemmingsen (DK), Thomas Bjørnholm (DK), Yves Frenot (F), Jens Ramskov (DK), Stéphane Foucart (F), Silvia Schön (D) from SFJ to CPH by Air Greenland.

July 23 Birgitte Bønlykke Olsen (DK), Marianne Orbesen (DK), Gregory Teste(F), Nicolas Chateaufeuf (F), Emmanuel Beke (F), Lilo Berg (D), and Lise Barnéoud (F) from SFJ to CPH by Air Greenland.

July 24 Läßle, Thomas (D) from SFJ to Illulisat by Air Greenland.

Anne Marie Berggren (S) from CPH to SFJ by Air Greenland.

July 25 Martha Canipe(US), TupaarnaqcEvaldsen(GR), Charlotte Fabricius(DK), Cecilia Groth(GR), Sofie Larsen(DK), Laura Lukes(US), Svend Nielsen(DK), Inuuteq Olsen(GR), Uffe Pedersen(DK), Jette Poulsen(DK), Roberta Score(US), Paul Scott(US), Nathan Wiegman(US), Zachery Wistort(US), Christine Schøtt Hvidberg(DK), Joseph Hurley (US), Casper Rasmussen (DK) from SFJ to NEEM by 109th.

Martha Canipe(US), TupaarnaqcEvaldsen(GR), Charlotte Fabricius(DK), Cecilia Groth(GR), Sofie Larsen(DK), Laura Lukes(US), Svend Nielsen(DK), Inuuteq Olsen(GR), Uffe Pedersen(DK), Jette Poulsen(DK), Roberta Score(US), Paul Scott(US), Nathan Wiegman(US), Zachery Wistort(US), Christine Schøtt Hvidberg(DK), Joseph Hurley (US), Jakob Schwander (CH), Dan Pasteris from NEEM to SFJ by 109th.

Movement of cargo:

July 20 3150 kg scientific equipment and food from SFJ to NEEM by 109th.
920 kg boat motors and GRIT equipment from SFJ to Thule AB via NEEM by 109th.
1910 kg ice cores from NEEM to SFJ by 109th

July 25 1540 kg drill fluid, food, long NZ drill box, 2070 kg fuel from tanks to NEEM from SFJ by 109th.
4140 kg ice core boxes (78 boxes) from NEEM to SFJ by 109th.

Camp activities:

This week has been one of the most eventful weeks at NEEM. Several big events came on top of each other. The annual DV visit occurred on Tuesday together with a crew exchange, but the planned flight to Thule for fuel had to be cancelled due to incoming bad weather and technical problems with the plane. Therefore the DV visit became a bit shorter than planned. Tuesday night a blizzard hit camp, and this storm continued to Friday afternoon. The planned visit overnight by young U.S., Danish and Greenlandic students had to be cancelled; but on Sunday the plane managed to go to NEEM with the students and this gave them a short but memorable experience. Indeed, the patience of the students paid out, as the first core with basal material came up with the drill on Thursday and the students were among the first to see basal ice at NEEM. As work in the trenches continued independent of weather, the first ice core with basal material came up in the middle of a snow storm. Basal material is a tell-tale sign that the bottom is close. With all the visitors in camp, much time was spent for filming and interviews.

Skiway:

The skiway was groomed with beam and tiller in preparation for the flight on Tuesday. Then the storm cancelled all grooming, and the skiway had to be groomed again Friday and Saturday because of substantial amounts of new snow. The skiway was upgraded from 135,000 lbs to receive landing weight of 140,000 lbs.

Drilling:

The drilling started out Monday with a production of 15.83 m; but Tuesday daily production went down due to very long drilling times as the cutters slipped. This continued Wednesday, and the Swiss sonic bedrock sounder was deployed. Initially, the data suggested that bedrock might be 65 m away, but as the first silty ice came up Thursday morning, data was re-examined and the result was that bedrock was very close. The rest of the week drillers found a new routine, where damaged cutters and core catchers from the basal material were sharpened in alternate runs: One run to drill and one run to retrieve the core. Daily production went down to 1 m per day as drillers struggled to force the drill downwards. A particularly nasty spot was passed as drillers managed to drill just past a large stone embedded in the core.

This week production: 30.00 m

Driller's depth: 2521.98 m

Logging depth: 2537.29 m

Science trench:

The CFA team finished the work of the season with some calibration runs, and then CFA packing continued throughout the week. Deep ice processing continued until Friday when the final processing depth was reached. Then processing switched to brittle ice processing.

CFA measurements have finished for this year at 2200.55 m.

Processing production this week (ECM, DEP, Cutting): 95.15 m

Brittle zone processing this week: 864.6 m to 880.0 m

Final deep processing depth: 2533.85 m

Drill trench: -14C

Connecting tunnel: -19C

Core buffer: --18C
Science trench: -15C
Ice cave: -24C

Associated programs:

No work on associated programs.

NEEM iridium numbers:

Primary no.: +8816 777 02735
Secondary no.: +8816 224 34860
Night no: +8816 414 39 863

Weather at NEEM:

This week was dominated by bad weather. Clouds came in Monday and Tuesday evening wind picked up to 25 knots with snow fall and drifting snow and this lasted until Friday evening. Saturday weather cleared, and Sunday a 2 month low of -20 C was reached. Daytime temperatures between -4C and -7C, and night temperatures between -7C and -20C.

NEEM camp population: 38

Kangerlussuaq activities:

The whole week was dominated by organising DV and student visits. Presentations about NEEM were given three times. Visitors were taken on excursions and visitors were outfitted for the field trips. A dinner was hosted for the visitors. Another complicating factor was organising the flights. Due to bad weather at NEEM and technical issues with the planes, plans had to be re-scheduled all the time. The NEEM FOMs wish to thank the CPS staff for very helpful collaboration.

Weather in Kangerlussuaq/SFJ:

A mixed week with some sunny days; but also cool days with heavy clouds and some rain. Temperatures between 15 C and 10 C. Mosquitoes are gone.

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