

NEEM - SITREP no. 6, Sunday June 1, 2008.

This SITREP covers the period May 26 – June 1, 2008 (inclusive).

Movement of personnel:

- May 28: Bruce Vaughn (US), Blair Wolfram (US) and William Davies (US) from SCH to SFJ by NYANG 109th LC-130
- May 31: Bruce Vaughn (US), Blair Wolfram (US), William Davies (US), Claudia Buckenmaier (D) Matthias Jung (D), Thomas Schimmack (D) and Marc-Christoph Wagner (D) from SFJ to NEEM by NYANG 109th LC-130.
- Liz Morris (UK) and Martin Hignell (UK) from NEEM to SFJ by NYANG 109th LC-130.
- June 1: Hans Christian Florian (GRL), Jim Hedfors (S), Thomas Overly (US), Claudia Buckenmaier (D) Matthias Jung (D), Thomas Schimmack (D) and Marc-Christoph Wagner (D) from NEEM to SFJ by NYANG 109th LC-130.

Movement of Cargo:

- May 23: 144 kg; 3 Colli, spare parts from CPH to SFJ by Air Greenland.
- May 29: 21972 kg from SCH to SFJ by NYANG 105th C-5
- May 30: 24 kg 1 colli from CPH to SFJ by Air Greenland
- May 31: 6803 kg from SFJ to NEEM by NYANG 109th LC-130.
- 1396 kg from NEEM to SFJ by NYANG 109th LC-130.
- June 1: 9071 kg from SFJ to NEEM by NYANG 109th LC-130.

Activities:

It has been a week troubled by the weather. In the beginning with snow later very windy. A deep low pressure system travelled the icecap from south to north. The wind peaked Thursday night with gusting winds at 35 knots. Other camps on the ice sheet were hit by wind speeds at 74 knots.

It was hard to do outdoor construction work but the camp crew managed in several attempts to erect the large 26x40 feet garage tent. and setup of the workshop could begin. The excavation of the drill trench got delayed due to fill in from drifting snow.

Three to four flights were planned to the camp this week and preparations of the ski way had high priority in order have to ski way certified to a payload at 20.000 lbs. Intense grooming with the beam and the new tiller was done throughout the whole week.

Due to a two day weather delay it was only possible to get two missions to the camp so far. It is a back to back week and after a crew change by the 109th, flights to NEEM will continue next week.

The conditions of the ski way had improved and it got upgraded to a 20.000 lbs payload. It will only need some small modifications in order to get certified for an instrument approach. This week the first science was conducted. A stable isotope experiment was set up outside NEEM Camp. And the camp had the first media visit this year, ARD-1. (German national television) A four crew TV team visited the camp and stayed overnight.

Constructions this week:

Finishing Garage 26 x 40 weather port
Started blowing snow for Drill trench.
Grooming ski way several times.

Operational equipment at site:

PB 300 W, tiller and manually controlled crane
PB 100 Flexmobile (black shovel)
Toyota Mattracks Landcruiser
Four Lynx Yeti V-800 Snowmobiles
One Yanmar 3440 snow blower
Mase 16 kW generator (diesel).

One Hatz 5 kW generator (diesel)
One Honda 4.5 kW generator (gasoline)

Non operational:

One Yanmar 3420 snow blower, broken belts
PB-100 Flexmobil (yellow shovel) needs repair for oil leak.
One Hatz generator, needing repair. Almost worn out.

Weather: 12 cm snow, mainly strong winds, -17 C to -4 C, winds at 1 – 18 m/s.

Camp population: 9 (peak 16)

In Kangerlussuaq, the hard weather closed the airport and the Air Greenland passengers were diverted on the same day as the C-5 arrived. It had to abandon the first landing attempt due to very high winds. The C-5 was offloaded within some hours and returned to the states. NEEM cargo was reconfigured for the LC-130 going to NEEM.

Weather -5 C to + 5 C, snow, rain and sun. Very windy
Many mosquitoes.

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NEEM Field operations office,

Michael Valentin Strand, Lars Berg Larsen,