

NEEM - SITREP no. 13, Sunday 24. July 2011

This SITREP covers the period July 18 – July 24, 2011 (inclusive).

Movement of personnel:

- July 18:** Aaron Van Pelt (US), David Stroud (US), Robert Freeland (US), Scott Montross (US), Jay Johnson (US) and Anaïs Orsi (US) from SFJ to Schenectady by 109th.
Frédéric Prié (F) from SFJ to CPH by Air Greenland.
Tanja Fromm (D) from CPH to SFJ by Air Greenland.
- July 19:** Steffen Bo Hansen (DK), Christine Hvidberg (DK) and Bo Hvidberg (DK) from SFJ to Copenhagen by Air Greenland.
Nicholas Brown (US), William Donovan(US), Richard Hale (US), Shahriar Keshmiri (US), Carl Leuschen (US), Ryan Lykins (US) and John A. Pritchard (US) to NEEM from SFJ by 109th.
Gideon Gfeller (CH), Christopher Stowasser (DK) from NEEM to SFJ by 109th.
- July 21:** Jeannie Wilkening (US-Sci&Ed), Vincent Ader (US-Sci&Ed), Laura Lukes (US-Sci&Ed), Shelly Hynes (US-Sci&Ed), Avaruna Mathæussen (GRL-Sci&Ed), Kurt Olsen (GRL-Sci&Ed), Ole Olsvig (GRL-Sci&Ed), Sylvia Kielsen (GRL-Sci&Ed), Rikke Jørgensen (GRL-Sci&Ed), Jakob Møller Bach (GRL-Sci&Ed), Christine Nøhr Pedersen (DK-Sci&Ed), Rebecca Skov (DK-Sci&Ed), Emil Stærmosse (DK-Sci&Ed), Robbie Score (US-Sci&Ed), Paul Smotherman (US) from SFJ to NEEM by 109th.
Jeannie Wilkening (US-Sci&Ed), Vincent Ader (US-Sci&Ed), Laura Lukes (US-Sci&Ed), Shelly Hynes (US-Sci&Ed), Avaruna Mathæussen (GRL-Sci&Ed), Kurt Olsen (GRL-Sci&Ed), Ole Olsvig (GRL-Sci&Ed), Sylvia Kielsen (GRL-Sci&Ed), Rikke Jørgensen (GRL-Sci&Ed), Jakob Møller Bach (GRL-Sci&Ed), Christine Nøhr Pedersen (DK-Sci&Ed), Rebecca Skov (DK-Sci&Ed), Emil Stærmosse (DK-Sci&Ed), Robbie Score (US-Sci&Ed), Paul Smotherman (US) from NEEM to SFJ by 109th.
- July 22:** Lars Berg Larsen (DK), Susanne L. Buchardt (DK), Martin Leonhardt (D), Renato Winckler (F) and Philip Schütt (D) from CPH to SFJ by Air Greenland.
- July 23:** Lars Berg Larsen (DK), Susanne L. Buchardt (DK), Martin Leonhardt (D), Renato Winckler (F), Philip Schütt (D) and Tanja Fromm (D) from SFJ to NEEM by 109th.
Dean Childs (US), Lloyd Carothers (US), Kumiko Azuma (J), Motohiro Hirabayashi (J), Hans Christian Steen-Larsen (US) from NEEM to SFJ by 109th.

Movement of cargo:

- July 19:** 4970 kg Kansas UAV, GLISN cargo and ATO resupply from SFJ to NEEM by 109th.
3910 kg Scientific equipment (CFA), Viessmann cabin from NEEM to SFJ by 109th.
- July 20:** 32 colli cargo (450 kg) from Bremerhaven to SFJ by Air Greenland.

- July 21:** 4250 kg 2 x dome skis, dome sled parts, scientific equipment (AWI), food from SFJ to NEEM by 10⁹th.
2950 kg ice cores, drill box and waste, core troughs and vent tubes.
- July 23:** 3525 kg 2 x dome skis, AWI ice core boxes, food, spare parts.
1140 kg GLISN and Japanese cargo.

Activities:

Work in camp revolved around the three missions we had this week. The put-in of the Kansas UAV team was postponed from Monday to Tuesday due to warm temperatures at NEEM. The flights with Science and Education students on Thursday and the NEEM crew exchange on Saturday were on schedule according to a revised flight plan, despite really marginal flight conditions due to high temperatures. Thursday camp received a group of young students from Greenland, Denmark and the U.S. During their two hour stay, the students were shown NEEM camp and introduced to the scientific activities at NEEM.

The week marked the termination of several activities and the beginning of new ones. As deep drilling activities using the long drill are terminated, the deep drill was packed and made ready for shipment. All activity in the drill trench ended by making bore hole logging on Wednesday and Thursday. A Japanese 5.5 m pit study was completed and a Japanese aerosol sampling site was installed. Setup of the GLISN seismic installation was completed. The Kansas UAV team made ready for their testing of the radar system. Saturday a Danish GPS survey and shallow drilling team and a German radar and shallow drilling team arrived. These teams are now preparing snowmobiles and equipment to work in the vicinity of NEEM camp.

Monday, the large logistical undertaking of construction of the dome sled began. During the week the cover around the dome foundation was removed and significant amounts of ice was cut and removed to make room for mounting of the steel ring. The steel ring was completed by the end of the week, and now work is in progress for finishing the ring and mounting the skis under the dome. With the exposure of the foundation and the removal of ice around the foundation, the dome became sensitive to wind as it was, just after completion in 2008. Camp crew carefully monitor for any displacement of the dome. It was a complicating factor for mounting the steel ring that the dome legs had been pushed towards the centre of the dome due to ice flow making the steel ring slightly too big. By careful adjustment of leg position the legs were bolted to the steel ring.

Skiway:

The skiway has been thoroughly groomed in order to remove the undulations and improve the skiway. Several working days has been used to groom and maintain skiway and apron using beam and tiller. Working conditions have been far from ideal, as high temperatures and significant new snow fall. In spite of all this, the skiway was upgraded to receive planes with higher payloads. NEEM can now send planes from Kangerlussuaq with 19,000 lbs payload.

Drilling:

Deep drilling activities have finished.

Loggers depth: 2538.10 m.

Last logging of the deep bore hole performed.

In the coming period there will only be short shallow drilling in the NEEM area.

Science:

Much of the ice core processing equipment in the science trench has been packed down. Only a few tables and two band saws remain.

Japanese 5.5 m pit study is completed. A Japanese aerosol sampling site has been setup. Samples will be taken until 10th August.

Setup of the GLISN seismic station in the storage garage was completed.

The Kansas UAV team has performed several flights with the small aircraft, and they have been mounting radar equipment on the large (Meridian) plane. Sunday, the first tests of the Meridian with radar was performed while on the apron.

The German radar and shallow drilling team are preparing equipment for their work in the NEEM area.

The Danish survey and shallow drilling team are preparing equipment for their work in the NEEM area.

Weather at NEEM:

The weather this week has been mostly cloudy, warm with snow. Monday and Tuesday weather cleared temporarily and temperatures dropped to – 16 C at night. By the end of the week, temperatures were up to -1 C at day and -3 C at night.

Temperatures between -1 C (day) to -16 C (night) and wind speeds at 0-20 knots, mostly from S and SW.

NEEM camp population: 23

NEEM iridium numbers:

Primary no.: +8816 777 04 766

Tel.: +299 84 11 51

Mobile: +299 52 41 25

Kangerlussuaq/SFJ iridium number: +8816 214 42402

Kangerlussuaq Activities:

Unpacked retro cargo from NEEM and made it ready for shipment away from Greenland. Handled cargo and passenger traffic for three missions to NEEM. Gave a science briefing for the Science and Education students. A lot of time was spent arranging flights and re-scheduling flights due to marginal weather conditions at NEEM.

Weather in Kangerlussuaq/SFJ:

Mostly nice weather with E-wind and dust; but a few days with clouds and a little rain. Sunny with temperatures up to 20 C, but on rainy or cloudy days temperatures at 15C. Mosquito level moderate to low.

NEEM Field Operations office,

Jørgen Peder Steffensen