

SITREP 4, December 12, 2010  
Donald Voigt, Gifford Wong SCO Rep  
Written at WAIS Divide

- I. Passenger movements
  - A. SCO
    - 1. Gifford Wong arrived at WAIS Divide on 12/8.
  - B. NICL
    - 1. N/A
  - C. IDDO
    - 1. E. Morton, J. Robinson, P. Cassidy and D. Ferris arrived at WAIS Divide on 12/8.
- II. Cargo Movements
  - A. Plywood for snow pits arrived.
  - B. Two AF pallets (8 skids) of ice core was sent to McMurdo on 12/8.
  - C. There is no I-477 cargo left in McMurdo.
- III. Camp Activities
  - A. Current camp population, 21 RPSC, 4 NANA, 10 T-350, 8 I-477, 1 I-478.
  - B. Work on the arch trench was completed on 12/9. The arch carpenters and the drilling crew put in a tremendous effort to finish this task in good time.
  - C. The generators shut down on two occasions without the backup working. Power was out for over an hour on each occasion.
  - D. IT techs came back out to WAIS Divide to attempt to correct problems with the internet system.
  - E. I-158 finished field preparations and departed on their traverse. We have received four ISC boxes of ice from the traverse.
  - F. Camp is at operations normal for other purposes.
  - G. The PIG Traverse is expected to stop at WAIS Divide for one night on 12/11.
  - H. Drilling is expected to begin sometime this week.
- IV. Drill Depth and Time
  - A. N/A
- V. Status of Drilling (# of runs, meters of ice drilled, core quality)
  - A. N/A
- VI. Other
  - A. The SCO team continues to meet to discuss safety, training and operations. This includes daily meetings to discuss the previous day's

- evolutions, and to bring up safety and procedural problems. We have continued walk-throughs of the processing side of the arch.
- B. On Friday 12/10 Gifford and I conducted a walk-through of the arch with Tom Olyjnik, RPSC Health and Safety. He also observed our operation on Saturday while we pulled core from the basement and loaded pallets. His help and advice was invaluable, and overall Tom was pleased with how we ran our operation. Several small changes to our procedures will be implemented.
  - C. The tentative shift plan is to work two shifts, 8 to 8, with Fegyveresi and Buffen on the day shift supported by Roop and Wong, and Cox, Gkinis, and Winski on the night shift. In addition, Roop, Wong and the NICL representative will stagger their presence at the arch in order to spend time with both shifts.
  - D. Eight skids of ice core boxes were pulled from the basement and loaded on air force pallets for shipment to McMurdo on 12/8. Temperature loggers were placed on the top of both pallets. The operation went smoothly with assistance from camp staff. The ANG required a change in the orientation of the skids on the air force pallets. Fortunately, we asked for camp to check the pallets before blankets and nets were added and changing the orientation of the skids went quickly. On Saturday, 12/11, the remaining skids were pulled from the basement and loaded on AF pallets for a cold deck planned for Monday.
  - E. The basement hatch was inspected and repairs were made. The hatch can now support weight with no exceptions.
  - F. Safety training is ongoing or completed on Hazard Identification, Lifting Hazards, Snowmobiles and Travel procedures. An Accident Response Exercise is being planned with camp and T-350. Other safety training opportunities will begin now that we have access to the arch.
  - G. Meetings between Camp (Paulene), I-478 (Geoff), T-350 (Krissy) and myself and Giff are being held to discuss meal schedules and house-mouse arrangements once production drilling starts.
  - H. The lack of a camp electrician still remains a concern. The arch fire alarm system was tested and failed on the core processing side and a Fire Tech is being sent out to make repairs.
  - I. John completed the first snow pit for Physical Properties and collected firn samples.
  - J. The floor in the Jamesway was not covered with plywood as indicated in the RSP. We still using rubber mats, and it may be necessary to

- keep this as a final solution. Science Construction has no knowledge of our request for floor covering even though it appears in the RSP.
- K. The refer units are running well. Steve Mikel continues to work on the system clearing rime ice from the vents and assuring everything is working well. He is working on the temperature problem in the equipment room. Leaks from the equipment room into the core handling room were plugged and will continue to be checked.
  - L. The need for additional harnessing points around the basement hatch was reevaluated and it was determined that three harness points are sufficient as long as there are no garbage cans blocking access to the harness points. Access to the basement will be minimal this season after the remaining core is removed from the basement.
  - M. An extensive cleaning effort and reorganization of the processing side of the arch was conducted in preparation for the start of drilling and for the NSF visit on Monday, 12/13.
  - N. An SCO Change of Command ceremony was held on Saturday evening. The many dignitaries were in attendance. Giff Wong has the bridge.