Daily Drilling and Scientific Report for IODP Expedition 347, Baltic Sea Paleoenvironment



14th Sep 00:00 - 14th Sep 24:00 GMT

1. Location

10° 6.491' E 55° 0.295' N BSB-3

2. Activity Summary

Continued coring at BSB-3 M0059A.

3. Science Report

Today was the first full day of drilling and the program for the first paleoceanographic hole was fully established. Since cores are not split offshore during this MSP expedition the descriptions of cores are largely dependent on samples taken from the core catchers. Piston coring progressed well during the day and recovered a depth interval of 13-65 mbsf. Black, homogeneous Holocene mud occurred from the sediment surface to about 49 mbsf. The mud contained gas bubbles throughout and smelled of H₂S down to ca. 10 mbsf. The mud was rich in benthic foraminifera down to 15-20 mbsf. It was also rich in remains of coastal marine fauna and flora, including algae and eelgrass, parts of bivalve shells, and chitinous remains of small crustaceans and insects. Below 20 mbsf foraminifera became gradually rarer with depth. Between 49 and 53 mbsf there was a gradual transition from black to gray Holocene mud and to greenish-gray massive clay with no detected microfossils. The lower part of this unit was very hard and compacted. From c. 54 down to 65 mbsf a homogeneous moderately compacted dark greenish clay (postglacial clay?) was recovered with an increase in silt content in the lower part. No fossils were found in this sequence.

4. Core Recovery Details

Hole	M0059A
Cores recovered	19
Drilled length	61.6 m
Recovered length	62.5 m
Recovery	101.46 %
Depth at midnight	75.1 m

5. Weather

Fair with isolated showers, sea state slight with swell of 0.5 - 0.7 m; wind direction SSE, winds of 11 - 14 kts gusting 13 - 17 kts; 17° C.

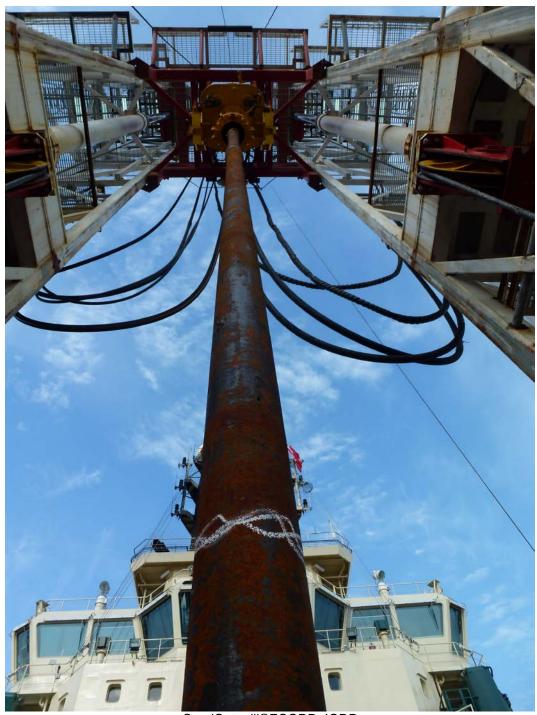
Next 24 hrs: Fair, with isolated showers, sea state slight with swell of 0.4 - 0.8 m, winds of 6 - 15kts, gusting 12 - 20 kts. 17°C.

Deep low in the North Sea.

6. Planned Activity for the next 24 hours

Continue coring operations on the first Paleoceanographic hole at BSB-3.

7. Photo of the day



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