

## Expedition Log for IODP Expedition 313 New Jersey Shallow Shelf

Week 12 – 18<sup>th</sup> July 2009

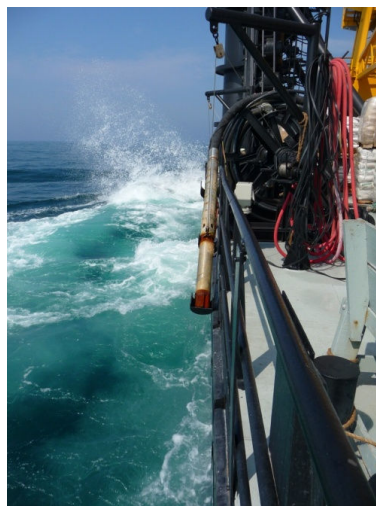
**The End.** Carol Cotterill

“The End”.....the finish to all good books and stories, and so it is with Expedition 313 and our coring back into the history of sea level change over millions of years.

I am sat in the accommodation block as we transit back into Atlantic City, all three legs proudly (and rather oddly) sticking up into the sky. It's a strange day....the sea is calm and almost glassy despite there being forecasts of storms, and it somehow feels as if a ghostly pirate ship should be coming out of the haze at us!



***C\_Cotterill©ECORD\_IODP\_***



***C\_Cotterill©ECORD\_IODP\_***

Whilst we sail on towards Atlantic City, some people are reading out in the sun, others play computer games or continue working indoors on their laptops. Some are making the most of catching up on some well-earned sleep or doing washing. It's a period when we can relax, before the hard work begins again at Atlantic City, when

we have to unload all the containers and pallets of mud etc onto container trucks, for shipping back to Europe.

We began to ready ourselves for this transit a few days ago. As the last of the core, brought up on deck at 1820 on July 11<sup>th</sup>, made its way through each container – core curation, geochemistry, science and MSCL, the containers were de-mobilised.



***C\_Cotterill@ECORD\_IODP\_Holger boxes himself into a corner in core curation***



***C\_Cotterill@ECORD\_IODP\_The science container becomes a packing room***

Computers were put away securely, walls were stripped of documents, notes and photos, flooring and banners were cleaned, generators were moved, pallets on top of the containers were secured, network cables were taken down, and the Drilling Information System (DIS) was closed down.....and yet on the drill floor the logging engineers were still hard at work collecting as much data as we could right to the very end.



***C\_Cotterill©ECORD\_IODP\_Washing the banner down***



***C\_Cotterill©ECORD\_IODP\_Sally models some newly cleaned non-slip matting***



***C\_Cotterill©ECORD\_IODP\_Denis still logging until the end!***



***C\_Cotterill©ECORD\_IODP\_The drillers tie down everything on top of the containers prior to transit***

At just after midnight on July 17<sup>th</sup>, the last piece of casing was pulled from hole M0029A (Mat-3A) and Main Street went dark as the power to the containers was shut down permanently (and not because of a storm!) for the first time since the end of April.....an end of an era? It has certainly been said that a very definite community spirit exists on board the *Kayd* – no matter how long or short a time you spend on here, you cannot help but be affected by the smiles and jokes – even when things didn't always go our way. And so in a sense packing down and knowing that we are headed for home does feel like the end to something very special.

But what about the drilling and success I hear you ask? So here are some stats.....

- We recovered 1311.4 m of core
- The recovered core weighs in the region of 10.46 tonnes
- We were operational for 1803 hours
- We were affected by weather stopping operations for 9.99 hours – primarily due to some of the most amazing lightning storms I've ever seen!
- Our overall recovery across all three holes was 80.29% of drilled length

And some more random stats.....

- The *Kayd* used 58,000 gallons of fuel during the Expedition
- The cooks served up 6325 lunches / dinners
- We went through 149,000 gallons of freshwater onboard

Once in Atlantic City the final preparations are made to the containers before the trucks arrive to take them away. DOSECC and Montco have another job to go on to, so as well as our equipment coming off there are new staff and pieces of drilling equipment coming onboard at the same time.



***C\_Cotterill©ECORD\_IODP\_The Kayd alongside in Atlantic City***



***C\_Cotterill©ECORD\_IODP\_Rigging the containers up for lifting off***



***C\_Cotterill©ECORD\_IODP\_On their way to the quayside***



***C\_Cotterill©ECORD\_IODP\_A wash and a scrub before their journey onwards to Europe***

So things are still all go even at “The End”!!