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Improving techniques for the challenging scientific drilling targets: IODP science services perspective

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Integrated Ocean Drilling Program (IODP) is an international marine research program that explores the Earth history and structure as recorded in seafloor sediments and rocks, and monitors subseafloor environments. First time in the scientific ocean drilling history, three drilling platform has been operating at global locations since 2009, and began planning for the new and ambitious program beyond the end of current IODP from October, 2013.

Since the initiation of IODP in 2003, various new techniques were initiated across three platforms, Chikyu, JOIDES Resolution and Mission Specific Platform (MSP), under the science services from Implementation Organizations. For the new challenges in the various IODP expeditions, those new techniques covering laboratory and downhole measurements, extended widely in measurement types and improved their capability and efficiency. Further addition of riser technology and very shallow locations for MSP brought wider choice of new logging and coring tools, rigfloor parameter, and very high-resolution slim-hole logging tools. All these large volume of data with wider choice of software further enhanced the integrated studies like cuttings/core-log-seismic integration for the very deep-riser holes.

In focus of improved techniques, science services across three platforms in IODP are thoroughly reviewed.

Keywords: IODP, Drilling, Logging, Science Service