Science Services: Examples of Opening Research Data to the Scientific Ocean Drilling Community and General Public

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The IODP is a wildly successful example of a long-term, international, collaborative science research program. Once solely managed by a US consortium, operating one ship, it now includes three international agencies/science operators working together, each operating/contracting their own vessels. The data and samples resulting from these collaborative efforts now reside in three regional core repositories, with each region also operating its own database. While standards and policies regarding the treatment of data and samples are extremely mature, each region has approached data management differently.

With the recent momentum behind open data and open access to science data and samples resulting from public investment increasing, it’s important to ensure that these important scientific ocean drilling resources are readily available to the science community and the general public.

I examine the current status of each drilling database, and discuss the efforts to improve data services among the three science operators.

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