

IODP PRINCIPLES ON DRILLING PLATFORMS

1. The operation of two drilling vessels (riser capable vessel and non-riser vessel) presently constitutes the core capability of the IODP. The riser capable platform will be made available by MEXT and will be owned and operated by JAMSTEC, and the non-riser platform by the NSF.
2. Legal and financial responsibility including mobilization and platform operation costs for the riser capable vessel will reside with Japan and for the non-riser vessel with the United States.
3. Access to mission specific platforms (beyond the two primary vessels) will be required to meet specific objectives identified by the science advisory structure, but resources to support these activities have not been identified at this time.
4. Legal and financial responsibility, including mobilization and platform operation costs of mission specific platforms, is to reside with the organization(s) or country (ies) which make the decision to offer this additional capability to the Program. Provision of such a capability will not be considered a contribution in lieu of annual IODP membership contribution.
5. IODP commingled program funds will be used to support costs of science operations on IODP drilling platforms.
6. International participation in the science and operations of all IODP drilling platforms will be consistent with IODP program procedures.

HISTORICAL