

IODP Site Survey Data Confidentiality Policy

(Approved by the SASEC, March 2007, with clarifying edits by IODP-MI May 2009)

Site-survey data in support of an IODP proposal must be submitted to the Site Survey Data Bank (SSDB) in electronic form. Data objects submitted to the SSDB are flagged, at the discretion of the submitter, as either non-proprietary or proprietary. The metadata (data that describe an object) of all data objects held in the SSDB, whether of a proprietary nature or not, are publicly available for viewing and downloading. Non-proprietary data objects are publicly available for both viewing and downloading. Proprietary data objects associated with a proposal can be viewed and downloaded by all proponents associated with that proposal (i.e., any proponent registered with the SSDB and given proponent-level access to the proposal by IODP-MI). Additionally, during the period of time that a proposal, or part of a proposal, resides with the Science Advisory Structure (SAS), proprietary data objects associated with the proposal can be viewed and downloaded by SAS panel and committee members for purposes of scientific or safety evaluation and by Implementing Organization (IO) representatives for purposes of expedition planning. All other uses of proprietary data by SAS panel and committee members and IO representatives is forbidden. When a proposal, or part of a proposal, becomes a scheduled expedition, the expedition Co-chiefs, proponents and/or IO are responsible for ensuring that all site-survey data necessary to conduct the expedition and to address all scientific contingencies are copied and/or uploaded to the expedition data collection on the SSDB; this collection is called the *Site Survey Data Package*. A link to the Site Survey Data Package on the SSDB is published in the expedition Scientific Prospectus (SP). The data comprising the Site Survey Data Package, including any proprietary data, can be viewed and downloaded by members of the Science Party when the SP is published. At the end of the expedition sample and data moratorium period, all data in the Site Survey Data Package become publicly available for viewing and downloading. Exceptions to the latter can be made on a case by case basis for proprietary data provided by an industry for-profit organization. Proprietary data objects associated with deactivated proposals that have not become an expedition remain proprietary and can be viewed and downloaded only by the proponents associated with the proposal.

Data inherited from the Ocean Drilling Program were submitted under a policy whereby data were generally considered proprietary unless they were freely available from other data repositories. To honor that policy, legacy data submitted prior to the start of the IODP are flagged as proprietary in the SSDB. Only with the written approval of a responsible proponent can the proprietary status of these data be changed to non-proprietary.