



Ghislain Bardout

Expedition Under The Pole

October 02, 2008

Letter of Support

Dear Ghislain,

I am excited about your plans for the Arctic Under-The-Pole expedition next year, and would like to express my strong support and interest for any scientific sea ice measurements you could make. In particular, I think that you could perform snow and ice thickness measurements along your transect from the Pole to Ellesmere Island, which would significantly contribute to the research we are doing in the same region, but which is always heavily limited by logistic constraints. Ice and snow thickness observations are very important for studies of climate change in the Arctic, and as such I will use and publish your results complementary with our other data.

You could perform snow thickness measurements along your way or around your daily camps, and from previous collaborations with other explorers (e.g. Marc Cornelissen, Alain Hubert, and Børge Ousland), we have set up a protocol which can be followed.

In addition, you could perform ice thickness measurements during your dives, if representative locations will be chosen. From what I have seen about your capabilities and experiences of diving under the ice in at the North Pole in April 2007, I know that you can achieve quite significant dives. Whenever you would be supplied by airplane, you could also survey a more extensive thickness profile by means of an EM instrument which could be easily carried by the plane.

Your results and experiences will not only be of interest for a broad community of Arctic researchers with whom I do and will communicate, but also for the general public worldwide who is interested in Arctic and climate matters.

Good luck, and I am looking forward to work with you on the Expedition Under The Pole

Dr. Christian Haas, Professor