

## Production Drilling

*Wednesday, 27 April 2011 09:30 (20 minutes)*

In order to complete the construction phase of the IceCube project on time and within budget, a very ambitious construction schedule was planned over 7 short field seasons. The critical path of the construction project was the drilling operation, which required 86 2500-meter holes to be made in the ice. The instruments would then be deployed into these drilled holes. Lessons were learned during construction, and changes were made to the drill and the drilling operation in order to achieve the target number of holes on time each season. A brief discussion will be presented of the challenges that were faced in undertaking this production drilling and what was done to overcome these challenges. Based on this experience, recommendations will also be given for any future production drilling operation.

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