



New Reeper building coming up next to the KCC (as on April 1, 2014)

As shown in the photograph above, a new repository building of Kochi University is under construction next to the current KCC building. This 2 floor building will have a huge reeper for storing ca. 150 km core on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor, and laboratory and meeting rooms on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. The building was originally planned to be ready by March 2014. However, construction is delayed by many months due mainly to logistical reasons. This delay has severely affected IODP core handling and related sample request processing in the existing reefers of KCC, which have become partly inaccessible due to blockage of reeper aisles by temporary storage of cores from recent IODP expeditions. The new reeper building is expected to be ready in early autumn, and then some of the IODP cores will be transferred into the new reeper. This should lead to normal operation of the core repository. Inconvenience caused by delay in sample request processing at KCC is deeply regretted.