



**Daily Drilling and Scientific Report for IODP Expedition 325,
Great Barrier Reef Environmental Change**

19th March 2010 (0000 - 2400 local time)

1. Location

Townsville Anchorage and transit to Ribbon Reef

Time zone: Brisbane Australia Time, UTC +10

Position at midnight (transit):

Latitude: 19° 36.9 S

Longitude: 146° 48.0 E

2. Activity summary

The vessel remained at anchor waiting on weather, at the Townsville anchorage site. The impact of tropical cyclone Ului on proposed vessel movements was re-assessed at 10:00 and 19:00 by the ESO Operations Superintendent, Bluestone Party Chief, Master of the Maya and the Co-chiefs. The decision was taken to begin the transit northwards towards the Ribbon Reef sites in preparation for operations to recommence once the sea state and winds drop within operational limits.

3. Science report

N/A

4. Core recovery details

N/A

5. Weather

Sea state: moderate (4) with a swell of 1.25 – 2.5m; wind direction SE force 6 (22-28 knots); predominantly overcast with some sunnier periods; 28°C.

Next 24 hrs: Sea state moderate to rough with swell of 3 m in open waters; wind direction S/SE swinging to S/SW 30 – 40 knots possibly increasing to 40–45 knots offshore by evening; scattered showers. A gale warning is in place due to the influence of tropical cyclone Ului.