



(March 3, 2009)

Tuesday, March 03, 2009

Today we built on yesterday's efforts. After warming up all night, the PCSP shack at the airport got to just above the freezing point. Now we have a place up there where we can put other things to warm up; such as the tool box (sliding drawers for Arctic field work – not such a good idea – grease does freeze), the wobble pumps, frozen hands / faces, etcetera. Also, with the power now on, we were able to string out some extension cords from the shack and fire up one of our new electric Herman Nelson heater's over by the containers where our equipment is stored, which in turn let us get the bobcat loader going. The Electric Herman doesn't put out near as much heat as its gas-engine driven counterpart, but if you have the power on, it is much simpler to run. Furthermore, there appears to be a gas shortage at Eureka so we will have to be importing some drums of gasoline from Resolute before we can rely on the big Herman at all.



Electric Herman Nelson Heater – warming containers that hold the camp gear
Photo by Mike Black

The wind is up here and it got much worse this afternoon. This makes work very difficult not only due to the increased risk of frostbite in fewer minutes, but because it means we can't pile anything outside the containers due to the fact that they will soon be drifted over. The high winds also mean the planes are grounded which has a chain reaction effect on all the work that doesn't get done all down the line (not just our own).

UNCLOS Continental Shelf Project – Arctic Ocean – Update #2



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Arctic Fox Photo by Mike Black

With the infusion of new duct tape, Eureka was able to repair their potable water hose and resume pumping operations. The CHS team was glad to be able to help out in exchange for the many favours we receive here.