

Dave's Blarg!

2011-Nov-11

No workout buddies this morning ☹, so it was off into the fog with no essersize :p Honestly some parts of my drive are just plain scenic. I like doing this blarg because it makes me notice things like that again.



Not too bad eh?

Much more scenic than the end of the drive for sure.



Utah – state gun for the win, state bird for the “Get the heck away from my car!”

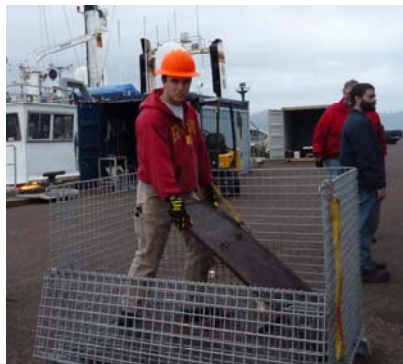


The Newport seagulls *really* like our dock.....

So yeah, we were supposed to load in the morning, but we got put off a bit. Remember those precision machined OBS? Every once in a while a little bit too much ‘precision’ gets put into the machine.... There’s this rod that is part of an arm that is supposed to hold (I was going to type ‘help hold’ but this rod is the only darn thing holding it up) a 220# steel anchor to the bottom of the OBS package. They all had to be removed and modified because they were bending under load....



This rod (which should be straight)



Holds this 220# chunk of steel

Please note, there’s only one 1/4”x20 (it looks like) screw holding that plate on. Even being giving and assuming it’s 3/8” and titanium, that



To the bottom of this...

Dave's Handy Tensile Strength Calculator		
Dia.	0.375	In
Tens. Str.	128000	PSI
Cap	56548.67	#

would give it—wow, actually a whole lot of holding force.. Something about that seems wrong, I got my data from <http://asm.matweb.com/search/SpecificMaterial.asp?bassnum=MTP641>. I used the Yield strength instead of ultimate

just to make up for not actually doing the numbers on the threads of the bolt. Well in any event it doesn't give me the warm fuzzies, and I'm not standing anywhere near under it (not that anyone ever should stand under a load on crane unless they're going for a heroic camera shot.... (and I'll stick to the electrical engineering :p) Anywho, I really shouldn't pick on these guys, this stuff is *Crazy* *Awesome*, and overall darn nicely



done. All these hiccups will be iron-hammer fixed by the next time they come out. This is actually the first cruise for this new design, and it sure looks sharp.

The electronics for these units are actually housed in a glass sphere. I forget the whole

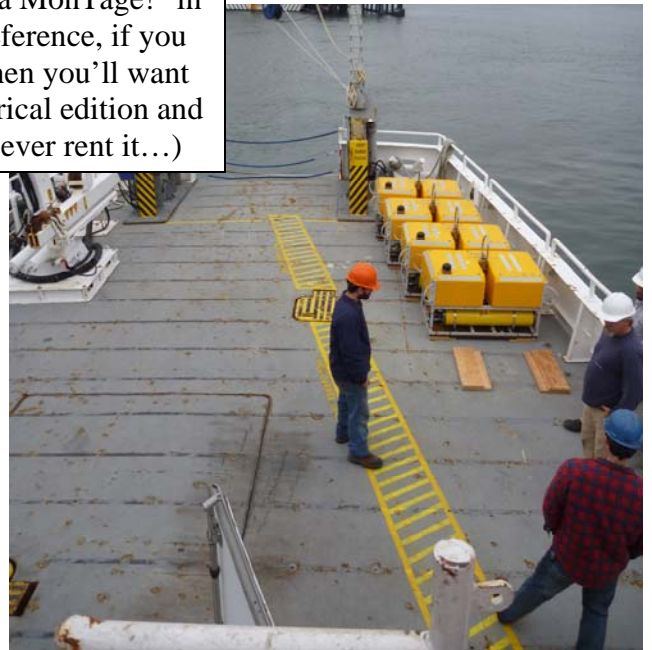
schpiel on why a glass sphere is the tool for almost every job for deep ocean oceanography, but apparently it is. Most often you see them in plastic cases like these:



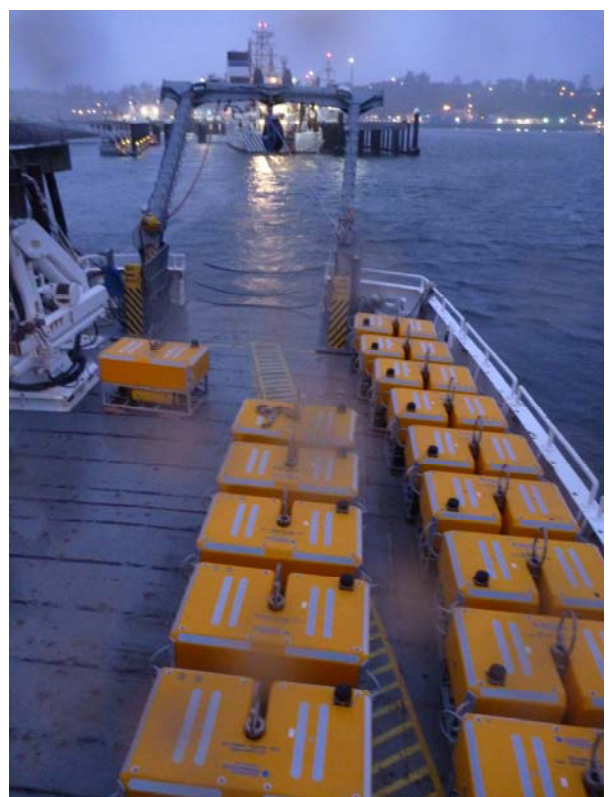
They are largely used for floatation, but they also make awesome electronics pressure housings.



And yes, the whole time I was shooting this I was singing "It's going to take a MonTage!" in my head :p (Team America Reference, if you don't already know what it is then you'll want to make sure to watch the theatrical edition and *not* the un-cut version if you ever rent it...)



We spent most of the rest of the day loading...



I've always *meant* to do sequence photos like this, now I have. ☺

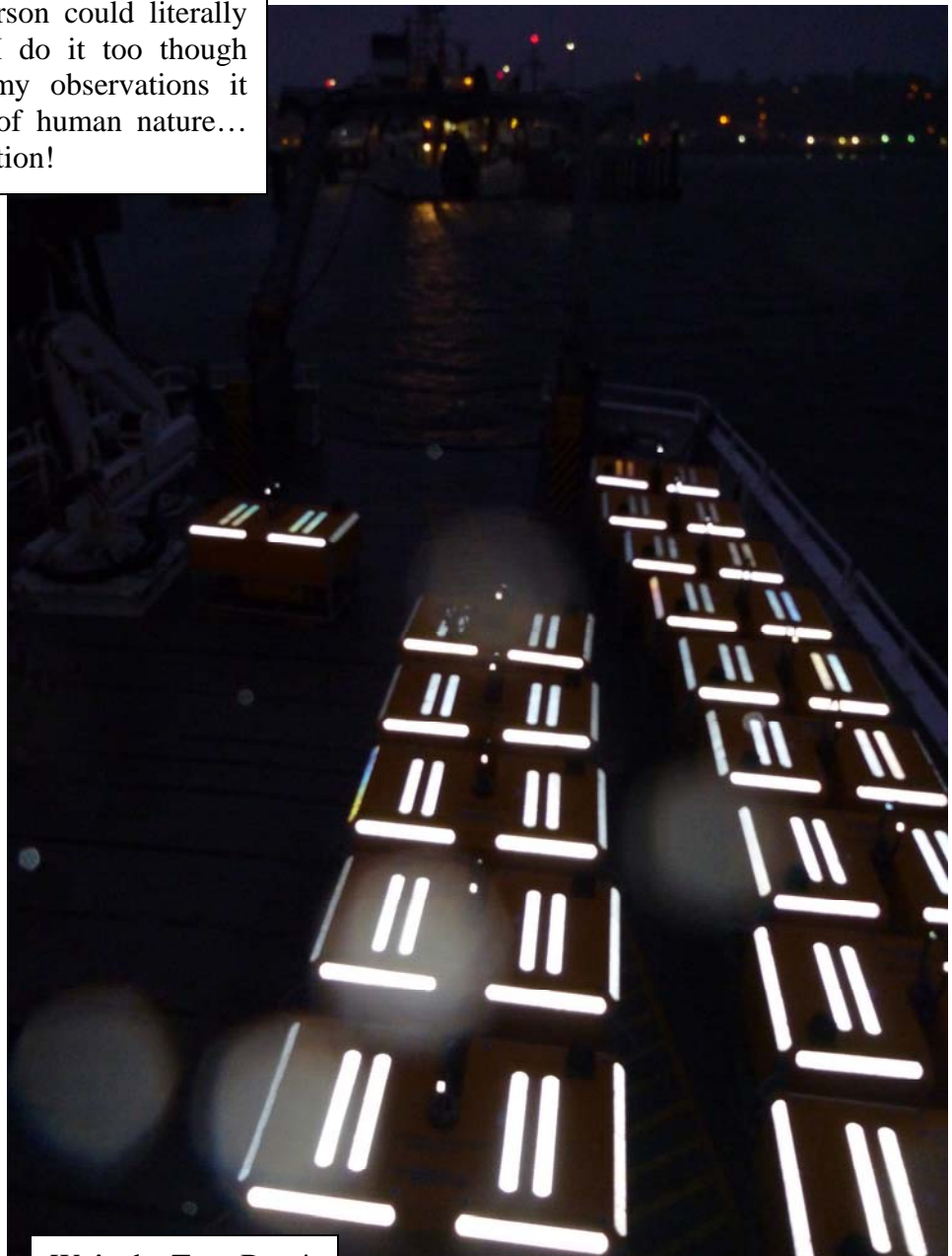


I've never fully understood why *everyone* has to touch a load that is being completely held by a crane. One person could literally orient it with a pinky. I do it too though (apparently) Based on my observations it seems to be a basic part of human nature... Boom! Second longest caption!



Shortest!

A few other loading shots. It was getting a bit dark by the time I left. These units all have super reflective tape on them to make them easier to find at night when they are only sticking 1" out of the water.



We's the Tron Boat!

I had to move a few other things around the dock as well,



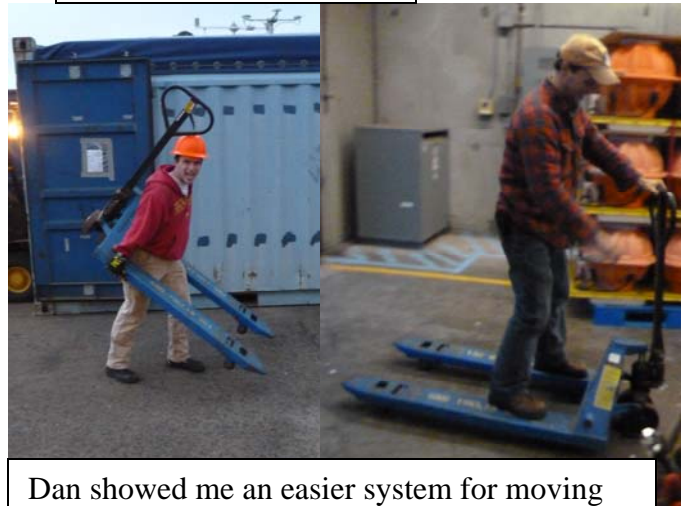
Cranes can be hard to move, even when you've got them by the ball.



I'll show you what a real captain hook looks like!



They're only 1200# and I didn't feel like waiting for the forklift

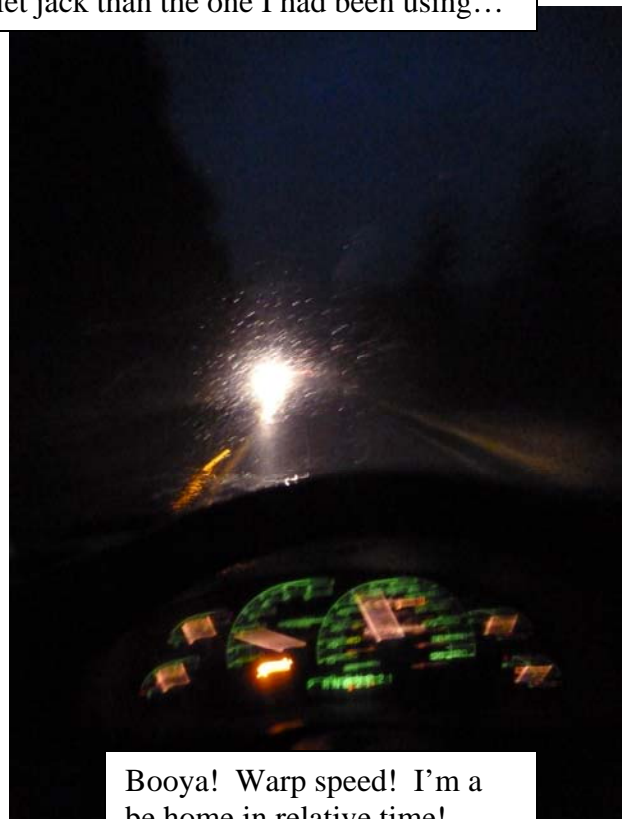


Dan showed me an easier system for moving the pallet jack than the one I had been using...

Then it was time to head home, and the weather was *a* *lot* nicer than this morning!



It's a frying sawcer!



Booya! Warp speed! I'm a be home in relative time!

By which I mean that at least rain isn't fog...

Oh!! And now I get to share one of my other hobbies with you guys! I love odd personalized license plates! Back when I was married my wife used to call me crazy and pick on me for taking pictures of them, but now that there's no one to keep me in check.... Hmmm maybe that's not for the best, dot, dot, dot Well in any event, I saw three good ones today ☺



Like fire? Or Tire? Skwyire?
Skwyire, bring me my sword!

I've heard that there's a privacy thing about plates, but I'm willing to bet that these folks don't care. particularly 62 here). If it's yours and you do, just let me know.



Apparently: "Don't take yourself too seriously" Right on Marine ☺



Not precisely a license plate,
but the ultimate answer truck ☺

Which reminds me! I hope you said Hi and thanks to a veteran today! A few of my favorite ones don't answer their phones/emails, so operation "bang doors down" starts tomorrow. (Artie, Nate, and the whole lot of the rest of you-know-who-you-are's!)

Hint – If you know a veteran who likes to be a homebody, try to bug the shit out of them at least once a week.

After that I went home and went shopping with Kathy, more on that tomorrow ☺ I hope you all had a great day!!! (And those videos were something else.... :D)



Try not to look up flagging on Wikipedia, just try ☺ (and that's my **Left** pocket, before you guys get any ideas....



Yep, they make it, and it's every bit as good as it sounds ☺

I hope you guys all had a great Friday and are headed into a great weekend!!!
P.S. Happy last binary day of the century!! 11-11-11 (the 63'rd (apparent) day of the third millennium after the starting of the first stonatomic clock!!)

Dave

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