

Refining Pleistocene-Holocene calcareous nannofossil biostratigraphy of IODP Expedition 349 Site 1433, South China Sea

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The South China Sea (SCS) is an important basin in the western Pacific due to its size, tropical and monsoonal setting, and limited interaction with the Pacific Ocean. IODP Expedition 349 was conducted in order to study the relict seafloor spreading that corresponds to the opening of the SCS. Biostratigraphers on the expedition established an age depth model that used calcareous nannofossils to restrict the age of sediments in the basin, using sediments in the core catchers. The goal of this study was to refine the shipboard calcareous nannofossil biostratigraphy from the Pleistocene

to Holocene. Samples were obtained from Sites 1433A and 1433B, where 1433A contains younger sediments. The sampling interval was approximately every 150cm. Preliminary data confirmed and refined four events: (1) the last occurrence (LO) of *Pseudoemiliana lacunosa* at 13H-2W-20cm (113.6 mbsf), (2) the LO of *Gephyrocapsa* sp. 3 at 15H-1W-20cm (133.6 mbsf), (3) the first occurrence (FO) of *Gephyrocapsa* sp. 3, which coincides with that of the shipboard results, at 4R-CC (205 mbsf), and (4) the FO of *Discoaster surculus* at 17R-6W-20cm (337.6 mbsf).