

**THE GERMAN NATIONAL ANTARCTIC DATA CENTRE**

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The German National Antarctic Data Center was founded 1995 as part of data management initiatives of the Alfred Wegener Institute (AWI). Though several technical attempts had been made, it was not successful in implementing a pure meta data service for Antarctic science. Reasons were found in the lacking support from the scientific management, in the workflow of scholarly scientific publications and in the missing insight by the scientists themselves. New developments have given a new momentum for data management. These developments are national and international initiatives for 'geo-infrastructure', discussions of 'good scientific practice' and new demands for interdisciplinary research in science. This fostered the implementation of the information system PANGAEA, which also provides the core technology for the ICSU World Data Center for Marine Environmental Sciences in Germany. It was decided that PANGAEA also should become the portal for the German 'National Antarctic Data Centre'. This guarantees a maximum reliability of the metadata information.