It doesn’t snow much at the South Pole but lots of snow that accumulates there, and sometimes it needs to be moved. After digging out some old equipment, the crew took a break to smile for the camera from their trenches.
February 2023

Flagline

Credit: Martin Wolf, IceCube/NSF

A winterover walks along a flagline, holding a large drill bit. Flaglines are crucial for safe travel at the South Pole, especially in winter, so they are regularly maintained, with new holes drilled and flags replaced as needed.
IceCube winterover Moreno Baricevic took a photo outdoors of fellow winterover Celas Marie-Sainte wearing his goggles, and in doing so captured a nice reflected image of himself with a sun halo as his background.

Credit: Moreno Baricevic, IceCube/NSF
The Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station provides living quarters for people working at the Pole. During the summer season, the population rises. But in winter, there are only a few dozen or so “winterovers”—a select group of individuals who keep things operational through the long Antarctic winter months. Here, the station is seen at twilight, before the full darkness of winter has set in.
The IceCube Lab by Night

Twilight is a prolonged period at the South Pole, lasting weeks. Here, some light remains on the horizon while numerous stars and a few faint streaks of purple from the aurora australis brighten the dark sky.

Credit: Wenceslas Marie-Sainte, IceCube/NSF
Pride is celebrated all over the world in June, including in Antarctica and at the South Pole. But this photo was taken during the height of summer at the Pole as part of “Polar Pride Day,” observed in November each year since 2020.
It's a glorious sky to behold, as a winterover lies on the ice to gaze upward. From the camera’s viewpoint, we see the Milky Way on the left and faint auroras growing stronger on the right across a star-studded sky.

**Credit**: Martin Wolf, IceCube/NSF
“Where’d we leave the car?”
This vehicle was abandoned in its spot before winter set in. Although it’s normally still quite dark in August, the sky begins to brighten in early twilight and a bright moon is sufficient to navigate outdoors without flashlights.

**Credit:** Wenceslas Marie-Sainte, IceCube/NSF
A winterover seems to be doing a Titanic pose as they lean toward the imminent sunrise from atop one of the structures at the South Pole that houses satellite communications equipment.
The location of the geographic South Pole—the southernmost point on the surface of the Earth that intersects its axis of rotation—is marked by a sign, here seen barely readable from all the windswept snow stuck to its surface.

Credit: Wenceslas Marie-Sainte, IceCube/NSF
A Basler on the Ice

Credit: Josh Veitch-Michaelis, IceCube/NSF

One of the workhorse aircraft of the US Antarctic Program, the Basler turboprop plane seen here is being refueled at the Pole before continuing on its journey.
The IceCube Lab houses the computers that collect data from all the detector’s buried sensors. Located approximately a kilometer from the station, IceCube workers must trek out to the lab whenever hands-on attention is required. Here, on a day of low visibility, they found the lab appearing to almost float in the air.

Credit: Marc Jacquart, IceCube/NSF