



Passing the baton to the 64th expedition team



Working at the site
(courtesy of the National Institute of Polar Research)



Fire drill
(courtesy of the National Institute of Polar Research)



Clear skies after blizzard

Major project to explore the future of the global environment



Contributing to the Antarctic Research Expedition with People and Technology

● Sanki Engineering's Involvement in the Antarctic Research Expedition

The Antarctic Research Expedition is Japan's national project for understanding the environmental changes in the Antarctic region as well as the Earth overall. Sanki Engineering's connection to Antarctica goes back to 1957, when we delivered 30 roller conveyors for the second expedition to carry materials to the newly opened Showa Base. Since 1991, when the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty was added in 1991 to the Antarctic Treaty System, we have been dispatching our engineers to Antarctica by seconding them to the National Institute of Polar Research. As of fiscal 2022, we have dispatched 17 engineers to Antarctica.

As a member of the 63rd expedition team, I stayed at the Showa Station in Antarctica for about a year from December 2021 to January 2023. I was in charge of environmental preservation and engaged in such tasks as maintenance and management of facilities treating domestic sewage and the disposal and management of trash and other waste. When my supervisor told me about the expedition, I thought it would be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, so I decided to join the team.

Life in the harsh natural environment of Antarctica is quite simple and driven by the fundamental challenge to survive. My job at the base is to maintain and manage various facilities or, in a way, to help protect the

lives of my colleagues, and I felt a strong sense of responsibility and mission. During my stay, I was able to apply the skills I had cultivated in my previous work, which made me appreciate its valuable. We had regular online meetings with the Sanki Engineering Group and the National Institute of Polar Research, and whenever there was an emergency or equipment problem, former expedition team members from the Group were there to support us, which was very helpful and reassuring.

Currently, two employees from Sanki Engineering have been dispatched as the 64th expedition team, with one of them handling my former duties. When I passed the baton to these two new members at the team change ceremony at Showa Station, I was relieved to have

successfully completed an important assignment.

Participating as a member of the team made me once again realize the importance of the Antarctic Research Expedition. I would like to share the significance and importance of this project as well as my own experiences with younger colleagues, and I hope this will lead to further advancing my career.



Masami Kaneshige

Proposal Office, Solution Group
Sanki Chemical Engineering & Construction Co., Ltd.