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LEADER OF NOBEL-WINNING CLIMATE PANEL REVEALS AT SNS FiRe CONFERENCE: WARMING CAUSING EARTHQUAKES IN GREENLAND

SAN DIEGO, California – June 5, 2008 – At the SNS Future in Review technology conference (May 20-23), James McCarthy, Harvard Professor of Oceanography and leader of the Nobel Prize-winning Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), said there has been a significant increase in the loss of ice and in the number of recorded earthquakes in Greenland as a result of Earth's rising surface temperatures. McCarthy described the earthquake studies of Columbia University's Göran Ekström during an interview at FiRe 2008.

"Ice is melting on the surface in the summer, and water is percolating down through fissures in the ice. It's lubricating the bedrock/ice interface. The ice is slumping; blocks of ice slumping dramatically enough in Greenland, and then decelerating when they compress, to actually shake Greenland," McCarthy explained in an interview before 200 conference attendees.

McCarthy cited an April study, which reports a 4-5° C increase in average Earth surface temperature between 1999 and 2007, contrasted to temperatures of the prior 30 years, as the reason for thinning glacial ice.

"The loss of ice from Greenland has enormous implications everywhere. Sea-level rise isn't just local. It's everywhere," he told last week's audience. "The ice is moving in ways that are completely unanticipated, not predicted in any climate model at all," McCarthy added.

In addition to his work with the IPCC, McCarthy has served as Chair of the International Geosphere-Biosphere Program and Vice Chair of the 2007 Northeast Climate Impacts Assessment. Before beginning his professional career, he received his undergraduate degree in Biology from Gonzaga University and his Ph.D. from Scripps Institution of Oceanography.

"Jim convinced even our Doubting Thomases on the issue of climate change. Now we've got to do something, quickly, about it," said Mark Anderson, CEO of FiRe parent company Strategic News Service.

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