

Basic Detail Report



00055985

Title

Auger

Date

from 1950s

Medium

Metal

Dimensions

Overall: 1013 × 200 × 200 mm

Name

Auger

History

This auger was used by the Australian Antarctic Division for ice drilling operations in the Antarctic. AAD researchers use the Jiffy drill to drill through the ice cap. The drill can be used to recover cylindrical samples of sea-ice. These are melted in the lab for analysis of contained microbial communities. The Jiffy drill can also be used to reach sub-ice seawater and recover water samples from the water column and/or near the sea floor. Scientific expeditions have experimented with ice drilling for research purposes since the 1840s. The Jiffy company has manufactured ice drills and other ice-related technologies since the 1950s and is based in Wisconsin, USA. The concept for a power ice drill was developed in the late 1940s for use in ice fishing. Marvin Feldman developed a product that could cut through ice using engine power, 'in a jiffy', birthing the Jiffy Ice Drills company. Improvements were made over the past 70 years for the Jiffy Ice Drill. These included a four-cycle gas and propane engine, lighter weight units, improved ice cutting technology, and major safety and handling upgrades. The company is still in operation today.