Core samples are split lengthwise into a working half and an archive half. Samples removed for further analysis onboard or at shore-based labs are taken from the working half. In general, the non-destructive measurements made onboard are performed on the archive half. All the cores, working and archive halves, are sent at the end of the expedition to special core repositories, of which there are three: on in Kochi, Japan, one in College Station, Texas, USA, and another in Bremen, Germany. The core samples collected in the Indian and Pacific oceans are stored in the core repository at Kochi.

Where are the core samples kept?

Each of the three core repositories take responsibility for cores collected in specific regions of the world.

The core repositories preserve the core samples for Earth Science research, outreach, and education.