



The refined age of the giant Tampen Slide, Mid-Norwegian margin; evidence from marine and terrestrial records

H. Haflidason, H.P. Sejrup, J. Brendryen and K. Grasmø

Department of Earth Science, University of Bergen, Norway
(Haflidi.Haflidason@geo.uib.no/Fax: +47 55583660)

A refined dating of the mega slides ($>2000 \text{ km}^3$) on the Mid-Norwegian margin, either exposed or buried, has been a major task during the last decade for a better understanding of the large instability this area has been exposed for during the last ca. 1.1 Ma. The mega slide released prior to the 7250 14C BP (8100 cal BP) old Storegga Slide is the Tampen Slide. The main Tampen Slide headwall of $>220 \text{ m}$ high is buried within the North Sea Fan, but a pronounced remnants of this slide are found exposed within the south-western part of the Storegga Slide area. A direct dating of the slide has been experienced to be rather difficult. The last age estimated has bracketed the release of the slide to a period from 150 ka to 130 ka. New analyses and interpretation of the core stratigraphy from the giant IMAGES core MD992289 has linked a pronounced stratigraphical event with the release of the Tampen Slide. A refined age model has pinpointed the age of this event to be around 125 ka or to a mid-Eemian age. Lithological or paleocenaographical events of approximately the same stratigraphical age have been found in a number of terrestrial basins around the North Sea, Faeroe Island and in a number of marine cores from the Norwegian Sea. These events are interpreted to be a consequence of a tsunami or other high energy processes created during the release of the Tampen Slide ca. 125 ka ago