

A photograph of Jack Dibbs, an atmospheric scientist, inside a space station. He is wearing a purple t-shirt with a circular logo that reads "GLOBAL TROPOSPHERIC EXPERIMENT" and "TEAM WEST". He is also wearing a headset with a microphone. The background shows the interior of a space station with white panels and equipment. A NASA logo is visible in the upper right corner. A blue text box is overlaid on the left side of the image.

**Jack Dibbs**  
**Atmospheric Scientist**  
**University of New Hampshire**

1

00:00:00,250 --> 00:00:04,380

The system is called Soluble Acidic Gases and Aerosols.

2

00:00:04,400 --> 00:00:05,330

We have two parts to it.

3

00:00:05,350 --> 00:00:08,090

One is a filter that's a bulk filter.

4

00:00:08,110 --> 00:00:10,510

It collects aerosols from very tiny sizes

5

00:00:10,530 --> 00:00:12,450

up to about 5 microns.

6

00:00:12,470 --> 00:00:14,670

So we measure 8 or 9 ions,

7

00:00:14,690 --> 00:00:16,040

tracers of pollution,

8

00:00:16,060 --> 00:00:19,160

sea salt, biomass burning, and dust.

9

00:00:19,180 --> 00:00:21,300

So the combinations or the ratios

10

00:00:21,320 --> 00:00:23,160

tells us something about the source of the air.

11

00:00:23,580 --> 00:00:26,430

Then we run the mist chamber IC sampler,

12

00:00:26,450 --> 00:00:28,400

which collects soluble gases

13

00:00:28,420 --> 00:00:31,440

and fine, submicron aerosols into a liquid.

14

00:00:31,460 --> 00:00:32,430

And we make injections

15

00:00:32,450 --> 00:00:35,230

right onto the IC on the airplane

16

00:00:35,250 --> 00:00:36,780

so we get data about 3 or 4 minutes

17

00:00:36,800 --> 00:00:39,060

after we collect the sample.

18

00:00:39,080 --> 00:00:40,630

And there the focus is

19

00:00:40,650 --> 00:00:42,980

primarily on nitrate and sulfate.

20

00:00:43,000 --> 00:00:44,790

Well the filter sampling,

21

00:00:44,810 --> 00:00:46,290

it's a manual system.

22

00:00:46,310 --> 00:00:48,220

So you got to put the filters in there

23

00:00:48,240 --> 00:00:50,110

and open the valves.

24

00:00:50,130 --> 00:00:53,160

So every few minutes I gotta get up

25

00:00:53,180 --> 00:00:54,880

and put in another filter,

26

00:00:54,900 --> 00:00:56,130

and take the ones out

27

00:00:56,150 --> 00:00:58,200

and put them back here in the cooler

28

00:00:58,220 --> 00:01:01,020

so they don't degrade.

29

00:01:01,040 --> 00:01:02,600

I think that we're going to see

30

00:01:02,620 --> 00:01:03,430

really clean air,

31

00:01:03,450 --> 00:01:04,500

but we're also going to see

32

00:01:04,520 --> 00:01:07,880

pockets of pollution from various sources.

33

00:01:07,900 --> 00:01:09,000

A long time ago

34

00:01:09,020 --> 00:01:10,850

we came down to the Southern Ocean

35

00:01:10,870 --> 00:01:14,390

on a NASA mission called ChemTropics,

36

00:01:14,410 --> 00:01:15,320

and the same idea

37

00:01:15,340 --> 00:01:16,780

we're trying to get into the tropics

38

00:01:16,800 --> 00:01:18,730

and find this really clean air.

39  
00:01:18,750 --> 00:01:20,620  
But we were seeing biomass burning plumes

40  
00:01:20,640 --> 00:01:22,690  
from Africa and South America

41  
00:01:22,710 --> 00:01:24,650  
in the middle of the Pacific Ocean.

42  
00:01:24,670 --> 00:01:27,020  
So I think we will see stuff like that.

43  
00:01:27,040 --> 00:01:29,500  
It's just not clear

44  
00:01:29,520 --> 00:01:31,430  
how much of an effect does that have.

45  
00:01:31,450 --> 00:01:33,590  
If you don't go after them

46  
00:01:33,610 --> 00:01:34,650  
and you just fly around,

47  
00:01:34,670 --> 00:01:36,610  
do you see them 10 percent of the time

48  
00:01:36,630 --> 00:01:38,180  
or 50, or...? We don't know.

49  
00:01:38,200 --> 00:01:42,200  
So that's why this mission is not targeting them.

50  
00:01:42,220 --> 00:01:43,140  
It's trying to sample them

51

00:01:43,160 --> 00:01:44,130

as they happen to be there.

52

00:01:44,150 --> 00:01:45,880

We're certainly going to hit them