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A potential series boundary within the Cambrian ROBISON, R. A., and ROWELL, A. J., University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas, U. S. A.

A working group of the I.U.G.S. Subcommission on Cambrian Stratigraphy has been charged with responsibility for gathering information on the most widely recognizable chronohorizons within the Cambrian System. It is expected that such information will aid in near-future preparation of recommendations concerning the optimal number of Cambrian series and the placement of their boundary-stratotypes. In this regard, two relatively close-spaced biohorizons, the bases of the contiguous <u>Ptychagnostus gibbus</u> and <u>P. atavus</u> assemblage-zones, have been studied for their value in long-distance chronocorrelation. Both zones, presently regarded as Middle Cambrian in age, can be recognized in many areas of the world and their bases are two of the most widely recognizable biohorizons in the Cambrian System. Although the bases of both zones are time-significant, we conclude that the base of the P. atavus Zone is the superior biohorizon for chronocorrelation because it is commonly present in monofacial strata, whereas the base of the P. gibbus Zone commonly occurs above an unconformity or at an abrupt lithofacies change. If an alternative to the present subdivision of the Cambrian System is approved, we recommend establishment of a series boundarystratotype at the base of the P. atavus Zone in the Drum Mountains of western Utah where the section meets all criteria for a boundary-stratotype as listed in the International Stratigraphic Guide.

Stratigraphy, sedimentology and facies of Late Paleozoic diamictites in northeastern Parana Basin, Brazil.
ROCHA-CAMPOS, A.C. & SANTOS, P.R. dos, Instituto de Geociências - Universidade de São Paulo, São Paulo, BRASIL.

Diamictites (tillites) of the Itarare Subgroup (Late Paleozoic) in the north eastern part of the Parana Basin, Brazil, are predominantly silty-clayey-sandy matrix sediments displaying: a) lenticular, tabular or complex shapes; b) variable lateral extension (up to several hundreds of meters) and thickness (up to several tens of meters); c) massive aspect or faint foliation, or faint to conspicuous lamination or stratification; d) inclusions of stratified sediments, sometimes interlayered, or dispersed as lenses, spherical bodies, "dykes", venules and wedge-shaped bodies; e) dispersed or concentrated clasts (up to 29% in volume), of variable composition, either rarely or commonly faceted and striate (up to 48%); f) association with folds, slump/sliding structures and faults.

Thicker diamictite bodies and sections are associated to thicker section of the diamictite-bearing sequence and may be related to the positioning of icelobes.

Analysis of facies of the diamictites indicate that they have been affected by mass movement processes including viscous mud-flow, sliding/slumping in terrestrial or subaquatic environment. Set of features comparable to those of flow-tills associated to stagnant-retreating ice, and of deposition in contact with ice are common.