NOAA ship Ronald H. Brown departed Funchal, Madeira on Sunday (September 1, 2013) at 23:00 local time to begin Leg 2 of the A16N 2013 expedition.

Departure from Madeira was delayed by about five days due to repair work on an air conditioning system on the ship. We anticipate that this delay will impact our arrival date in Natal, Brazil at the end of the expedition.

Thirteen scientists joined the ship in Madeira, along with 17 continuing on from Leg 1.

On the transit back to the A16N section, we completed test casts of the main CTD/rosette system and of the Trace Metal CTD/rosette system.

We have now returned to the break-off point of the A16N section at the end of Leg 1, and are now moving southward along the section. We have completed 2 of the approximately 80 stations planned for this leg. The quality of the data sets collected so far appears to be very good.