

## Permian sponges from brachiopod cherts at Hornsund, Spitsbergen

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Fourteen species of sponges are identified from brachiopod cherts of the Kapp Starostin Formation at Hornsund area. The new genus *Spitsbergenia*, five new species, and one subspecies are established: *Haplition hadrum* sp.n., *H. elongatum acremonicum* n. subsp., *Chaunactis kaera* sp.n., *Ch. malkowskii* sp.n., *Spitsbergenia patella* gen. et sp.n. Members of the genus *Haplition* predominate. The general appearance of the preserved sponges, often the lack of traces of attachment to the substratum, and the presence of papillae, suggest that the environmental conditions must have been quiet and stable.

**Key words:** Spongiae, taxonomy, Permian, Spitsbergen.

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