

Lower Turonian record of belemnite *Praeactinocamax* from NW Siberia and its palaeogeographic significance

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Specimens of the belemnitellid *Praeactinocamax* Naidin, 1964 are described from the Upper Cretaceous of NW Siberia

(Taimyr Region, Lower Agapa River, Russia). The rostra determined as *Praeactinocamax* aff. *plenus* consist of an

aragonitic anterior part and a calcitic posterior part with a sharp boundary in between.

This boundary surface is referred to as the “alveolar fracture”, and it is a typical morphological feature of early belemnitellids and not a result of diagenetic processes.

The occurrence of *Praeactinocamax* in Arctic areas shows a wider

palaeobiogeographical distribution of the genus in the Late Cenomanian–Early

Turonian interval than previously known. This finding suggests that migration of the

late Cenomanian–early Turonian fauna occurred across Turgai channel. The

geographic position of these new records may also explain the occurrence of *Praeactinocamax* in the Turonian of the US Western Interior Seaway, the origin of which has been hitherto unclear.

Key words: Belemnitellidae, *Praeactinocamax*, palaeobiogeography, Cenomanian, Turonian, Upper Cretaceous, Northern Siberia, Russia

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