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The CMS ZDCs, from Beam Splash to Real Data F. DUANE IN-GRAM, University of Iowa, EDWIN NORBECK, YASAR ONEL, University of Iowa, MICHAEL MURRAY, OLEG GRACHOV, University of Kansas, CMS COL-LABORATION — The CMS Zero Degree Calorimeters have been designed to measure forward photons and neutrons in proton-proton and heavy ion collisions. They are part of a large suite of forward detectors around the CMS interaction region. The ZDCs are also useful for beam tuning and luminosity measurements. The detectors were installed and ready for beam in the summer of 2008 and captured "beam splash" events on September 9th and 10th. We will present the status of the detectors and describe their physics capabilities, both singularly and in conjunction with other CMS detectors.

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