

Little Dome C

Beyond EPICA Oldest Ice Drilling Site (75.29917 °S, 122.44516 °E)

Situation Report 4, 30. November 2023

Personnel @LDC:

Saverio Panichi (ENEA, Camp Leader), Olivier Alemany (CNRS), Matthias Hüther (AWI), Andrea Ceinini, (ENEA), Federico Scoto (CNR), Julien Westhoff (UCPH), James Veale (BAS), and Inès Gay (IPEV)

Personnel @concordia:

Tamara Gerber (UCPH), Iben Koldtoft (UCPH), Michaela Mühl (UNIB), Fortunat Joos (UNIB), Remy Dallmayr (AWI), Gunther Lawer (AWI), Johannes Lemburg (AWI), and Philippe Possenti (CNRS)

Weather at LDC 5 pm: sunny

Meteo at DC 5 pm: temperature : -35°C, wind : 7 knts



While part of the team is finishing its acclimatization at Concordia, the team at LDC is progressing further in opening the science trench and setting up the drilling equipment.

Today we had a visit from a Korean journalist who is reporting on climate change through visits to various sites (Antarctica, Greenland, Svalbard...). He filmed the camp, the drill tent, the science trench, and made an interview of Julien.

What we did today at LDC:

- We set up horizontal saw on its frame. Tests will be carried out tomorrow;
- We finished to set up the heated box for the drill's core barrel and shaft which will be installed under the logging table;
- We cleaned the drill tent;
- After finishing wiring the heating system on the mast pistons, we tested the tower movement. Everything works well. But we found a broken piece on the frame supporting the mast. We are looking into different options for the repair before the drilling will start. But apart from this, the mast tilting system is now operational;
- We tested the main trench ventilation, which works well inside, but not outside. This is something we have to solve.

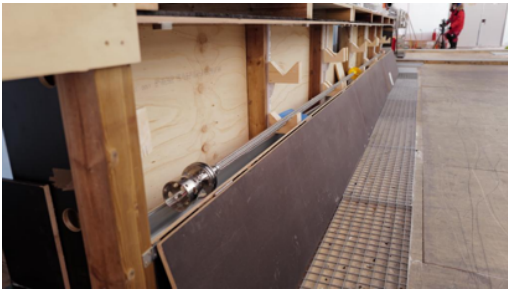




Test of the tilting mast: photo F. Scoto
(Leica Q3, SUMMILUX 1:1.7/28 ASPH; 36mm;
f 4.5; 1/250 s ;ISO-100)



Julien being interviewed by the Korean journalist: photo O. Alemany



The heated box finally finished: Photo F. Scoto.
(Leica Q3, SUMMILUX 1:1.7/28 ASPH; 29mm; f 3.5;
1/125 s; ISO-100)



James discovering the broken piece on the piston support:
Photo F. Scoto (Leica Q3, SUMMILUX 1:1.7/28 ASPH; 29mm; f 4; 1/120 s ; ISO-100)

OA, MH, JW, and SP, 30.11.2023

