

Little Dome C

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

Situation Report #6, 22. November 2025

Personnel @LDC:

Carlo Barbante (UNIVE, CNR-ISP, PI in the field), Gianluca Bianchi Fasani (ENEA, Camp Leader), Katrin Ederer (AWI), Matthias Hüther (AWI, Chief Driller), Marion Lahuec (IPEV), Gunther Lawer (AWI), Johannes Lemburg (AWI), Barbara Seth (UNIBE), Mohammad Vafadarmianvelayat (AWI), Chiara Venier (CNR-ISP), Sergio Zannini (ENEA)

Personnel @DC:

Philippe Possenti (CNRS)

Weather at LDC: sunny; less windy and cold

Meteo at DC 10 am: T = -32.8°C, Wind speed = 8 kt, Windchill T = -43°C, Humidity = 67 %



At 4 am Gunther started lowering the Danish mini-logger from 150 m (where we parked it yesterday evening and where it stayed for 10 hours according to the instructions from Dorthe) downwards. The instructions say to lower it very slowly at a speed of 2.5 cm/s and stop in 50 m increments for respective 30 minutes until a depth of 500 m. You can calculate how long it takes...

Meanwhile the camp came alive and had fresh, handmade bread rolls perfectly prepared by Gianluca. After breakfast Barbara and Mohammad took over in the drillers' cabin to control and watch the mini-logger on its exciting way downwards.

Late morning the Arctic truck arrived with Riccardo (Concordia station leader) and Simone (chef at Concordia), and we finally could welcome Carlo, our PI in the field! Now our LDC team is almost complete. From Concordia we got fresh food, water, beer, prosecco and some medicine. We had a nice lunch together before Riccardo and Simone headed back to Concordia.

After the mini-logger was up at the surface again after lunch we realised that the batteries were still alive, which is a good sign for the next run deep down into the bore hole. However, for getting the data out of the logger we had to wait until it warmed up in the workshop. Finally, we could retrieve the data and send it to Dorthe in Copenhagen. We changed the batteries in the logger and reassembled it while waiting for Dorthe's reply. Meanwhile we had our first Saturday pizza night with readily prepared pizza base from Vito, the chef from Mario Zucchelli Station – and we send many thanks from LDC down to the coast. Gianluca designed the topping of various pizza flavours and it was delicious! On top we were treated with Gianluca's first Antarctic tiramisu! It was amazing!

After dinner we lowered the mini-logger into the bore hole again and, according to Dorthes instructions, parked it at 400 m depth for 5 hours. Wait and see





The mini-logger after its first run down the bore hole. Photo: C. Venier and B. Seth



Carlo found a beautiful surprise when he arrived. The room was perfectly prepared, like in a five stars hotel and with an exquisite chocolate in the pillow. This is Antarctica! Photo: C. Barbante





A Saturday night dinner as it should be in Antarctica! Photo: C. Barbante



Gianluca, our chef! Photo: B. Seth

GBF, BS & MH; LDC, 22.11.2025

