



LOGBOOK

Friday 11th February 2011

FOOT TO THE FLOOR!

HYGIENE IS NOT A PRIORITY!

WORKING ON SWISS TIME!

RANKING: 6th

WEATHER: Heavy skies, squalls, rain and freezing temperatures.

WIND: North-westerly, 20 knots

BOAT SPEED: 15 knots

BREAKFAST: Muesli with milk

MEAL N°1: Chili con carne and fruit salad with custard

MEAL N°2: 4 cheese fondue and vanilla rice pudding

FOOT TO THE FLOOR!

Mirabaud is speeding along and is clocking some excellent average speeds with strong winds, generally from the right direction. Surprisingly, the heavy conditions actually allow the two co-skippers to recharge their batteries.



"It's strange but when the wind is blowing hard, we have less work to do," explains Dominique Wavre. "There is obviously a lot more stress which is not exactly conducive to a restful sleep, but when the conditions are light we are constantly trimming, helming or changing the sails; in the end it's almost more tiring."

Over the last few days, Mirabaud has increased their lead over 'Neutrogena', directly behind them, to 100 nautical miles. Since the 5th of

February, they have also pulled back 200 nautical miles on the 5th placed 'Renault Z.E.', whilst 'Groupe Bel' have announced that they will need to stop over in New Zealand; at this stage in the race this will land them a 48 hour penalty. In other words, there are some opportunities on the horizon that Dominique and Michèle plan to make the most of.

"Crossing the Tasmanian Sea is going to be difficult and I'm sure there are some surprises in store

for us. We've never sailed down there at this time of the year, so it will literally be a voyage of discovery for us." Mirabaud should reach the Tasmanian Sea some time in the middle of next week, so it's too early to make any decision on the route based on the weather predictions. "We'll start looking at our options in 2-3 days time but what is sure is that in this region, at this time of the year, we could come up against ferocious storms or flat calm seas"

For the moment, Mirabaud is sailing in an established north-westerly airflow, heading for the next ice gate, the 'Australian Barrier'. "Michele is resting at the moment as she's been up in the forepeak for the past hour, flaking the spinnaker. In these conditions, it's not a fun job! But in general both we and the boat are in good shape and a stop-over in New Zealand is definitely not on the cards."

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Mirabaud is stripped out to a bare minimum; the interior equipment consists of a chart table, computer screens, a small gas burner and some storage space for the provisions and a few tools. The 'amenities' consist of a bucket and you won't have much luck finding a washbasin on board!

"To be honest, keeping clean is not our major concern," admits Dominique. "We manage with what we've got, usually with baby wipes, and I hope we'll be able to take a shower on deck once we reach the Tasmanian Sea if the temperature increases a bit. For the moment we are muffled up to the eyeballs in thermals and oilskins. I haven't shaved for a good week, but I just haven't had the time!"

WORKING ON SWISS TIME!

It's not easy to manage your daily routine when you are constantly moving east and changing time zones all the time. To get round the problem, Dominique and Michèle have several clocks at their disposal on board Mirabaud.



"The most important is obviously our biological clock, and this takes precedent over all the others," explains Dominique. "When the sun goes down, we naturally feel more tired, and we sleep better at night than during the day. Meals also follow the same rhythm; personally I prefer a nice bowl of porridge for breakfast rather than

a chicken curry! On the other hand, we work off Swiss time for all the rest including phone calls, interviews, and communication with the Race Organisation via radio. We try to remember that when it's nine in the morning here, it's two o'clock in the morning in Europe."

CHECK OUT THE LATEST VIDEO DIARY

<http://www.youtube.com/user/dominiquewavre>

RANKING THE 11TH FEBRUARY 11 PM

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|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 1) VIRBAC PAPREC 3 (+0.0) | 7) NEUTROGENA (+1708.7) |
| 2) MAPFRE (+444.2) | 8) HUGO BOSS (+2187.0) |
| 3) ESTRELLA DAMM (+510.8) | 9) GAES (+2196.5) |
| 4) GROUPE BEL (+788.8) | 10) FORUM MARITIM CATALA (+3296.2) |
| 5) RENAULT Z.E. (+1180.9) | 11) CENTRAL LECHERA ASTURIANA (+3536.2) |
| 6) MIRABAUD (+1602.5) | 12) WE ARE WATER (+3545.6) |



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