

MDRS Crew 148  
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Commander Report  
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Today marks the middle of our first week on Mars! Another full day on the red planet.

#### 1 – Cyanobacteria experiment

We are continuing this experiment left for us from Cyprien Verseux (crew 142). Today we needed to autoclave the bottles, which we started in the morning. We thought we would be done in an hour or so but the cooker we use to autoclave the bottles can only contain four, so our crew engineer Duarte and our executive officer Tiffany did the rest this afternoon while the rest of the crew was on EVA. As I write this report our crew engineer Duarte and crew scientist Nuno are finishing the separation of solid and liquid.

#### 2 – Emergency depressurization simulation

At 10:15 this morning our central computer (played by Louise today) detected a rapid loss of pressure due to a hole in the external walls. It was so severe that we had to evacuate in 5 minutes. And we did! In 5 min we were the five of us ready in the airlock and we then went to the Mars Ascent Vehicle, our emergency evacuation vehicle. I'm very proud of my crew. It was the first true run we did of this simulation and they all did an awesome job. The debrief afterwards brought some useful discussions and the base emergency scenario procedures are getting better each time.

#### 3 – EVA of the day: PED experiment

The EVA today was dedicated to Nuno's pilot study: the perception of egocentric distances. Florence, Louise, Nuno and I were all on the EVA and it was very entertaining. You can find all the details in the science report. We also did some PR photos and photos for our families at the end, we are looking forward to send them!

#### 4 – Grow tent mounting

Our crew engineer Duarte started to mount the grow tent this afternoon, as discussed with Nick Orenstein. We will proceed with shelves fixing tomorrow.

#### 5 – Other

We woke up with "Pocket full of shells" of Mat Machugh this morning, choice of Nuno.

Last night was cloudy so no astronomy but a nice evening of cards playing. We played different games from our different countries and specific rules. It was a lot of fun.