press n. 10 **Rome January 4th**

Alessandro Di Benedetto is getting ready to celebrate his 39th birthday 300 miles off Prince Edward's Islands.

Tomorrow I will be on the 45th South, 300 miles off Prince Edward's Islands. Yesterday there were strong gusts of wind but it was OK. Today strongs winds'

Here is the news we got today from Alessandro Di Benedetto, who on board Findomestic Banca , is braving the oceans to fufill his dream: a voyage around the world on the smallest boat ever seen in these latitudes. During the last two weeks Alessandro had to face difficult weather conditions, a ragged sea and gusts of wind that challenged the boat, as he himself relates all the while smiling; compelling him to mend things on board in hard conditions during calmer periods.

New Year's Eve was dedicated to ' chores ' for Alessandro ***"… a day of work. A large rip in the spinnaker and mending of two voltaïc panels. Six and maybe seven don't work anymore . The conctacts are oxidized.I know how to repair but I need a dry boat ....I'll see tomorrow".***

Di Benedetto uncorked his bottle and drank to the new year as he was sailing past Agulhas Cape**: *' To celebrate new year's day I change oceans ...and I am now entering Indian Ocean!'***

Tonight Di Benedetto will uncork the second bottle of Champagne to celebrate his birthday .... as for the third one it will be when he reaches Horn Cape !

information on www.alessandrodibenedetto.net and adibenedetto.findomestic.it