

Christmas on board the "mini transat" Findomestic Barca.

South cross on the starboard side and the moon in the wake

Alessandro Di Benedetto celebrates Christmas on board the "mini transat" Findomestic Banca. On the menu there is toast with "foie gras" from Périgord and he is writing:

' At midnight I was on the deck the south cross on the port side and the moon in the wake . I've steered for several hours under spi. On board everything is all right'

As he left on October 26th 2009 to try to reach the record for the voyage around the world on a 21 feet boat, Alessandro doesn't give the impression to feel tired from these two months navigation and his sense of humour is still intact.

'At twelve I will attend Mass', he retorted us when we asked him about his projects for Christmas Eve.

" And his joking tone was already there on the morning as he was shaving."... ***He was wearing a red fleece pullover and bonnet and he had a several days old beard covered with shaving foam, the Father Christmas costume was almost perfect. ' I have got a big bag on my shoulders and here I am like Santa Claus looking for his reindeers on the deck of the boat ; how could I give presents to the kids as I am right in the middle of the Ocean?'***

Good mood is still present on board the Findomestic and it's a tremendous advantage just before coming across cold, strong winds and a ragged sea. la mer démontée

Together with Romain Lucat (a navigator and engineer at Beneteau) and Yves Parlier, Alessandro chose to take Findomestic over the Roaring Forties. He will meet temperatures below 8°C and strong gusts of wind.

' Even the big sailing boats don't go farther the Fifties because of the hurricanes and icebergs . If my boat is alright after the first depression I will try to stay at that latitude; if it is not the case I will go up the Roaring Forties even if it makes my route longer'

"Même les grands voiliers ne descendent guère en dessous des cinquantièmes, à cause des ouragans et des icebergs. Si mon bateau réagit bien après la première dépression, j essayerai de rester à cette latitude sinon je remonterai au dessus des quarantièmes quitte à rallonger ma route.



