Commander Report Mehdi Scoubeau 03/03/2016

Dear Earth,

Sol 11 was a busy day. Two EVAs were conducted and hence every crew members got a chance to go outside either in the morning or the afternoon. This morning sortie concluded the experiment with the Cliff Reconnaissance Vehicle experiment with a test down a steep cliff in the eastern canyon. Back around the Hab, the Atmospheric Opacity device recorded data during the whole EVA. In the afternoon, the geology apprentices of the crew conducted the Rock Mass Rating experiment once again, in a more suitable location. They are confident it will yield even better results. These EVAs were also an opportunity to test out two different frequencies on the radios in order to confirm that one has a longer range than the other.

It was interesting to see than even after two weeks of simulation (and even four weeks for some of us) we are still coming up with some ideas of experiments and improvements when a particular situation occurs during an EVA.

The late afternoon tea time was devoted to determine the schedule for tomorrow which will be an even busier day since we have to do a food inventory, tidy up and clean the Hab, while at the same time saving some time to finish our experiments and record some PR videos.

Still one day to go and we are all determined to stay focus till the end and achieve as much as we can in the time remaining in front of us. Time ran out really quickly here and even if a Martian day is longer than a Terrestrial one, we still wish we had more time.

See you soon, Earth!