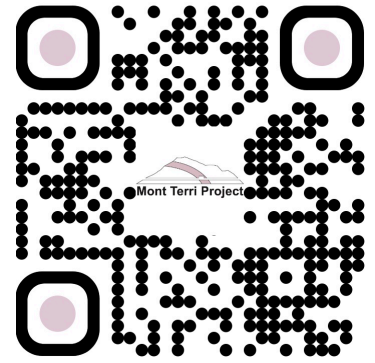


Mont Terri Project

Underground Rock Laboratory



Report period: April 13–27, 2026

Assembled and edited by swisstopo, St-Ursanne



Spotlight of the week: Exercise with the rescue organizations: once a year, the Mont Terri safety team organizes a joint exercise with all the safety organizations (fire fighters, ambulance, police). This year, the scenario involved a working accident with the fork lift and a filled IBC container that crashed on two individuals. J. Windisch (swisstopo) as the driver of the fork lift contacted the police head quarters via the emergency button on the radio and asked for help. The police engaged the ambulance and the fire fighters from Delémont and Porrentruy. The fire fighters coordinated with the site manager to get directions to the site. Once on site, the fire fighters had to free the patients for the ambulance to be able to transport them. The aim of the exercise organized and coordinated by J-M. Vaucher (DVCI) and S. Schefer (swisstopo) was the communication between the different rescue teams and the site management using the Polycom radio infrastructure. A huge thank you to all participants for their great team effort and to the observers of all involved parties! (Fig. S. Schefer, swisstopo).

CD-A (Influence of Humidity on Cyclic and Long-Term Deformations) experiment

- On Thursday, April 23, S. Costabel (BGR) reinstalled the single-sided NMR device in the open twin for the weekly monitoring of the moisture in the wall.

CL (CO₂LPIE-CO₂ Long-Term Periodic Injection) experiment

- On Monday, April 13, D. Jaeggi (swisstopo) switched all Eh and pH sondes to monitoring mode.
- On Friday, April 17, J. Gisiger (Solexperts) installed a new PC to control the injection pump and a new network cable. He also switched the Eh and pH sondes to bypass.
- On Monday, April 20, D. Jaeggi (swisstopo) set all Eh and pH sondes to monitoring mode.
- On Friday, April 24, J. Windisch (swisstopo) switched all Eh and pH sondes back to bypass.

DB-B (Deep Borehole to resolve the Mont Terri Anticline Hydrogeology) experiment

- From Monday to Friday, April 13–17, the Stump team reamed the Opalinus Clay section to PQ, installed the PQ casing and cemented the entire annulus from 556 m to the top.
- On Monday, April 20, M. Frädrieh (Terratec) performed the cement bond log inside BDB-B1.
- From Monday to Wednesday, April 20–22, the Stump team performed maintenance on the drilling rig.
- From Wednesday to Friday, April 22–24, the Stump team installed the HQ rods down to 510 m and drilled the remaining cement. On Friday afternoon, the sampling team finally received two full cores from the Rietheim member before they stopped for the weekend at 563.8 m depth.
- Next week, drilling and sampling will resume in a two shift rhythm. We are looking forward to new and shiny cores...

FS-B (Imaging the Long-Term Loss of Faulted Host Rock Integrity) experiment

- On Wednesday, April 15, S. Schefer (swisstopo) changed the nitrogen bottle attached to the constant pressure injection into BFS-B2.

HE-E (In-Situ Heater Test in VE-Micro-Tunnel) experiment

- On Friday, April 17, J. Gisiger (Solexperts) disconnected a defective ADAM rack.

MH (Long-Term Monitoring of Heaves and Displacement) experiment

- From Monday to Tuesday, April 20–21, S. Condamin (swisstopo) together with staff and students from Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz FHNW, conducted geodetic measurements in the area of the three portal networks. Both static GNSS measurements and tachymetric surveys were carried out. In addition, continuous tachymetric measurements were performed overnight to minimize atmospheric disturbances and improve measurement accuracy. (**Figure 1**)

SI-C (Seismic Imaging of the Mont Terri Anticline) experiment

- From Monday to Tuesday, April 13–14, N. Rentsch and S. Schefer (swisstopo) marked the position of the 66 new boreholes and the surface geophones inside the entire security gallery.

SW-A (Large-Scale Sandwich Seal in Opalinus Clay) experiment

- On Thursday, April 16, S. Schefer and N. Rentsch (swisstopo) refilled the HPT from shaft 1.
- On Thursday, April 23, S. Schefer (swisstopo) refilled the HPT from shaft 1.

Varia

- Next week on Wednesday and Thursday, April 29-30, the Technical Meeting TM-43 will take place in Porrentruy. It is the 30 year anniversary of the Mont Terri Project and together we will celebrate! Looking forward to seeing you all in Porrentruy!

Visits

Day	Date	Group Name	Group Size	Visitors Guide
Mon	13.4.2026	Universität Potsdam	23	H. Sager (Nagra)
Tue	14.4.2026	Axpo Gruppe	11	H. Sager (Nagra)
Wed	15.4.2026	Klasse 3i, KZU	28	H. Sager (Nagra)
Mon	20.4.2026	Gymnasium Leonhard 3m	22	H. Hauser (freelance)
Tue	21.4.2026	Gymnasium Lerbermatt, Köniz	24	H. Hauser (freelance)
Tue	21.4.2026	Gymnasium Leonhard, 4m	23	S. Schefer (swisstopo)
Thu	23.4.2026	Insel Gruppe AG	19	R. Nicol (swisstopo)
Thu	23.4.2026	ETH Zürich, Maurer Hansruedi	30	C. Etter (swisstopo) M. Ziegler (swisstopo)
Fri	24.4.2026	Lausanne-Accueil	25	J.P. Meusy (freelance)
Fri	24.4.2026	Sekundarschule Villmergen	10	H. Hauser (freelance)

Figures



Figure 1: MH: Tachymetry during the night for better accuracy. (S. Condamin, swisstopo)