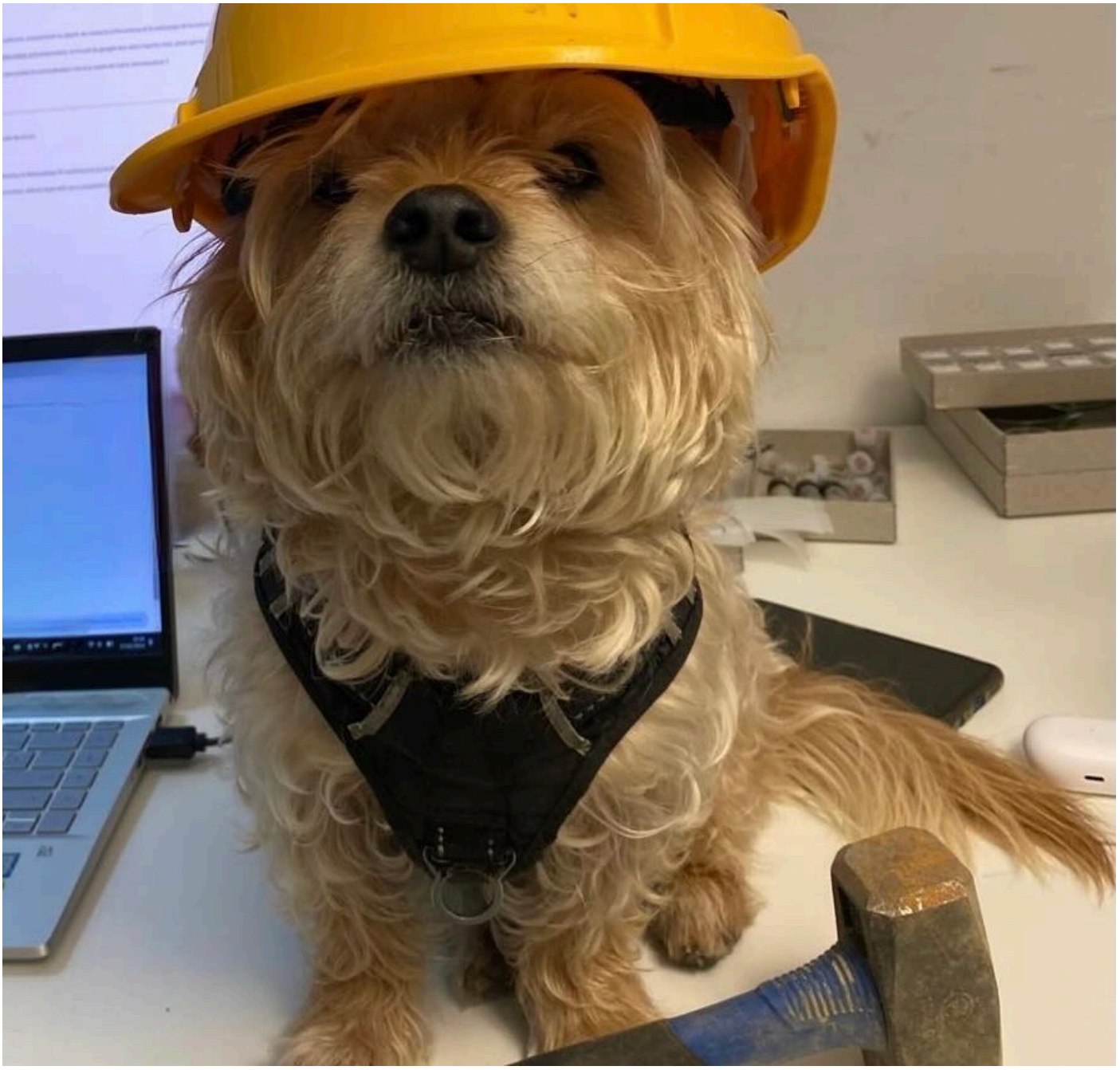
Mont Terri Project Underground Rock Laboratory

Report period: January 5–11, 2026

Assembled and edited by swisstopo, St-Ursanne



Spotlight of the week: Hard hat on, hammer in paw. Ricco, our apprentice geologist, is the fastest expert at Mont Terri to sniff out the scent of a new bag of treats. Happy new year! (Fig. C. Etter, swisstopo).

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

- On Wednesday, January 7, in the afternoon, P. Wersin (UniBE) came on site for the injection of Br- and HDO into the 50 l APW tank. He instructed J. Windisch (swisstopo) for the sampling procedure and took a first sample out of the 50 l reservoir. Then the injection circuit was set into bypass mode and directed back into the reservoir at 30 ml/min flow rate. This setup will be kept until the CO_2-injection, which is planned for next Tuesday (**Figure 1**).
- On Wednesday, January 7, J. Gisiger (Solexperts) performed a step pulse injection test in interval 2 of borehole BCL-11. For each pulse step the pressure was raised by 3 bar to a maximum of 25 bar and then again reduced stepwise by 3 bar down to ambient pressure. The recovery phases were set to 15 min. The works were supervised by D. Jaeggi (swisstopo).
- On Wednesday, January 7, A. Rinaldi (ETH) before the pulse test, remotely increased the sampling rate of the FO strain monitoring system (Neubrex) to 5 min.
- On Thursday, January 8, D. Jaeggi (swisstopo) bypassed Eh and pH sondes in the injection cabinet and controlled the circulation backflow into the 50 l Pearson water reservoir tank. Circulation of the tracers through the surface equipment will be continued until next Tuesday, when the CO_2-injection will start.

FE-M (Long-Term Monitoring of the Full-Scale Emplacement Experiment) experiment

- On Monday, January 5, J. Windisch (swisstopo) refilled the hot calibration bath with 25 l of tap water.

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

- On Thursday, January 8, J. Windisch (swisstopo) refilled the HPT of shaft 1.

Figures

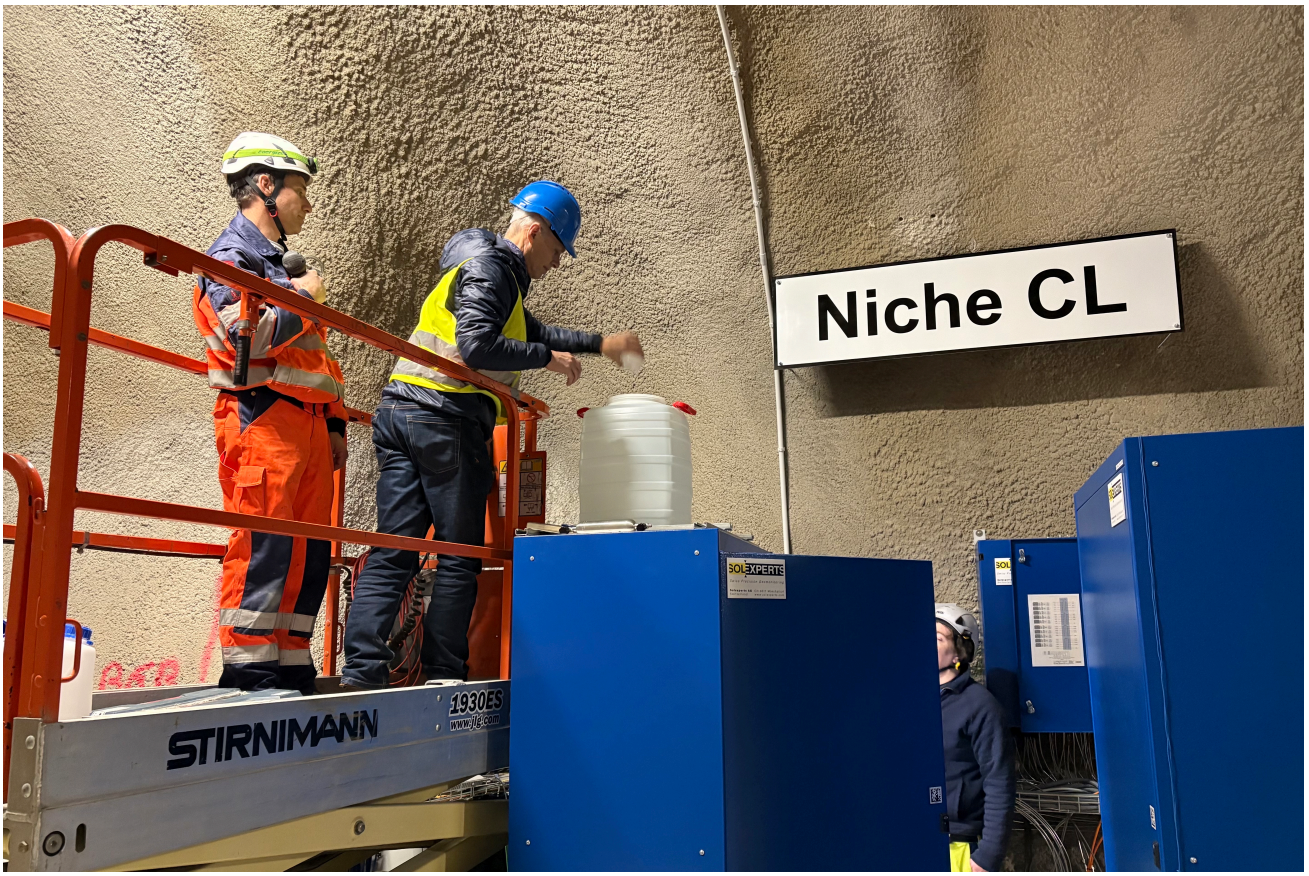


Figure 1: CL: Adding the tracer (2H and Br) to the tank (J. Windisch, swisstopo).