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Long-term observations of foraminifera in situ

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ROMEO — the world's southernmost cabled underwater observatory, located in Explorers Cove, Antarctica, was used to image *Cibicides refulgens* living epizoically on the scallop *Adamussium colbecki* during the 2002/3 and 2004/5 field seasons. This work represented an initial test of the system, and was designed to gather long-term data on *Cibicides* life habits (mobility, reproductive events, etc.) and physical/biological parameters encountered in this natural setting. Time-lapse movies confirmed the sedentary nature of this species, as well as its resistance to disturbance by megafauna. Future work is aimed at investigating the trophic behavior of the giant agglutinated foraminiferans unique to Explorers Cove.

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