



Board Appointments LSE – November 2010

Oil & Gas

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Ascent Resources Plc

Ascent Resources plc, the AIM-traded oil and gas exploration and production ('E&P') company, is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Scott Richardson Brown as a Non-executive Director with immediate effect. With effect from 4 January 2011, he will be appointed Executive Finance Director, replacing Mr. Simon Cunningham who is re-locating to Australia. Mr. Cunningham will continue to work for the Company in his existing role on a full time basis until the end of 2010 supporting a managed transition and thereafter, will be available on a consultancy basis to help maintain the momentum in the development of Ascent's European oil and gas portfolio.

Mr. Richardson Brown is a qualified Chartered Accountant and subsequent to his experience as an auditor has spent over 10 years working with AIM, FTSE 250 and FTSE 100 companies, both in a corporate finance advisory role and, recently, as Corporate Finance and Investor Relations Director of CSR plc ('CSR'). Beginning his career at Coopers & Lybrand's (later PWC) in the Banking and Capital Markets division, Mr. Richardson Brown then became a Partner in the Corporate Broking/Finance division of Oriel Securities Limited where he gained significant experience in a range of sectors including oil and gas, advising companies particularly regarding mergers and acquisitions, IPOs and secondary raisings as well as general equity capital market requirements. In his most recent role at CSR plc, a FTSE 250 semiconductor company, in addition to the day-to-day capital and corporate finance activities, he managed a number of corporate transactions including the US\$280 million acquisition of US listed SiRF Technology Holdings, Inc. as well as winning recognition for his and CSR's Investor Relations programmes.

Ascent Chairman John Kenny said, "Scott's overall corporate finance experience, strong investor relations focus and broad City contact base makes him ideal for the role of Ascent's Finance Director, as we continue developing and growing the Company primarily through the development of our European portfolio and particularly the operated projects in Hungary, Slovenia, and Italy.

"During the last two and a half years Simon Cunningham has done an excellent job as our Finance Director and we thank him for that and wish him every success on his return to Australia in the New Year."

The Board has granted Mr. Richardson Brown 1,000,000 options to subscribe for

new ordinary shares in the Company at 4.875p per share, exercisable from 1 November 2011 until 1 November 2015 and 1,000,000 options to subscribe for new ordinary shares in the Company at 7.313p per share, exercisable from 1 November 2012 until 1 November 2015.

BP Plc

The board of BP announced today that it has appointed Brendan Nelson and Frank L. "Skip" Bowman as non-executive directors of BP p.l.c. with immediate effect. Mr Nelson will succeed Douglas Flint as Chairman of BP's Audit Committee when Mr Flint retires from the Board at the conclusion of the 2011 BP Annual General Meeting.

Carl-Henric Svanberg, chairman of BP, said: "I am delighted to announce these two important appointments. The Board has a clear task in ensuring that the company can deliver long term value for its shareholders. To do this we have to have the confidence of the countries and communities in which we work. The tragic events of 20th April and their aftermath demonstrate the challenge ahead and the skills which Skip and Brendan bring will aid us in this task.

"Skip, as a former head of the US Nuclear Navy, has had a career where safety was central to all that he did and was also a member of the Baker Panel that reviewed safety at BP's US refineries. We will clearly benefit from his long safety experience and from his knowledge of BP. Brendan brings vast financial and auditing experience to the Board and to the Audit Committee where he will replace Douglas Flint.

"Together these appointments are the next step in continuing to strengthen the Board to meet the challenges which BP faces."

Mr Nelson was admitted as a partner of KPMG in London in 1984. He served as a member of the UK Board of KPMG from 2000 to 2006 following which he was appointed Vice Chairman until his retirement in 2010. In KPMG International he held a number of senior positions including Global Chairman, Banking and Global Chairman, Financial Services. He is a non-executive director of The Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc where he is Chairman of the Group Audit Committee.

Mr Bowman served for more than 38 years in the US Navy rising to the rank of Admiral. He was director of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Programme and, concurrently, deputy administrator - Naval Reactors in the National Nuclear Security Administration at the U.S. Department of Energy. Following his navy career Mr Bowman was president and chief executive officer of the Nuclear Energy Institute. He served as a member of the BP Independent Safety Review Panel and the BP America External Advisory Council. Mr Bowman is a director of Naval & Nuclear Technologies, LLP and president of Strategic Decisions, LLC

Mr Nelson has been a director of the Financial Services Skills Council since 2008. He served six years as a Member of the Financial Services Practitioner Panel. He is a Scottish Chartered Accountant and he has served as a Member of the Council of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland.

Mr Bowman serves on the board of directors of Morgan Stanley Mutual Funds, the National Security Advisory Council of the Center for U.S. Global Engagement and on the MIT Nuclear Engineering Visiting Committee. Mr Bowman is a graduate of Duke University and completed a master's program in nuclear engineering and naval architecture/marine engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1973.

Cadogan Petroleum Plc

The Company is pleased to announce the appointment of Gordon Stein as Chief Financial Officer ("CFO"). Gordon will join the Board as a Director with immediate effect.

Gordon Stein, 51, is a member of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy and was previously CFO and a founder of Vanguard Energy Limited, an upstream oil company focused on the North Sea and North Africa. Preceding this, he was CFO of Regal Petroleum plc from January 2007 to January 2008 and he has also held senior financial and operational management positions in Fairfield Energy Limited, Acorn Oil & Gas Limited, LASMO plc, Monument Oil & Gas plc, Centrica plc and BG plc. Gordon has over 21 years' experience in the upstream oil and gas sector in the UK and internationally, including Ukraine, Tunisia, Venezuela, Algeria and Turkmenistan.

Commenting on the appointment, Ian Baron, Chief Executive Officer, said "I am delighted to announce the appointment of Gordon to the Cadogan management team and I am sure his expertise will bring immediate value to the Company. He has an in depth understanding of small to mid-cap company operations in the upstream oil and gas sector and has past experience of Ukraine. He has also been involved in a significant number of international transactions and his reputation and relationships with the oil and gas financial community and investors will be invaluable in rebuilding Cadogan."

Mr Stein was a director of African Minerals Limited (formerly Sierra Leon Diamonds Limited), a Company listed on AIM, from 8 January 2007 to 9 October 2007. In accordance with UKLA LR 9.6.13 sections 2-6 the Company advises that Mr Stein was a director of Acorn North Sea Limited which went into voluntary administration in June 2005 until June 2006, when it was acquired by one of its parent company's investors in agreement with the creditors. The formal report of the administrator found no fault with the actions taken by the directors. There are no other items to disclose.

Fortune Oil Plc

Fortune Oil is pleased to announce the appointments to the Board, with immediate effect, of Mr. Mao Tong and Mr Lin Xizhong as Non-Executive Directors of the Company.

Mr. Mao Tong is the Managing Partner of the Hong Kong office of Bryan Cave LLP, a US business law firm with 19 offices worldwide and a particularly strong presence in Asia.

Mr. Mao has 23 years' experience of advising Fortune 100 companies, major Chinese state and private enterprises, private equity funds, technology companies and Chinese banks and financial institutions. He has been involved in more than 100 Chinese/foreign joint ventures and foreign owned enterprises operating in China. He has particular knowledge of the energy sector, having advised a broad range of companies on their acquisitions of energy assets both in China and overseas.

Mr. Lin Xizhong was a director of China Minmetals Corporation. He has over 30 years' experience of working for state owned mining and natural resources businesses in China. He is an experienced financier, having served as Vice Chairman of Hong Kong First Pacific Bank. He is also China's representative for the Business Council in the Asia Pacific Economic Co-Operation.

Mr. Qian Benyuan, Chairman of Fortune Oil, commented "I am delighted to welcome Mao Tong and Lin Xizhong to the Fortune Oil board. Their unique and extensive experience is very relevant to our business as we launch our new strategy of pursuing overseas investment opportunities to capitalise on the demand for energy and resources in China. I am sure the knowledge they have acquired during their respective careers will be of enormous value."

This announcement is made pursuant to Listing Rule 9.6.11 of the Listing Rules of the UK Listing Authority. Mr Mao Tong and Mr Lin Xizhong have confirmed the statement as required by Listing Rule 9.6.13 of the Listing Rules of the UK Listing Authority.

There are no matters requiring disclosure in respect of Mr Mao Tong's appointment under Listing Rule 9.6.13 of the Listing Rules of the UK Listing Authority.

Mr Lin Xizhong currently holds the following directorships:

China National Building Material Group Corporation
Abterra Limited (Listed on the Singapore Stock Exchange)

During the last 5 years (2003-2006), Mr Lin Xizhong was a director of AXA Asia Pacific Holdings Limited (listed on the Australian Stock Exchange).

Forum Energy Plc

The Board of Forum wishes to announce the following Board changes which will take place with immediate effect:

Walter Brown has retired as Chief Executive Officer of the Company, but will remain on the Board as a Non-Executive Director.

Robin Nicholson, currently a Non-Executive Director, will assume the role of Executive Chairman.

Barry Stansfield will retire as Chairman but will remain on the Board as a Non-Executive Director.

In addition to these changes, the Company is pleased to announce the appointment of Messrs Edward Tortorici and Richard Beacher to the Board of Forum.

Mr. Tortorici was born in the United States, and received a BS from New York University and an MS from Fairfield University. He has served in a variety of senior and executive management positions, including Corporate Vice President for Crocker Bank and Managing Director positions at Olivetti Corporation of America and Fairchild Semiconductor Corporation. In 1987, Mr. Tortorici joined First Pacific Company Ltd in Hong Kong (First Pacific) as an Executive Director for strategic planning and corporate restructuring, and launched the Group's entry into the telecommunications and technology sectors. Presently, he oversees corporate strategy for First Pacific and guides the Group's strategic planning and corporate development activities.

Richard Beacher is the Executive Vice President of First Pacific. Born in the United Kingdom, Mr. Beacher received a BA (Hons) in Economics and Accounting from University of Newcastle Upon Tyne, U.K. He is a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales and a member of the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Mr. Beacher moved to Hong Kong in 1984 with PriceWaterhouse and most recently served in financial positions with

Hagemeyer Cosa Lieberman and subsequently with Siemens Building Technologies as Global Business Line Controller. He joined First Pacific in 2006.

Following these changes and appointments, the current Board Structure is now as follows:

Robin Nicholson	Executive Chairman
Andrew Mullins	Executive Director and Company Secretary
Paul Wallace	Finance Director
Carlo Pablo	Executive Director
Barry Stansfield	Non-Executive Director
Roeberto V. Ongpin	Non-Executive Director
Walter Brown	Non-Executive Director
Richard Beacher	Non-Executive Director
Edward Tortorici	Non-Executive Director

Leni Gas & Oil Plc

The Board of LGO is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Neil Ritson as Chief Executive Officer with immediate effect. Mr. Ritson has extensive experience in the energy sector with a distinguished record of delivery in exploration technology, exploration discoveries, major construction projects and in M&A transactions.

Mr. Ritson has over 30 years experience working in the energy industry including 23 years with BP plc where he held roles as International Chief Geophysicist and Strategic Business Unit Manager in both Norway and Alaska. In 1999 he was appointed to run the Burlington Resources Inc. businesses in North Africa before becoming Vice President UK in 2001 and VP International in 2003. Mr. Ritson founded an energy sector consultancy business in 2004 before being recruited as Chief Executive Officer of the UK AIM listed company Regal Petroleum plc in July 2006. He resigned from Regal in late 2007 and founded Vanguard Energy. He is also a director of PetroEnergy Limited and Enovation Resources Ltd and the Chairman of Trustees of the Kensington Symphony Orchestra.

David Lenigas, Chairman, commented "I am delighted to welcome Neil to the Board of LGO as the Company reaches a significant point in its growth including the development of its Spanish assets in partnership with a number of major companies in the sector. The appointment of Neil as CEO brings a wealth of experience and a track record which will greatly enhance our ability to grow production and develop the Company's portfolio."

Petroceltic International plc

("Petroceltic" or "the Company") the independent oil & gas exploration company focussed on the Middle East-North Africa (MENA) and Mediterranean region today announces the appointment of Tom Hickey as Corporate Development Director. Mr Hickey was previously an Executive Director and Chief Financial Officer of Tullow Oil plc. Tom will join the Board with immediate effect, and will assume his executive position on 1st December 2010.

Tom (42) was Chief Financial Officer and a director of Tullow Oil plc ("Tullow") from 2000-08. During this time Tullow grew via a number of significant acquisitions including the US \$570 million acquisition of Energy Africa in 2004 and the US \$1.1 billion acquisition of Hardman Resources in 2007. Tullow also experienced considerable exploration success, leading to the establishment of important new oil provinces in Ghana and Uganda.

Prior to joining Tullow, Tom was an Associate Director of ABN AMRO Corporate

Finance (Ireland) Limited, with responsibility for advising public and private companies in relation to equity fund raising, mergers and acquisitions, and related transactions. A Commerce graduate of University College Dublin and a Fellow of the Irish Institute of Chartered Accountants, he is also a non-executive Director of PetroNeft Resources Plc, an AIM listed independent oil and gas company with assets in Western Siberia, and of Ikon Science Limited, a geological software company.

Rob Arnott, Chairman of Petroceltic, commented "Tom brings a wide range of skills and experience to Petroceltic and on behalf of the board and our shareholders, I am delighted to welcome him to the team as Corporate Development Director. This appointment underlines our ambition and intention to continue to grow Petroceltic's Exploration and Production business over the coming years and significantly increases our capacity for deal-making and execution."

Sterling Energy Plc

Sterling Energy Plc ("Sterling" or the "Company") announces the following board changes:

Mr Angus MacAskill has been appointed Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") and a director of Sterling; Alastair Beardsall who has been undertaking the role of CEO will continue to be Sterling's Executive Chairman and will reduce his working time commitment accordingly.

Mr MacAskill graduated from Edinburgh University in 1981 with a B.Sc. Degree in Physics. Later the same year he started his oil industry career with Schlumberger, the integrated oil field service company, working on international assignment in Africa for 5 years. He then returned to full time education and graduated from Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, in 1987 with an M.Eng. Degree in Petroleum Engineering.

In 1987, Angus joined Mobil Oil and, during his 10 year employment with the company, held a number of production, reservoir engineering and managerial posts in London, Aberdeen and Stavanger. During his time with Mobil, Angus also continued his professional development and in 1996 graduated with an M.B.A. from Aberdeen University.

Angus joined Enterprise Oil in 1997 and, during his 5 years there, rose to the position of Vice President for Business Development (USA). In 2002, Shell acquired Enterprise Oil and Angus elected to leave and return to UK where he was appointed Vice President with Waterous & Co., providing advisory services in the acquisition and divestment of oil and gas assets.

In 2004, Angus was appointed an executive director of Elixir Petroleum Ltd, with responsibility for the company's business development activities focused in the UK North Sea.

Angus joined Emerald Energy in 2006 as Chief Operating Officer and in December of that year was appointed Chief Executive Officer. During the following three years, the company experienced material growth following exploration successes in its assets in South America and the Middle East, prior to being acquired by Sinochem in 2009.

Alastair Beardsall, Sterling's Chairman commented "I am very pleased to welcome Angus as a member of the board and as our CEO. Angus and I have worked together previously and I look forward to the addition of his broad oil and gas experience, excellent business skills, and clear focused leadership that will strengthen our ability to manage our existing exploration portfolio and identify new venture opportunities".

Mr Richard Stabbins has advised the board that he intends to retire and wishes to step down from the board effective 31 December 2010.

Mr Malcolm Pattinson has been appointed a non-executive director of Sterling effective immediately. Malcolm is a geoscientist with 40 years of experience. Until 2001 he was the vice-president of exploration for Ranger Oil (which became CNR); and prior to this he was exploration vice-president for Hamilton Oil (which became BHP). From 2001 to 2006 Malcolm was a consultant for Tullow Oil. Malcolm is an honorary life member and former chairman of the Petroleum Exploration Society of Great Britain, and was awarded the medal for outstanding achievement in 1996 by the Petroleum Group of the Geological Society. He is the chairman of GTO Limited and has recently stepped down as a director from Aurelian Oil and Gas Plc.

Alastair Beardsall, Sterling's Chairman commented "I am very pleased to welcome Malcolm as a member of the board. Malcolm has a long and successful career focused on exploration and we look forward to his contributions that will greatly influence and benefit the future of the Company."

"Dick has been a non-executive director of Sterling since January 2007, and served for a period as non-executive chairman. On behalf of the board and shareholders, I thank him for the time and energy he has given to Sterling. His experience as a geologist, influenced by his commercial acumen, has been of great value to Sterling. We wish him all the best in his retirement."

About Opus

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Opus Executive Partners have established an international reputation for excellence in Executive Search, advising companies on the appointment of Chairmen, Presidents, CEOs, CFOs, COOs, and Senior Vice Presidents in Exploration, Corporate Development, Production, Corporate Affairs and , Engineering. We excel at identifying, assessing and attracting senior management talent to our clients. Achieving results quickly, skillfully and effectively have made us the partner of choice.

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Today's boardroom must fully reflect and support a company's corporate entity and its values. At Opus Executive Partners we appreciate the unique governance challenges our clients can face and the specific solutions they need.

Our Partners have conducted board appointments for over 30 years, strengthening board structures, diversifying board composition and improving overall governance. They understand the complex relationships and pressures between board members, management and shareholders, and are well versed in corporate governance, regulation, and in liaising with key stakeholders.

“I value the services that Opus has provided me with. Having a professional search firm that specialises in Natural Resources is invaluable in today's competitive marketplace for Board skills.”

**Keith Henry, Non-Executive Chairman of Regal Petroleum
Chairman of Helius Energy
Non-Executive Director of Sterling Energy**

“As the natural resources specialist search firm, Opus Executive Partners did a thorough and very successful job in solving a difficult, unusual, worldwide search for the UKAEA.”

Lady Barbara Judge, Chairman, UK Atomic Energy Authority

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