Cairn India appoints new Chief Operating Officer

Cairn India has further strengthened its senior leadership team with the appointment of Rick Bott as Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer, effective 15 June 2008.

Rick, who is 48, brings extensive global exploration and production experience with more than 20 years in the industry leading integrated organisations, developing new business and focusing on cross-cultural leadership development. Throughout his career he has worked and travelled extensively and has been involved in evaluations and operations in more than 50 countries.

Rick joins Cairn India from Devon Energy’s International division where he was vice president responsible for developing and implementing business growth and exploration strategy for assets in 12 countries outside of North America focusing on the deepwater, West Africa, South America and the Middle East/Asia.

Previously he served as President of Ocean Egypt Companies and as President of Ocean Yemen Corporation. He also served in a number of international management and technical positions with British Gas and Tenneco.

Rick has a master of science in geology and a bachelor of science in marine sciences from Texas A&M University. He is a member of the Houston Geological Society, the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, Society of Exploration Geophysicists, the Association of International Petroleum negotiators and has written numerous technical and business publications for the international energy industry and taught seminars on developing and operating international business ventures. He has further experience in social development projects that ensure the needs of the community and company are closely aligned wherever operations take place.

Rahul Dhir, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Cairn India said:
"We are entering an exciting period of growth for Cairn in India. I am delighted that Rick is joining our senior leadership team as the company gears up for the first production from Rajasthan and looks to future growth opportunities both in India and beyond."

Rick Bott said:
"Joining Cairn India and moving to Delhi is a wonderful opportunity. The company is in a hugely exciting period which provides significant opportunities to grow and develop the business. This is a transformational period for Cairn India as it looks to substantially increase its production which will be fundamental to the future of the company and its shareholders. I’m delighted that I will get the chance to play a key part in that growth."

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About Cairn India Limited

- “Cairn India” where referred to in the release means Cairn India Limited and/or its subsidiaries, as appropriate.
- “Cairn” where referred to in this release means Cairn Energy PLC and/or its subsidiaries (including Cairn India), as appropriate.
- Cairn India is headquartered in Gurgaon on the outskirts of Delhi, with operational offices in Chennai,
Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan.

- On 9 January 2007, Cairn successfully concluded the flotation of its Indian business with the commencement of trading of Cairn India Limited on the Bombay Stock Exchange and the National Stock Exchange of India. Cairn Energy PLC currently holds a 65% shareholding in Cairn India Limited.
- Cairn India is currently focused on exploration and production in India where it has a working interest in 14 blocks, two of which are producing hydrocarbons. The company holds material exploration and production positions in west India and east India along with new exploration rights elsewhere in India.
- This focus on India has already resulted in a significant number of oil and gas discoveries. In particular, Cairn made a major oil discovery (Mangala) in Rajasthan in the north west of India at the beginning of 2004. More than 20 discoveries have been made in Rajasthan block RJ-ON-90/1.
- In Rajasthan, Cairn India operates Block RJ-ON-90/1 under a Production Sharing Contract (PSC) signed on 15 May 1995. The main Development Area (1,858 km²), which includes Mangala, Aishwariya, Saraswati and Raageshwari; is shared between Cairn India and ONGC, with Cairn India holding 70% and ONGC having exercised their back in right for 30%. A further Development Area (430 km²), including the Bhagyam and Shakti fields, is also shared between Cairn India and ONGC in the same proportion.
- The Operating Committee for Block RJ-ON-90/1 consists of Cairn India and ONGC.
- India currently imports approximately 2,000,000 barrels of oil per day (bopd). It produces approximately 700,000 bopd itself of which approximately 50,000 bopd comes from the Cairn India operated Ravva field on the east coast of India.