

New Venture in Blocks 05-1(b) and 05-1(c), offshore southern Vietnam

October 29, 2004

For immediate release

Idemitsu Oil & Gas Co., Ltd. (Idemitsu), Nippon Oil Exploration Limited (Nippon) and Teikoku Oil Co., Ltd. (Teikoku) signed the Production Sharing Contract with Petrovietnam, a state enterprise of Vietnam, for offshore Southern Vietnam Blocks 05-1(b) and 05-1(c) on October 28, 2004. The block is located in 300 km south-east of Ho Chi Minh City and also located nearby producing fields such as the Dai Hung oil field and Hai Thach gas field. Exploration drilling is planned to be in 2006.

1. Project Details

(1) Name:	Blocks 05-1(b) and 05-1(c), Offshore Southern Vietnam
(2) Date of Signing:	October 28, 2004
(3) Area of Block:	Approximately 1,570 km ²
(4) Water Depth:	100 to 200 m
(5) Working Interest:	Idemitsu 35 % Nippon 35 % Teikoku 30 %

2. Work Summary

(1) Duration:	3 years (2004 to 2007)
(2) Work Plan:	Seismic Survey and 1 Exploration Well

3. Summary of participating company

(1) Idemitsu Oil & Gas Co., Ltd.	
1) Head Office:	Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan
2) Representative Officer:	Mr. Hiromi Wakahara, President
3) Capital:	8,275 million yen
4) Date of Establishment:	August 1988
5) Stock Holder:	Idemitsu Kosan Co., Ltd. 100 %
(2) Nippon Oil Exploration Limited	
1) Head Office:	Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan
2) Representative Officer:	Mr. Masaru Kai, President
3) Capital:	9,815 million yen
4) Date of Establishment:	December 1968
5) Stock Holder:	Nippon Oil Corporation. 100 %
(3) Teikoku Oil Co., Ltd.	
1) Head Office:	Shibuya-ku, Tokyo, Japan
2) Representative Officer:	Mr. Akira Isono, President
3) Capital:	19,579 million yen
4) Date of Establishment:	September 1941