



PRESS RELEASE

8 September 2008

Benthic Sampling Completed

Rockhopper Exploration plc is pleased to announce the completion of its benthic sampling programme on PL023 and PL024. This programme was undertaken jointly with Desire Petroleum plc and Arcadia Petroleum Limited who collected samples on adjacent acreage. The programme was supported and arranged by Byron Marine.

Once analysed, the results will allow Rockhopper Exploration plc to complete its Environmental Impact Assessment ahead of drilling.

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Notes to editors

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The Rockhopper Group started trading in February 2004 to invest in and carry out an offshore oil exploration programme to the north of the Falkland Islands. The Group, floated on AIM in August 2005, has a 100 per cent. interest in four offshore production licences which cover approximately 3,800 sq. km. These licences have been granted by the Falkland Islands government.