



PRESS RELEASE

21 January 2009

Director's Dealing

Rockhopper Exploration plc ("Rockhopper" or the "Company") announces that on 21 January 2009 it received notification from Mr. Richard Visick, a non-executive director of the Company, that on 21 January 2009, 14,750,000 of his beneficially held ordinary shares of GBP0.01 each in the Company ("Ordinary Shares"), representing 18.32 per cent. of the issued Ordinary Share capital of the Company, were secured in favour of an FSA authorised private bank of which he is a private client as part of general security arrangements in respect of credit provided to him by the private bank. Mr. Visick remains the registered holder and beneficial owner of all of the Ordinary Shares referred to above (being 14,750,000 Ordinary Shares), and retains control of the voting rights attached to such Ordinary Shares.

Mr. Visick is interested in 17,982,443 Ordinary Shares representing 22.33 per cent. of the issued Ordinary Share capital of the Company. 192,500 of these Ordinary Shares, representing 0.24 per cent. of the issued Ordinary Share capital of the Company, are held in the name of Legal and Commercial Trustee Retirement Benefit Scheme (pension fund), of which Mr. Visick is a trustee and beneficiary. In addition, 512,508 of these Ordinary Shares, representing 0.64 per cent. of the issued Ordinary Share capital of the Company, are held in Mr. Visick's IPS pension fund, of which he is the sole beneficiary.

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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.