



PRESS RELEASE

Monday 6 February 2006

Rockhopper Exploration plc

Falkland Islands survey programme update

Rockhopper Exploration plc ("Rockhopper") is pleased to give the following progress report on its Falkland Islands exploration programme:

2D seismic survey: The GSI vessel, the GSI Pacific is now in the Falkland Islands and has commenced the 2D seismic programme of approximately 900km over Rockhopper's 100% licences PL023 and PL024.

The programme, which should take approximately 4 weeks, will add to the existing 1832km of 2D data covering licences PL023 and PL024 on which a number of prospects and leads have already been identified.

Electromagnetic survey: Offshore Hydrocarbon Mapping plc has completed the first controlled source electromagnetic (CSEM) survey over Rockhopper's "J1" prospect in licence PL024. The survey vessel MV Aurelia has moved to the second survey location.

The processing and interpretation of both the 2D and CSEM surveys is expected to take approximately 3 to 4 months.

Pierre Jungels, Rockhopper's Executive Chairman commented: "Together with existing information, the data gathered from the current seismic and CSEM surveys will contribute significantly to our understanding of the exploration potential of our Falkland Islands licences."

Ends

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Notes to editors:

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, who floated on AIM in August 2005, is currently the largest licence holder in the North Falkland Basin and owns a 100 per cent. interest in four offshore production licences which cover approximately 5,800 sq. km. These licences have been granted by the Falkland Islands government.