



## **OHM announces successful shallow water trial and contract completion**

Offshore Hydrocarbon Mapping plc (OHM) announced today the successful outcome of a survey in the shallow water of the North Sea utilising its Controlled Source Electromagnetic Imaging (CSEMI) technique. The successful application of this technique significantly increases OHM's breadth of offering.

The CSEMI technique has been well proven in deep water environments, but in shallow water there has, to date, been a problem with energy escaping into the air and arriving at the receivers with sufficient energy to mask useful information from deep in the earth. The shallow water survey, on a proven oil field in the North Sea in 120 metres of water, set out to prove that innovative survey techniques could overcome this airborne energy and allow the CSEMI technique to image a known reservoir.

Commenting on the results of the survey, Dr Lucy MacGregor, OHM's Chief Scientific Officer said: "This survey has shown that the CSEMI technique can now be applied irrespective of water depth. Care still needs to be taken in parameter design making careful survey planning and prospect modelling an essential part of the process. We have made significant advances in our understanding of the technique and believe that it could be applied now to a number of shallow water prospect areas."

Dave Pratt, Chief Executive Officer of OHM commented "This is a very exciting step forward in the development of the CSEMI technique. The ability to operate in shallow waters significantly increases the size of our potential market and vastly increases the number of potential users for the technique. This news gives OHM a significant step up in its new business capacity for 2005 and 2006.

Our research group are working on further advances in the shallow water area which we hope to field test in the near future and we look forward to further enhancements of this capability within the next year.

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### **Notes to editors**

OHM's survey method transmits an electromagnetic field into the earth, which is modified by the presence of subsurface resistive layers. These changes in the field are measured and the resulting data is processed to provide information on the resistive structure of the subsurface. Because hydrocarbon accumulations are generally very resistive, this method can indicate the presence of oil and gas in deep water situations, and can detect and map the edges of such accumulations. This reduces the risk of drilling non-commercial exploration wells and can reduce the need for appraisal drilling, thereby creating considerable value for oil explorers.