

## **Inpex bags two Browse permits next to Ichthys discovery**

Filed from Singapore 16/05/2008 09:25:25 GMT

TOKYO, JAPAN: Inpex Holdings Inc. has acquired interests in two offshore permits close to its Browse Basin Ichthys gas field offshore Western Australia.

The Japanese explorer and its partners have been granted the two permits, WA-410-P and WA-411-P offered in the 2007 Australian bidding round.

WA-410-P covers 374 square kilometres (144 sq miles) in water depths ranging from 450 metres to 600 metres (1,476 ft to 1,969 ft).

Chevron, owns 50 percent as operator of the permit, with partners Inpex and Santos holding 20 percent and 30 percent, respectively.

The consortium have committed to a A\$760,000 (US\$712,676) work programme including a 375 square kilometre (145 sq mile) 3D seismic survey and geotechnical studies. The secondary work programme for the permit includes the drilling of one well as well as geotechnical and marketing studies.

WA-411-P covers 2,323 square kilometres (896 square miles) in water depths ranging from 180 metres to 460 metres (591 ft to 1,509 ft).

Santos operates the permit with 63.6299 per cent, with Inpex and Beach holding 26.6064 per cent and 9.7637 per cent, respectively.

The consortium has committed to a A\$1.46 million (US\$1.38 million) work programme including reprocessing 1,925 square kilometres (743 sq miles) of 3D seismic and acquiring 1,425 square kilometres (550 sq miles) of 3D seismic data. The secondary work programme for the permit includes the drilling of one well as well as geotechnical and marketing studies.

The two permits are adjacent to Inpex's 76 percent-owned Ichthys field in WA-285-P permit. France's Total holds the other 24 percent interest in WA-285-P. Inpex also holds interests in the neighbouring WA-274-P, WA-281-P, WA-341-P, WA-343-P and WA-344-P permits.

