

Shell spuds Browse Basin well

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SHELL has spudded the Libra-1 near-field exploration well, in AC/P41 in Western Australia's Browse Basin, which is testing exploration potential around the greater Crux area.

Nexus said a successful result at Libra-1, which is being drilled by the Ocean Epoch semi-submersible drilling rig, would enhance the likelihood of finding hydrocarbons in the adjacent Auriga and Caelum prospects within exploration permit AC/P23.

Nexus managing director Ian Tchacos said successes at Auriga and Caelum could be tied back to the Crux liquids project.

"On a broader view, we map the potential for over 6 trillion cubic feet of gas resource with the potential for in excess of 200 million barrels of associated condensate across AC/P23 and AC/P41 in the greater Crux area," he added.



The Ocean Epoch semisubmersible drilling rig.

Shell is taking an additional 15% stake in AC/P41, raising its interest to 65%, Mitsui holds 20% while Nexus holds the remaining 15%.