

NSX Announcement 1 March 2012 ABN: 76 118 108 615 Corporate Office

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## **Change of Non-Executive Directors**

Further to its announcements on 28 December 2011 and 8 February 2012, International Petroleum Limited (NSX: IOP; OTCQX: ITPLY) ("International Petroleum" or the "Company"), an oil and gas exploration company with assets in Russia and Kazakhstan, is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr Vladimir Mangazeev as a Non-Executive Director and the resignation of Mr Mark Gwynne of the Company with immediate effect.

Mr Vladimir Pavlovich Mangazeev, aged 70, has over 45 years' experience in the oil industry in Russia.

In 1966, he graduated from Tomsk Polytechnic University, majoring in Petroleum Geology and Exploration for Oil & Gas Fields and worked for Tomskneft, where he worked his way up from Petroleum Geologist to Well Survey Group Leader, Chief Field Geologist, Head of Geology Department, Head of Geology and Field Development Department, reaching the position of Chief Geologist by 1978.

From 1978 to 1990, Mr Mangazeev was responsible for supervising the geological and petroleum industry of the Tomsk region. In 1990, he returned to the industry in the position of Deputy Director General for Geology and took charge of Tomskneft's Geological Department.

Highlights of Mr Mangazeev's achievements in his early career are:

- Initial exploration and development of the Upper Jurassic formations in the Tomsk region;
- Development of a major and very complex deposit of the largest oilfield in the Tomsk region;
- Exploration on the Vakhskoye field resulting in tripling of recoverable oil reserves; and
- Development of Pudinsk and Vasyugan petroleum bearing areas, increasing Tomskneft's annual oil production up to 15 million tons.

During this time, Mr Mangazeev was involved in the dissemination of the results of his innovative work at many national and international scientific conferences. He inspired and coordinated the creation of a cross-sectoral development strategy for the Tomsk petroleum industry, put together many geological and economic maps of the Tomsk region and Western Siberia, and wrote numerous papers on developing the West Siberian petroleum industry. Thanks to his scientific and managerial talents and vision, Mr Mangazeev was able to introduce cutting-edge technologies for oil production optimisation, such as the introduction of hydraulic fracturing, a very common production enhancement technique that is widely used today. Acknowledging his achievements, the scientific community elected him as a Corresponding Fellow of the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences and Fellow of the Academy of Mining Sciences.

From 1994 to 1998, as the First Vice-President of VNK (Eastern Oil Company), and, from 1999 to 2007, as the Executive Vice-President of OJSC Yukos Oil Company ("Yukos"), Mr Mangazeev was consistently involved in the modernisation of the petroleum sector, suggesting unprecedented engineering and

1 March 2012 - 2 -

technological solutions. He initiated and managed some of the most complex field projects such as the development of the Tomsk region, including the gas condensate fields and the largest Eastern Siberian gasoil field, Yurubcheno-Tokhomskoye.

Being an Honorary Graduate of Tomsk Polytechnic University ("**TPU**") and recipient of the TPU Silver Medal of Merit, he understands the importance and value of high quality training of employees to ensure the success of the industry. In 1992, Mr Mangazev was involved in establishing a Russian-American Training Centre at TPU, which was later transformed into the Institute of International Management.

In the year 2000, Yukos became the second largest Russian oil company in terms of oil production and entered international markets. New and sophisticated technologies, which had emerged in the late 20<sup>th</sup> Century, required qualified specialists to apply them, so Mr Mangazeev put forward the idea of establishing a centre that would train world-class petroleum engineers for Yukos. This centre became the internationally renowned Heriot-Watt University Approved Support Centre (the "HWUASC"). Under his guidance, Yukos signed a contract in December 2000 with Heriot-Watt University and TPU to become Learning Partners and the grand opening of the HWUASC at TPU took place on 12 September 2001. The first 50 petroleum engineering students graduated from the centre in November 2002. This year's class will mean that there will be over 500 petroleum graduates from the HWUASC working in the Russian and international oil and gas industry.

As a result of Mr Mangazeev's guidance and support the HWUASC has built a substantial reputation in Russia and beyond. Some of the highlights of the partnership over the past 10 years are:

- recognised by Baroness Kennedy, who visited the centre as the Chair of the British Council, as an 'international centre of excellence'
- UK Quality Assurance Agency visitors to the centre, as part of an academic audit in 2008 were highly complimentary about the infrastructure and organisation
- 450 Heriot-Watt petroleum engineering graduates (52 at distinction level) from this partnership are now working in the Russian and international oil & gas industry
- the HWUASC is now providing tutors in support of the Petroleum Engineering course in Dubai and another partner institution in Kazakhstan
- 7 graduates from TPU are now PhD students at the Heriot-Watt campus in Scotland.

Approximately 70 students per year from the HWUASC are sponsored and subsequently employed by Russian oil & gas companies. This has resulted in the widespread recognition throughout the Russian oil and gas industry of Heriot-Watt University for delivering high quality graduates. Mr Mangazeev is Honorary Doctor of Engineering of Heriot-Watt University.

During last 4 years, Mr Mangazeev has been President Advisor of OJSC Vostokgazprom, which is a company controlled by OJSC Gazprom, the Russian energy company.

Commenting on the board changes, Tony Sage, Chairman of International Petroleum, said, "We welcome Vladimir Mangazeev to the board. His many years of experience in the oil industry in Russia will be of great value to International Petroleum as it moves from exploration into production in the near term at its Krasnoleninsky and Vamarov projects in the Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Region in Western Siberia and starts exploration at its Druzhny project in the Tomsk region of Western Siberia. We would also like to thank Mark Gwynne for his contribution to the Company".

Yours faithfully

Tony Sage

**Non-Executive Chairman** 

1 March 2012 - 3 -

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## **About International Petroleum**

International Petroleum is an oil and gas exploration company.

The Company is listed on the National Stock Exchange of Australia (**NSX: IOP**). The Company has established a sponsored Level 1 American Depositary Receipt ("**ADR**") program with BNY Mellon and the ADR is quoted on OTCQX International (**OTCQX: ITPLY**).

The Company owns a 75% equity interest in the exploration rights to four blocks, covering a total area of 1,467 km², located in the Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Region, the largest oil-producing region of Russia, in Western Siberia (the "Krasnoleninsky Project"). During 2011, the Company drilled two exploration wells in the Krasnoleninsky Project and discovered commercial quantities of oil in both wells.

The Company owns a 100% equity interest in two licences for the geological study of subsoil, prospecting and extraction of oil and gas in the Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Region in Western Siberia (the "Vamarov Project").

The Company owns a 75% equity interest in an exploration licence in the Tomsk region of Western Siberia (the "Tomsk Exploration Licence" or the "Druzhny Project").

The Company also owns a 50% interest in an early stage project covering 24,649 km² in eastern and south eastern Kazakhstan ("Kazakhstan Project"), which borders the western boundary of the People's Republic of China. International Petroleum's subsidiary company, North Caspian Petroleum Limited, has exclusive exploration rights to the Kazakhstan Project until November 2012.

Whilst the Company is focused on exploration at its existing projects in Russia and Kazakhstan, it continues to review other companies and areas, such as Russia and Africa, for opportunities to acquire additional exploration and/or production projects.

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