



**PTTEP Australasia TIMOR SEA OPERATIONS
Incident Information # 62**

Date: 11 October 2009 1300 WST

PTTEP Australasia said drilling work to stop the leaking well in the Montara field in the Timor Sea is continuing today.

A drilling operation to establish a side track and make a second intercept of the leaking well is progressing slowly through very hard, deep rock formation.

As a result, a second pass to intercept the leaking well is expected to occur on Tuesday (13 October).

Overnight, a downhole motor assembly was used to establish the side track. The engineering team is now installing a rotary steerable assembly to drill to within five metres of the calculated target, before attempting the second pass to intercept the leaking well.

Replacing each drilling assembly requires a trip back up the full length of the relief well to fit and test it before drilling can be restarted.

The drilling team on board the *West Triton* rig is aiming to intersect a piece of steel casing 25 centimetres in diameter, 2.6 kilometres below the seabed.

Once the leaking well is intercepted, heavy mud will be pumped from the *West Triton* platform down into the relief well, displacing the oil, gas and water and stopping the flow.

Members of the leading international oil and gas well control engineering specialists ALERT Well Control boarding team are on standby at Truscott air base in the Kimberley while a Perth-based boarding team is on standby and ready for travel to the site when the intercept is successful.

The team leader from ALERT Well Control is on board the *West Triton* directing the sophisticated electro magnetic ranging and intercepting equipment. This technology has been used successfully in similar operations around the world.

ALERT Well Control has successfully completed some 1,200 well control operations during the past 25 years.

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NOTE: This media statement and all previous statements issued by the company can be viewed at www.au.pttep.com.