Potential Discovered
Hurricane is a new breed of specialist oil company.

We focus on the untapped potential of basement reservoirs. We search for oil in places others have overlooked. We use our experience and our expertise to explore and locate. We see discovery as the measure of our success.
The slip joint below the deck of the Wilphoenix, the rig commissioned for testing Hurricane's Whirlwind discovery, September 2011.
The basement opportunity

Hurricane is an oil exploration company focused on fractured basement reservoirs on the UK continental shelf. We believe that basement represents a significant untapped resource — a strategic resource for the UK — and we are specialists, having the skills, experience and determination to locate and develop this resource potential.

The concept is straightforward. Basement is the metamorphic or igneous rock that underlies sedimentary basins. Within these basement rocks there is a connected network of natural fractures and faults. Where there are adjacent kitchen areas hydrocarbons can migrate into the fracture network. It’s in these circumstances and in these faults that significant volumes of oil can be found.

Interest in fractured basement reservoirs has increased due to recent successes in Yemen and Vietnam, but the skills involved in locating and developing potential reserves are highly specialist and highly sought after. At Hurricane we have those skills and we have already demonstrated our competence.
Our successes

In a short time we have achieved a great deal. We have identified basement prospects and have discovered oil. We have validated our model for basement exploration and demonstrated the potential of the basement play in the West of Shetlands. We are excited by the potential of what we have found so far, but there’s more to come.

Lancaster

Located in the West of Shetlands across blocks 205/21a, 205/22a and 205/26b, Lancaster is a significant discovery. In 2009, our drilling and testing discovered light oil (34–39.2° API).

We are keen to confirm the potential of the Lancaster discovery by further drilling and appraisal.

Whirlwind

Some 12km to the north of Lancaster and significantly deeper is Whirlwind. It is also located across blocks 205/21a and 205/22a. It is geologically similar and is likely to be charged from the same source.

Our drilling and analysis has confirmed the potential for basement hydrocarbon. Our well penetrated some 137m total vertical thickness of fractured basement reservoir and both drill cuttings and gas chromatography have supported our discovery.
The Wilphoenix in position over the Whirlwind discovery. September 2011.
Further prospects

We are not the sort of company that relaxes after a few good results. We are always searching for new opportunities. We believe that a diverse portfolio will help us to deliver on-going and consistent success.

Typhoon

Our Typhoon prospect is located in blocks awarded to Hurricane as part of the 24th and 26th UKCS licensing rounds and is similar in many respects to Lancaster. Our geoscience has shown the basement to be crossed by numerous fractures — so we are confident of its potential. We have already completed a comprehensive technical evaluation of the area to identify a prospective well location. Planning for drilling in 2012 is already well underway.

Strathmore

Located 20 kms to the southwest of Lancaster, Strathmore is an undeveloped oil field that was discovered in 1990. The majority of the field resides within our Block 204/30a, and unlike our other prospects and discoveries, Strathmore contains oil in Triassic-aged sandstones. We believe Strathmore could be most economically developed by tie-back to neighbouring infrastructure — and we are looking at using Lancaster as the main development hub.
Our team

The success of Hurricane is down to the passion, precision and expertise of our people. They make up a team that is collaborative, innovative, meticulous, and verging on the obsessive. We enjoy what we do, and we take pride in doing it very, very well.

Dr Robert Trice
Chief Executive Officer

Robert is the founder of Hurricane. His enthusiasm and experience drive the scientific and technical heart of the company. Known as a world expert in fractured reservoir characterisation and evaluation, he has worked in field development, exploration, well-site operations and geological consultancy.

Much of his geoscience background came from international experience with Enterprise Oil and Shell. He established Hurricane in 2005 to take advantage of the prospective acreage he had identified in the UK offshore 23rd Round Licencing Round – the open acreage position in the UKCS at that time.
Keith Kirby
Chief Communications Officer

Keith is responsible for the non-scientific aspects of running the business – from communications, to company systems and HR. He is a skilled management professional with over 20 years’ experience in branding and communications. Before joining Hurricane Keith was CEO of WHAM, Hutchison Whampoa’s branding operation, where he built the company up to be a world leader in brand strategy and communication.

Nicholas Mardon Taylor
Chief Financial Officer

Nicholas has worked in the oil industry for over 30 years, his first involvement in the North Sea being in the seventh round. Nicholas is a highly experienced company director having held Finance Director roles with a number of companies, including Total, Saxon Oil, and Carless & Alkane. Nicholas ensures that we have robust accounting and finance polices and procedures and works closely with Robert and Keith on business direction and strategy. Nicholas has been with Hurricane since its creation in 2005 when he was the company’s first CFO. Since then he has had special responsibility for our thorough Environmental Management system, returning now to the finance role.

David Bird
Manager, Geoscience

David has been with Hurricane from the start. He has over 25 years’ industry experience with oil companies ranging from small independents to oil majors. Much of his early career was involved in reservoir geology, after which he moved into exploration and new ventures work. Prior to joining Hurricane he played a leading role in helping ENAP–Sipetrol (the Chilean National Oil Company) build a portfolio of exploration assets which resulted in oil discoveries across North Africa and the Middle East. At Hurricane he is responsible for generating new exploration ideas and opportunities for the company, undertaking and supervising geoscience work, and for the evaluation of the company’s hydrocarbon resources.

Richard Beaton
Operations Manager

In his 30 years in the oil industry, Richard has worked as a petroleum engineer then offshore drilling supervisor for Texaco as well as a drilling consultant for various international operators. This included eight years in Vietnam working with fractured granite basement wells. Before joining Hurricane Richard was the AGR Petroleum, Well Management Company’s well team leader for the Hurricane West of Shetland 2010 campaign. At Hurricane Richard is responsible for achieving Hurricane’s objectives, complying with all regulatory and budgetary commitments and ensuring that key contractors deliver quality wells.

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Manager, Geoscience

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Dan Bonter
Geologist

Dan joined Hurricane after four years with Gaffney, Cline and Associates. There he was involved in numerous reserve reports, CPR writing, sensitive redeterminations, merger and acquisition company valuations and licensing rounds all around the world. A significant part of his responsibilities involved 3D static geological models. At Hurricane Dan is responsible for constructing static models of existing assets as well as looking for new venture potential in the UKCS and abroad.

Neil Platt
Asset Delivery Manager

Neil has worked for over 20 years in the oil & gas industry. He has considerable experience in roles for both operators and service providers to the oil and gas industry – including Amoco, BG and Petrofac. Neil has held a number of directorships within the industry and prior to joining Hurricane was Vice President Project Delivery within Beicip Produccion Solutions. Neil has specific responsibility for the safe delivery and operation of all Hurricane’s assets post the exploration phase.
Our way

We take our responsibility to the world seriously. We do things the right way, never compromising safety and quality. We take our time when we need to, but that doesn’t mean we can’t make things happen quickly.

We are ISO 14001 Environmental Management System accredited. And we take that very seriously. We make sure that we minimise our environmental impact wherever we are. We work closely with our drilling contractors, well management companies and offshore service providers to ensure that everyone is briefed, everyone understands their responsibilities and everyone is doing what they should.

Our environmental responsibilities extend to everywhere we operate. In our offices we take energy conservation and recycling as seriously as we do when we are on a rig. It’s a practice that’s engrained in the way we work; we don’t have to think about it, we do it as a matter of course.

We believe in taking responsibility to the wider world, so we actively contribute to SERPENT. This innovative global ROV project is designed to make cutting-edge industrial ROV technology and data more accessible to the world’s science community. Our support helps to promote understanding, conservation and knowledge of our fragile marine resources.
The helideck of the Wilphoenix.
September 2011