



## *News Release*

:

Contact: ExxonMobil Upstream Media Line  
713-656-4376

### **Marine Well Containment Company Welcomes BHP Billiton**

HOUSTON, TX, April 1, 2011 – The Marine Well Containment Company (MWCC) announced today that BHP Billiton has joined as a member.

Marty Massey, MWCC chief executive officer, said, “BHP Billiton, which has producing assets and a significant acreage position in the deepwater Gulf of Mexico, has elected to join the Marine Well Containment Company. Our growing membership is taking a leadership role in improving industry preparedness to respond to a well containment incident in the deepwater Gulf of Mexico.”

J. Michael Yeager, chief executive of BHP Billiton Petroleum, said, “Marine Well Containment Company is an important industry effort that allows us to demonstrate that we have the necessary tools readily available to quickly respond to a subsea well control incident. While we don’t expect to ever have to use the equipment, we believe it is our responsibility to be prepared.”

Other MWCC members include ExxonMobil, Chevron, ConocoPhillips, Shell, BP, Apache and Anadarko.

System equipment and services will be available to members and non-members. Non-members will be able to enter into agreements for access to the MWCC system on a per well fee basis.

The company’s interim containment system is ready for deployment today and is capable of operating in a water depth of 8,000 feet and processing up to 60,000 barrels of fluid per day. Work is also underway to expand the system to operate in a water depth of 10,000 feet and process up to 100,000 barrels of fluid per day, with components to be delivered in 2012.

More information about the U.S. Gulf of Mexico marine well containment system is available at <http://www.marinewellcontainment.com>.

###

**About the Marine Well Containment Company**

The Marine Well Containment Company (MWCC) is a not-for-profit, independent organization committed to improving capabilities for containing a potential future underwater well control incident in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico. Membership is open to all oil and gas operators in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico.