

Media enquiries

Kathryn Mitchell
+ 61 8 8218 5260 / +61 (0) 407 979 982
kathryn.mitchell@santos.com

Investor enquiries

Andrew Seaton
+61 8 8218 5157 / +61 (0) 410 431 004
andrew.seaton@santos.com

28 September 2006

New appointment to Santos Board

Santos Limited (**Santos**) today announced the appointment of Mr Roy Franklin OBE to its Board of Directors.

Mr Franklin, 53, has extensive experience in the international petroleum industry and has held senior positions in major oil and gas companies, including Paladin Resources plc, Clyde Petroleum plc and BP plc.

A geologist by training, Mr Franklin joined BP in 1973 and worked for 18 years in various exploration and management positions before joining Clyde Petroleum plc in 1991; he was appointed as Group Managing Director in 1994. Following the takeover of that company in early 1997, Mr Franklin left to take up the position of Chief Executive Officer of Paladin Resources plc, a position he held until that company was sold in early 2006.

He is currently the non-executive chairman of Batemen Litwin NV, a Dutch-based service provider to the oil, gas and power sector. He is a former chairman of BRINDEX, the trade association for UK independent oil and gas companies, from 2001 to 2005, and a former member of PILOT, the joint industry/government task force set up to maximise hydrocarbon recovery from the UK North Sea.

Mr Franklin, a resident of the UK, was honoured with an OBE last year in the Queen's Birthday Honours for his services to the industry. He will take up his position as a Director of Santos immediately.

Santos Chairman, Mr Stephen Gerlach said he was delighted that Mr Franklin had been appointed to the Santos Board of Directors.

"It is indeed very pleasing to appoint such a high calibre international director who has strong international oil and gas expertise and outstanding management experience."

Mr Gerlach said that Roy Franklin's appointment reflected the desirability of having Board representation from outside of Australia as Santos expands its international focus and interests.

"I am confident that Roy's appointment will both strengthen the composition of the Board and that he will make a significant contribution to Santos as the Company continues to grow and deliver on its strategies", he said.

Ends

**Santos stock symbols: STO (Australian Stock Exchange), STOSY (NASDAQ ADR),
Ref #82-34 (Securities Exchange Commission)**