

## ASX ANNOUNCEMENT

16 July 2018

# OTTO APPOINTS US TECHNICAL TEAM AND OPENS HOUSTON OFFICE

Otto Energy Limited (ASX:OEL) ("Otto" or the "Company") is pleased to advise that it has completed the establishment of its Houston office and appointment of a US-based technical team. With the Company's Gulf of Mexico business now successfully producing for more than three months from the SM 71 field, Otto is focused on accelerating its identification of additional attractive opportunities to grow its production.

Managing Director Matthew Allen will be relocating to Houston in late July to lead the team. In addition, Otto is pleased to announce the following technical appointments in Houston:

- Will Armstrong – Vice President, Exploration and New Ventures
- Philip Trajanovich – Senior Commercial Manager
- Mark Sunwall – Senior Exploration Consultant
- Kevin Small – Senior Exploration Consultant

The exploration team will be led by Will Armstrong, who has more than 30 years of experience across the Gulf of Mexico. Will's exploration work has seen the drilling of 162 prospects across his career at a commercial success rate in excess of 66%. Full background information on the team can be found in the appendices to this release.

The exploration team have been engaged as consultants inside the Otto business for the last 6 months. This has involved the screening of a number of prospects and investment opportunities. As a result of this consulting work, and past experience, the exploration team are very familiar with the Company's current portfolio, screening criteria and focus area for potential prospects.

In addition, Otto has opened its office location in Two Allen Center in Houston Downtown. The technical team have been establishing this office and it is now fully functional for Otto's future plans.

Otto's Managing Director, Matthew Allen, commented: *"I look forward to the move to Houston, and growing the Otto business off the back of the strong production and cash flow base we have built at SM 71. We have welcomed a team that brings a cumulative 110+ years of Gulf Coast and Gulf of Mexico experience and this IP and knowledge will be integral in identifying partners and prospects that will help grow Otto's business moving forward."*

*"We have a very exciting period ahead of us, with wells schedule to spud at Bivouac Peak in August and Alaska in early 2019. With our exploration team well embedded in the business after 6 months working with Otto, we hope to be adding and drilling additional prospects into our exploration portfolio in the near term."*

<b>Contact:</b> Matthew Allen Managing Director & CEO +61 8 6467 8800 <a href="mailto:info@ottoenergy.com">info@ottoenergy.com</a>	<b>Media:</b> Yvonne Ball Citadel-MAGNUS +61 8 6160 4910
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## **Background Information on Key Houston Based Personnel:**

### ***Will Armstrong – Vice President, Exploration and New Ventures***

Prior to joining Otto Will worked with Tri-C Resources, a privately owned Houston based oil and gas company, developing Gulf Coast conventional prospects for drilling. Prior to joining Tri-C Resources, Will screened Gulf Coast, Offshore GOM, and Deepwater GOM prospects for Continental Land & Fur between 2007 and 2014. Between 1999 and 2007, Will worked as a geophysical consultant, generating Offshore and Gulf Coast prospects on behalf of Houston Energy, Westport Resources, and Petroquest Energy. Prior to consulting, Will had generated prospects for several Houston-based independent oil & gas companies, including being a founding member of Newfield Exploration. Will began his career at Tenneco Oil Company in 1987 in Lafayette.

Will graduated with a B.S. in Geology, minor in Mathematics, from Grand Valley State College in 1985. He also graduated from Wright State University with a M.S. in Geology, emphasis in Geophysics and Hydrogeology, in 1987.

### ***Philip Trajanovich – Senior Commercial Manager***

Philip was engaged by Otto as a commercial manager in July 2016 and has worked in both the Perth and Houston offices since that time. Prior to joining Otto, Philip was Commercial Manager at Aurora Oil and Gas and its subsequent acquirer Baytex Energy for over four years, focused on the Eagleford shale unconventional play. Philip has also worked with ConocoPhillips as an Asset Manager for nearly three years and Woodside Energy as a Commercial Adviser for over seven years. Philip has gained extensive experience in all facets of upstream oil and gas operations and commercial structures internationally and within the USA.

Philip graduated with a B.Com with First Class Honors from the University of Western Australia in 2001.

### ***Mark Sunwall – Senior Exploration Consultant***

Mark Sunwall was engaged as a senior exploration consultant by Otto in April 2016. Mark has a successful 40+ year career exploring and developing onshore Gulf Coast and Gulf of Mexico petroleum basins with major and independent oil companies. Mark has been instrumental in the establishment of the Houston business to date and brings a wealth of knowledge and extensive networks to Otto.

Prior to joining Otto, Mark worked for Aurora Oil & Gas for four years as the Geoscience Manager focused on the Eagleford shale unconventional play. In addition, Mark has over five years' experience with a small independent oil and gas company in Houston, has worked with Woodside Energy for over four years and started his career with Texaco (subsequently acquired by Chevron) spending over twenty six years with Texaco.

Mark graduated with a B.S. in geology from Southwest Minnesota State University in 1974. Mark also has a M.S. in geology from Miami University and graduated in 1976.

### ***Kevin Small – Senior Exploration Consultant***

Kevin has over forty years' experience in the Gulf of Mexico both onshore and offshore, and has been responsible for the generation, farm-in, drilling and development of numerous Gulf Coast discoveries. Kevin similarly brings extensive networks and relevant experience to Otto's business in Houston.

Prior to joining Otto Kevin worked with Tri-C Resources, a privately owned Houston based oil and gas company, developing Gulf Coast conventional prospects for drilling. Between 2003 and 2012, Kevin worked for Bluestreak Exploration Group developing prospects exclusively for LLOG Exploration, successfully generating discoveries on the Gulf of Mexico Shelf and Deepwater. Kevin was the Exploration Manager and a founding member of the Houston office of Westport Oil and Gas Company between 1996 and 2003, ultimately helping them go public in October, 2000. Kevin also has worked for the Superior Oil Company and McMoran Oil and Gas, starting his career in 1978. During his time with LLOG, Westport, and McMoRan, he has drilled wells with cumulative production of over 692 BCFG and 82 MMB0.

Kevin graduated with a B.S in Geophysical Engineering from the Colorado School of Mines in 1978.