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NEWS RELEASE

Hertfordshire Oil Storage Limited statement

30th December 2005

HOSL recognises the outstanding work of the emergency services in their ongoing handling of the situation at Buncefield terminal.

We are continuing to work closely with the HSE and the EA in their ongoing investigation to ascertain the cause of the incident and in the clean-up process at the site.

HOSL has been working throughout the Christmas period with our specialised contractors to accelerate the clean-up process at the site, which is being conducted in strict adherence to the procedures laid down by the HSE investigation, and enable the fire brigade to leave.

With regards to specific progress made, the current activity is on removing all the water and foam used in the fire-fighting operation, and the removal of fuel products, which is now in progress.

-ENDS-

For further details, please contact the Press Office on 0870 241 4337.

About Hertfordshire Oil Storage Limited (HOSL)

HOSL forms part of the Buncefield terminal in Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire. It is a joint venture between TOTAL UK Limited (60%) and Texaco (40%). Other companies at the Buncefield terminal include BP, Shell and the British Pipeline Agency.