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BP p.l.c. is the parent company of the BP group of companies. Unless otherwise stated, the text does not distinguish between the activities and operations of the parent company and those of its subsidiaries.

BP is a leader in our industry and that position is reflected in our standards of social responsibility, corporate governance and financial and sustainability reporting, of which this document is part. For a complete view of BP's performance, this document should be read in conjunction with *BP Annual Report and Form 20-F 2010* and *BP Sustainability Report 2010*. Copies may be obtained free of charge (see page 87).



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These green arrows highlight sources of information you might find helpful. They refer to other general BP content available online, which does not form part of *BP Financial and Operating Information 2006-2010*.

BP is one of the world's leading international oil and gas companies^a. We operate or market our products in more than 80 countries, providing our customers with fuel for transportation, energy for heat and light, retail services and petrochemicals products for everyday items.

As a global group, our interests and activities are held or operated through subsidiaries, jointly controlled entities or associates established in – and subject to the laws and regulations of – many different jurisdictions. These interests and activities covered two business segments in 2010: Exploration and Production and Refining and Marketing. BP's activities in low-carbon energy are managed through our Alternative Energy business.

^a On the basis of market capitalization, proved reserves and production.

BP history at a glance

1909

The company is incorporated in England as the Anglo-Persian Oil Company Limited. The incorporation focuses on the commercialization of Masjid-i-Suleiman in Iran, the first commercial oil discovery in the Middle East.

1920s-1930s

The Anglo-Persian Oil Company Limited becomes the pre-eminent oil producer in the Middle East. The company enters into international marketing in continental Europe, Africa and Australia.

1922

After eight years of majority share ownership, the British government begins offering ordinary shares of Anglo-Persian Oil Company stock for sale to the public.

1954

The company name becomes The British Petroleum Company Limited. Marketing activities extend to New Zealand, parts of Africa and more countries in Europe. A consortium agreement for Iranian oil gives BP a 40% stake.

1969

BP enters North America with its discovery and major share of the Prudhoe Bay oil field on Alaska's North Slope. This leads in the following year to BP's taking a sizeable interest in Standard Oil of Ohio.



1978

BP gains a majority interest in Standard Oil. The company acquires the chemicals and plastics interests in Europe of Union Carbide and, in 1979, of Monsanto.

1987

Privatization of BP shares is completed. Following periodic public offerings of a minority of its shareholdings over the previous 65 years, the British government disposes of nearly all the remaining 32% shareholding in BP. In December, BP makes an offer to purchase Standard Oil. The deal is completed the following year.

1997

In response to mounting evidence and concern regarding greenhouse gas emissions and the rising temperature of the earth, BP becomes the first in its industry to state publicly the need for precautionary action on climate change.

1998

BP merges with Amoco, the world's largest industrial merger at the time, becoming one of three leaders in the oil and gas industry. The merger gives the combined companies the opportunity to compete through a highly distinctive set of people, assets and market positions.

2000

ARCO joins the BP group in a \$34-billion transaction that provides coast-to-coast coverage of the US fuels market. BP's acquisition of Burmah Castrol strengthens BP's market-facing business with one of the world's great brands.

2002

Acquisition of Veba's retail and refining assets in Germany and central Europe makes BP the market leader in Germany and Austria. BP markets under the Aral brand in Germany.

2003

TNK-BP, the joint venture between BP and AAR (the Alfa Group and Access-Renova), operating in Russia, is finalized. The venture gives BP a major stake in one of the world's great hydrocarbon provinces.

2005

BP sells its Innovene business, including its olefins and derivatives business and refineries in Grangemouth, UK and Lavéra, France, for \$8.3 billion cash. BP Alternative Energy, a new business dedicated to generating low-carbon power, is launched.

2009

Carl-Henric Svanberg succeeds Peter Sutherland as chairman. Production starts from Atlantis Phase 2, Dorado and King South in the Gulf of Mexico. This is the 17th consecutive year reported reserves replacement exceeds 100%.



2007

Tony Hayward succeeds Lord Browne as group chief executive. BP's deepwater projects – Atlantis in the Gulf of Mexico, and Greater Plutonio in Angola – start up. BP buys out the minority shareholding of its refinery in Rotterdam in the Netherlands from Chevron and sells its refinery in Coryton, UK.

2008

Thunder Horse – the largest semi-submersible facility in the world – comes onstream, and BP achieves resource replacement of more than 200% and reported reserves replacement of more than 100% in 2008.

2010

A tragic accident on the Deepwater Horizon rig claims the lives of 11 men and causes environmental damage in the Gulf of Mexico. BP's response effort involves co-ordinating some 48,000 people and more than 6,500 vessels. Bob Dudley succeeds Tony Hayward as group chief executive.

Images

1 Trans-Alaska pipeline, Yukon River Bridge, Alaska.

2 Atlantic LNG Facility, Point Fortin, Trinidad.

3 Rotterdam refinery, Holland.