

SHALLOW MARINE SEISMIC SURVEY OVER THE SARACEN BANK, OFFSHORE SABAH

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After the P.S.C. for the offshore Block SB1 (7746 sq km) between Sabah Shell Petroleum Company, Pecten Malaysia, Petronas Carigali as Joint Ventures and PETRONAS was signed in mid 1987, a fairly comprehensive Exploration seismic programme of over 8000 km of 2D and nearly 3000 sq km of 3D data was carried out over the Block. Due essentially to very shallow water depths of less than 10 m, the Saracen Bank area, which is located some 80 km West of Kota Kinabalu, and includes some corals, remained uncovered by these conventional surveys. This paper describes the key aspect of the survey preparation, the seismic programme and acquisition techniques, and discusses some of the results of a unique marine seismic survey over the offshore shallow water area. The environmental impact of this successful survey was closely monitored before and during this project and the results recorded.