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CANBERRA T +61 2 6247 0960
Level 10, 60 Marcus Clarke St
Canberra ACT 2600

BRISBANE T +61 7 3231 0500
Level 36, 32 Turbot St
Brisbane QLD 4000

PERTH T +61 8 9426 7200
Level 4, 190 St Georges Tce
Perth WA 6000

SYDNEY T +61 2 8241 1900
Suite 4, Level 8, 3 Spring St
Sydney NSW 2000

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ConocoPhillips safe and sound in oil and gas

For the fourth year in a row, ConocoPhillips has won an Australian Petroleum Production & Exploration Association (APPEA) Safety Award.

APPEA Chairman David Knox presented the Safety Excellence Award at Tuesday night's APPEA 2013 Conference Dinner in Brisbane. He said ConocoPhillips had been outstanding in several key areas – prevention of major accidents, safety culture, workforce engagement, and industry safety leadership.

"In 2012, ConocoPhillips Australia delivered a highly demanding operational program while also improving its safety outcomes. Its busiest year ever was also its safest year yet," Mr Knox said.

In 2012, ConocoPhillips Australia undertook four significant projects and campaigns (APLNG LNG plant construction, Bayu-Undan and Darwin LNG shutdowns, Bayu-Undan asset integrity management campaign and Browse exploration drilling campaign). This drove a 163 % increase in total hours worked by the company and its contractors (up from 3.8 million hours to 10 million hours).

ConocoPhillips had no major accident events or high-level loss of containment incidents in 2012. It significantly exceeded the world-best injury performance benchmarks, posting a lost-time injury frequency rate of 0.29 injuries per million work hours and total recordable injury frequency rate (TRIFR) of 2.49 injuries per million work hours.

"The company has a culture of open and honest reporting and a strong commitment to the elimination of hazards. It engages the workforce in safety-related activities and recognises those who make a significant contribution in this area," Mr Knox said.

"Twice a year, a steering committee convenes a work session dedicated to evaluating identified risks and prioritising their removal. In 2012, this process removed 121 barriers to safe work.

"ConocoPhillips also shows leadership in industry safety, sharing its lessons and systems widely and playing a key role in industry safety forums."

In 2012, the Australian oil and gas industry as a whole recorded its lowest-ever lost-time injury frequency rate – 0.81 injuries per million hours worked.

"Our industry remains one of the best safety performers in Australia, but there is always room for further improvement and we recognise the need for constant leadership and vigilance," Mr Knox said.

"Australian oil and gas continues to strive for constant improvement in its safety performance, and companies such as ConocoPhillips are leading the way."

Media Contact: Michael Bradley – 0423 550 347 MBradley@appea.com.au

The Australian Petroleum Production & Exploration Association represents the upstream oil and gas industry in Australia. APPEA member companies produce around 98 per cent of Australia's oil and gas.