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HOUSTON EXPLORATION CHOOSES DATA FOUNDRY FOR DISASTER RECOVERY SERVICES

Data Foundry's multiple data center locations throughout Texas were key factors in decision

AUSTIN, Texas, August 9, 2005 -- On May 25, Data Foundry™ marked the one-year anniversary of a disaster recovery services contract with The Houston Exploration Company (NYSE: THX), a North American exploration and production company based in Houston. The contract comes as more and more area companies are seeking disaster recovery services that give them the flexibility and security of having multiple data centers located throughout Texas.

“Data Foundry provides our organization with data center options in multiple cities throughout Texas, offering a complete disaster recovery solution,” said Tony Sepolio, Director of Information Technology for Houston Exploration. “In the event of a disaster, our systems would be safeguarded with choices from two offsite facilities, and we would have immediate access to Internet connectivity and other general business workspace needs. Providing convenient and logically feasible data center locations for business continuity purposes were important considerations during our evaluation process,” he added.

Over the term of the contract, Data Foundry will provide Houston Exploration with warm-site disaster recovery services and alternatively, offer a Disaster Recovery Campus in Central Texas. Located roughly 220 miles inland from the waters of the Gulf of Mexico, the Disaster Recovery Campus houses a Tier 1 data center and networking capabilities, along with worksite recovery space, five hotels and several restaurants, giving Houston Exploration employees the resources they would need to resume operations. Data Foundry can also provide Houston Exploration with a private disaster recovery network connection between the primary site and any of the multiple Tier 1 data centers including the Data Foundry Disaster Recovery Campus.

Jonah Yokubaitis, Data Foundry's CEO and co-founder, noted that recent changes in financial reporting regulations, insurance mandates and legislation such as the Sarbanes-Oxley Act have spurred many companies to re-evaluate their disaster recovery plans. "We've found that today's disaster recovery service customers need a partner who stays two steps ahead of their business continuity needs," said Yokubaitis. "With a decade's worth of experience and stability, we have enhanced our services with regard to the Disaster Recovery Campus concept, which goes far beyond simply meeting connectivity or data back-up requirements. It's also why we've invested time and resources in multiple data centers throughout Texas, which means we can ensure the continuity of our own services in the event of a disaster."

About Data Foundry

Data Foundry is a pioneer in the business ISP industry and Data Center Services market. Founded in 1994 – profitable then and still profitable today – Data Foundry supports over 1,000 corporate customers with unparalleled Managed Internet, Enterprise Data Center, Colocation and Disaster Recovery services. As a Texas-based Global Managed Services provider the company maintains a secure, scalable, redundant and highly available network infrastructure, with geographically dispersed Internet Data Centers and state-of-the-art operations. Visit the company at www.datafoundry.com, or call 1.512.684.9000 for more information.

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About Houston Exploration

The Houston Exploration Company is an independent natural gas and crude oil producer engaged in the development, exploitation, exploration and acquisition of natural gas and crude oil properties. The company's operations are focused in South Texas, the Rocky Mountains, the Arkoma Basin, and offshore in the shallow waters of the Gulf of Mexico. Additional production is located in East Texas. For more information, visit the company's Web site at <http://www.houstonexploration.com> .