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For Immediate Release:

## **Supplybase now empowered by Achilles**

Global procurement systems provider, Achilles Information, has accelerated its Australian growth with the acquisition of Perth-based Supplybase VRS – the APPEA-developed vendor registration system for the Australian oil and gas industry.

Achilles CEO Colin Maund says the combination of the Achilles global system and the local expertise and client base of Supplybase creates a powerful platform for delivering value to both buyers and sellers in the Asia Pacific region.

Australia will be among the first countries to get the newly developed 'Accelerate' system that Achilles has developed to provide a standardised global platform for vendor prequalification. The new system is a further development of First Point Assessment Limited (FPAL), the supplier pre-qualification system in the UK, owned and managed by Achilles.

According to Supplybase Managing Director, Steve Pretzel, the tie up with Achilles is a great outcome for the Australian industry.

"Supplybase was developed over ten years ago with the ultimate objective of providing a standardised prequalification system that could benefit the entire industry by reducing duplicated effort and improving the quality of data.

"While we have been developing Supplybase progressively this opportunity is a giant leap forward by being able to tap into a system that has not only proven itself in many of the biggest oil and gas markets in the world but has also benefitted from the investment of many millions of dollars in systems development.



Through the introduction of Achilles' new IT platform, Supplybase VRS will undergo a transformation that will provide buying organisations the ability to search and filter comprehensive validated, verified and assessed supplier information dependent on their exact needs. The new system will also provide an opportunity for local suppliers to extend their goods and services to the worlds' largest oil and gas companies

“This brings us a lot closer to our original vision for standardised prequalification. With increasing emphasis being placed on risk management, quality systems, health and safety systems, environmental policies and maximising local content opportunities the timing couldn't be better.”

Embracing the heritage of Supplybase and the new global system, Supplybase will be renamed **First Point Supplybase**. Planning to transition supplier records to the new Achilles system has already commenced and is expected to be completed by late 2011.

### **About Achilles**

Achilles works to identify, qualify, evaluate and monitor suppliers on behalf of major organisations worldwide. Achilles builds and supports buyer supplier communities in many industry sectors, creating unique and powerful global networks. Services for sustainable procurement help create opportunities for business and reduce risk in the supply chain.

Achilles operates in 22 countries and provides validated information on over 55,000 suppliers in more than 32 supplier management systems to more than 700 of the world's largest companies.

### **About Supplybase**

Supplybase was launched in October 2000 as a centralized vendor registration



system for the oil, gas and downstream processing industries and to maximize opportunities for local content in major projects. Originally developed by APPEA as part of its Australian Competitive Energy (ACE) program, Supplybase was spun off as a separate entity in 2002. Major Operators utilizing Supplybase include Apache, Chevron, GE Oil and Gas, Santos and Woodside. The Supplybase database currently lists over 5,000 suppliers.

**For further information:**

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