



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contacts:

Kemal Farid
Merrick Systems
P: (713) 579-3409
Kemal.Farid@merricksystems.com

Jennifer Koures
NuTech Solutions
P: (704) 943-5407
jennifer.koures@nutechsolutions.com

Scott Reeves
Advanced Resources International
P: (713) 780-0815
sreeves@adv-res-hou.com

Jon Rucket
Pierpont Communications
P : (713) 627-2223, ext. 122
jrucket@piercom.com

Merrick Systems Leads New Alliance To Improve Oil & Gas Recovery In Difficult Wells

October 10, 2005 (HOUSTON and CHARLOTTE, N.C.) – Merrick Systems, a software innovator known for its upstream oil- and gas-production products, has formed an alliance with two other industry leaders: NuTech Solutions, a scientific-software company specializing in optimization solutions; and Advanced Resources International, a consultancy recognized for its expertise in non-conventional gas and enhanced-oil-recovery technologies.

The alliance, which will formally be known as the Intelligent Production-Optimization Alliance, promises to help oil and gas companies tackle one of the toughest problems in the petroleum business: efficiently extracting fuels from heavy-oil fields, watered-out oil fields, and non-conventional gas sources.

To achieve this goal, the alliance will provide what it calls field-wide production optimization – holistic programs that use data-based systems to improve the extraction of oil and gas from difficult wells.

“This alliance offers what amounts to a turn-key solution to help oil and gas companies satisfy growing industry pressure to increase the yield from hard-to-lift reserves,” says Kemal Farid, president and CEO of Houston-based Merrick Systems. “It’s the only one of its kind in the market, and far surpasses anything else available for improving such operations.”

The alliance will draw upon the complementary services and products provided by its member companies – all of which have strong track records in the upstream oil and gas industry. Merrick Systems, for example, has spent more than a decade developing and implementing systems to collect and organize field data from gas wells and oil fields, while NuTech Solutions has used its Intelligent Business Engines™ to optimize just this kind of field data. Advanced Resources International, for its part, has worked closely with companies like NuTech Solutions to develop customer-focused analytic and optimization systems that improve and manage steaming, CO₂ injection and non-conventional gas operations.

“The net result,” concludes Farid, “is a service that provides real-time optimization of heavy-oil and non-conventional gas extraction.”

Scott Reeves, executive vice president of Advanced Resources International, echoes this sentiment: "The combination of experience and advanced technology represented by this alliance is unprecedented in the complex-recovery market; technologies that have previously been limited to deepwater and other high-cost environments are now available to operators of non-conventional gas and enhanced-oil-recovery assets."

Meanwhile, Kevin Kostuik, vice president of industry solutions at Charlotte, N.C.-based NuTech Solutions, points to his company's previous optimization successes as proof that the alliance will provide dramatic benefits to its customers. "A leading oil producer has already used our engines to enjoy production increases between 1.4 percent and 6.4 percent, while also capturing best practices in a field-level tool," he says. "With the addition of Merrick and ARI to the mix, oil and gas companies can expect to see even more dramatic improvements in their numbers, making their lives easier and adding real dollars to the bottom line."

"This alliance is the perfect three-punch combination," summarizes Farid. "We expect to make a major difference for any company interested in optimizing its complex-extraction operations."

Pricing for the alliance's products and services is based on each customer's unique needs. Companies interested in more information, should contact Merrick Systems at 800-842-8389 or by visiting www.MerrickSystems.com.

About Merrick Systems

Merrick Systems produces sophisticated data-driven software that helps the upstream oil and gas industry exploit assets. The company offers a variety of products to meet a full range of operational needs, from field-data capture and hydrocarbon accounting to regulatory compliance and business intelligence. Merrick is headquartered in Houston with offices in Lafayette, Midland, Calgary and Vienna. Visit: www.MerrickSystems.com.

About NuTech

NuTech Solutions, Inc. delivers innovative solutions, powered by Intelligent Business Engines™ that forecast, optimize and learn – delivering insight and measurable results to Global 1000 companies. Our solutions are designed to solve complex problems in a variety of industries, including automotive, consumer goods, petroleum, financial services and national security.

Based in Charlotte, N.C. and with offices around the world, NuTech Solutions' client roster includes General Motors, BMW, Oxy, Beiersdorf, BB&T, Ford Motor Company, Chevron, Air Liquide and many U.S. Government Departments and Agencies. For more information call (704) 943-5400 or visit www.nutechsolutions.com.

About Advanced Resources International

Advanced Resources International (ARI) is a leading independent consultancy specializing in non-conventional gas, enhanced oil recovery and carbon sequestration. Since the company's inception in 1991, the company's team of geoscientists, engineers and business analysts have provided a wide range of value-added services to our worldwide clientele, including major and independent oil and gas producing companies, multi-lateral lending institutions, research organizations, and governments. With offices Washington (DC), Houston, Denver and Pittsburgh, ARI's services encompass the development of integrated business solutions at the highest corporate level, complex and non-traditional technical problem-solving, research, and consulting and training on a broad spectrum of exploration, production and reservoir topics.