

Transocean claims record sea depth for oil drilling

April 12 2011



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The depth was achieved by the ultra-deepwater drillship Dhirubhai Deepwater KG2, surpassing the previous record of 10,011 feet, also set by Transocean in 2003 in the Gulf of Mexico, the group said in a statement.

It set "what the company believes is a world record for the deepest water depth by an offshore drilling rig of 10,194 feet of water while working

for Reliance Industries offshore India."

Transocean owned the BP-leased Deepwater Horizon rig that exploded last year in the [Gulf of Mexico](#), killing 11 rig workers and triggering a huge spill along the southern US coast.

The disaster also highlighted the growing exploitation of hard to reach and costly [deep water](#) fields beneath on the [ocean floor](#), driven by dwindling resources and higher oil prices.

By comparison North Sea fields have been largely exploited at water depths of around 100 metres.

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Citation: Transocean claims record sea depth for oil drilling (2011, April 12) retrieved 8 May 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2011-04-transocean-sea-depth-oil-drilling.html>

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