
Reignite your passion and purpose – turning obstacles into opportunities

Media Release

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When faced with a challenge, it's how you respond that determines your success...

This was the advice Oil Search's Janny Spilsbury-Schakel gave at the Women in Energy and Resources Leadership Summit last week where she was keynote speaker. Janny is Senior Vice President, Subsurface in the Technology and Value Assurance group.

Janny's topic: *Reignite your passion and purpose*, covered some of the challenges she has faced in her career and the strategies she has applied to overcome them – turning obstacles into opportunities.

Her tips include:

- Taking time out to get a fresh perspective;
- Seeking honest advice from networks or professional organisations;
- Knowing your worth and strengths – and taking charge of your career;
- Setting priorities and goals but understanding these may change over time;
- Stepping out of your comfort zone – taking risks and being open to new opportunities; and
- Reigniting your passion through volunteering or supporting local activities.

She wrapped up by asking participants to leave a legacy by supporting STEM activities near them and encouraging girls and young women to join the sector.

Janny joined Oil Search in 2018 having already accumulated 30 years' experience in the sector. She worked for Shell during its first entry into Russia and took on roles at Woodside in operational excellence.

"I come from the countryside where everybody is a farmer or married to a farmer," she said.

"I thought I could escape by joining the air force – I wanted to be a fighter pilot. However, when I realised I wouldn't make the height criteria, my parents encouraged me to speak with a career advisor.

"They suggested geology or geophysics, subjects completely unknown to me. I went to a university open day and was hooked."

She said one of the biggest challenges for technical women in the sector is finding their voice.

"My advice to anyone starting out – and women particularly, is to make your voice heard: know your worth; rock the boat and leave a legacy!"

Oil Search Board Director Dr Eileen Doyle was also at the Summit and hosted a roundtable session on career planning to close off the two-day programme.

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Media contact:

Matthew Park

Vice President, Communications and Media

matthew.park@oilsearch.com





About Oil Search

Established in January 1929, Oil Search has grown into PNG's largest Company and investor, operating all the country's producing oil fields and holding an extensive appraisal and exploration portfolio. Its 29 per cent interest in the ExxonMobil-operated PNG LNG Project has transformed Oil Search into a regionally significant oil and gas producer. The Company also hold material interests in the Elk -Antelope and P'nyang gas fields and is undertaking a range of activities to support further LNG expansion in PNG. Oil Search also holds world class oil assets in Alaska's prolific North Slope.

Oil Search operates in a socially responsible manner. Respectful, open relationships with local landowners and government are at the heart of its current and future success. The Company is committed to addressing important social issues and aspires to set the standard for private sector contribution to sustainable development.

Oil Search is listed on the Australian (OSH) and Port Moresby (PNGX) security exchanges and its ADRs trade on the US Over the Counter market (OISHY). For more information, please visit www.oilsearch.com.