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For Immediate Release

ESSAY BUCKS POPULAR OPINION, ANTICIPATES EXPANDING ROLE FOR INTERNATIONAL OIL COMPANIES

Overland Park, Kansas, June 19, 2006 – The International Oil Companies (IOCs) are poised to capture a crucial piece of the emerging international energy industry, according to an article in the newly released May issue of the prestigious Oxford Energy Forum.

IOCs, widely thought of as the beleaguered stepchild to the National Oil Companies (NOCs), are in a position to drive the future of the world energy industry, said Dr. Richard Gordon, President of Gordon Energy Solutions. As a 30-year industry veteran, Gordon wrote the Oxford Energy Forum article to bring attention to signs of a fundamental shift underway in the world petroleum industry. This shift is being fueled by four fundamental global trends that "...are likely to serve as significant sources of future opportunity for the IOCs to not only survive but to prosper." These trends include (1) a re-emergent strategic role of integration, (2) international gas as a growth sector, (3) the rise of an industrial petroleum economy, which differs in critical ways from the historic extractive oil and gas industry, and (4) the technology-driven expansion of the resource base in high risk environments.

Dr. Gordon asserts that, as these global trends progress, and as the IOCs evolve into their new roles, companies like ExxonMobil, Shell, Chevron and ConocoPhillips will become International Industrial Energy Companies. Dr. Gordon concludes that:

"Each of the factors noted in this essay offers long-term opportunities that match well with the inherent strengths of the IOCs. The potential strategic impact of these forces . . . is greatly enhanced by the fact that the four factors are not independent but, rather, are inter-related and can mutually reinforce each other."

Any members of the media interested in obtaining the full article may contact Gordon for a complimentary copy or for further comments.

The Oxford Energy Forum is a quarterly publication of the Oxford Institute for Energy Studies. The Oxford Institute for Energy Studies was founded in 1982 to undertake advanced research into the social science areas of energy issues.

Gordon Energy Solutions was founded in 2005 as an energy consulting firm specializing in competitor analysis, strategic decisions, political risk analysis, and global issues concerning the international oil & gas industry. By integrating the corporate and financial dimensions of strategy and performance with detailed project level analytics, Gordon Energy Solutions offers a unique perspective in the energy industry.