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Weststar GAP and Santos Australia sign Helicopter Service Contract



Image Tatoli/Antonio Daciparu

DILI, 31 January 2025 (TATOLI) – Today, Weststar-GAP Aviation LDA, a joint venture between Timor GAP, a state-owned oil and gas company in Timor-Leste, and Weststar Aviation Timor signed Helicopter Service Contract with Santos Australia.

The Helicopter Service Contract worth US\$40 million was signed by Santos' Executive Vice President Vince Santostefano and Weststar-GAP Aviation Director, Syed Muhammad Azni Syed Azman at the Hotel Timor, in Dili.

Weststar Aviation Group said that the operations under this contract are set to begin on February 1, 2025.

With the signing of the contract, Santos will use the two Leonardo AW189 helicopters to support its offshore operations in the Bayu-Undan region.

Santostefano said that Santos always seeks to use local suppliers and “the new helicopter service contract with Weststar Gap will result in more well-paid jobs for Timor-Leste workers. As part of this new contract, the Weststar GAP is committed to using Timor-Leste sub-contractors as much as possible.”

“It's important to keep Timorese in jobs and to generate a new source of revenue for the country,” Santostefano said, today.

Meanwhile, Director Azman said that this initiative represents more than investment in the aviation sector and energy: “It is a significant contribution to the economic growth and sustainable development of Timor-Leste.”

He said that Weststar's commitment includes training local pilots, engineers, and operational staff to meet the regular standards as set by the International Association of Oil and Gas Producers (IOGP).

Azman stressed that Weststar GAP will provide essential crew change and Medevac standby services, operating between Dili, Timor-Leste, and Darwin, Australia.

“Our collaboration with Santos will contribute to the success of the Bayu Undan field and its role in the region's energy infrastructure,” he said.

The signing ceremony was attended by the Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources, Francisco da Costa Monteiro, Malaysian Investment, Trade, and Industry Minister Tengku Datuk Seri Zafrul Abdul Aziz, the Chairman of Timor GAP, Rui Maria Alves Soares, the Chairman of the National Petroleum Authority, Gualdino do Carmo da Silva, and Vice President of Upstream Gas and Liquids, Western Australia, Northern Australia, and Timor-Leste, Marcie Evans.

Weststar-GAP Aviation no Santos formaliza kontratu servisu elikópteru iha Timor-Leste



Serimonia asinatura kontratu servisu elikópteru entre Vise-Prezidente Ezekutivu Santos, Vince Santostefano, no Diretór Aviasaun Weststar-GAP, Syed Muhammad Azni Syed Azman, iha Hotel Timor, Dili, 31 Janeiro 2025. Imajen Tatoli/António Daciparu

DILI, 31 janeiro 2025 (TATOLI) – Empresa Weststar-GAP Aviation no Santos NA (19-12) Pty. Ltd, empresa petrolífera australiana, formaliza kontratu servisu elikópteru nian iha Timor-Leste ho valór millaun \$40.

Asinatura kontratu ne'e entre Vise-Prezidente Ezekutivu Santos, Vince Santostefano, no Diretór Aviasaun Weststar-GAP, Syed Muhammad Azni Syed Azman, ho sasin husi Vise-Prezidente *Upstream Gas and Liquids*, Western Austrália, Nothern Australia and Timor-Leste, Marcie Evans, no Membru Konsellu Administrasaun *Weststar-GAP Aviation*, Vicente da Costa Pinto.

Weststar-GAP Aviation Lda hanesan konsóriu ida entre Timor GAP husi Timor-Leste no *Weststar Aviation* husi Malázia ne'ebe harii iha fulan-Juñu 2020.



Serimónia asinatura kontratu servisu elikópteru entre Vise-Prezidente Ezekutivu Santos, Vince Santostefano, no Diretór Aviasaun Weststar-GAP, Syed Muhammad Azni Syed Azman, iha Hotel Timor, Dili, 31 Janeiro 2025. Imajen Tatoli/António Daciparu

Prezidente Timor GAP, Rui Maria Alves Soares, hateten sira-nia parte kontente foti desizaun hili *Weststar Aviation* nu'udar parseiru, tanba empresa ida ne'ebé lidera iha indústria servisu elikópteru ba offshore, foku ba seguransa nian ne'ebé hetan fiar husi empresa boot sira petrolíferu nian.

Weststar rasik atende ona empresa sira hanesan *Chell*, *ConocoPhillips* no agora aumenta tan kompañia *Santos* Austrália.

“Ami sente orgulhu no entuziasmu tebes atu lori padraun eselente no dezempeñu seguransa nian iha nivel aas liu ba setór mina no gás Timor-Leste, liuhusi nia subsidiária *Weststar-GAP Aviation*”, Rui Maria Alves Soares dehan, ohin.



Vise-Prezidente Ezekutivu Santos, Vince Santostefano no Diretór Aviasaun Weststar-GAP, Syed Muhammad Azni Syed Azman, foto hamutuk hafoin selebra asinatura kontratu iha Hotel Timor, Dili, 31 Janeiru 2025. Imajen Tatoli/António Daciparu

Nia subliña katak liuhusi akordu ne'e, hatudu kompromisu Timor-Leste nian ba Santos atu fornese serbisu elikópteru ne'ebé seguru no eficiente ho tripulante aviau hotu-hotu husi Malázia ka husi Timor-Leste pruntu atu kumpre seguransa iha operasaun ne'ebé eficiente.

Tuir kontratu servisu ho valór millaun \$40 ne'e dezeña ba períodu inisial fulan 12, ne'ebé ho opsaun ba estensaun fulan neen dala rua, sei fornese servisu transporte ho elikópteru ne'ebé apoia operasaun tasilaran Santos nian iha área Bayu-Undan hahú husi loron 01 Feveiru 2025.

Vise-Prezidente Ezekutivu Santos, Vince Santostefano, afirma katak empreza Santos sei halo esforsu ba iha serbisu kontratu elikópteru foun ho Weststar-GAP Aviation hodi fó empregu di'ak liu ba traballadór timoroan.

“Ida ne'e hanesan hola parte ida husi kontratu foun ne'e, tanba Weststar-GAP iha kompromisu atu uza subkontratór Timor-Leste nian. Daudaun sira utiliza ona servisu subkontratasau lokal sira hodi fornese servisu sira *ground handling* nian iha aeroportu ne'ebé iha ona sidadaun Timor-Leste na'in-ualu, ne'ebé hetan formasaun hodi fornese servisu iha área ne'e”, salienta.

Akordu ne'e sei marka pasu importante ida iha estratéjia Weststar-GAP nian hodi hasa'e servisu aviasaun *offshore* (tasilaran) nian iha Timor-Leste ho kreximentu prozitivu iha kampu *Greater Sunrise* hodi apoia empreza *ENI* no *Sunda Gas*.

Diretór Aviasaun Weststar-GAP, Syed Muhammad Azni Syed Azman, hateten empreza sei koloka elikópteru rua ho naran *Leonardo AW189*, ne'ebé sei halo operasaun hodi semo troka malu ba servisu *standby Medevac*, Dili, Timor-Leste no Darwin-Austrália, ne'ebé rejistu tuir aviaun Malázia nian (9M), hodi kumpre regulamentu sira Autoridade Aviasaun Sivíl Malázia nian (CAAM, sigla inglés).

“Daudaun ami hahú halo operasaun iha Timor-Leste. Ami sente orgulhu atu reafirma ami-nia pozisaun hodi dedika aan atu haburas talentu lokal no kria oportunidade sustentavel. Ami iha kompromisu fó formasaun ba pilotu lokal sira, kadru operasionál sira hodi kumpre padraun rigoroza sira hosi International Association of Oil and Gas Producers 619 [IOGP]”, nia hateten.

Liuhusi teknolojia estratéjiku no transferénsia koñesimentu Weststar-GAP nian hakarak atu kapasita no hasa'e ema-nia abilidade téknika no seluk tan.

Membru Governu sira ne'ebé partsipa iha asina akordu ne'e mak Ministru Petróleu no Rekursu Minerál, Francisco da Costa Monteiro, Ministru Komérsiu no Indústria, Filipus Nino Pereira, Ministru Investimentu, Komérsiu no Indústria Malázia nian, Datuk Seri Utama Tengku Zafrul bin Tengku Abdul Aziz, no ajénsia sira ne'ebé iha relasaun ho mina no gás.

Jornalista: Arminda Fonseca

Editora: Maria Auxiliadora

Empreza Weststar fasilita elikópteru rua ba atividade petrolífera



Elikópteru rua husi empreza Weststar ne'ebé apoia ba Timor GAP, E.P, to'ona iha Aeroportu Internasionál Prezidente Nicolau Lobato, Comoro, Dili, sesta (24/01/2025). Imajen TATOLI/Francisco Sony

DILI, 24 janeiru 2025 (TATOLI)—Empreza Weststar husi Malázia fasilita elikópteru rua ba atividade petrolífera iha kampu Bayu-Undan.

Elikópteru rua ne'e ho marka 9M-WSV, iha-ne'ebé ida mai iha loron 4 janeiru 2025, enkuantu ida seluk foin to'o ohin (24/1). Elikópteru rua ne'e halo nia operasaun durante oras 80 iha fulan ida.

Empreza Weststar fasilita elikópteru rua, bazeia ba konsórsiu entre empreza Weststar ho Timor GAP iha kampu Bayu-Undan, iha-ne'ebé empreza Weststar iha asaun 55% no Timor GAP 45%.

“Ita iha parseiru ida entre Timor GAP ho Weststar atu halo atividade operasaun mina iha tasi laran. Neste momentu empreza Austrália ida mak halo hela servisu ne'e. Maibé, servisu ne'e muda fali ona bá Weststar Gap”, Prezidente Timor GAP, Rui Maria Alves Soares, hateten ba jornalista sira iha Aeroportu Internasionál Prezidente Nicolau Lobato, Komoro, sesta ne'e.

Nia dehan, elikópteru rua ne'e Governu Timor-Leste la aluga maybe ne'e Timor GAP mak konsórsiu ho asaun 45% no empreza Weststar 55%, atu fasilita transporta téknika timoroan sira ne'ebé halo atividade petrolífera iha kampu Bayu-Undan.

Rui haktuir empreza Weststar molok ne'e halo kontratu ho empreza Santos nu'udár operadór no parseiru husi dezvoltamentu kampu Bayu-Undan, hodi lori téknika sira ne'ebé servisu iha Bayu-Undan bá-mai.

Nia akresenta, elikópteru rua ne'e provizoriamente para iha Aeroportu Internasionál Prezidente Nicolau Lobato, maibé fulan hira bá-oin elikópteru referidu sei halo fali nia operasaun iha aeroportu Suai no kondús husi pilotu Malázia.

Iha fatin hanesan, Kapitaun Banta hosi empreza Weststar hateten sira kontente serbisu iha Timor-Leste hodi halo atividade transportasaun téknika sira ne'ebé serbisu iha Bayu-Undan.

“Ami espera servisu hamutuk ida-ne'e labele to'o de'it iha-ne'e, maibé sei kontinua tan ba tinan lima ka tinan sanulu oin mai,” nia tenik.

Jornalista: Natalino Costa

Editór: Xisto Freitas da Piedade

Akordu Haforsa Mobilidade Trabalhador ba Plataforma Bayu Undan

Governu Konstitusionál IX, iha loron 31 fulan-janeiru tinan 2025, asiste asinatura akordu ida entre petrolífera Santos Limited ho Webstar-GAP Aviation, ho objetivu atu garante mobilidade traballadores ba plataforma Bayu Undan. Serimónia ne'e partisipa husi Ministru Petróleu no Rekursus Minerais no Ministru Komérsiu no Indústria Timor-Leste no Ministru Investimentu, Komérsiu no Indústria Malázia, Tengku Datuk Seri Utama Zafrul Abdul Aziz, nune'e mós funsionáriu sira husi Timor GAP no Autoridade Nasionál Petróleu nian, entre representante sira seluk hosi entidade oioin.

Tuir akordu ne'ebé asina hosi Vise-Presidente Ezekutivu Santos nian ba Austrália Norte no Oeste no mós Timor-Leste, Vince Santostefano, no hosi Diretór Aviasaun Webstar-GAP nian, Syed Muhamad Azi Azman, sei fornese elikópteru rua hodi transporta traballador sira ba plataforma petrolíferu.

Webstar-GAP Aviation maka subsidiáriu ida hosi TIMOR-GAP, E.P., ne'ebé kaer partisipasaun 45%, iha parseria ho Webstar Aviation Service, subsidiáriu ida hosi Grupu Webstar Malázia, especializa iha servisu elikópteru ba indústria petróleu no gás.

Prezidente TIMOR GAP, EP, Rui Soares, deskreve akordu ne'e hanesan istóriu, hodi subliña ninia impaktu pozitivu iha indústria petrolífera ninia papél hodi garante partisipasaun ativa hosi profisionais timoroan sira iha setór aviasaun ne.

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Ministru Investimentu, Komérsiu no Indústria Malázia nian, Tengku Zafrul Aziz, destaka importánsia hosi akordu ida-ne'e hodi promove kooperasaun ekonómika entre Timor-Leste, Malázia no Austrália no salienta mós katak poténsia ba kolaborasaun ida boot liu entre Timor-Leste no Malázia iha setór mina no gás, no hametin parserias setór privadu entre nasaun rua ne'e.

Ministru Petróleu no Rekursus Minerais, Francisco da Costa Monteiro, destaka mós importánsia hosi parseria entre Santos ho Webstar-GAP Aviation ba kreximentu setór petrolíferu no hametin kolaborasaun entre Timor-Leste no Malázia, tuir kedas ho apoiu Malázia ba Timor-Leste nia adezaun iha ASEAN.

Webstar-GAP Aviation sei estabesele ninia baze operasionál iha Kovalima, haree ba viabilidade komersiál no efisiénsia lojístika hosi fatin refere. Empreza estatál ne'e otimista kona-ba ninia kapasida atu garante enjeñaria profisionál, pilotu no apoiu lojístiku, ho objetivu atu jere filiál ne'e ho forma independente iha tinan lima oinmai.

Daudaun ne'e, Webstar-GAP Aviation halo operasaun ho ekipamentu no rekursus kualifikadus Webstar nian, inklui profisionais timoroan barak ne'ebé antes ne'e servisu iha empreza ne'e, ne'ebé hala'o ona operasaun iha Timor-Leste durante dékada rua resin. Empreza ne'e iha kompromisu atu transfere responsabilidades ba profisionál timoroan sira tuir faze, ho sira balu hetan ona formasaun especializada iha setór aviasaun nian.

url: <https://timor-leste.gov.tl?lang=tp&p=41705>



Signature of Agreement Reinforces Mobility of Workers for the Bayu Undan Platform

On 31 January 2025, the 9th Constitutional Government witnessed the signing of an agreement between the oil company Santos Limited and Webstar-GAP Aviation, aimed at guaranteeing the mobility of workers to the Bayu Undan platform. The ceremony was attended by the Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources and the Minister of Trade and Industry of Timor-Leste and the Minister of Investment, Trade and Industry of Malaysia, Tengku Datuk Seri Utama Zafrul Abdul Aziz, as well as the heads of Timor GAP and the National Petroleum Authority, among other representatives of various organizations.

Under this agreement, signed by Santos' Executive Vice-President for Northern and Western Australia and East Timor, Vince Santostefano, and the Director of Webstar-GAP Aviation, Syed Muhamad Azi Azman, two helicopters will be made available to transport workers to the oil platform.

Webstar-GAP Aviation is a subsidiary of TIMOR GAP, E.P., which holds a 45% stake, in partnership with Webstar Aviation Service, a subsidiary of the Malaysian Webstar Group, which specializes in helicopter services for the oil and gas industry.

The President of TIMOR GAP, EP, Rui Soares, described the agreement as historic, emphasizing its significant positive impact on the oil industry and its role in ensuring the active participation of Timorese professionals in the aviation sector.

The Malaysian Minister of Investment, Trade and Industry, Tengku Zafrul Aziz, highlighted the importance of this agreement in promoting economic cooperation between Timor-Leste, Malaysia and Australia and also emphasized the potential for greater collaboration between Timor-Leste and Malaysia in the oil and gas sector, strengthening private sector partnerships between both nations.

The Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources, Francisco da Costa Monteiro, also emphasized the importance of the partnership between Santos and Webstar-GAP Aviation for the growth of the petroleum sector and strengthens collaboration between Timor-Leste and Malaysia, in line with Malaysia's support for Timor-Leste's membership of ASEAN.

Webstar-GAP Aviation will establish its operational base in Covalima, given the commercial viability and logistical efficiency of the location. The public company is optimistic about its ability to guarantee professional engineering, piloting and logistical support, with the aim of managing the subsidiary independently within the next five years.

Webstar-GAP Aviation currently operates with Webstar's equipment and skilled resources, including several Timorese professionals previously employed by the company, which has been operating in East Timor for more than two decades. The company is committed to the gradual transfer of responsibilities to Timorese professionals, some of whom are already receiving specialized aviation training.

