

Touchstone gets first LNG payment



Touchstone Exploration president and CEO Paul Baay

Touchstone Exploration has seen increased production and revenue of over US\$13 million from its recent acquisition the Central Block.

In the operational update issued by the company on Monday, Paul Baay, president and CEO said, “We are pleased to provide our first operational update on the Central Block following the successful completion of the acquisition. Since the completion, we have delivered quarter-over-quarter production growth through continued plant optimisation—an excellent achievement by our Central Block team.”

Touchstone stated in the operational update that gross production volumes from Central Block averaged 2,969 boe/d (1,930 boe/d net) during the first quarter of 2025, comprising approximately 16.74 MMcf/d of natural gas and 179 bbls/d of NGLs.

The company went on to say that based on preliminary field estimates, second quarter 2025 gross production averaged 3,023 boe/d (1,965 boe/d net), comprised of approximately 17.05 MMcf/d of natural gas and 181 bbls/d of NGLs.

Baay continued, “This update also highlights the strategic advantage of integrating LNG-based pricing into our marketing portfolio. With commercial documentation complete and the first LNG payment expected by the end of July, we are positioned to benefit from predictable cash flows under the export contract. The Central Block’s strong performance supports our acquisition rationale and enhances our marketing flexibility, diversifying revenue streams across LNG, petrochemical, and fixed-price gas sales.”

Touchstone completed the 100 per cent acquisition of the share capital of Shell Trinidad Central Block Limited in December 2024. The company stated the entity had been renamed Touchstone Trinidad Central Block Ltd..

The company has a 65 per cent operating interest in the onshore Central Block exploration and production licence with Heritage Petroleum Company holding the remaining 35 per cent participating interest.

The Central Block asset includes four producing natural gas wells and a gas processing facility.

Natural gas from the Central Block is sold under two separate contracts, one linked to LNG export pricing and the other to domestic market pricing, primarily supplying Trinidad’s petrochemical sector. LNG sales are subject to vessel availability, referred to as liftings.

According to the notice from Touchstone, from January through April 2025, 11 LNG liftings (including associated liquids) were completed, totalling 2,207,696 MMBtu. An additional 11,065 MMBtu was sold into the domestic market. These volumes generated gross revenue of \$13.6 million (\$8.9 million net). After transportation and processing costs, gross revenue totalled US\$8.9 million (US\$5.8 million net). The Central Block also generated US\$1 million in gross revenues (US\$0.65 million net) from condensate sales at the facility, resulting in total gross revenue of US\$9.9 million (US\$6.4 million net) for the period.

All sales volumes are subject to a 12.5 per cent state royalty and applicable plant operating costs.