

HD **Range up 20 per cent on \$US12m finance deal**

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Shares in Perth-based **oil** and gas **company** Range Resources gained nearly 20 per cent on the ASX after it announced it had attracted the backing of **Hong Kong**-based institutional investment group Abraham.

Range said Abraham would subscribe for \$US12 **million** worth of the **company**'s shares, at £0.01 per share, representing a premium of approximately 49 per cent to the mid-market share price.

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Abraham will be issued about 712 **million** Range shares, equating to a **stake** of around 15 per cent of the **company** once the transaction is settled.

The funds will be used to repay existing debt of about US\$10.5 **million** and remaining proceeds to be used for general working capital of the **company**.

"The \$US12 **million** subscription will allow us to refinance the expensive and dilutionary corporate debt and provide working capital as we move forward with Range's operational and long term financing objectives," Range chief executive Rory Scott Russell said.

The subscription will occur in two equal tranches, both worth US\$6 **million**.

Range will also issue about 237 **million** options to Abraham, half of which will be at the exercise price of £0.01 and half at £0.02.

The **company**'s shares rose as high as 1.5 cents following the announcement, before slipping back to 1.3 cents at 10:45AM, WST.

Range Resources' flagship project is three **oil** and gas exploration licences in Trinidad, while it also holds assets in Guatemala, Georgia, Texas and Colombia.

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