

MIS005-P04

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Delineation of the distributions of sand bodies in the offshore Sado Island, Japan

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The "Sadooki Nansei" 3-D seismic survey was carried out in the deep water of the southwest offshore Sado Island in the Sea of Japan by the Ministry of Economics, Trade and Industry (METI). The bottom simulating reflectors (BSRs) in the Pleistocene Haizume Formation on the seismic data indicate the existence of methane hydrates (MH) in the region, and MH nodules have been collected from mud layers beneath the sea floor.

As a part of researches of the Research Consortium for Methane Hydrate Resources in Japan (MH 21 Research Consortium), the distributions of sand bodies within the canyon fills are delineated by imaging using the 3-D seismic data. Delineation of the distributions of sand bodies will help the evaluation of the MH concentrations in the offshore Sado Island region.

Keywords: Methane Hydrates, Seismic Facies