

Media Monitoring

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Headline: **Glencore buys majority stake in Singapore's Chemoil**

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- * Glencore buys 51 pct stake from founder's family
- * Glencore offers 18 pct discount for remaining shares
- * Glencore was frontrunner to buy stake
- * Buying Chemoil to give Glencore fuel storage assets (Updates with details, background)

SINGAPORE, Dec 15 (Reuters) - Commodity trader Glencore has bought a 51 percent stake in Singapore fuel trader Chemoil Energy Ltd and offered to buy all remaining shares, in a move to acquire fuel storage assets. The family of Chemoil founder Robert Chandran has agreed to sell its majority stake in the firm to Glencore, which is offering \$0.3552 per share in cash for the remaining shares, an 18 percent discount to Chemoil's last traded share price that values the firm at \$459 million.

Chemoil's stock has more than doubled since the start of the year, on expectations of a possible takeover deal and amid the recovery in oil prices.

The price paid for the 51 percent stake was not given. Under Singapore law, anyone buying a 30 percent stake in a company must make an offer for the rest.

Glencore, the world's second-largest independent oil trader, was a frontrunner to buy Chemoil, which also drew interest from Europe-based oil trader Vitol and Wall Street bank Morgan Stanley, sources told Reuters earlier this year.

Chemoil halted trading in its shares on Tuesday.

Buying Chemoil gives Glencore a valuable marine fuels business in the United States and a wealth of fuel storage assets in Singapore, other parts of Asia and the Middle East, strengthening its physical trading playbook.

Chandran's family has been looking to sell after he was killed in a helicopter crash in Indonesia in January 2008.