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## Atlantic Supply Base has stood the test of time

Many locations competed fiercely at the time - the politicians finally backed off and let the oil companies decide the outcome. Due to its central location, they opted to go for Rúnavík as their supply base for well drilling operations in Faroe waters. Just over ten years have now passed, since all that commotion took place. Stood the test of time Mr Magnus Rasmussen, the mayor of Rúnavík told oljan.fo that these first ten years have proven that it is a good supply base and that Atlantic Supply Base has done a very good job over the years. The trials and experience ASB has accumulated over the years is now present here with us in this area and the references Rúnavík has acclaimed as a supply base from its users is very good, says the mayor. He hopes Skálafjord also in the future will house this type of oil industry activity. This is also one of the reasons why the town council has been working with an overall plan for the whole fjord. The plan also encompasses future oil industry activities. This is not an immediate requirement and the existing supply base is satisfying the immediate exploration phase requirements. Proceeding satisfactory This task was handed the Danish entrepreneurial firm Rambøll last year, to draft a report of the fjord and its possible future business opportunities. Part of the task was to locate the best possible site for a future oil industry supply base, in the event the existing site was unable to satisfy future requirements. The report has not yet been finally drafted, but it is understood that the area from the village of Skála towards the bottom of the fjord will be designated as an oil industry supply base area. The upland area is ideal and the fjord here has the required depth. The infrastructure to the area is good and the location is well away from built up areas. The existing supply base however is capable of satisfying the immediate requirements and most likely for many years to come. Expansion

opportunities also exist and there is no problem in acquisitioning upland for more quayside or warehouse facilities. In a time prospective, well drillings have been so far apart, that oil industry activities have not commanded such a prominent role for the town council, but when a drilling operation has been undertaken, the activity generated has created additional income. Several people have landed jobs and companies have delivered both services and supplies. Praise for ASB ASB has provided a good service and has been capable of resolving almost all the tasks. Nobody either doubts that Mr Eli Lassen has accomplished a huge and very good task, says Mr Magnus Rasmussen the mayor of Rúnavík. He says the town council will do their utmost to retain the supply base here and this is also why they have drafted a future plan for the region, so they can be ready if some major occurrence should occur. The mayor has not forgotten the battle in the late 90-ies, e.g. where to locate a supply base. Very many town councils all round the islands applied and he has no doubts this tug of war will re-emerge if and when a large discovery is made and preparations for a production development get underway. He has also noticed that the town council for Vag in Suðuroy has been in the media offering to harbour a future oil industry supply base. We can of course all offer our services, but I believe that we over the past ten years have proven we are capable of handling this task and that we have the require knowledge/experience to undertake other new, larger and more demanding tasks. We must not forget that Skálafjord is a natural harbour with a wide range of services, required by an oil industry supply base. We are geographically located in the middle of the islands only 45 minutes by car to the capitol Tórshavn and the same distance away from the airport. There is very much in favour, which supports the location of a future oil industry supply base, here in the fjord.