

The first of the Pluto modules shipped from Laem Chabang in Thailand inching towards its permanent home, the \$12 billion Pluto LNG project on the Burrup Penninslua.

WOODSIDE installed the first module on its \$12 billion Pluto LNG Project last week.

Following on from the successful completion of the Woodside and North West Shelf Venture's Phase V LNG Train, the first in the world to be built offshore as a modular plant then transported for assembly on the Burrup Penninsula site, the first six modules for the LNG train safely arrived from Laem Chabang, Thailand at the end of last month.

In a delicate process, the piperack modules and accompanying trestles were set in position on the storage and loading site last week.

The Pluto project is now one third complete, has a forecast production of 4.3 million tonnes of gas per annum and will link the Burrup Penninsula site to the Pluto and Xena offshore gas fields with a 180km, 90cm-diameter offshore pipeline to a platform in 85m of water.

The platform will eventually be connected to five subsea big bore wells on the Pluto field, with first gas to be produced in late 2010.

This is a major milestone for the LNG giant with the Pluto LNG Project rapidly taking shape with site works for the LNG train nearing completion and initial civil works for loading and storage sites underway.

The air-raise of the first LNG tank roof was completed without a hitch in late September, followed by the installation of the roof of the second tank in October.

While the Burrup LNG Park is a hive of activity, the Attwood Eagle drilling

rig located 190km offshore has spudded – meaning it has begun its initial borehole stage – Pluto's first development well in September and topside deck stacking – the processing units for Pluto offshore platform – is well underway in Malaysia, along with the jacket assembly in China.

Construction is also progressing at Pluto's supply base, known as the Burrup Materials Facility, which is located near the Dampier Port. The facility will support the offshore and marine requirements of the project during the construction phase and moving into operations.

Woodside chief executive Don Voelte said the Pluto project would provide an important new supply of LNG to the Asia-Pacific region, where demand is expected to outstrip supply well into the next decade.