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Shell weathers market turmoil to cling onto profitability

Royal Dutch Shell reported solid fourth-quarter and annual 2016 results by maintaining shareholder dividends and – narrowly – remaining profitable during a period of prolonged turbulence on many fronts.

The company's largely positive financial headlines for 2017 were achieved by quickly realising value from BG assets acquired last year, combined with a major asset divestment programme and ongoing – albeit waning – reliance on debt.



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