

There would appear therefore, to be little argument today as to the advantages to be gained by Canada in maintaining a high level of technological capability. The problem is to establish directions of effort which will be most effective in achieving Canada's overall national goals of growth and improved social conditions.

2. BACKGROUND

The environment in which the Canadian aerospace industry exists is conditioned by the limitations of Canada's domestic and military aerospace requirements. The steady growth of the industry within this environment is due to its ability to compete in the international market. In 1967 and 1968 some 60% of the total industry production was exported. This is the highest percentage export of any aerospace industry in any country in the world and this industry is now Canada's third largest manufacturing exporter.

The domestic base although relatively small is significant and, in addition, it provides a proving ground for specialized equipment which is subsequently sold in the international market place.

The output of the industry is increasingly commercially oriented.

In 1968 the aerospace industry employment was approximately 50,000 with some 2,500 being engineers and scientists. It is clear that this technologically advanced industry plays a very important role in attracting and retaining high quality technical people for Canada.

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