

- SARH grants all permits for the exploitation of forestry resources, change in the use of land, and collection for scientific, educational and other purposes;
- The technical study necessary to obtain exploitation permits;
- Provision by SARH or a concessionaire of SARH of technical services to each region, including the preparation of the integral management studies, training and education, supervision of the application of the management studies, preparation of production and distribution programs for raw materials, preparation of infrastructure programs, provision of information, co-ordination of the management studies with infrastructure requirements, production, industrial development and sector programs, and marking the trees and vegetation to be cut;
- The creation of roads, production and distribution, warehousing and industrial plants; and
- The transportation of lumber and raw materials extracted from forests.

In general terms, the regulations are very limiting. Every aspect of forestry exploitation is subject to permits, studies and a myriad of requirements. This has made exploitation difficult and costly. For these reasons, imported products are very competitive in Mexico.

6. MARKET ACCESS

The commercial liberalization resulting from Mexico's accession to the GATT has improved the import climate for forestry and woodworking equipment. Imports of equipment for this industry are subject to an *ad valorem* duty of maximum 20 percent and a customs procession fee of 0.8 percent that are assessed on the invoice value. A 10 percent value-added tax (reduced from 15 percent) is then assessed on the total. Some manufacturers who use imported inputs for their products under a Mexican government-approved manufacturing plan may have the duty and/or VAT waived or rebated. Raw materials, intermediates and machinery for use in manufacturing or assembling products for export are generally eligible to be imported either duty free or under bond.

As of July 1991, foreign suppliers are required to have a local agent or representative with whom they

are registered as an accepted supplier with each government ministry and/or decentralized agency with which they plan to do business.

International tenders financed by the World Bank or the International Development Bank are open to all member countries of these institutions. The World Bank, where its credits are involved, requires that bid documents include an affidavit confirming that the Canadian company is a bona fide Canadian company with an official residence in Canada and that Canada is recognized as a contributing member to the World Bank.

There are no official metric requirements applicable to imports into Mexico. However, because the metric system of units is, by law, the official standard of weights and measures in Mexico, importers usually require metric labelling for packaged goods, although the English system is also used. Dual labelling is acceptable.

Imported products should have labels in Spanish that contain the following information, as applicable: name of the product, trade name and address of the manufacturer, net contents, serial number of equipment, date of manufacture, electrical specifications, precautionary information on dangerous products, instructions for use, handling and/or product conservation, and mandatory standards.

Mexico adheres to the International System of Units (SI).

Electric power is 60 cycles with normal voltage being 110, 220 and 400. Three-phase and single-phase 230 volt current is also available.

To call the telephone and fax numbers from Canada, unless they are preceded by a different code, dial 011-525 first; otherwise, dial 011-52-(area code)-phone number.

The information about companies not located in Mexico City was not confirmed.