

On the basis of the above process, the following products and product groups were selected to be the subject of this report:

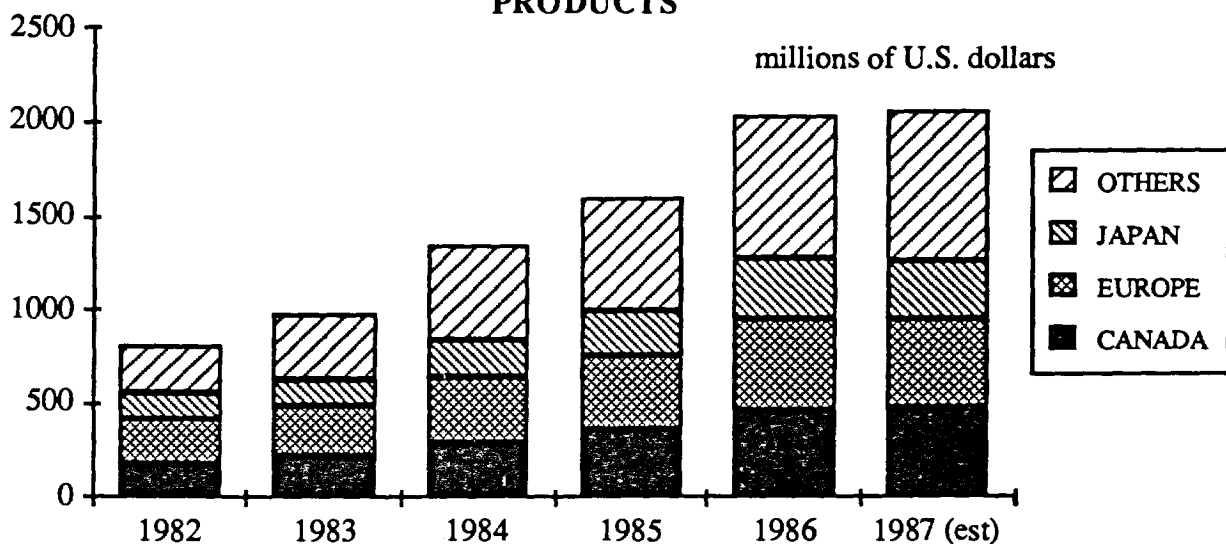
- Hose, pipe and tubing, nspf, of rubber or plastics, with or without attached fittings (Schedule A 8910100);
- Belts and belting for machinery, wholly or in part of rubber or plastics (Schedule A 8910200);
- Household articles, nspf, of rubber or plastics (Schedule A 8910760);
- Gaskets of rubber or plastics (Schedule A 8910960);
- Articles of rubber or plastics, nspf (Schedule A 8910980).

U.S. IMPORTS 1982-87

Europe and Japan captured 45.2% of the U.S. import market of these products in 1986 (See Appendix 4). Imports of all these product groups have more than doubled from 1982 to 1987, while the market shares of Europe and Japan have stabilized or dropped. (See Chart 1, below).

CHART 1

TOTAL U.S. IMPORTS OF SELECTED RUBBER/PLASTIC PRODUCTS



Source: *U.S. General Imports and Imports for Consumption*, U.S. Department of Commerce.