

News Release

Minister for
International
Trade



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EDC SUPPORTS SALE BY NORTHERN TELECOM TO JAMAICA TELEPHONE CO.

International Trade Minister John C. Crosbie announced today that the Government of Canada, working through the Export Development Corp. (EDC), will provide a loan of up to \$47.5 million to the Jamaica Telephone Co. Ltd. for its purchase of telecommunication equipment and services from Northern Telecom Canada Ltd.

"The Government support for this sale will further consolidate the use of Canadian technology in the Caribbean market," said Crosbie. "It will also impact favourably at home where some 1,356 person-years of employment will be generated by the transaction."

The equipment will be used by Jamaica Telephone Co. Ltd. (JTCL) to upgrade and improve services to business customers by providing data and voice communications through the increased use of digital equipment. JTCL will also use the equipment for the expansion of its remote line unit capacity and expanded switching capacity to service a much larger customer base throughout Jamaica.

EDC is Canada's official export credit agency, responsible for providing export credit insurance, loans, guarantees, and other financial services to promote Canadian export trade.

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