

CIIRDF: Partnering in R&D

Looking for an Israeli business partner? Seeking financial support for a joint venture? The *Canada Israel Industrial Research & Development Foundation (CIIRDF)* may be able to help.

Established in 1993 to promote collaborative research and development (R&D) between Canadian and Israeli firms, *CIIRDF* plays a key role in matching Canadian firms with those in Israel. *CIIRDF* is supported by the governments of both Canada and Israel, which each contribute \$1 million per year — reflecting their view of the Foundation as an important instrument in strengthening Canada-Israel commercial relations.

CIIRDF is incorporated in Canada as a not-for-profit corporation and maintains an office in Ottawa. It has developed close relations with departments and agencies at both provincial and federal levels of government that are involved in science and industrial innovation initiatives. *CIIRDF* also has a contact in Israel and works closely with the Office of the Chief Scientist in the Israeli Ministry of Industry and Trade.

Activities

CIIRDF's main activity is promotion and marketing. Simply put, the Foundation is engaged in

activities — mainly in the form of seminars — that stress the benefit to companies of R&D collaboration. *CIIRDF* also provides matchmaking services to companies in either country that seek compatible research partners. To this end, *CIIRDF* undertakes activities ranging from providing summary profiles of prospective partners to acting as an agent on behalf of firms, in many cases making direct contact and participating in negotiations between prospective partners.

By far *CIIRDF*'s most visible activity is providing financial support, in the form of repayable grants, to joint projects that meet the Foundation's requirements. These projects can be feasibility studies, pilot projects, or full-scale R&D initiatives.

Eligibility

Canadian firms operating and based in Canada, and Israeli firms operating and based in Israel, are eligible for *CIIRDF* financial support.

As of June 1996, 12 projects have been approved, representing \$3.85 million in R&D co-operation between Canada and Israel. The majority of the projects are in the biotechnology and information technology fields.

For further information, con-

tact the Canada Israel Industrial Research & Development Foundation, 875 Carling Avenue, Suite 430, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1S 5P1, Tel.: (613) 724-1284; Fax: (613) 724-1134; e-mail: cirdf@cyberplus.ca; Att: Dr. Henri Rothschild, President/ Ms. Leah Murray, Program Coordinator.

EDC at Your Service

Canada's Export Development Corporation (EDC) offers a full range of financial and risk management services for exporters of goods and services to Israel.

EDC has many types of export financing facilities to simplify the purchase of Canadian goods and services by foreign buyers. Lines of credit are a common form of buyer credit

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EDC at Your Service

THE CANADA-ISRAEL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

The Canada-Israel Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CICC) is an independent member-financed not-for-profit organization whose mission is: to raise awareness in the Canadian business community of the benefits of doing business with Israel; to

promote bilateral trade and investment between Canada and Israel; to represent the interests of members to all levels of Canadian government; and to assist members through networking, business information and trade inquiry support.

The contact for additional information is Rosalynne Singer, The Canada-Israel Chamber of Commerce and Industry, 48 St. Clair Ave., West, Suite 1100, Toronto M4V 2Z2, Tel.: (416) 961-7302; Fax: (416) 961-0696.