



news release

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MACDONALD DETTWILER OF RICHMOND, B.C.

SELLS TO ECUADOR WITH FINANCING FROM

EXPORT DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

The Honourable Pat Carney, Minister for International Trade, and the Honourable Bill McKnight, Minister responsible for the Western Diversification Office, today announced financing support of Cdn. \$16,245,200 from the Export Development Corporation (EDC) for a sale of a LANDSAT/SPOT/ERS-1 satellite ground station to Ecuador by MacDonald Dettwiler of Richmond B.C.

The sale, valued at over Cdn. \$19 million, is expected to generate 541 person-years of employment, primarily in British Columbia. It will also provide a significant boost for the high-technology industry in the West.

The sale involves the supply of earth resources ground station equipment to upgrade the COTOPAXI tracking station in Ecuador. The COTOPAXI station was formerly used to track manned space flights during the Apollo program.

Earth resources satellite images are used to map remote regions, determine potential crop yields, collect agricultural data, examine surface characteristics and obtain environmental information. The upgraded station will be the first MacDonald Dettwiler earth resource ground station facility in South America, and will serve the Centro de Levantamientos Integrados de Recursos Naturales por Sensores Remotos (CLIRSEN), the remote sensing agency in Ecuador.

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