

SPACE

The space sector has turned out to be an excellent model of the continuous development in scientific and technological co-operation between our two countries.

(1) Scientific programs in areas in which both sides have mutual interest:

space medicine

Following the visits of the two prospective astronauts Dr. R. Bondar and Dr. C. Deshays, a co-operative program has been established concerning a study on back pain and the physiology of weightlessness.

remote sensing:

Four programs have been set up in the oceanography and remote sensing sector:

- utilization of satellite images for studying coastal waters,
- joint evaluation of the LIDAR airborne,
- structural study of Eureka orogenesis,
- the TEZOC project: application of remote sensing to the ecology of coastal areas.

These four programs have also been developed within the oceanography group.

Other projects are in progress, particularly, in sectors which use SPOT for topographic cartography.

(2) Other programs

COSPAS-SARSAT

The COSPAS-SARSAT program, which is now an operational search and rescue system, constitutes an excellent example of close co-operation between France and Canada within a multilateral program. The final agreement, between the four partners (Canada, the United States, France, and the Soviet Union), should be signed in the coming months.

SPOT

Franco-Canadian co-operation in receiving SPOT satellite data has continued to be extremely successful. The stations in Prince Albert and in Gatineau, which are fully operational, are key elements in the distribution of SPOT data for North America.