

There is another change in the Pacific, full of opportunities for Alberta. That is the trend towards urbanization evident throughout the Pacific. It will lead to strong demand for urban transportation systems, water treatment facilities, electric power systems, health care services, telephone grids, recycling technology, building components - and the services and expertise required to make all that work.

The thrust towards urbanization will also have an enormous impact on the agricultural sector. With a greater proportion of every country's population moving to the cities, there will be a skyrocketing demand for more mechanized, more automated and more efficient agriculture. That will lead not only to a market for agricultural equipment, but also a market for agricultural services such as animal and plant genetics, satellite and remote sensing for crop management, fertilizer systems, and storage and distribution systems for agricultural produce. Alberta is at the forefront of all these sectors.

Urbanization also means energy: energy distribution, energy technology, energy systems management. Let's look at the next decade of the Pacific energy market:

- Indonesia plans to double its natural gas exports to other Pacific destinations within the next 10 years.
- Hong Kong is expected to import half a million tons of natural gas by the year 2000.
- The urban consumers of Japan, Korea and Taiwan will require 60 million tons of natural gas by the end of the decade.
- Malaysia, which has gas reserves rivalling that of Alberta, is expected to rely on natural gas for over 40% of its energy within two years.
- Pakistan is investing millions in oil and gas exploration, production and processing.
- And Thailand, which is just beginning its oil and gas exploration efforts, reports finds of global rank and will confront an overwhelming need for that fuel as the populations of Bangkok and other major cities explode.

This is a market made for Alberta. For a province which has built and managed some of the largest gas pipelines in the world.