

manufacturing and pharmaceutical science units in one building complex to bring gains in efficiency. When fully operational, the plant will employ more than 350 production, research and development personnel. ♦

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characterized construction of the new centre as "a vote of confidence in the Canadian economy, in the productivity of our workforce and the creativity of our R&D personnel." He added that Glaxo Wellcome's choice of Mississauga for the expansion reflects three major Canadian advantages:

"The first and most basic is this country's current intellectual property regime. That provides the essential patent protection needed to justify a large investment in product development.

"Second is location — close to our major export market, the United States — and excellent trans-border

transportation connections.

"Third is the existence in Canada of an advanced health care system — an asset in conducting clinical trials."

One of the most advanced pharmaceutical plants in the world, the Mississauga facility has already attracted worldwide interest and acclaim from industrial facility designers.

Among its many innovative features is a state-of-the-art, integrated storage and retrieval system which delivers components directly and rapidly to the point of use. Glaxo Wellcome also expects the consolidation of



Booming markets trigger \$130 million expansion of Lafarge Canada's British Columbia operations

Lafarge Canada Inc., part of the world network operated by the Lafarge Group of Paris, France, has begun a \$130 million expansion and modernization of its cement factory at Richmond, British Columbia, to serve booming markets on the Canadian and U.S. Pacific coasts.

Under the modernization program, Lafarge will install new processes, sophisticated manufacturing control systems and \$25 million worth of advanced pollution abatement equipment.

Lafarge Canada, whose corporate headquarters are in Montreal, Quebec, is a subsidiary of the U.S.-based Lafarge Corporation. Based in Reston, Virginia, the company, which is North America's largest cement producer, operates 14 plants and reported 1994 sales of US\$ 1.6 billion. Lafarge Canada is Canada's largest cement manufacturer and accounts for one third of all production in the country. In addition to its B.C. installation, the company operates a plant in Nova Scotia.

In an interview with *Canada Investment News*, Ted Pile, Vice-President, Communications, at Reston, says: "The new plant will replace an installation built in 1958 that was actually Lafarge's first plant in Canada."

The new facility will be capable of producing 500,000 tonnes of cement per day, double the existing capacity. "In terms of technology, it will be one of the most advanced plants in North America," he says.

Steve Brooks, Plant Manager at Richmond, notes that the existing plant has been running at full capacity for the past four years. Mr. Brooks says: "This expansion will allow us to keep pace with soaring demand for cement generated by the construction boom in British Columbia and Washington State."

He adds that the advanced technology, will "make us a low-cost cement producer while continuing to provide our customers with the highest quality products." ♦