

4.7 SINGAPORE

The Republic of Singapore is a small, highly urbanized and affluent democratic city state. the country's socio-economic activity as defined by total trade in 1988 is C\$105.4 billion (and total exports in dollars was C\$49.8 billion). The population is 2.6 million. ● ●

Some 45% of the work force is employed in the manufacturing sector in the following four major industries:

- electronic and electrical industry;
- ship and oil rig building and repairs;
- petroleum products and bi-products; and
- consumer goods.

Singapore has the most developed and well-equipped education and research facilities in the whole of South East Asian region. Singapore has 3,361 researchers.

TECHNOLOGY TRENDS

Technology Development is centred around four principal sectors (all within the country):

- electronics
- computer hardware and software
- robotics, automization and engineering equipment
- biotechnology

TECHNOLOGY STRENGTHS

A number of large firms in the country, which are mostly MNCS are: AT&T, Hewlett Packard, Digital, Philips, Sony, Matsushita, Dupont, Far East Livingston, BP, Exxon, Seagate, Glaxo, SGS-Thompson, etc. These companies have been the focii for the development of technological strengths in areas such as electronics, computer hardware and software, petroleum bi-products, chemicals, engineering equipment, and pharmaceuticals.

KEY ORGANIZATIONS

Singapore has a concentration of both public and private technology development organizations. Publicly funded institutions include Singapore Institute of Standards and Industrial Research (SISIR), Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology (IMCB), Institute of System Sciences (ISS) at the National University of Singapore, Japan Singapore Institute of Software Technology, and the Science Council of Singapore. All these institutions are situated at the Singapore Science Park, and they employ about 2,000 research scientists and engineers.

Private technology development organizations in Singapore are for example CCS or Centre for Computer Studies a partnership between ICL (UK) and NGEE ANN Polytechnic and Northern Telecom (Canada) joint research projects with Nanyang Technological Institute.

CONDITIONS OF ACCESS

Companies that wish to qualify for local support program must establish themselves in Singapore.