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## ROYAL AIR MAROC TO ACQUIRE CANADIAN ENGINE TESTING FACILITY

International Trade Minister John C. Crosbie announced today that the Government of Canada, working through the Canadian Commercial Corporation (CCC) and the Export Development Corporation (EDC), will lend up to \$38,615,774 to Royal Air Maroc (RAM) to support the sale of goods and services for the construction of an aircraft engine testing facility in Casablanca by MDS Aero Support Corporation of Montreal, Quebec.

CCC, acting on behalf of MDS Aero Support Corporation, was awarded the contract by RAM for the design and construction of a multi-purpose engine testing facility. EDC will provide the financing for the facility which will be located at Morocco's national airline maintenance centre at Casablanca's International Airport.

"This contract is a first major international venture for MDS Aero Support Corporation which now reaps the benefits of self-developed expertise and the experience gained in their construction of a similar facility for the Canadian Department of National Defence, in addition to the valuable support provided jointly by two federal Crown Corporations," Crosbie said. "There will also be some 1,216 person-years of employment created or maintained in Canada thanks to the transaction."

Montreal-based MDS Aero Support Corporation provides support services to operate engine testing facilities including design, engineering and construction.

Canadian Commercial Corporation acts as prime contractor in export sales by Canadian suppliers to foreign governments and international agencies.

The Export Development Corporation is Canada's official export credit agency, responsible for providing export credit insurance, loans, guarantees, and other financial services to promote Canadian export trade.

External Affairs and International Trade Canada

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