

## TRENDS AND STRUCTURE OF EXPORTS

The year 1991 was particularly favourable for Canadian exports to France as these progressed by 13%. As indicated in Table II, this increase involved Agricultural and Agri-food products (+22%), Energy products (+49%), as well as Manufactured goods (+26%), whereas Semi-finished goods were very slightly down (-2%).

These trends by industry reinforce those observed in recent years in terms of strengthening of Manufactured goods: their share of total sales has almost doubled in the past six years, from 22% in 1985 to 40% in 1991, and are tending to overtake Semi-finished products, which still predominate with 42% of sales.

While exports of Semi-finished products remain concentrated in a few areas (pulp, paper and paperboard, non ferrous metals, ores), the increase in sales of Manufactured goods is primarily due to higher sales of Industrial Equipment (essentially aircraft assembly products and professional electronic equipment), and somewhat less to typical Consumer goods (wood products).

The shares of Agri-food exports (essentially fish and meat products), and Energy products (refined petroleum), have stopped decreasing in the past two years, even strengthening slightly, to 12% and 6% of the total respectively.

Overall, Canadian exports to France appear to be very much concentrated in a small number of products. As indicated in Chart I, approximately half of these exports correspond to the following six products:

- Paper pulps remain despite their decrease the top export product (11% of sales);
- Aircraft assembly products (primarily aircraft motors) and professional electronic equipment reinforce their respective ranking of the second (10%) and third (8%) export products;
- . Non ferrous metals move up to fourth place (7%), up one position from 1989;
- . Paper and paper board move up two positions to fifth place (7%). The full range of paper products (pulp and paper) represent 18% of exports;
- . Wood products retain their sixth position (4%) despite a decrease.

In addition, the good performance of private automobiles is to be noted as they progress from tenth to seventh position.