

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

The federal government operates many departments and agencies that can provide assistance to companies contemplating ventures in the United States and Mexico. They include:

The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT)

InfoEx Centre

DFAIT is in many respects the best one-stop source of information, and in any event is a key first step in initiating many of the activities discussed in this document. The InfoEx Centre offers advice on how to start exporting, and acts as the entry point to DFAIT's trade information network. It is located at 125 Sussex Drive, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0G2. For information, call: 1-800-267-8376 or fax: (613) 996-9709. Companies in the Ottawa area may call 944-4000.

InfoEx also has an automated fax-back system to provide Canadian companies with information on Access North America programs and initiatives. The system offers a catalogue from which companies can make a selection of the documents or details that meet their information requirements. A voice menu is also available to provide callers with the InfoEx toll-free number, if additional information is required that is not yet on the fax-back system. The number to dial from a fax machine to access the fax-back system is (613) 944-4500.

The policy direction of DFAIT's programs for this market, and other specific information, can be obtained from:

Latin America and Caribbean
Trade Division (LGT)
Department of Foreign Affairs
and International Trade
Lester B. Pearson Building
125 Sussex Drive
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0G2
Fax: (613) 943-8806

U.S. Trade, Tourism and
Investment Bureau (UTD)
Department of Foreign Affairs
and International Trade
Lester B. Pearson Building
125 Sussex Drive
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0G2
Tel: (613) 944-5726
Fax: (613) 944-9119

International Trade Centres

These offices, staffed with resident Trade Commissioners, help companies determine whether or not they are ready to export; assist with initial market research and planning; provide access to government programs designed to promote exports; and arrange for assistance from Trade Development Divisions in Ottawa as well as trade officers abroad. They are located with regional offices of Industry Canada.