

# Telecommunications



*From the invention of the telephone and the inaugural long distance telephone call in 1876, to the world's first packet-switching network a century later, Canada leads the way in telecommunications.*

*Canada has the world's most advanced telecommunications infrastructure. It includes microwave systems totalling over 160,000 kilometres (100,000 route miles), the world's first commercial satellite communications network with over 100 earth stations, and will be enhanced by the recently-announced plans to construct the world's longest fibre optic network. Canada ranks fourth in the world in terms of telephones per capita with more than 19 million telephones in service, or 76 per 100 population.*

*These accomplishments have shaped an industry with immense capability and vast experience. Led by Northern Telecom Limited, Canadian industry has established itself at the forefront of digital switching technology. Northern Telecom broke ground in this competitive international field with the introduction of a family of fully digital central office switching and transmission systems. Today, the company is the world's leading supplier of such equipment. In private telephone exchanges, Mitel Corporation has achieved international acclaim with sales of analog and digital PBXs to more than 80 countries.*

*Another prominent Canadian exporter, SR Telecom, produces point-to-multipoint microwave radio systems that can be found in remote locations throughout Africa and the Middle East. Canadian manufacturers export a wide selection of other leading-edge communications products ranging from electronic telephones and network monitoring and control systems to broadcast switchers and cable television amplifiers.*

*SR Telecom Inc. microwave radio outstation in a remote location in New Zealand. SR exports point-to-multipoint digital microwave radio systems to more than 30 countries around the world.*