

# Publications

## Study Pinpoints Canadian Cost Advantages

As a business location, Canada offers some significant cost advantages over the United States. A 1996 report from KPMG, *The Competitive Alternative*, examines seven key industries in 13 Canadian and 10 U.S. cities — and finds that the overall cost of doing business is about 15.7 per cent less in Canada.

The study's conclusions are based on a comparison of the main location-sensitive cost factors including labour, transportation, construction and telecommunications. Compared with the U.S. cities, each Canadian city studied has lower annual location-sensitive costs in each industry. Exchange rates are cited as leading reason for the cost advantage.

For copies of *The Competitive Alternative*, contact Prospectus Inc., 180 Elgin Street, Suite 900,

Ottawa, Ontario, K2P 2K3, Tel.: (613) 231-2727, Fax: (613) 237-7666.

## 1997 Annotated Customs Act

The 1997 Annotated Customs Act, by Mohan A. Prabhu, Q.C., includes the full text of the federal Customs Act and regulations; section-by-section annotation (including commentary and digests for over 200 court and tribunal decisions); a bibliography of related publications; and a comprehensive index.

The 1997 edition also features the major changes under Bill C-102 (amending the Act to streamline and consolidate the duty deferral program) and the new "Persons Authorized to Account for Casual Goods Regulations (SOR/95-418)."

This 508-page, softcover guide to the legislation costs \$70 (shipping and handling extra) and is available for a 30-day risk-free examination. To order, call 1-800-387-5164.

## Carnets Cut Red Tape at Customs

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Carnets cut complicated and lengthy Customs procedures when both entering and leaving a foreign country with samples or equipment. They can be particularly useful when there is a language barrier, as well as the usual bureaucratic hurdles, to cope with.

Carnets also cut costs — without one, for each country visited, a traveller may have to buy a temporary import bond or pay all tariffs and excise taxes on entering and claim a refund on departure.

Carnets are available from the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, which has been providing them to business people for over 25 years.

For more information, contact (in Ottawa) Diane Orr, Tel.: (613) 238-4000, Fax: (613) 238-7643; (in Montreal) Bill Browne, Tel.: (514) 866-4334, Fax: (514) 866-7296; (in Toronto) Helen Chang, Tel.: (416) 868-6415, Fax: (416) 868-0189; or (in Vancouver) Alice Barnard, Tel.: (604) 681-2111, Fax: (604) 681-0437.