

- *Max Planck Gesellschaft*  
The role of the 60 Max Planck institutes is to complement the research at the scientific universities and to establish priorities in specific areas of research, particularly in basic research in the natural sciences, the social sciences and the humanities.
- *National Research Centres*  
The 13 national research centres with a budget of approximately 2 billion DM per year conduct research on tasks relating to interdisciplinary complex problems. It is anticipated that the centres, in line with government policy will put greater emphasis in the 1990's on information technology, production engineering, handling technology, materials research and biotechnology.
- *Fraunhofer - Gesellschaft Institutes*  
The role of the 33 Fraunhofer Institutes is to promote applied research and to work closely with industry on the applications of technology to industry.
- *Consultancy for Problem Solving*  
The Government will pay for a grant of up to 30% of the cost of a contract from a small firm to a university, government institute, or another company to solve the technological problem.
- *Canada-Germany Agreement*  
The Canada-FRG Science and Technology Agreement signed in 1971, provides an umbrella for joint R&D projects. It has an annual budget of \$200,000 for catalyzing joint activity on the German side. On the Canadian side, the Government has recently allocated more but modest resources to support Canada's bilateral agreements with European countries, including Germany.

#### KEY SUPPORT PROGRAMS

The main support programs include:

- *Technology Transfer Advisory Services*  
There are 85 German Chambers of Industry and Commerce, which are distributed throughout Germany, and are well funded and staffed. The Federal Government initially provided funding to set up advisory services in six of the Chambers. Now, there are such services in 15 of the Chambers, all of which are funded by the individual Chamber members. Each service has between one and five experts who can give advice to companies directly, or help them to get advice from consultants.

#### CONDITIONS OF ACCESS

There are no specific conditions of access. However, Germans insist on a level of technological competence in their international partners. Even in licensing agreements for which they receive money, they will like to be assured of the technological ability of the licensee to properly apply and use their technology.

#### TECHNOLOGICAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR CANADIANS

Opportunities for Canadians exist in all technological areas including automotive parts, ocean industries, defence, health care products, micro-electronics, pulp and paper, wood products, environmental equipment, urban transportation, agricultural equipment and telecommunications.

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