year history of providing technical advice and assistance to Canadian firms and has acquired a reputation as one of the most flexible and effective federal programs. IRAP takes advantage of the advice of industrial technology advisors who are situated in more than 165 different locations within approximately 90 communities across Canada, including numerous provincial technology centres, the NRC's own laboratories and research institutes, federal government departments, and technology transfer offices in Canadian universities. For further information, contact:

Industrial Research Assistance Program

National Research Council Montreal Road Building M-55 Ottawa, ON K1A 0R6 Tel.: (613) 993-1790

Fax: (613) 952-1079

CANADIAN COMMERCIAL CORPORATION (CCC)

CCC, a Crown corporation, provides Canadian exporters with valuable assistance when they are selling to any foreign government, or to an international organization. In such sales, CCC acts as a prime contractor and guarantor for the sale of Canadian goods and services to the foreign customer.

CCC certifies the Canadian exporter's financial and technical capabilities, and guarantees to the foreign buyer that the terms and conditions of the contract will be met. CCC's participation in a sale provides Canadian suppliers with the tangible backing of their own government, enhancing their credibility and competitiveness in the eyes of foreign customers. This can often lead to the negotiation of more advantageous contract and payment terms.

The Progress Payment Program, developed by CCC in cooperation with Canada's financial institutions, makes preshipment export financing more accessible to small- and medium-sized exporters. The program allows an exporter to draw on a special line of credit, established by his or her principal banker for a particular export sale. In most instances, the borrowing costs will approximate those associated with a typical demand line of credit. The program is available for transactions with foreign government and private sector buyers.

For more information about CCC and its programs, contact:

Canadian Commercial Corporation

50 O'Connor Street Eleventh Floor Ottawa, ON K1A 0S6 Tel.: (613) 996-0034 Fax: (613) 995-2121

KEY CONTACTS IN CANADA

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Commission for Labor Coooperation One Dallas Centre

350 N. St. Paul Suite 2424 Dallas TX 75201-4240

Dallas TX 75201-4240 USA

Tel.: (214) 754-1109 Fax: (214) 754-1199

Canadian Labour Market Productivity Centre

55 Metcalfe Street

Suite 1500 Ottawa, ON K1P 6L5

Tel.: (613) 234-0505 Fax: (613) 234-2482

Canadian Council for the Americas (CCA)

The Council is a non-profit organization formed in 1987 to promote business interests in Latin American as well as Caribbean countries. The CCA promotes events and programs targeted at expanding business and building networking contacts between Canada and the countries of the region.

Canadian Council for the Americas

Executive Offices 360 Bay Street Suite 300 Toronto, ON M5H 2V6

Tel.: (416) 367-4313 Fax: (416) 367-5460

