

Although outside suppliers will be given the same access to national certification procedures as local firms, the EC has signalled that it will only recognize tests and certificates issued by third countries if mutual recognition has been negotiated by Brussels (and not by individual Member States).

#### Technology Programs

In theory, non-EC owned firms operating in the Community will be welcome to participate in all Community R&D programs as long as they have something special to offer and their research is carried out in laboratories within the EC.

#### Services

The liberalization of financial services and the free movement of capital are rated highly by firms in the services area (especially banking and finance) as well as manufacturing firms as two very important benefits of the Single Market program.

The free movement of personnel is of top importance to business services - a group that includes accountants, law firms and engineering consultants - whose staff will benefit after 1992 from the mutual recognition of professional qualifications.

Although there should be no legal barriers to non-European services firms that are located in the EC, a de facto preference for European companies will make it a definite asset to be seen to be as "European" as possible.

#### Increased Competition from European Firms

Almost 60% of EC manufacturing firms surveyed and 45% of services companies felt that the 1992 program would have a moderate to strong effect in terms of strengthening EC firms as competitors in third markets.