Mission from the European Community on Distance Learning

In April, a group of 20 to 30 European Community (EC) officials working on the development and use of distance-learning and workplacetraining technologies will come to Canada to follow up on discussions that begun in 1991 in Europe.

The mission will discuss distancelearning opportunities, new media technologies and applications designed for learning, and distancelearning market issues pertaining to both Canada and the world.

In 1991, fifteen Canadian private firms and public institutions met with a cross section of European organizations engaged in the research, development and application of new media and communications technologies for distance learning and workplace training. In addition to exchanging information on the latest developments, trends and policies in these fields, the mission explored areas of future collaboration in research, development and business ventures.

The mission was a great success. Several Canadian firms have since benefited commercially through joint participation in large European research and development programs such as DELTA (Development of European Learning Through Technological Advance). Exchanges of information between Canada and the EC are still taking place and some further undertakings are under discussion.

The EC mission to Canada will further strengthen the working relationships that were forged between Canadian and European organizations during the initial Canadian mission to Europe. The European participants will acquire additional information on Canadian experience and expertise, while Canadian organizations will gain opportunities to enhance partnerships and market access in the European Community.

The EC officials, all associated with the DELTA Program, will participate for one day in the "Multimedia Communications '93" conference, which will be held in Banff, Alberta, April 13 to 16, 1993. After the conference, the officials will visit several project sites where Canadian distance-learning technologies are being applied. On April 19 and 20, the EC mission will come to Ottawa to take part in a one-anda-half day workshop, which will focus on new media and communications technologies applied to distance learning and workplace training. A Canada/EC videoconference will be conducted following the workshop. For further information contact DOC's Telematics Division at (613) 990-4924 or by fax at (613) 941-1164.

Help for Canadian Communications Firms

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communications, data communications, spectrum management systems, radio and mobile communications, rural communications, broadcast technologies, and information technologies. Geographically, DOC has assigned priority to the following regions: Asia Pacific, Latin America, Western Europe, Middle East, North Africa, and the newly liberalized markets of Eastern Europe and Russia. In R&D, particular emphasis has been placed on co-operation with Japan and the countries of the European Community.

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