

CANADEXPORT

Venturing in Thailand a Good Investment

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Canadians interested in foreign investment or joint ventures should seriously consider Thailand.

The Thai economy, despite 18 months of political uncertainty, remains one of the fastest growing economies in the world.

Real growth, which averaged 11 per cent from 1987-1990 and 7.5 per cent in 1991, was expected

to be 7.6 per cent in 1992. Inflation is a low 4.2 per cent.

Economists attribute this economic success to Thailand's sustained high exports, domestic consumption, and, most importantly, public and private investment.

Thailand offers numerous advantages to Canadian companies. There is a domestic market with excellent

growth potential of nearly 60 million Thais. The ASEAN countries, with an additional 260 million consumers, are readily accessible (and if discussions on an ASEAN Free Trade Area are successful, this will become an even more important factor).

In addition, Thailand serves as a gateway to populous Indochina and the new opportunities in rapidly developing Vietnam.

The Thai government strongly encourages foreign investment by offering attractive tax incentives and permitting easy repatriation of profits. There are additional generous incentives for enterprises established in special zones or specially for export.

As well, Canada and Thailand have signed a Double Taxation Agreement which simplifies certain trade matters. Other positive factors include the very low cost of labour, most of the land and other necessary inputs. Also, nearly all businesspeople speak English.

Although transport can sometimes be difficult, new construction and expansion of expressways, public transit systems, airports and freight rail are in progress and

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Information Only a Fingertip Away with Trade Commissioner Directory

Exporters or would-be exporters will find that government promoters of Canadian trade, investment and tourism in Canada and around the world are only a fingertip away — provided they have at hand the recently released *Directory of the Canadian Trade Commissioner Service* (Export Information Series, Volume III).

broken down into Trade Offices in Canada (International Trade Centres, Sectoral Trade Divisions, Trade Policy Divisions, Geographic Trade Divisions), and Trade Commissioner Service Abroad — listing all the missions, honorary consuls and honorary commercial representatives at your disposal.

The Trade Commissioner Service Abroad section also provides valuable information on How Trade Commissioners Assist Exporters and Working with Your Canadian Trade Commissioner.

A separate section describes (and tells how to subscribe to) *CanadExport*, the department's twice-monthly newsletter with a readership of 33,000, and *InfoExport*, which can provide export assistance counselling to potential or existing exporters.

Copies of the *Directory of the Canadian Trade Commissioner Service* may be obtained by contacting *InfoExport* (see box at bottom of page 12).

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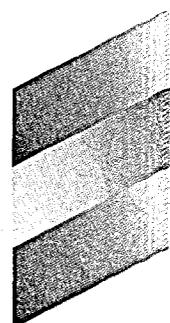
nications Division of External Affairs and International Trade Canada, the *Directory* provides the names, addresses and telephone/fax numbers of more than 818 officers in some 120 cities abroad and 13 cities in Canada.

The *Directory*, in addition to its Overview of Services section (a step-by-step guide on where to go to solve your trade-related problems), is

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