

## Exports to Japan, Mexico Get EDC Boost

### EDC-JEXIM Agreement...

A new agreement signed between EDC and the Export-Import Bank of Japan (JEXIM) will benefit Canadian companies pursuing trade or investment opportunities with Japanese partners.

Under this agreement, the two financial institutions will cooperate on financially supporting projects in which Japanese and Canadian goods and services are used. EDC may choose to support Canadian suppliers in identified projects in the form of equity, credits, loans and guarantees, or insurance. Consideration will be on a project-by-project basis. Each agency will determine if it will provide financial support for a project.

### ...and More Financing for Exports to Mexico

Responding to a strong demand by Canadian exporters, EDC has added US\$50 million to a line of credit with Mexico's largest bank, Banco Nacional de México, S.A (Banamex). The increased financing brings the aggregate amount of the line of credit to US\$125 million.

In addition to this credit facility, EDC also has agreements and relationships with other private and state-owned financial institutions in Mexico.

EDC can be contacted at offices in Vancouver, Calgary, Winnipeg, London, Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal and Halifax.

## Czech Technology Mission Makes Advances on Canada

The first formal advanced technology exchange between Canada and the Czech Republic will take place November 25-December 2, 1995 when a high profile Czech delegation visits three Canadian cities.

Mission objectives are: to seek new technologies for possible transfer to the Czech Republic; to seek potential partners for hi-tech opportunities in the

Republic and surrounding regions; to introduce Czech-developed advanced technologies; and to promote the Republic as a gateway to third markets in Central and Eastern Europe.

The cities, dates and fields of interest to be discussed are:

**Toronto** (Nov. 27) — environment technology, industrial manufacturing technology (including agriculture, forestry

and nuclear power technologies); **Ottawa** (Nov. 28-30) — information systems, telecommunications (information highway), aerospace/defence, computer software, medical technology; **Montreal** (Dec. 1) — networking and financing.

Contact L. J. Novotny, Canada-Czech Republic Chamber of Commerce, Toronto, Tel.: (416) 367-3432; Fax: (416) 367-3492.

## Brazil's *Plano Real* Proves Positive — Continued from page 1

While there are problems still to be resolved, the Ministry document focuses on successes in eliminating hyperinflation (monthly inflation rates are being maintained at between 1% and 2%), continued economic growth (the GDP grew 5.67% in 1994) and increased Brazilian exports (US \$ 4.558 billion in August, the highest ever registered in a single month).

The government intends to maintain interest rates at current levels to prevent a flight of foreign

investments and to counterbalance inflationary pressures expected to emerge over the coming months.

The focus of government now is to promote medium- and long-term investment and to discourage the entry of short-term speculative foreign capital.

Long-term investment is needed to build an internationally-competitive productive capacity that can absorb an enormous labour force and contribute to addressing Brazil's social con-

cerns.

### Contacts

Persons wanting more information on trade development activities in Brazil, may contact the Canadian Consulate General, Sao Paulo, Tel.: (011-55-11) 287-2122; Fax: (011-55-11) 251-5057; or Latin America and Caribbean Trade Division, Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Ottawa, Tel.: (613) 996-5549; Fax: (613) 996-6142.