

14 categories of "special waste" (toxic waste), divided into 172 sub-categories, which must be burned in special incinerators.

**Water**

Switzerland's drinking water comes mainly from spring water and ground-water. On average, the Swiss population — including industry — consumes approximately 425 litres per inhabitant daily. Switzerland has wide expertise in using biotechnology for wastewater treatment. Today, 97% of the population and all factories are connected to wastewater treatment plants.

**Air**

In Switzerland, 90% of private cars are equipped with catalytic converters. In order to reduce the emissions of carbon dioxide, the government program "Energy 2000" was launched in 1990, aimed at maintaining 1990 levels of emissions and fossil fuel usage over the next decade. The program also foresees by the end of 2000 an increase of 3% in the use of renewable forms of energy for heat production, and an increase of 0.5% for electricity generation. Among other measures, the use of heat pumps is widely encouraged; 55,000 heat pumps can replace 110 million litres of fuel oil per year. (For more information, see [www.wpz.ch](http://www.wpz.ch))

Biotechnology is also increasingly used for removing various gaseous emissions and odours.

**Soil**

A number of Swiss firms specialize in advanced remediation methods (in situ and ex situ) for soil and for older landfills, including monitoring equipment and data-collection devices.

**Cleaner Production Centres (CPCs)**

Switzerland is not a member of the European Union (EU). It has its own laws, legislation, norms and standards, which, though often in line with those of the EU, are in many cases more stringent. Despite existing bilateral trade agreements with the EU, the isolation of Switzerland within Europe sometimes has a limiting effect on

Swiss companies' efforts to increase their exports in the environment sector and in others. Swiss firms must often rely on licensing agreements to market their products and services, or on joint ventures with partners in the European Union or from overseas.

CPCs were set up in Switzerland to foster international co-operation by enabling corporations from around the world to share new ideas and technologies in the environment industry. In Switzerland, these centres focus on creating long-term technology co-operation agreements, promoting "eco-efficient" production processes, and helping to improve recycling and disposal methods.

**Partnership opportunities**

Opportunities exist for partnering with Canadian companies in the following areas:

- waste management — collection, sorting, recycling, treatment, incineration
- resource recovery and recycling technologies
- wastewater, fresh water, sewage treatment
- composting, biowaste, sludge

- soil protection, geology and tunnelling
- air pollution control
- noise abatement and ventilation
- monitoring and introduction of clean process technology; environmental impact
- assessment studies and life-cycle analysis
- corporate environmental management systems
- sustainable energy conservation and new energy technologies

For more information, contact Werner Naef, Commercial Officer, Canadian Embassy, Berne, Switzerland, tel.: (4131) 357-3206, fax: (4131) 357-3210, e-mail: [werner.naef@dfait-maeci.gc.ca](mailto:werner.naef@dfait-maeci.gc.ca) Web site: [www.canada-ambassade.ch](http://www.canada-ambassade.ch)

**Other useful Web sites:**

- [www.admin.ch/buwal](http://www.admin.ch/buwal) (Swiss Ministry of Environment)
- [www.snf.ch/spp\\_umwelt](http://www.snf.ch/spp_umwelt) (Swiss National Science Foundation; Environment Priority Program)
- [www.umwelttechnik-verband.ch](http://www.umwelttechnik-verband.ch) (Swiss Association for Environmental Technologies) ✪

**CCC: A proud sponsor**

— Continued from page 7

- **Student Achievement** — recognizing students who have applied what they have learned to the benefit of Ontario's export community.

**Who can submit nominations**

Companies or individuals may nominate themselves or be nominated by a group, customer or individual who is familiar with their export business activities. Nomination guides and forms are available on-line at [www.ontario-canada.com/export](http://www.ontario-canada.com/export)

*The nomination deadline for the 2000 Ontario Global Traders Awards is December 15, 2000.*

**How winners are selected**

Nominations for regional awards are evaluated by regional panels, representing leaders from business, education and economic development groups. A provincial panel selects the provincial winners from a short list of regional winners.

For more information, tel.: (416) 314-8200, toll free: 1-877-468-7233, fax: (416) 314-0648, e-mail: [global.traders@edt.gov.on.ca](mailto:global.traders@edt.gov.on.ca), Web site: [www.ontario-canada.com/export](http://www.ontario-canada.com/export) ✪

*(For the unabridged version, see [www.infoexport.gc.ca/canadexport](http://www.infoexport.gc.ca/canadexport))*