

## 2.0 EUROPE 1992 AND THE INDUSTRIAL EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES INDUSTRY

Europe 1992 will have an impact on every sector of the Western Europe economy. However, it is not possible to determine yet the effects on every sector.

If we focus on the oil and gas industry, there are a number of directives that are or will be in place before 1993 that will bear an impact on the Canadian oil and gas equipment and services industry.

The Commission of the European Communities wants to standardize the manufacturing as well as the distributing process. The most important laws or directives set by the Commission that will have an implication on the industrial sector are the following:

- 1) Removal of technical barriers: There are two major concerns in this section:
  - a) The harmonization of Technical norms: The Commission will set essential requirements for health and safety in all the major sectors while two organizations: CEN and CENELEC will define the technical manufacturing standards for the Community. However, CEN and CENELEC are not trying to standardize everything, only a small number of aspects will be harmonized. For example, the standard EN-228 concerning lead-free petrol defines a number of joint specifications although other specifications are left to the discretion of the member states.
  - b) Opening up of public procurement: This is a major issue in the industrial sector since it will enable, in principle, companies from every European states to bid for any government offering inside the Community. More important is that companies outside the Community will be permitted to bid for these same offerings and their bidding will have to be considered as equal with a European