

Improved bomb sniffer

Scintrex Ltd. of Toronto smells the scent of higher profit this fiscal year as a result of production of a new bomb sniffer and additional applications of the technology now on the drawing board.

The company's annual meeting was highlighted by the first public demonstration of the EVD-1 explosives vapour detector, developed by the National Research Council for the federal Department of Transport. Scintrex has world rights to the device and will begin marketing it to military and civilian security forces this September, company president Harold Seigel said.

The Transport Department has placed an initial order for 40 sniffers, which will sell for between \$15 000 to \$20 000 each. "We'll be coming in at a higher price than other devices because of the greater

sensitivity of the EVD-1," Mr. Seigel said.

The sniffer is essentially a portable gas chromatograph that can detect trace amounts of certain gases given off by explosives. A small battery-operated wand-like device containing a glass ampule that collects an air sample is removed from the machine.

The ampule is then placed in the analyzer, which is the size of a small suitcase, and a digital reading of the sample is given in two minutes. The device detects trace amounts to a sensitivity of a few parts a trillion, compared with existing devices that give readings down to several parts a billion.

Mr. Seigel also said Scintrex was developing new versions of the sniffer for other uses.

An undisclosed federal government department wants a version to sniff out illegal stills. Scintrex simply has to make a different ampule and reprogram the device's micro-processor to enable it to "sniff" ethanol alcohol, which is given off during distillation.

National R and D centre

To meet the challenge of economic realities by improving the skills of Canadian managers in the world marketplace, a new \$12-million National Centre for Management Research and Development is to be established at the University of Western Ontario (UWO).

Dr. George Connell, UWO president, in Ottawa to participate in the announcement of federal government aid for the project, said that the university was enthusiastic about the opportunity to co-operate with the government of Canada and the business community in a new enterprise "dedicated to research in an area critical to the nation's future".

The new facility, which will come under the auspices of UWO's School of Business Administration, will be established with the assistance of a \$4.2-million contribution from the federal Industrial and Regional Development Program. The university will invest \$3 million and will raise the remainder from the private sector.

Industry Minister Ed Lumley said that the centre would study ways of improving entrepreneurship, productivity and methods of conducting international business, with the aim of developing "world class" management talent for Canadian industry. Specifically, the centre will investigate how such functions as marketing, operations management, information and control systems, financing, human resources management, and business-government relations can contribute to improvements in Canada's performance in these key areas.

Drug detector

The machine could also be used to detect drugs. And the military wants a version that can sniff explosive fuel vapours that leak from torpedoes.

Scintrex has resolved the "outstanding impediments" it had in delivering its MK-22 explosive ordnance detectors to the US Navy and shipments this year will translate into higher revenue.



Action Photographies

Harold Seigel, president of Scintrex demonstrates new bomb-sniffing equipment.

The company has also strengthened its defence marketing by appointing a former military attaché to Peking as director of defence sales.

Further contributions to the company's profit will come from sales of its exploration equipment, including an \$800 000 order to India. Diversification will more than make up for the decline in shipments of its nuclear power monitoring instruments.

Expo 86 logo flies far and wide



CP Air, the official carrier for Vancouver's 1986 World Exposition, recently launched the EXPO 86 Empress of Canada — the first of four 747, EXPO 86 carriers. Within the next few months, the EXPO 86 logo also will appear on the Empress of B.C., the Empress of Vancouver and the Empress of Expo, all CP Air carriers. The planes will fly to EXPO 86's major markets of the United States, Hong Kong, Australia and Europe.