

these developments closely with a view to protecting Canada's commercial and other interests.

### ***EUREKA and the European Space Agency***

EUREKA (The European Program for High Technology Research and Development) was launched in 1985 by 17 Western European countries plus the EC, to promote industrial cooperation and European competitiveness. Approval was given at the EUREKA ministerial meeting in Vienna for the participation of a fourth Canadian company in a project. DMR Inc. of Montreal was chosen to collaborate with French and Finnish partners in project EAST (European Advanced Software Technology). Following the invitation from the President of the EUREKA ministerial club, Canada had a political representation at the Industrial Forum on Technology, Production and Environment held in October in Venice.

A ten-year Cooperation Agreement between Canada and the European Space Agency (ESA) was signed in May. The ESA is an intergovernmental organization of 13 member states and one associate member from Western Europe, created to carry out space

research and space technology applications and to develop European industry for peaceful purposes.

Canada is the only non-European nation to have a Cooperation Agreement with the ESA, although Canada has had observer status with the Agency since the mid-1970s. The relationship strengthens long-term international competitiveness and maintains Canadian access to European space technology. It also reinforces our political and economic relations with the EC, allowing Canadian companies to compete for international contracts and to develop closer ties with European industries. The European Earth Observation Program (ERS-1), a remote-sensing satellite, the Olympus telecommunications project, and the ESA's Hermes space plane (shuttle) project are major cooperative ventures.

The ESA is also a partner with Canada, the United States and Japan in the International Space Station Project.

### ***Immigration Program in Western Europe***

Western Europe continues to be an important source of new immigrants for Canada. In 1989, 41,354 immigrant visas were issued at Canadian missions