

Canadian firms can profit from supplying software to the CEFTA banking sector, which is increasingly working in "real time", and thus requires upgraded technology and DOS/UNIX cross-communication software. Although spreadsheets and word processing markets are saturated, the applications software market is still growing.

All the CEFTA members provide significant opportunities for Canadian suppliers of Internet-related software, peripherals, and services.

The CEFTA market for any sophisticated graphical software and related hardware is, according to industry insiders, already limited in the CAD/CAM field.

The problem with local versions of foreign software packages is updating them to keep track of the most recent changes. In general, the market seems to favour national adaptations of foreign packages, which are written locally and can be updated more readily.

Activities

- Computer Expo is an annual international fair, held in January, in Warsaw.
- Infosystem will be held in Poznan from April 8-11, 1997.
- IFABO is an annual show held in Budapest in May. It features computer

hardware and software, telecommunications products, office equipment, and furniture.

- CAMP is an annual show held in September in Budapest, featuring CAD/CAM/CAE/CIM products.
- COMPFAIR is an annual show held in Budapest in October, featuring computer hardware, software, and office equipment.
- GIS/LIS is an annual conference and exhibition on GIS/LIS for Central and Eastern Europe. Its focus is on implementation and development plans.
- Invex is an annual international fair held in October 1996 in Brno. Its focus is on computer hardware and software.

POWER AND ENERGY EQUIPMENT

Overview

As demand for power and energy equipment rises, governments and the private sector alike must respond to the future energy requirements of revitalized economies in the whole CEFTA region.

The Czech Republic offers numerous opportunities to invest in joint stock companies that were formerly publicly owned. The National Property Fund, which holds shares in these companies, is now looking to divest itself of them.

Heating plants have to be modernized