Rolls-Royce Industries Canada Inc.



Taking Advantage of the Availability of Skilled Workers in Canada

Rolls-Royce Industries Canada Inc. (RRICI), the Canadian business unit of Rolls-Royce plc of England, comprises five business units operating out of three provinces. The RRICI group has annual sales of more than CAD 500 million (50% of which are exports), employs some 3,000 people and has more than 1.5 million square feet of facilities. RRICI represents one of parent company Rolls-Royce plc's largest investments outside the United Kingdom.

All Rolls-Royce business units in Canada have benefited from the transfer of technology and assistance from Rolls-Royce plc, including the re-investment of profits in existing and future plants and equipment.

This operational philosophy led Rolls-Royce (Canada) in Lachine, Quebec, to develop superior expertise and technological competence in the manufacturing, repairing and overhauling of industrial derivatives of aero engines. This, in turn, led to the procurement of a worldwide mandate for Rolls-Royce's Industrial RB 211 engines and further prompted the establishment, in late 1992, of Rolls-Royce Gas Turbine Engines (Canada) Inc. (RRGTE) in neighbouring Dorval, Quebec.

Rolls-Royce Gas Turbine Engines (Canada) Inc.

RRGTE's mandate is to do the research

and development related to an industrial version of the new Rolls-Royce Trent 800, while Rolls-Royce (Canada) Ltd. will manufacture the actual engines. With a thrust range of 65,000 to 95,000 lbs. (thrust representing that which "drives" an airplane), the Trent is, to date, the most powerful aero engine developed by Rolls-Royce. The RRGTE project marks the first time that an industrial Rolls-Royce gas turbine engine will have been entirely developed, from its initial stages through to its completion, outside the United Kingdom. The driving notion behind the project is to convert a traditional aero engine, which provides pounds of thrust, into a generator which provides electricity.

There are currently over 80 highly qualified people in Montreal who are working on the R&D for the industrial version of the Trent engine. By the time the project is in full operation, R&D personnel will peak at 91, this in addition to the 472 direct and indirect jobs (sub-contract) which will also be created.

Why Canada?

Rolls-Royce (Canada) Ltd. currently has the worldwide mandate for the repair and overhaul of the industrial RB 211. When the aero Trent engine was created, the Trent being the next generation after the RB 211, the parent corporation was in the midst of determining where the R&D for its conversion would take place. The Canadian operation bid on the project and for a number of reasons was awarded the mandate.