



## NORTH-SOUTH CONNECTIONS

The east-west linkages that bind the Canadian economy together are supplemented by north-south linkages that permit easy access to the vast markets of the United States. Shipments from Canada to the U.S. travel by road, rail, marine, air, pipeline, and intermodal services.

Road transport is dominant, a fact which reflects the large flow of manufactured goods and the integration of regional markets. Increasingly, intermodal services are competing with trucking companies for this traffic. Rail is the mode of choice for many bulk shippers, particularly for exports of resource products from western Canada. Marine carriers also handle bulk shipments. Marine travel is concentrated in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Seaway System and on the east and west coasts of North America.

Flights from Canadian airports serve all major North American and global destinations. More than 20 million passengers pass through Canadian airports each year. Air cargo services permit overnight delivery from Canadian centres to customers throughout North America and overseas.

Complementing the Open Skies agreement is the Air Transport Preclearance Agreement — a planned expansion of preclearing facilities to allow travellers to the U.S. to clear customs before leaving Canada. A preclearance facility will be opened by the American government, at Macdonald-Cartier International Airport in Ottawa.

Intermodal transportation combines the attributes of more than one mode. Railways are making important investments in intermodal terminals and equipment to ensure their competitiveness. Double stack container service is available to central Canada from Vancouver and Halifax. Specialized container trains provide timely, high-quality service to Canadian and American cities. CP Rail has direct access to the port of Philadelphia via one of its American subsidiaries. Access to other American ports is available through interchanges with American carriers.