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CANADExPO 84 CONCLUDES

The Honourable Gerald Regan, Minister for International Trade, said today that Canadian companies have made a significant breakthrough into the burgeoning Pacific Rim economies as a result of a major trade show held this past week in Hong Kong.

CANADExPO 84 gave 85 companies and 7 provinces the opportunity to demonstrate to Asian buyers that Canadian products are not only of high quality but competitive in the difficult Far Eastern markets.

Over 13,000 people visited CANADExPO 84 during its five-day run. Approximately \$5 million in business was conducted on site with follow-up business expected to greatly exceed that. For many companies the Fair was their first opportunity to penetrate the Chinese, Hong Kong and Asian markets. Exhibitions of computer and telecommunications equipment, agricultural equipment, construction machinery, food products, and oil and gas sector technology were all enthusiastically received by the local business community and many Canadian firms were able to lay the groundwork for future business by signing agency and distributor agreements.

Mr. Regan said "I am extremely pleased with the results of this show and want to congratulate all those who worked to organize it and those who participated as exhibitors. The impact of CANADExPO, in establishing Canada as a supplier of sophisticated products, should be of enormous value to exporters in the years ahead."

CANADExPO 84 was the largest national trade show ever mounted in Hong Kong and the largest Canada has mounted in Asia since 1972. It was sponsored by the Department of External Affairs with the support of a large number of local Hong Kong and Canadian trade organizations. The Federal Government brought buyers to the show from Pakistan, Singapore, India, Philippines, Korea, Malaysia and Thailand.