

Energy and Natural Resources



— Canada is a land of vast energy reserves, from hydroelectric power to tar sands, from huge natural gas deposits to a unique nuclear capacity. Canada has become a leader in the multifaceted field of energy development. Canadians have designed, built and now operate a huge network of pipelines — including the world's longest petroleum pipeline and a natural gas pipeline system that supplies 22 percent of North American natural gas requirements. Canada's private-sector and public utilities are working with partners around the world to develop and upgrade power systems.

OIL AND GAS

The world's first oil well was drilled in the Canadian community of Oil Springs, Ontario, in 1857. Before long, Canadians who had helped develop Canadian petroleum resources were exporting their expertise to other countries. For more than a century, Canada has been working with other countries to develop oil and gas reserves. Now Canadians are also applying their technological, financial and managerial expertise in the production and distribution of oil and gas in countries as diverse as Argentina, Malaysia and Australia.



Efficient exploitation of oil and gas reserves depends upon keeping up with the rapid pace of technological change in the industry. Canada is at the forefront of the latest developments in enhanced recovery techniques and oil sands extraction.

Canada offers a variety of equipment and services used in exploration, drilling, servicing, producing and processing. Canadian exports include geophysical prospecting equipment; drilling rigs and ancillary tools; pumping machinery; cementing and well-fracturing units; field processing components such as dehydrators, separators and treaters; and drill and processing equipment for offshore drilling platforms.

Canadian firms also have first-rate service capabilities, particularly in pre-drilling exploration and preparation, drilling services (mud, cement, logging, testing, coring and fishing), and well-completion services (perforating and stimulating).

More than 1500 Canadian firms operate internationally, offering other countries the opportunity to increase efficiency and develop new capabilities. A highly trained contingent of Canadians, from top-level managers and professionals to skilled workers, is active in every area of oil and gas exploitation. Engineers and consultants can assess the commercial viability of oil and gas reserves and the means to improve the production of existing projects. Canadian companies can help build and operate sophisticated pipelines over long distances, and can also help gather, process and market natural gas and petrochemicals.



In 1994, international customers bought Canadian equipment and services worth approximately \$1.5 billion — 10 times the level of exports recorded only eight years earlier. These sales have been supported by the willingness of Canadian firms to transfer technology, provide training and offer reliable after-sales services.

Joint ventures are a Canadian specialty, and allow companies to tackle large projects and draw on many factors of production. Canadian companies have established foreign subsidiaries and joint ventures in diverse markets such as the United States, Europe, India, Southeast Asia and Latin America .

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