

Drilling down deep to study oceans' floors

Canada will participate in the international Ocean Drilling Program (ODP) and will contribute approximately \$15 million to the program during the next four fiscal years. The decision to participate in the ODP is in response to the invitation from the United States National Science Foundation, and comes after a one-year planning phase to which Canada contributed \$250 000.

The nine-year program, to begin this year, is a multidisciplinary scientific research initiative being led by the United States. It is designed to improve understanding of the processes that determine the geological history, structure and evolution of the rocks and sediments beneath the world's oceans.

The program differs from previous ones in that processes occurring in the commercially and strategically important areas of the ocean crust will be investigated. It will entail the development and utilization of new techniques and technology for drilling, and new diagnostic equipment and procedures. It will also provide information on the limitations and opportunities for energy and mineral exploitation of the deep ocean.

Such information will allow Canada to be fully aware of the mineral and energy potential of the world's oceans, thereby helping her to remain internationally competitive in resources.

Industrial and scientific benefits

Participation in ODP will permit industry, universities and government to take full advantage of the opportunities in the program.

As ODP is expected to accelerate the development of deeper drilling, new well-logging techniques and equipment, new sensing devices and improved data-gathering and analysis capabilities, participants will have access to all drawings and specifications of the latest technologies.

Canadian high-technology companies will also have an opportunity to use the program to test new equipment under real operating conditions, and to make on-site improvements. They will also be able to develop new products with other industries, universities and the government.

One priority of ODP is the gathering of information in high latitudes. Canadian industries are uniquely positioned to tackle technological problems relating to operations in ice-covered or ice-infested waters.

The oil and gas industries will have access to geoscience information, expertise and technology in the exploration for and development of hydrocarbons. Enhanced capabilities in seismic analysis, stratigraphic correlation,



Canadian drillship, the Sedco/BP/471, was refitted for the Ocean Drilling Program.

The British Petroleum Co. Ltd.

and interpreting of geological structure and evolutionary history of the deeper offshore is expected to increase understanding not only of the ocean depths and the deeper shelf areas, but have application to areas now being explored and exploited.

The mineral exploration industry can expect to benefit from advances in understanding how mineral deposits form. Recently discovered hot springs on the sea floor, spewing black clouds of sulphide minerals, are a guide to the formation in ancient times of ore deposits upon which present and future Canadian mining depends. New knowledge will lead to more effective exploration strategies and techniques on land.

In addition, geoscience information from the program will be useful in the definition of Canadian offshore boundaries.

A new drillship, the *Sedco/BP/471*, which was built in Halifax, Nova Scotia, has been refitted for the program with state-of-the-art scientific and technical equipment.

One of the early drilling projects in the program is scheduled for the Labrador Sea during the summer of 1985; another is planned for 1989 west of Vancouver Island.

Other nations committed to ODP include the Federal Republic of Germany, France and Japan. A consortium of small European countries, as well as Australia and Britain are also considering membership.

Seminars in Southeast Asia

Two-way trade between Canada and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was the main theme at the "Market Opportunities in Canada" seminars in Manila and Singapore in November 1984.

Seven Canadian importers participated with 180 exporters in Manila who are interested in the Canadian tariff system and market conditions for goods ranging from food to furniture and giftware to department store merchandise. In Singapore the Canadian importers met with 120 exporters who are considering exporting to Canada.

Formal sessions and workshops as well as private meetings were held in both cities. In Singapore printing and publishing workshops were also held.

The seminars represented the second of a two-phase "Market Opportunities in Canada" seminar project originally agreed to by Canada at the April 1983 Canada-ASEAN Joint Co-operation Committee Meeting. The first phase of the program took place in February and March 1984 in Bangkok, Kuala Lumpur, Jakarta and Surabaya, Indonesia, where another group of speakers addressed trade issues from the Canadian perspective.

The project was funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and organized by the Trade Facilitation Office, a private Canadian organization specializing in exposing the Canadian market to businessmen unfamiliar with Canada's business methods.

Canada/US adhesive firm

The Industrial Adhesives division of Timminco Limited of Toronto, Ontario and Findley Adhesives Inc. of Elm Grove, Wisconsin, US, have reached an agreement to form a new joint venture adhesive manufacturing company.

The new 50-50 joint venture company, Timminco-Findley Limited, will operate from a new plant in Toronto and be managed by Industrial Adhesives. The company will supply hot melt and liquid adhesives to the Canadian disposable soft goods and pressure-sensitive tag and label markets.

Industrial Adhesives manufactures and markets adhesives for the beverage, flexible packaging, food and automotive industries. The division reported \$13.7 million in annual sales in 1983.

Findley Adhesives is an international supplier of adhesives for disposable diapers and other hygiene products. Timminco representatives said the company's annual sales are in excess of \$100 million (US).