Table 3 shows auto part imports whose growth has been the most dramatic during the 1988-1989 period. There are seven products that have grown more than 500% during that period and eleven whose growth ranged between 100% and 500%. In the former group some of the most important products were: disc brakes valued at $7.5 million and shaft axles at $5.7 million. In the latter group, distributor parts with $5.5 million, bushings $4.7 million and snubbers $4.5 million. Products in these two categories are more diversified that those listed in Table 2 and are more geared towards the automobile market. Their growth rates are closely related to the increase in domestic production of cars and trucks and in the total number of cars in circulation throughout the country, which need particular service.

TABLE 3
MOST DYNAMIC GROWING IMPORTS
(000 dollars)

More than 500% growth during the period 1988-1989

	Value in 1989
Disc brakes	7,517
Shaft axles	5,748
Wheels	2,930
Clutches	1,749
Bumper parts	1,689
Acoustic apparatus	1,118

Growth between 100% and 500% during the period

	Value in 1989
Distributor Parts	5,511
Bushings	4,752
Snubbers	4,498
Brake drums	3,806
Gear cases	3,558
Universal joints	3,150
Master cylinder brakes	3,000
Lights	1,750
Contact points	1,692
Mufflers	1,397
Bobbins	1,085

The most important supplier of auto parts to the Mexican market is the United States. This is closely related to the strong link between the local industry and the U.S. manufacturers, as described in the first section of this report. Approximately 60% of all auto parts are imported from the U.S., followed by Japan (20%), West Germany (10%) and France (5%).

Based on data published by Canadian authorities (see Table 4), Mexican auto part imports from Canada grew from Cdn$52.3 million in 1988 to Cdn$62.8 million in 1989, at a 58.3% growth rate, a value superior to the growth rate of total Mexican imports of auto parts, which was 38% during the same period. Mexican exports to Canada grew 47.5% from Cdn$429.8 million in 1988 to Cdn$560.8 million in 1989, exceeding the 10.2% rate