

# News Release

Minister for  
International  
Trade



# Communiqué

Ministre du  
Commerce  
extérieur

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## SPAR SALE TO CHINA SUPPORTED BY EDC

International Trade Minister John C. Crosbie announced today that the Government of Canada, working through the Export Development Corporation (EDC), will lend up to \$1.9 million to China to purchase a domestic satellite earth station from Spar Aerospace Ltd. The entire financing is repayable.

The station will be used by the Qingdao Administration of Posts and Telecommunications to improve commercial voice and data communications between this east coast city and other major cities in China and in other countries. Users of the station will be from the general public, commerce and industry.

The transaction has been reviewed, and fully complies with the Canadian Government guidelines regarding trade with China announced June 30, 1989. SPAR has been active in China since 1972 and has provided training in Canada for more than 160 Chinese Post and Telecom technicians during that period. In addition to preserving existing links and promoting people-to-people exchanges, the system will contribute to opening up China's regions to the wider world because the system is linked to the INTELSAT global satellite communications network. The system is not designed for military use nor is it equipped for television broadcast.

The transaction will generate 47 person-years of employment in Canada most of them at the Spar Aerospace Ltd. facility in Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue, Quebec.

EDC is Canada's official export credit agency, responsible for providing export credit insurance, loans, guarantees, and other financial services to promote export trade. EDC reports to Parliament through the Minister for International Trade.

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Contact: Media Relations Office  
External Affairs  
and International Trade Canada  
Ottawa (613) 995-1874

Affaires extérieures et  
Commerce extérieur Canada  
External Affairs and  
International Trade Canada

Canada