

Trade update

Minister for International Trade James Kelleher has announced that effective December 1, import controls on footwear will be lifted except on women's and girls' dress and casual footwear. The government will phase out quotas in this sector over the next three years. Footwear import quotas have been in effect for eight years in Canada.

Canada-Ghana Mining Group, a Canadian joint venture group of Cominco Engineering Services Limited, Mining Corporation of Canada Limited, and SNC Inc. have signed a \$13.3-million (US) management agreement with the State Gold Mining Corporation of Ghana to assume management control of three of the state-owned gold mining operations.

Columbia Chrome Industries Limited of Langley, British Columbia has sold a \$2-million 'turnkey' hydraulic repair and industrial hardchrome plant to Morgan Equipment of Perth. The firms have also signed a joint venture agreement to be partners in the new Australian company.

Ontario Bus Industries Inc. of Mississauga, Ontario has received two contracts worth \$36.9 million for the manufacture of 196 Orion transit buses. One contract is for 120 40-foot buses for the Indianapolis Public Transportation Corp. and the other is for 76 40-foot buses for the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority of Buffalo.

Sandwell and Company Limited of Vancouver and Velan Inc. of Montreal have received \$1.44 million (Cdn) in financing support from the Export Development Corporation for sales to N.Z. Forest Products Limited of Auckland, New Zealand. Sandwell will supply services and related equipment for the expansion and modernization of N.Z. Forest Products' Kinleith pulp and paper complex and Velan will supply process valves.

The Export Development Corporation recently announced the renewal of a line of credit agreement valued at \$10 million (US) to the Magyar Nemzeti Bank of Budapest, Hungary, to support sales of Canadian goods and services to Hungary. Nine allocations totalling \$4.57 million were signed under previous lines of credit.

Quick quality computer messages



A Universal Teletext Controller (UTC) placed on one of more than 30 different types of personal computers and word processors made by 19 firms, gives operators access to Telecom Canada's international message service and allows them to produce a letter-quality document in ten seconds. Northern Telecom has signed letters of intent with MBP Software and Systems Technology Inc. of West Germany and Nelma Information Inc. of Mississauga, Ontario for exclusive rights to make and distribute the UTCs in North America.

News briefs

Secretary of State for External Affairs Joe Clark met with Argentina's Minister of External Relations and Worship Dante Caputo in Ottawa in early October to review bilateral relations. The two ministers also discussed a range of regional and multilateral issues including the current situation in Central America, East-West relations and arms control and the international economic situation.

External Relations Minister Monique Vézina has announced that the Canadian International Development Agency will provide \$1.2 million to help China improve its grain production. The objectives of the three-year project are to introduce improved techniques and management of seed breeding, production and processing for wheat, corn and soybeans in the province of Heilongjiang.

Youth and Communications Research for Peace, a Department of Communications International Youth Year project, has been successful in increasing young Canadians' awareness of communications research and promoting international co-operation in the peaceful use of communications. Fifty young people, 25 from Canada and 25 from Central and South America, Asia, Africa, Indonesia, Melanesia and Polynesia, participated in various events across Canada designed to highlight Canadian communications technology and culture.

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