

The December, 1986 mission included seven representatives from private sector companies, one representative from an industry association, one officer from a Canadian government department and staff from the Canadian embassy in Japan. The primary aim of the mission was to sensitize the Canadian microelectronics industry to developments in the Japanese industry and their potential impact on the Canadian situation and to identify opportunities for joint ventures, licensing agreements, two-way investments and other forms of business development and cooperation between the two countries. The mission visited nearly thirty companies and institutions over its six day schedule.

Individual mission members brought to bear a wide range of expertise and interests in automated manufacturing equipment, software systems and applications, IC technology, electronic systems, microwave technology and other areas in the microelectronics industry. The specific mission objectives of various mission members included:

- determining if Japanese companies have an interest in licensing particular technology in various microelectronics fields;
- evaluating the production capacity of Japanese companies in fabricating semiconductors, wafers and other microelectronic devices and materials;
- investigating the level of interest of companies for joint ventures, R&D and joint product development;
- establishing communication links with Japanese companies and associations;
- assessing the environment of the industry and the technology in the industry in Japan;
- establishing awareness of, and tangible contacts between Japanese and Canadian microelectronics people;
- opening new avenues for bilateral trade in microelectronics;
- comparing production and manufacturing techniques of the two countries;
- investigating new technology and assessing research going on in such areas as surface-mount technology in high production environments and polymer thick film technology;