

NEW SOFTWARE FOR TRADE STAFF

By Pierre Sabourin

Key trade tools are now much faster and easier to use

The Trade Information Systems Division (TPP) is currently improving the Department's key trade software tools including WIN Exports, Trade Activity Management System (TAMS), Program for Export Market Development (PEMD) and Trade and Investment Promotion Planning System (TIPPS).

These re-engineered trade systems are designed in Windows and fully compatible with SIGNET. The trade user will find these improved software tools much faster and easier to use.

For example, company information found in the new versions of TAMS, PEMD and TIPPS is integrated into the WIN Exports database. This means trade staff can view an exporter's full history with TAMS and PEMD, their involvement in Department-sponsored trade shows and missions and their visits to posts within the WIN Exports database. In the end, trade staff can monitor a Canadian exporter's total involvement with the Department's trade program.



These improved software tools are deployed in headquarters this spring and summer. The post versions of WIN Exports and TAMS will be made available during this autumn. TIPPS, which will be completely redeveloped, will be deployed in 1995.

WIN Exports on CD ROM will now be published twice a year - July and January. The July version of WIN Exports CD ROM includes the DFAIT and Industry Canada telephone directories, the Trade Commissioner directory, the Info-Centre's publications list and 120 Canadian industry profiles published by Industry Canada.

The Market Intelligence Message System (MIMS) pilot in Atlanta and Los Angeles was successful. TPP is currently working with SIGNET to integrate the MIMS concept into the ICONDesk Messaging System for delivery by the end of this year. With the MIMS functionality, trade staff will be able to send multi-addressed faxes locally and/or to Canada from their workstations using SIGNET's IconDesk Messaging System.

Letters from Your Colleagues

Congratulations for the interview report *The Posting Cycle and You* in the April 1 edition of *Trade Commissioner*.

A review of the posting cycle process from the viewpoint of APT is a valuable reminder for rotational staff of APT's role; but even more valuable was the suggestion of ITC assignments as an option for officers returning from postings abroad.

After five years in an ITC, I believe many of our colleagues do not appreciate the day to day satis-

faction derived from constant contact with clients in a regional business community.

Thank you for a much needed message to our fellow TC's.

Bill Roberts, Edmonton

EDITOR'S NOTE

For any officer interested in working in an assignment in Canada outside of Ottawa, there are positions available in the International Trade Centres in Halifax, Montreal, Saskatoon, and Toronto. Contact TOO/Spencer at 996-1430 to signal your interest.