

EAITC's Science and Technology Division

The very survival of Canada's economy depends in large part on companies getting a healthy dose of innovation through the development and acquisition of world science and technology — particularly if they wish to compete successfully in international markets.

The importance to the Canadian business community of incorporating — from both domestic and foreign sources — technological advances into corporate strategies has been recognized by a number of associations and organizations, including The Canadian Research Management Association, the Canadian Manufacturers' Association and the Canadian Chamber of Commerce.

How TDS Helps

That clear message is also very much a part of the role of the Science and Technology Division (TDS) of External Affairs and International Trade Canada (EAITC).

Maintaining the pulse on world science and technology, TDS can provide a range of services to Canadian companies and research organizations to facilitate access to and knowledge about technological development and scientific achievement from around the world.

Extensive World Network

The Division has an extensive Science and Technology Counsellor and Technology Development Officer network at several key posts around the world.

They can facilitate technology acquisition and technology transfer, search out contracts, make introductions, and locate foreign firms interested in such arrangements as joint ventures and/or R&D collaborative projects; gather information on specific science and technology (S&T) areas; and familiarize Canadian organizations with the operation of science and technology institutions in host countries. They also promote Canada's scientific and technological capability abroad.

Technology Inflow Program

TDS uses its foreign network to deliver the Technology Inflow Program (TIP) which is aimed at assisting Canadian companies to acquire foreign technology. TIP operates closely with the National Research Council's Industrial Technology Advisors across Canada who assist clients to determine their needs and to take advantage of TIP services and support.

Policies, Interests Ensured

The Division is responsible for ensuring the policy framework for Canada's science and technology arrangements with other countries, including those with Germany, France, Japan, Belgium, the UK, Finland, Norway and the European Community.

Sectoral technology interests are also maintained through TDS, with much work being spent to ensure that Canadian organizations are aware of, and can strengthen: collaborative work in space (in conjunction with the Canadian Space Agency); in Canada's participation in the Space Station; in opportunities through the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA); and in joint activity through the European Space Agency.

The Division's other sectoral strengths include knowledge on international opportunities for biotechnology, advanced industrial materials, communications, environmental technologies, and cold regions (Arctic/Antarctic) science and technology. To accomplish this work, TDS maintains consultations on international science and technology relations with the federal government's science-based departments and agencies.

International Affiliation

Among other functions, TDS ensures Canada's position and interests are well represented in a number of major multilateral organizations. These include EUREKA, the Human Frontier

Science Program, the NATO Science Committee, the Japanese Intelligent Manufacturing Systems Program, the International Institute of Applied Systems Analysis, and the Committee on Science and Technology Policy of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

All TDS' operations dovetail well with the thrusts of the government's **Going Global** initiative and, in particular, with the Japan Science and Technology Fund and the European Program to Stimulate Science and Technological Cooperation which are managed respectively by EAITC's North Asia Relations Division (PNR) and EAITC's European Community Science and Technology Division (REP)—in conjunction with Industry, Science and Technology Canada.

Both of these funds are designed to enhance joint technology development and partnerships in key sectors with Japanese and European collaborators. Funds through these programs are available to defray partial costs of activities such as travel, studies, and organization of workshops and missions.

For further information on EAITC's Science and Technology Division (TDS), contact, citing area of special interest, TDS at 125 Sussex Drive, Ottawa K1A 0G2. Tel.: (613) 992-8054. Fax: (613) 996-9265.

For specific information on the Technology Inflow Program, tel.: (613) 996-0971. Fax: (613) 996-9265.

The following science and technology-related publications/brochures, prepared for External Affairs and International Trade Canada, are available through Info Export (BPTE), External Affairs and International Trade Canada, 125 Sussex Drive, Ottawa K1A 0G2. Fax: (613) 996-9709.

. *TIP*, a brochure explaining the

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