

# Asia Pacific Explored on Web

Persons interested in the activities of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Study Centre in Canada now can access a variety of information through the centre's website at: <http://www.apfnet.org/apfweb>

The site includes reports of APEC summits and official documents, links to other APEC study centres around the world, and updates on the activities of APEC's working groups and

committees.

The APEC Study Centre in Canada, situated at the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada in Vancouver, is part of an international network of such centres which have been established in most of the 18 member economies of APEC.

Among other functions, the Study Centre collects and disseminates information and analysis on APEC and seeks to pro-

mote research on priority issues for Canada's involvement in this Asia Pacific forum.

It is working on an APEC brochure, to be released by the end of this year, that will: brief Canadians on its importance to Canada; outline its objectives and work program; and the relevance of its activities — particularly for the Canadian business community.

# Asian Development Bank on Internet

An Asian Development Bank (ADB) home page now is available on the Internet's World Wide Web for the electronic distribution of some of the Bank's key business publications.

The ADB offers Canadian

firms numerous business opportunities in consulting, goods and equipment by funding over US\$5 billion in various developmental projects in the Asian region. Most importantly, Canadian firms now can access

through the Bank's World Wide Web home page "ADB Business Opportunities" which provides information on upcoming projects and procurement notices and profiles of loan and technical assistance projects under processing.

Arthur Fraser, Trade Commissioner and Liaison to the Asian Development Bank at the Canadian Embassy in Manila, says "this important business opportunity publication is free on the Internet and its information is often more current than found in its printed and mailed format."

Canadian firms will have access to the Bank's news releases, various information brochures, guidelines on procurement and the use of consultants, the list of Bank depository libraries, the catalog of Bank publications and a number of other information materials.

The Bank's Internet addresses are:

**E-mail:**  
[www@mail.asiandevbank.org](mailto:www@mail.asiandevbank.org)  
**World Wide Web:**  
<http://www.asiandevbank.org>

## EDC, Banks Ease Exporter Financing

Smaller exporters — those with total annual sales of less than \$5 million — can increase financing from their banks with a new guarantee product from Export Development Corporation (EDC).

The **Master Accounts Receivable Guarantee (MARG)** program provides operating line of credit of up to \$500,000 to smaller exporters by securing the value of exporters' foreign accounts receivable.

MARG provides the exporter's bank with protection against 90 per cent of the funds of an operating line of credit if the exporter's company fails;

EDC's export credit insurance, on the other hand, provides exporters with up to 90 per cent protection against non-payment by foreign buyers.

MARG was designed by EDC in cooperation with Canadian financial institutions.

Information on MARG and other EDC initiatives are available from the corporation's offices in Vancouver, Calgary, Winnipeg, London, Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal and Halifax.

Companies with annual export sales under \$1 million may call EDC's Emerging Exporter Team at 1-800-850-9626.