

TAAP-Japan also aims to enhance business relationships and technology links between Canada and Japan in an effort to promote trade development. This project uses the mission approach through which industry experts visit Japanese companies and report their findings to Canadian industry through mission reports, seminars, briefing sessions and face-to-face meetings.

In the case of microelectronics, there are a number of potential areas for cooperation and development for companies in the two countries. Included in these are:

- technology development (production processes and product design), essential in upgrading Canada's microelectronics industry infrastructure;
- marketing agreements (both in Canada and in Japan)
- investment opportunities in Canada (from Japan) and vice-versa;
- software development, adaption and marketing, (particularly the use of Canadian software in Japan under license); and
- education to improve the skill base of companies in both countries, through company agreements, university projects and government-sponsored exchanges.

Each of these areas involves a great deal of potential. For example, in the technology area, there are Canadian companies that would be interested in Japanese activities in 1.5 micron complementary metal oxide semiconductors (CMOS), Gallium Arsenide (GaAs) technology, polymer thick film materials, surface mount technology, automated manufacturing technology, digital signal processing (DSP), telecommunications and communications components, design aids, software and software applications, bipolar technology, field effect transistor (FET) technology, etc.

With these and other specific areas of interest in mind, representatives from Canada visited dozens of companies and private sector and government institutions in Japan in the first week of December, 1986. This report presents their overall observations and their specific findings from each organization visited, along with any recommendations or conclusions they may have had. The report is designed to present the intelligence gathered by the mission in a form that is useful to industry and that outlines developments and opportunities where these occur.