



As with any modern industrialized country, Canada has developed a communications infrastructure to support its industrial expansion. Specialized systems that have been developed include private networks for corporate communications, control circuits for power generation and distribution, data and message circuits for transportation, and communications links for distance education.

Private Networks

Private communications networks have evolved in Canada mainly to meet the needs of large national companies whose offices are widely distributed throughout the country. These companies have found a need for data links between their district offices and their central computer to control such items as inventory, payroll, and orders.

Companies in Canada may acquire and operate a private communications network or may lease the facilities from a service provider such as Telecom Canada, CNCP Telecommunications Limited or Cancom (Canadian Satellite Communications Inc.). In general, the service offered is customized to meet the user's needs and may utilize circuits from several different sources.

The most recent service to be offered is transmission of voice and data on a specialized network that uses VSAT (Very Small Aperture Terminal) satellite technology. The advantage of this service, which is offered by Telesat and Cancom, is that the necessary earth stations are located on the user's premises, eliminating the need for costly and sometimes unreliable local loop wireline circuits.

Electric Power Generation and Control

Electric power generation and distribution systems in Canada were initially very simple: one system would serve one geographical area. But as the country developed and power consumption increased, it often became necessary to have more than one power source. Power generation in remote locations and long distribution lines became a reality, and eventually the need developed to interconnect these networks to form power grids.

■ *The DataComm Products Division is dedicated to the design, development and manufacture of telex switching systems and related equipment. Its CMA-755 telex exchange was selected by British Telecom for BT's new inland telex network, operating from 11 exchanges in 10 major cities in the United Kingdom.*

CANADIAN MARCONI COMPANY, DATACOMM PRODUCTS DIVISION

