

## **NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL (NRC)**

Canadian companies hoping to succeed in the Mexican marketplace may require additional technology to improve their competitiveness. The NRC works with Canadian firms of all sizes to develop and apply technology for economic benefit. The Council manages the Industrial Research Assistance Program (IRAP), a national network for the diffusion and transfer of technology.

The IRAP network supports the process of developing, accessing, acquiring, implanting and using technology throughout Canadian industry. IRAP has been in existence for 50 years and has acquired a reputation as one of the most flexible and effective federal programs. IRAP takes advantage of an extensive network of more than 190 different locations within approximately 90 communities across Canada, including numerous provincial technology centres, the NRC's own laboratories and research institutes, federal government departments, and technology transfer offices in Canadian universities. For further information, contact:

### **Industrial Research Assistance Program**

National Research Council  
Montreal Road  
Building M-55  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0R6  
Tel.: (613) 993-1770  
Fax: (613) 952-1086

## **CANADIAN COMMERCIAL CORPORATION (CCC)**

CCC, a Crown corporation, provides Canadian exporters with valuable assistance when they are selling to any foreign government, or to an international organization. In such sales, CCC acts as a prime contractor and guarantor for the sale of Canadian goods and services to the foreign customer.

CCC certifies the Canadian exporter's financial and technical capabilities, and guarantees to the foreign buyer that the terms and conditions of the contract will be met. CCC's participation in a sale provides Canadian suppliers with the tangible backing of their own government, enhancing their credibility and competitiveness in the eyes of foreign customers. This can often lead to the negotiation of more advantageous contract and payment terms.

The Progress Payment Program, developed by CCC in cooperation with Canada's financial institutions, makes pre-shipment export financing more accessible to small- and medium-sized exporters. The program allows an exporter to draw on a special line of credit, established by his or her principal banker for a particular export sale. In most instances, the borrowing costs will approximate those associated with a typical demand line of credit. The program is available for transactions with foreign government and private sector buyers.

For more information about CCC and its programs, contact:

### **Canadian Commercial Corporation**

50 O'Connor Street  
Eleventh Floor  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0S6  
Tel.: (613) 996-0034  
Fax: (613) 995-2121

## **MULTILATERAL ORGANIZATIONS**

### **Inter-American Development Bank**

1300 New York Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20577  
USA  
Tel.: (202) 623-1000  
Fax: (202) 623-3096

### **World Bank**

Washington, D.C. 20433  
U.S.A.  
Tel.: (202) 477-1234  
Fax: (202) 477-6391