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TRADE MINISTER RÉLEASES PAPER ON FREE TRADE AND SERVICES

International Trade Minister John C. Crosbie released today an assessment of trade in services under the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement.

The paper, "The Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement and Services: An Assessment", says that Canadian services businesses will benefit from the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement by being able to plan future expansion in the United States in a more predictable environment. In addition to enhanced export opportunities, the Canadian service sector will also benefit from increased domestic demand for services as general economic activity increases under free trade.

The service industry Assessment concludes that:

- For services covered by the Agreement, any new regulations of the two countries will provide non-discriminatory treatment to each other's service providers.
- Canada and the United States have agreed not to increase any discrimination that may already exist against each other's providers of services covered by the Agreement.
- There is the potential to extend coverage of the Agreement to new service industries as they develop.

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Minister for International Trade Ministre du Commerce extérieur

