

Another common use for rubber is in the manufacture of hose and belting. The U.S. trade position in hose and belting continued to be negative in 1987. Major suppliers of imports of these products in 1987 were Canada with a 23% share of the market, Japan with 16%, and West Germany with 11%. The outlook for 1988 is for sales to grow by about 2%. This growth rate is expected to be constant over the next five years.

This chapter has provided a definition of the products included within the scope of this report, the criteria used for their selection, and a summary of U.S. imports of those products for 1982-87. Where available, a short-term outlook for the corresponding U.S. industry has also been provided. As this report is only intended to provide a sectoral overview and an indication of the opportunities that may exist for increased Canadian exports, individual readers are strongly encouraged to conduct more in-depth research on any potential opportunities identified.

Users of this report who are interested in undertaking further research into specific markets are also encouraged to contact any of the Canadian Government Trade Development offices listed in the final Appendix to this report to determine what assistance may be available to them.