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THAI ENGINEERING CONTRACT MAJOR BREAKTHROUGH FOR CANADIAN FIRMS

A deal which could represent a significant breakthrough for Canadian companies in the Thai oil and gas industry was announced today by Trade Minister Ed Lumley. ALGAS ENGINEERING SERVICES LTD. of Calgary has been awarded a \$650,000 (\$550,000 U.S.) contract to provide technical advisory services to the Petroleum Authority of Thailand.

Arranged through Canadian Commercial Corporation, ALGAS will supply technical assistance over a six-month period for start-up operations and onshore maintenance of a natural gas pipeline stretching from the Gulf of Thailand to a point south of Bangkok.

Thailand is currently experiencing rapid expansion of its oil and gas sector, both offshore in the Gulf of Thailand and in the northern part of the country. Upon Trade Minister Lumley's invitation, Thai energy Minister Chatchai Choonhavan visited Canada last year to meet representatives of Canada's oil and gas industry in Alberta. Impressed with Canadian capabilities in this field, Mr. Choonhavan invited Canadian firms to take a more active interest in his country's energy developments.

ALGAS ENGINEERING SERVICES LTD., a subsidiary of NOVA, AN ALBERTA CORPORATION, provides project management, engineering, construction supervision, training and consulting services for natural gas gathering and transmission.

Canadian Commercial Corporation contracts with foreign governments and international agencies on behalf of Canadian suppliers of goods and services. Last year CCC achieved sales of over \$400 million involving more than 500 Canadian companies and 50 foreign buyers.

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