

## 2. Government Procurement

The GATT Agreement on Government Procurement entered into force on January 1, 1981 and its coverage was meant to open to international competition a portion of signatory governments' procurement of goods. In 1981-82 Canadian suppliers won \$160 million worth of contracts from foreign entities under the Agreement while Canada awarded to foreign suppliers some \$169 million worth of contracts. The bulk of contracts won by Canadian suppliers was in the U.S.A. for a broad range of products.

In preparing for further negotiations pursuant to the GATT Agreement, the views of key industry associations were sought. There was little familiarity with the GATT Government Procurement Code and suggestions were made that greater efforts be made to publicize and monitor, for Canadian manufacturers, opportunities which have been opened up by the Code. Seminars, publications and particular sourcing networks may be relevant.