
CANADA: TRADING ON STRENGTH

One measure of trading strength is the percentage of a country's gross national product made up by exports. Of the Western industrialized nations, Canada stands second only to West Germany.

Over 30% of our national income is generated by exports. They provide more than 3 million Canadian jobs, one quarter of our total workforce. And we're by no means just hewers of wood and drawers of water. In 1984 manufactured goods and materials accounted for 62% of our exports.

Our exports in manufactured goods include transportation equipment and other advanced technology products, perhaps not surprising from a country that invented and developed products as diverse as fibre-optic systems and degradable plastic. Canada also has a strong presence in service industries like banking and consulting engineering. When you combine contemporary capabilities like these with our world renowned resource and agricultural base, it's easy to see why Canada is considered an international trading force to be reckoned with.