

TRANSPORTATION

MARINE

Most goods arriving by sea are shipped through Rotterdam and Antwerp and then forwarded to the Swiss port of Basel. The Canadian exporter can choose from a number of shipping lines sailing regularly between Canadian ports and Rotterdam and Antwerp.

AIR

Air Canada has up to seven passenger and cargo flights per week from Toronto/Montreal to Zurich during summer months and some four flights during winter months. Canadian Airlines flies several times a week from Canada to Amsterdam with good connections for onward travel to Switzerland. Swissair has several direct flights per week between Zurich/Geneva and Toronto/Montreal. Switzerland is the home of several of the largest freight forwarding companies in the world, namely Danzas, Kuehne and Nagel, and Panalpina, all with headquarters in Basel; and Jacky Maeder, with headquarters in Zurich. Major airports are in Zurich, Geneva, Basil, Berne, Lugano. Although most business travel is by rail or road, there are several internal flights each day linking Zurich and Geneva.

MAIL

Switzerland can be justly proud of its mail service. Speed and reliability of delivery permit the use of the postal service to distribute properly packaged perishable products such as live lobster and smoked salmon throughout the country.

ROADS

Switzerland has a very good network of roadways. As of 1985, about one-third of Switzerland's roadways were considered advanced highways. According to the Economist, there are over 17,800 kilometres of cantonal roads and 41,600 kilometres of municipal roadways in Switzerland. In addition, a 1,840 kilometre national road system links the major cities throughout Switzerland.

RAILWAYS

The most convenient way of getting around Switzerland is by train. Switzerland possesses an excellent rail system. Swiss Federal Railways is by far the largest with 2,895 kilometres of track (over 90% of which is electrified). About 120 small private companies operate 2,160 kilometres of track, primarily on short mountain routes. Most business travellers find the first-class compartments excellent for working or quiet relaxation. The railways are electric and there are hourly fast trains between all major cities.