

## Foreword

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The Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement (FTA), which came into effect on January 1, 1989, covers many aspects of trade and economic ties between the two nations.

But since the Agreement's implications and detailed provisions are distinct for different parts of the Canadian economy, a series of books is being published on each of the economic sectors and issues involved.

Following an environmental overview, this particular volume presents a thorough and detailed look at the Agreement's provisions on government procurement. In fact, there is a specific chapter in the FTA dealing with government procurement, so if you want the exact words, you should consult Chapter 13 of the Free Trade Agreement.

The following pages will give you, however,

- a solid, comprehensive reference, setting the FTA in historic and economic perspective;
- an explanation of the government's procurement process;
- a description of the GATT Procurement Code;
- a summary and explanation of the FTA's procurement elements; and
- a forward look at government procurement opportunities.