

Growing with Canada

- **Carvell Trading Limited**, an Israeli import/export company based in Tel Aviv, is building a \$20 million kosher meat-processing plant on the Canadian prairies to serve international markets.

Employing 250 people, the plant in Brandon, Manitoba, will have a processing capability of 600 cattle per day and will export \$170 million worth of certified kosher meat, prepared according to Jewish ritual law. Most of the plant's output will go to Israel, Eastern Europe and Russia. The company also expects to produce halal meat using methods prescribed by Muslim law, primarily for the Palestinian Authority. According to Carvell spokesperson Harvey Davis, until now Israel's main source of imported kosher meat has been Latin America but demand for the higher-quality North American product has been rising.

- **Gilflax**, the Canadian subsidiary of Hong Kong-based Gilbert Holdings, is building a \$5 million linen-processing plant at Salaberry-de-Valleyfield, near Montreal, Quebec. According to company sources, several location advantages drew Gilflax to the area, including tax exemption incentives and its location near prime agricultural land for the cultivation of flax for production.

- **The Tai-Fang Group**, one of Taiwan's top 100 corporations has spent \$3.5 million to purchase a controlling interest in a hog processing plant in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan. In the transaction, Tai-Fang acquires an 85 percent interest in the facility while SPI Marketing Group Inc. of Saskatoon retains 15 percent. Formerly known as Moose Jaw Packers, the plant will now do business as Tai Wan Pork Inc.

The Moose Jaw facility has a processing capacity of 1,000 hogs a day. It will ship 2,500 hogs a week to the Pacific Rim with the remainder going to the North American market.

Announcing the investment at a press conference in Moose Jaw, Tai-Fang Vice-President Nick Chen said, "We have been pursuing new partnerships and joint ventures in Canada because we see Canada as a reliable source of high quality pork and pork products for the Pacific Rim market."

Intercontinental Packers Ltd — an SPI division which operates a large hog processing plant in Saskatoon, will manage the Moose Jaw plant under contract to Tai-Fang. Tai-Fang previously purchased a minority interest in Intercontinental Packers.

Tai-Fang has operated in Taiwan since 1973 and is now a major force in the pork industry. Last year the company processed more than one million hogs, nearly sixteen per cent of Taiwan's total output. Tai-Fang is the world's largest exporter of pork and pork products to Japan, which is the world's largest pork importer. ♦

For more information

Find out more about investing in Canada by contacting the nearest Canadian embassy or consulate, or the:

International Marketing Group
Department of Foreign Affairs and
International Trade
Lester B. Pearson Building
125 Sussex Drive, C-2
Ottawa, Ontario
Canada K1A 0G2

E-mail: investcan@dfait-maeci.gc.ca

Telephone: (613) 995-4128

Facsimile: (613) 995-9604

FaxLink: (613) 944-6500

Website: www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/investcan

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Richard M. Bégin
International Marketing Group (BCFD)
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