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ENTREPRISES VIBEC INC. **EXPORTS TO GABON WITH EDC LOAN**

Minister of Industry, Science and Technology and Minister for International Trade Michael H. Wilson announced today that the Government of Canada, working through the Export Development Corporation (EDC), will lend up to \$30 million to finance the sale of goods and services to Gabon by Entreprises Vibec Inc. of Victoriaville, Quebec. The local Member of Parliament, Mr. Maurice Tremblay, expressed his satisfaction at the benefits that will accrue from this sale.

Entreprises Vibec Inc. will construct two regional hospitals in Gabon, one in Mouila and one in Oyem, and will renovate and expand the building that houses the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Co-operation and Francophone Affairs.

Entreprises Vibec Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Groupe Vibec Inc., has participated in numerous turnkey projects in Africa over the past 15 years. This sale is expected to generate 1,320 person-years of employment in Canada.

EDC is Canada's official export credit agency, responsible for providing export credit insurance, loans, guarantees, and