



## News Release

## Communiqué

No. 27

February 3, 1993

### WILSON OPENS APPLICATION PROCESS FOR 11TH ANNUAL EXPORT AWARDS

The Honourable Michael Wilson, Minister of Industry, Science and Technology and Minister for International Trade, today announced the opening of the application process for the 1993 Canada Export Awards.

"Figures for 1992 show that the export sector, more than any other, is leading us out of the recession," Mr. Wilson said. "Through the Export Awards, we want to encourage more Canadian companies to join the ranks of those who have proven they can compete globally. The competition should be extremely keen in view of the strong performance staged by Canada's exporters entering 1993."

According to preliminary figures, for the first 11 months of 1992, Canada's exports, on a balance-of-payments basis, totalled \$142.6 billion, up 9.8 per cent from the same period a year earlier. Canada's 11-month cumulative trade surplus grew to \$8.2 billion, 65.7 per cent above the January to November 1991 level.

"Merchandise exports increased over the first 11 months of 1992 to levels higher than those recorded in all of 1991," Mr. Wilson noted. "The rebound in export growth in 1992 continues to contribute to stronger economic growth for the Canadian economy and indicates the increasing competitiveness of Canada's export-oriented sectors."

To be eligible for the Canada Export Awards, companies or divisions of companies must reside in Canada and have been exporting actively for at least three years. Winners are selected by a panel of business leaders and successful exporters from across Canada. A total of 138 companies have won Canada Export Awards -- and some 2,000 applicants have participated -- in the program since it was launched 11 years ago.