

# NAFTA works

## for small and medium-sized businesses...

Trade involves companies large and small creating jobs in our communities.

Small and medium-sized companies are the engines of economic opportunity and job growth. They are the most vibrant ingredient of our economies. Their size makes them nimble, their products make them competitive and their energy makes them successful. Recent studies show that 97 percent of Canadian, 96 percent of U.S. and 95 percent of Mexican exporters are small and medium-sized businesses.

When you consider that most new jobs are created by smaller businesses, it is clear that we need to encourage our small and medium-sized enterprises to look abroad for new opportunities — and reap the benefits of being part of North America's dynamic exporting sector.

## ...and provides fairness and certainty

Even where the bulk of trade and investment flows freely across borders, some disagreements are bound to arise.

That is why NAFTA's partners created an independent and effective rules-based system. In the event of disputes, NAFTA directs the governments concerned to seek to resolve their differences amicably through NAFTA's Committees and Working Groups or other consultations. NAFTA also provides for expeditious and effective panel procedures.

We have seen this system work, experienced its effectiveness and understand its value.

