

Electric and Electronic Industry

IMPORTANCE OF THE SECTOR

In 1990, the overall volume of the Electric and Electronic Industry reached \$63 billion, a decrease from previous years. This sector is composed of a widely diversified range of products:

- Equipment (generators, turbines, transformers, cables, electronic signal and security products) represent approximately 80% of sales;
- Intermediate goods (batteries, active and passive electronic components), and Consumer goods represent approximately 10% each.

One of the characteristics of this sector is the large number of companies: more than 1,500 with a work-force totalling almost 400,000. Nevertheless, 65% of this industry's sales are accounted for by 38 major firms, of which the most important are:

	Annual Sales	Employees
	(\$ Mds)	(Thousands)
Alcatel Alsthom	31	210
of which: Gec-Alsthom	6	42
Thomson-CEA	18	100
of which: Thomson-CSF	7	40
Groupe Schneider	12	75

Source: Annual Reports, 1991

With a global market presence, the Electric and Electronic Industry has increased its exports by 4.6% in 1990, reaching \$31 billion. Imports originate in Germany (35%), the United States (10%), and Japan (6%).

Trade with Canada

Trade with Canada in 1990 included exports totalling \$213 million, and imports of \$129 million. These imports involved mainly printed circuits, integrated circuits, and miscellaneous signal and security products.