

Turkish mining fair just around the corner

Izmir, Turkey, February 1-3, 2007 > There will be a Canadian pavilion at MINEX, a bi-annual mining, natural resources and technology trade show and conference that attracts a large number of exhibitors and visitors from the domestic and international mining world.

New Turkish mining legislation aims at creating a more liberal industry and encourages international and local investors to take part in the growing Turkish mining sector and to tap its rich mineral resources.

Increasing investment makes the sector more vibrant and creates marketing opportunities for equipment and service providers as well as opportunities for exploration and mine operation.

This year, the Canadian Embassy in Ankara is organizing a Canadian pavilion at this event. Interested Canadian companies in the exploration, equipment, technology and service areas of this sector are invited to participate in the Canadian pavilion, which will include space for one-on-one meetings, a display area and a reception with local contacts.

For more information, or to register for the trade show and conference, contact Akin Kosetorunu, Canadian Embassy in Turkey, email: akin.kosetorunu@international.gc.ca, tel.: (011-90-312) 409-2754.

Geomatics partnering mission looking for Canadian participants

Southern Mississippi, March 15-16, 2007 > Canadian specialists in geomatics may want to be part of a partnering mission to NASA's Stennis Space Centre.

The mission will focus on geomatics, geographic information systems, geospatial sciences, ocean technologies and science and technology. The event will promote strategic alliances, joint ventures, technology licensing and research exchanges.

Canadian companies can partner with members of the Mississippi Enterprise for Technology (www.mset.org), a consortium of more than 40 companies and research institutes that focuses on geomatics and other Stennis-based organizations.

NASA's Stennis base, located on the Gulf of Mexico near Biloxi, is the largest geomatics base in the U.S., if not the world. It is also home for the U.S. Naval Oceanographic Office and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Participation is limited and companies are chosen on a first-come, first-served basis. This mission is organized by Industry Canada, in collaboration with the Canadian Consulate General in Atlanta.

For more information, contact Nicolas Arango, Total Trade Services, tel./fax: (416) 601-2227, mobile: (416) 839-9796, email: totaltrade@sympatico.ca.

France welcomes the world's music market

Cannes, January 21 - 25, 2007 > MIDEM is a major event for the world's music industry professionals and attracts nearly 10,000 delegates from almost 100 countries, from the recording, publishing, live, sync, digital and mobile sectors.

"Of the 16 plus conferences I attend yearly, MIDEM is by far the most productive," says Terry McBride, CEO of Canada's Nettwerk Music Group.

Beyond its trade show, MIDEM also offers high-level conferences and the hottest concerts and events. Exporters can see the latest trends and performances in this sector and meet with the industry's key players, establish or expand your music network and do business.

For more information, contact Michel Bourque, Canadian Embassy in France, email: michel.bourque@international.gc.ca, website: www.midem.com.



Shipments of Canadian meat to Egypt set to rise

A delegation of Egyptian inspectors has approved three Canadian abattoirs for halal slaughtering and hygiene, opening doors for greater meat shipments to Egypt.

Officials with the Canadian Embassy in Cairo have been busy contacting Egyptian importers to inform them of this important change. So far, five import licenses have been issued and at least two shipments are on their way to Egypt.

Egyptian regulations state that any exporter looking to sell meat and bi-products must obtain a government import license and these are dependent on slaughterhouses passing inspection for halal slaughtering and hygiene. Slaughterhouses can be registered with the Ministry of Agriculture.

After the BSE crisis hit in 2000, Egyptian officials agreed to allow some Canadian products, such as boneless veal and offal from animals, to be imported. Today, Canadian officials are working to open up Egypt's lucrative market.

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Food Canada and the Canadian Agricultural Trade Representations to the Egyptian Ministry of Agriculture are working together to facilitate the export of meat and offal for animals.

"Egypt is now considering the import of meat and offal for animals," says Magdy Ghazal of the Canadian Agricultural Trade Representations.

Egypt is one of the most important markets for Canadian meat and bi-products in the Middle East. In 2006, 450,000 tons of frozen beef and veal were imported from Australia, Brazil and the United States.

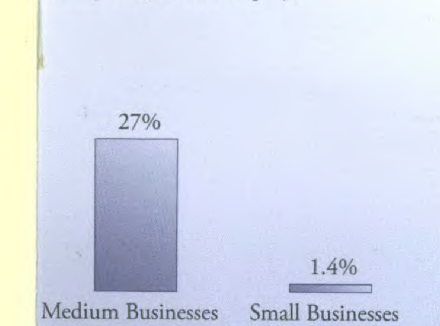
For more information, contact Magdy Ghazal, Canadian Embassy in Cairo, tel.: (011-20) 202-791-8865, email: magdy.ghazal@international.gc.ca.

Small firms dominate but do not export

Small and medium-sized enterprises account for the majority (99.87%) of Canadian companies and employ over half (64%) of the labour force as of 2005. But only 1.4% of small firms export. While it is not surprising that fewer SMEs export relative to their larger counterparts, the difference between medium-sized exporters (27%) and small exporters (1.4%) is. This may be of concern as several studies have shown a link between export participation and productivity. There is also evidence that exposure to increased competition, foreign know-how and technologies that comes through export participation has a beneficial effect on a firm's productivity. Purely domestic small firms may be missing out on significant export potential.

Canadian Businesses Exporting

(that export, by size of company)



Small businesses are defined as having less than 100 employees, and medium businesses as having between 100 and 499 employees.

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