

## THE NORTH AMERICAN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT (NAFTA)

The NAFTA expands Canada's free-trade area of 270 million people into a market of close to 361 million — a market larger than the population of the 15 countries of the European Union and one with a total North American output of more than \$7 trillion.

Mexico is Canada's most important trading partner in Latin America. Two-way merchandise trade with Mexico was just under \$6.5 billion in 1995 and is expected to exceed \$8 billion by the end of the decade.

Canadian direct investment in Mexico is growing rapidly, increasing from \$452 million in 1992 to over \$1.2 billion in 1994.

This guide has been prepared with the problems inherent to the new exporter in mind. However, it is not exhaustive. The differing circumstances, interests and needs of individual companies will influence their strategies for the Mexican market.

Further assistance can be obtained by addressing requests to the International Trade Centres (see Where To Get Help) or contact the InfoCentre at:

Tel.: 1-800-267-8376 or (613) 944-4000

Fax: (613) 996-9709

FaxLink:\* (613) 944-4500

InfoCentre Bulletin Board (IBB):

1-800-628-1581 or (613) 944-1581

Internet: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>

\*FaxLink is a faxback system which provides summaries on a range of Mexican markets. It must be contacted through your fax machine. Dial from your fax phone and follow the voice prompt instructions.

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