

Study looks at impact of environment on water

Water research expenditures across Canada have reached a level in excess of \$50 million a year, according to an Environment Canada report.

The report, the fourth in the series of Canada Water Year Books, is entitled the *Water Research Edition*, and reports on freshwater resources in Canada. The book describes the physical processes of the hydrologic cycle and indicates the levels of research being undertaken in the atmosphere, on land, and under the ground.

Research on long range transport of air pollutants, known as acid rain, is described as are efforts to establish water quality objectives and adequate monitoring procedures to ensure that the object-

ives are met.

Wastewater treatment and disposal practices are reported on together with innovations being developed in Canada to control municipal and industrial pollution and its adverse effects on the environment.

The report emphasizes that the environment and, in particular, water supplies must be systematically managed to maximize their benefit to Canadians.

By providing an in-depth look at water research across Canada, this latest year book complements the second and third editions, which contain national overviews on water planning and management and an overview of water data respectively.

New way devised for teaching energy conservation

A Quebec company has introduced a new method of teaching energy conservation.

The system, known as Consulab CL-1400 is specially designed to teach people how to use electrical energy wisely in the industrial, commercial and residential sectors.

The Consulab teaching kit is used in the laboratory and comprises a number of industrial measurement and control devices which simulate electrical energy consumption in specific situations. The teaching system also includes a range of

practical projects to help students understand the basic energy conservation procedures.

The kit was developed by Consulab Incorporated located in Beauport, just outside Quebec City. The company designs and manufactures teaching modules and about half of them are exported to more than 20 countries around the world, including Korea, Thailand, Malaysia and the Philippines. Consulab, with a staff of 50 engineers and technicians, has been involved in energy conservation since the early 1980s.

High technology projects

Three Canadian companies have announced new ventures in the high technology and space satellite fields.

Electrohome Limited of Kitchener, Ontario and Microdesign Limited of Toronto have announced that they are merging to form a company called Gensat Communications Corporation. Gensat will concentrate on the North American market for private television receive-only (TVRO) earth terminals.

On the basis of the impending partnership, Microdesign recently obtained a \$6-million contract to supply 5,000 satellite receivers to a United States buyer.

The federal government has announced that it is providing \$1.19 million in contracts to Spar Aerospace of Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Quebec, to carry out studies to develop further its satellite prime contracting capability in Canada.

Under the contracts, Spar will conduct research and prepare technical documents and reports for the government for the development of technology for satellite communications. This material will also be used by Spar for the design and manufacture of satellite systems.

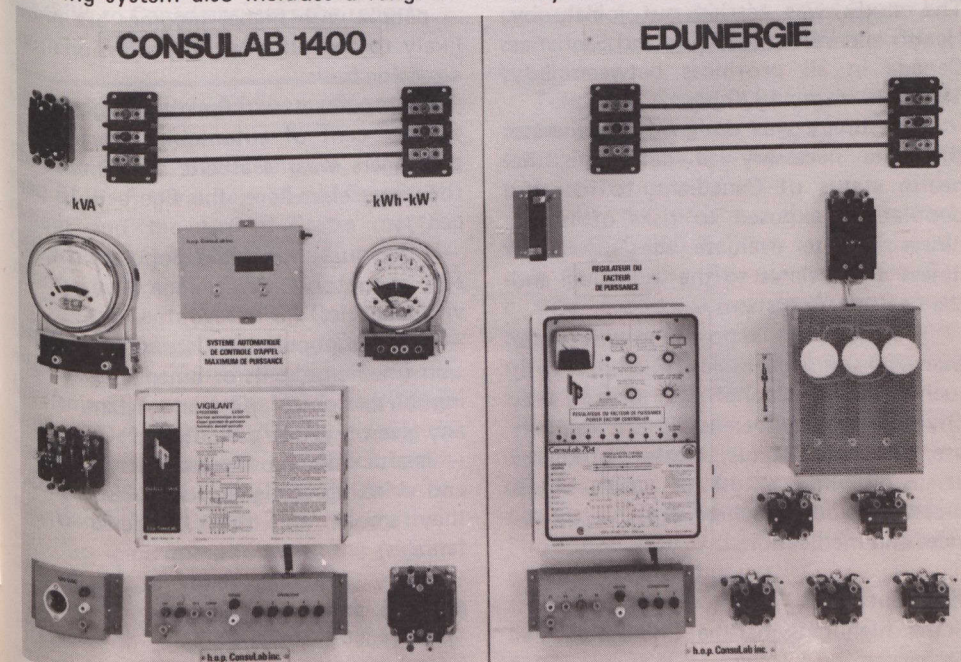
Activities to be carried out under the contracts include:

- preparation of expanded guidelines covering the design of electronic systems for satellites;
- implementation of a pilot development program to increase the Canadian content and cost-effectiveness of efficient antenna systems for satellites; and
- preparation of lists of standardized, highly reliable electronic parts suitable for satellites and guidelines for their use.

NATO post goes to Canadian

Canadian Secretary of State for External Affairs Mark MacGuigan has assumed the presidency of the North Atlantic Council for 1981-82.

The position of "Président d'honneur" rotates among the foreign ministers of the North Atlantic Council (NATO) nations in alphabetical order. The last Canadian to assume the presidency of the North Atlantic Council was former External Affairs Minister Paul Martin, who held the position in 1965-66. Dr. MacGuigan, who will hold the position until September 18, 1982 succeeds Belgian Minister of Foreign Affairs C.F. Nothomb whose year-long term of office has expired.



The Consulab system consists of devices to simulate energy consumption.