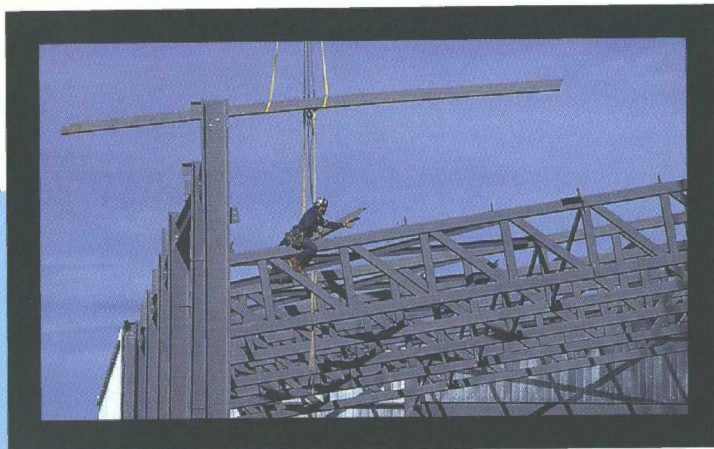




BUILDING PRODUCTS

Canada's building products industry encompasses more than 400 different manufactured products, worth \$25.8 billion in output per annum.

Among the manufactured products in which Canadians excel in workmanship and price competitiveness are windows and doors. Canada produces metal, wood and plastic windows and doors that are highly competitive in international markets. Exports of plastic and wooden doors and windows have increased more than 500 percent over the last five years. Canadian-manufactured kitchen cabinets also enjoy a global reputation for leading quality, design and finish, as well as excellent growth and export capabilities.

Canada is a recognized leader in the development of heating system technologies and in applying thermal energy conservation techniques in housing. Canada's leading-edge heat recovery ventilators and air-exchange technology reflect the high priority the Canadian industry places on air quality. A proven breakthrough technology in air flow, temperature and moisture control is the seamless housewrap sheathing membrane, developed in Canada.

MATERIALS

Canada excels in the manufacture of construction and building materials ranging from trusses and insulated thin-brick panel cladding materials to aluminum and vinyl exterior cladding. Canadian scientists have successfully developed innovative technologies in masonry veneer and asphalt roof shingling, as well as high-density calcium silicate bricks.

Canadian companies have also developed outstanding production systems for fast-formed concrete foundations. Shotcrete and other construction and restoration techniques such as dry-stacked concrete block wall systems exemplify leading developments in the use of concrete. Canada leads in tilt-up concrete construction and curtain wall construction technologies. Canada is a world leader in colour-coated steel production, as well as in the reconstitution of structural wood to form composite products of the highest strength and quality.

CONSTRUCTION, ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES

Canada has world-class engineering, architectural and construction contracting capabilities. Services in which Canadians excel include infrastructure project design and construction (highways, airports, power facilities, pipelines, water and sewer works etc.), urban planning and design, ranging from remote arctic settlements in Siberia to large Asian cities; land assembly; site design and servicing; and environmental analysis. From the design of cultural buildings, retail and office complexes to pulp and paper mills. Canada has also established itself as a world class designer and builder of stadiums and bridges. Examples include Toronto's SkyDome stadium that boasts the world's first fully retractable roof, and the Confederation Bridge, which connects Prince Edward Island to mainland Canada. Officially opened in June of 1997, it is 12.9 kilometres long and was the largest public-private mega project in Canada's recent history. These are only a few examples of world-class expertise offered by Canadian architects and engineers.

