

Canada Weekly

Ottawa
Canada

Volume 13, No. 10
March 6, 1985

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Electric rail transit ahead of its time

The Urban Transportation Development Corporation Ltd. (UTDC) has a mandate to develop, prove and make available the most advanced transit products and services in order that public authorities can provide economical and efficient transportation services.

To do this, UTDC has invested in technology and facilities, that are among the most modern in the world.

The testing grounds for the complete transit systems that the corporation has been developing since its inception in 1973, are on a 195-hectare site, 20 kilometres west of Kingston, Ontario. The test and research facilities are adjacent to a three-kilometre test track for both conventional and advanced technology rail transit systems that are run from a completely automated and computer controlled tower.

UTDC, an Ontario provincial corporation, was established to solve the problems of traffic congestion in and between major urban centres. While these problems are particularly acute in the Oshawa-Hamilton area, the Ontario government realized that similar problems exist in urban centres throughout the world and that practical

solutions would have good export potential.

The Corporation offers a wide spectrum of services that includes management, hardware, operations, maintenance, turnkey construction and financial services. It also transfers technology in the form of licences, engineering services and staff training, and has provided advisory services around the world in such places as the United States, Cairo, Brazil and England.

The Canadian Light Rail Vehicle, developed to replace Toronto's aging streetcars, is logging millions of successful revenue miles. It is the basic unit of the Articulated Light Rail Vehicle now in test service in Toronto and is capable of doubling passenger loading. In addition to a Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) order for 52 of the articulated version, Santa Clara County, California, has signed a \$10-million contract with UTDC for 50 vehicles of a similar design.

The vehicles are being manufactured at the Thunder Bay, Ontario plant of Can-Car Rail Inc., a UTDC subsidiary and the result of an agreement between UTDC and Hawker Siddeley Canada Inc., former owner of the plant. The agreement created a holding



The Articulated Light Rail Vehicle developed by UTDC is capable of doubling passenger loading.



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