

**CONDITIONS OF ACCESS**

Private sector access to U.S. federal government research is strongly influenced by the Technology Transfer Act of 1986. This legislation permits federal laboratories and federally employed scientists and engineers to collaborate jointly in research efforts with industry. There is a demonstrated preference for U.S. incorporated companies (rather than out-of-country partners). Commercialized technology resulting from these arrangements must be manufactured in the United States under the terms of the Act.

With regard to technology collaboration between private sector partners, access for Canadian firms in the mid-Atlantic region-as in the rest of the U.S.-is governed by strategic business interests.

**TECHNOLOGICAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR CANADIANS**

Key areas of opportunity for Canadian firms in the Pennsylvania to Virginia Corridor include those related to the biomedical, advanced materials, food processing, informatics and electronic industries. The supplementary material enclosed will provide some idea of how considerable the scope for partnership is in this region.

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With an estimated gross regional product of US \$412 billion, Southern California ranks 10th in the world in economic size, slightly smaller than Canada (1989).

The region's 18.5 million people are concentrated primarily in Los Angeles, Orange and San Diego Counties, as is the bulk of Southern California's manufacturing activity.

Between 25% and 30% of the region's work force is dependent on manufacturing. Nearly a third of Southern California's manufacturing is in the areas of aerospace, defence and electronics. In fact, Southern California has the highest concentration of defence and aerospace firms in the United States. The biotechnology, robotics, advanced telecommunications and medical instrumentation industries are also taking on an increasingly important role in the region's economy.

**TECHNOLOGY TRENDS**

Technology development is centered around:

- Aerospace technology, both military and civilian, in the South Bay and Antelope Valley regions of Los Angeles County. Although the impact of defence cuts will be felt throughout Southern California's military-industrial complex, the missile-related sector will be particularly hard hit. Strong worldwide demand for commercial aircraft should enable aviation-related firms to weather the Pentagon's cost-cutting measures with less hardship.
- Computer software in the San Fernando Valley.