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**15** Trade Fairs and Missions

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Canadä



f at first you don't succeed, try, try again. That's precisely what IMP Group Limited, Aerospace Division (IMP Aerospace) did after an unsuccessful 1994 bid on a U.S. Navy basic ordering agreement (BOA) for Standard Depot Level Maintenance (SDLM) for H-3 helicopters in partnership with a well-known U.S. supplier. The Halifaxbased company not only bid on the BOA when it came up for re-competition in 1998, but opted to go it alone through the Canadian Commercial Corporation (CCC). The result? In

Thanks to CCC

March 2000, the company won the largest-ever U.S. military aircraft contract — worth US\$50 million awarded to a Canadian company.

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> Since its creation in 1970, Halifax-based IMP Aerospace, a wholly owned subsidiary of IMP Group International, has been providing military and commercial aerospace customers with a full range of engineering, manufacturing and repair services. The company, which has 1,200 employees in three *Continued on page 7 – IMP*

## **1st First People's Export Prize**



Largest-ever Canada—U.S. Military Aircraft Contract

On March 4, at the Mishtapew 2001 Awards of Excellence Gala honouring Aboriginal entrepreneurs, International Trade Minister Pettigrew (right) presents the Export Prize to Bleuets Mistassini Ltd., represented by company president Jean-Marie Fortin. Looking on are the firm's human resources director, Marlène Fortin, and Huron spiritual leader Raymond Gros-Louis. Awarded for the first time this year, the Export Prize is sponsored by DFAIT. The gala is an annual event organized by the First People's Business Association; this year it took place during SIAL Montreal, March 4-6.

(For the full story, see: www.infoexport.gc.ca/canadexport and click on "Trade News".)