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## MINISTER CROSBIE VISITS HONG KONG AND KOREA

International Trade Minister John C. Crosbie will visit Hong Kong and the Republic of Korea from September 17 to 24. Accompanied by CEOs and senior executives from eleven Canadian firms, the purpose of the visit is to promote trade and investment between Canada and two of the Pacific Rim's most dynamic economies.

"Hong Kong and Korea are two of the most dynamic economies in the Pacific Rim and are very important to all regions of Canada in terms of trade and investment," Minister Crosbie said. "With the passage of the FTA, Canadian firms are anxious to explore new trade and investment opportunities with Hong Kong and Korea."

Minister Crosbie will meet with several government officials of Hong Kong and Korea to discuss bilateral and multilateral trade and economic issues, including the Uruguay Round of GATT.

In Hong Kong from September 17 to 19, Mr. Crosbie will be accompanied by representatives from nine Canadian firms. The Minister will also meet with his counterpart in Hong Kong, Secretary of Trade and Industry John Chan.

The Minister will also visit the site of the Canadian designed Vessel Traffic Management System (VTMS) for Hong Kong harbour. The VTMS, which will be inaugurated in October, is the most complex integrated system for vessel traffic management in the world. The Canadian Commercial Corporation leads the consortium which built the VTMS. The main contractor is a division of Le Groupe SNC--one of the participants in the trade mission to Hong Kong.

Minister Crosbie will address the 750-member Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong and meet with leaders of the business community. He will outline the advantages to Hong Kong of the FTA and Canada's Asia Pacific 2000 trade and investment strategy.

On the Korean leg of the trip from September 19 to 24, the International Trade Minister will be hosted by Korea's Minister of Trade and Industry, Mr. Han Seung Soo.

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