

**C**anada has long been a pioneer in communications and today continues as a world leader in the development and application of new technologies.

This standing at the forefront of innovation has its roots in the physical nature of the country.

Canada is vast. The second-largest nation on the globe, it spans the continent from the Atlantic to the Pacific, from the U.S. border to the high Arctic. With a total area of nearly 10 million km<sup>2</sup>, it takes in six time zones and is bordered by three oceans.

Yet compared to the country's size, Canada's population is surprisingly small — 25.6 million people, unevenly distributed around the nation, and in many cases isolated by climate and geographical barriers.

One of the primary ways that Canada has met the challenge of geography and a scattered populace is through the development of communications technology. Today, Canada has a sophisticated communications system that is among the most advanced in the world. It includes three coast-to-coast microwave networks, a domestic satellite network, and telephone service to more than 98 per cent of all households in the country. Mobile radio serves both urban and remote areas. Broadcast needs are met by two national television networks, some 1 000 private cable companies, a national radio network and numerous private AM and FM radio stations.

■ *Anik E (45021433) — Spar is currently working on several satellite programs and is prime contractor for Anik E, the next generation of Canadian communications satellites scheduled for delivery to Telesat Canada in 1990.*



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Canadians derive widespread benefits from the system. From a social standpoint, it provides equitable access to services such as health and education, even in very remote areas. It also plays a key role in helping Canadians to share in their nation's rich culture, which embraces two official languages (French and English), aboriginal peoples and languages, ethnic groups and distinct regional identities.

■ *Bryston 10B electronic crossover*