here aren't many things that generate as much enthusiasm on the part of an exporter as the words "rapidly expanding market" or "rapidly rising demand." including 30 Bombardier CC2200 locomotives equipped with Alco 251 engines, 30 Alstom BB1100 and BB1200 locomotives with MGO engines, and 1,100 cars and coaches.

1998. Camrail has also been the Cameroon Railway concessionaire since April 1, 1999.

## Cameroon rail boom

That is exactly what is happening with rail transport in Cameroon, where the demand for transportation in the forestry industry, combined with the demand for the transport of equipment created by the construction of the Doba-Kribi pipeline, is bringing in investments of some US\$300 million to upgrade and repair railway facilities.

Over the next five years, the single track connecting Douala to Ngaoundéré (about 900 kilometres) will be repaired in several places, with the installation of new rails, ties, etc. This project also involves repairing locomotives and cars,

The installation of a computerized, radio-equipped block system is also being planned.

This priority project is being financed jointly by the Camrail consortium, the World Bank (United Nations International Development Association loan), the European Investment Bank, the Agence française de développement and the UN International Financial Corporation.

The Camrail consortium, which developed out of a partnership between the French group SDV and the South African company Comazar, took over Cameroon's railways in

## Canadian businesses: forward,

Most of Camrail's equipment has been supplied by Canadians for nearly the last 20 years. This puts Canadian businesses in a unique position, in terms of both contracts to supply equipment and various services connected with this investment program.

Plans for the program call for invitations to tender to be issued before the end of 2000, and during 2001. Some Canadian companies are well on the way to qualifying for contracts which are currently being considered.

For more information, contact Honoré Mondomobé, Senior Commercial Officer, Canadian Embassy, Cameroon, tel.: (011-237) 23 23 11, fax: (011-237) 22 10 90, e-mail: honore. mondomobe@dfait-maeci.gc.ca, Web site: www.infoexport.gc.ca/cm/ ★

## Turkey hosts pivotal oil and gas event

ISTANBUL, TURKEY — November 16-18, 2000 — There has long been the recognition that Turkey is an essential oil and gas market due to its geographical location and political stability. Turkey is known as the "energy bridge" between the major oil producing regions on the one hand and the major consumer markets in Europe on the other. In its own right, Turkey has arguably become the fastest growing energy market in the world.

The Turkish International Oil and Gas Congress and Exhibition (TURKIOG 2000) provides one international business platform for the Turkish oil and gas markets and surrounding regions. It does so by combining the international exhibition together with a strategic congress and a series of technical and scientific seminars all under one roof —

the "Lutfi Kirdar" Istanbul Convention and Exhibition Centre, in the heart of Istanbul's commercial district.

Keynote speakers include: Cumhur Ersumer, Turkish Minister for Energy and Natural Resources; Osman Demirag, President and Chairman, Turkish Petroleum Corporation (TPAO); Gikhan Yardim, President, BOTAS Petroleum Pipeline Corporation, Turkey; Chris Pattern, Commissioner, Foreign and Security Policy, European Commission.

For more information, contact Cem Menlikli, the Turkish Association of Petroleum Geologists, tel.: (011-90-312) 286-9100, ext. 2710, fax: (011-90-312) 286-9000, e-mail: menlikli@petrol.tpao.gov.tr or Fred Malgoire at ITE Group Plc, tel.: (011-44-20) 7596 5231, fax: (011-44-20) 7596 5106, e-mail: fred.malgoire@ite-exhibitions.com



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