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TOM HOCKIN TO PRESENT CANADA EXPORT AWARDS

The Honourable Tom Hockin, Minister for International Trade, will present the 1993 Canada Export Awards to 10 top Canadian exporting companies on October 4, 1993.

The presentation of the awards is the first event of Canada International Trade Month, an annual initiative that celebrates the success of Canadian exporters and encourages and assists enterprises to pursue international business opportunities.

This year's recipients were chosen from 166 applications by a panel of Canadian business executives. In the 11-year history of the Canada Export Awards, 148 awards have been presented, selected from over 2000 entries. In 1993, Canada's geographic and industrial diversity is well represented, with winning companies from coast to coast, and products ranging from sophisticated telecommunications equipment to creative children's toys.

"Canadian exports reached record levels in 1992, and they continue to drive our economy in 1993 and lead the way in Canada's efforts to overcome the global economic recession," Mr. Hockin said.

The Minister noted that the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement has helped many of this year's award winners to make substantial gains in the U.S. market. "I am pleased to see that these companies have also achieved major breakthroughs in other international markets, particularly in Europe and Asia-Pacific."

Mr. Hockin added: "The employees who have devoted their talents and skills to the success of these companies deserve the grateful recognition of their fellow Canadians. It is through their efforts that Canada will maintain its stature as one of the world's most competitive exporting nations.

"The intensely competitive nature of today's global economy has forced Canadian firms to strengthen their efforts to