



Canada has vast amounts of natural resources and energy reserves and has become a leader in the multi-faceted field of mineral development.

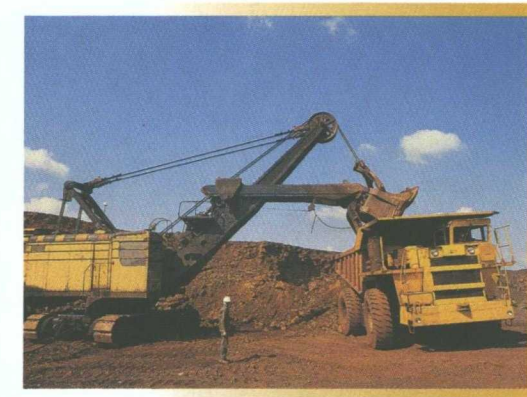
Canadians have designed, built and now operate a large network of infrastructure used to explore, refine and distribute these resources.

MINING

Canada is one of the world's largest producers and exporters of minerals, metals and related products, with approximately 300 mines, 3000 quarries and some 50 non-ferrous smelters, refineries and iron plants. Canada is the world's largest producer of potash and uranium and, in 1998, ranked second in the production of nickel, zinc and cadmium.

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At the end of 1999, companies of all sizes listed on Canadian stock exchanges held interests in exploration and producing properties in more than 100 countries around the world. Large Canadian mining companies now control approximately one third of planned worldwide exploration expenditures.



Canada's geological assets, combined with its well-established mining infrastructure, an efficient transportation system and a highly skilled and productive workforce, have earned it an international reputation for excellence in mining. In 14 of the last 27 years, Canada has ranked first in the world as a destination for international mineral exploration capital.

MINING TECHNOLOGIES

To achieve and maintain Canada's impressive level of mineral production, Canadian companies have developed unique mining and exploration expertise in all aspects of underground and open-pit mining. In addition, most of Canada's mining workforce uses electronics, robotics and advanced telecommunications technologies.

Canada pioneered the development of many exploration techniques in ground and airborne geophysics, with Canadian companies controlling 70 percent of the world market for airborne geophysical surveying.

Canadian technologies improve mine safety, enhance environmental systems and increase productivity, allowing mining companies to be at their competitive best. Canadian companies are developing the "intelligent mine" — which can automatically detect changing mine conditions and respond appropriately. Canada is also a world leader in microwave applications for refractory and carbonaceous ores, as well as other technologies such as three-dimensional geological computer modelling and mine-planning systems.

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