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### THE NORTH AMERICAN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT (NAFTA)

The NAFTA expands Canada's free-trade area of 270 million people into a market of 360 million — a market larger than the population of the 15 countries of the European Union and one with a total North American output of \$7 trillion.

Mexico is Canada's most important trading partner in Latin America. Two-way merchandise trade with Mexico exceeded \$5.5 billion in 1994 and is expected to exceed \$7 billion by the end of the decade.

Canadian direct investment in Mexico is growing rapidly, increasing from \$452 million in 1992 to over \$1.2 billion in 1994.

This guide has been prepared with the problems inherent to the new exporter in mind. However, it is not exhaustive. The differing circumstances, interests and needs of individual companies will influence their strategies for the Mexican market.

Further assistance can be obtained by addressing requests to:

Department of Industry (DI) through the provincial International Trade Centres (see Where to Get Help) or to the InfoCentre at:

Tel.: 1-800-267-8376 or (613) 944-4000  
 Fax: (613) 996-9709  
 FaxLink: (613) 944-4500

InfoCentre Bulletin Board (IBB):  
 1-800-628-1581 or (613) 944-1581

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