

## TelePorts for business contacts

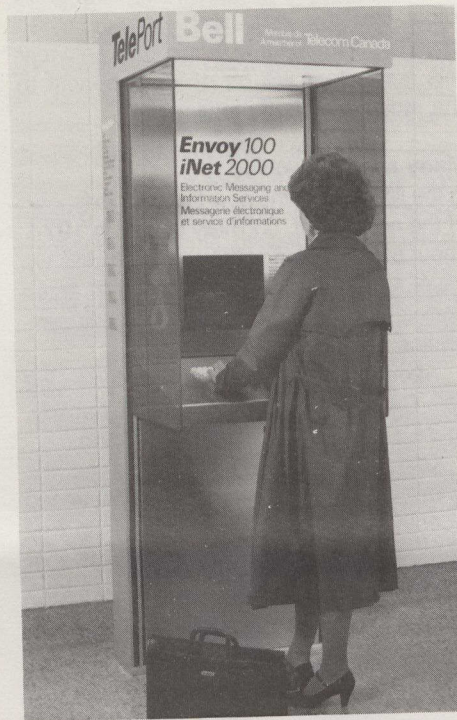
Telecom Canada has started operations of TelePort booths in six airports across the country to help business people keep in touch with their offices.

The TelePort is similar in appearance to a telephone booth but, in addition to the telephone, each contains a terminal with a fully-functional keyboard and an easy-to-read screen so that business people can access their electronic messages and search information databases. The TelePort also includes a handset for charge-a-call phone calls.

TIL Systems Limited of Toronto, a Canadian database provider and terminal manufacturer, developed the actual intelligence of the terminals.

The TelePort booths were developed to ensure that Telecom Canada's *Envoy 100* and *iNet 2000* subscribers could maintain contact with their offices and perform the same functions that are possible from their office or portable terminals. *Envoy 100*, Telecom Canada's public electronic messaging service allows its subscribers to compose, edit, send, receive, and store electronic messages to or from other subscribers or even to compose and send an *EnvoyPost* message — through Canada Post — to non-subscribers. *iNet 2000* is Telecom Canada's information gateway service which provides a single point of access to information on most topics in hundreds of databases.

Two TelePort booths were installed in Montreal's Dorval Airport, three in Toronto,



*Subscribers of Telecom Canada's Envoy 100 and iNet 2000 intelligent communication services are now able to access both services from TelePort booths located in major airports across Canada.*

two in Vancouver, one each in Calgary, Winnipeg and Halifax.

The company expects that booths will eventually be installed in other public places such as hotels, convention centres, train stations and major office towers.

## Regular education for handicapped

The Life Skills program in Manitoba is enjoying considerable success in helping handicapped children become as self-sufficient as possible. The children are taught the basics like grooming and cooking and they are educated to the extent of their abilities.

More than \$1 million has been allocated by the provincial Department of Education over the past two years to provide access and facilities in schools for children with special requirements. Currently 50 per cent of Manitoba's 47 school divisions have special needs students and half of them have a Life Skills facility.

According to Education Minister Maureen Hemphill "these children do better with the rest of the school population than they do in isolation. Our programs are making it possible for them to stay in their home communities".

By training them to take their place in society, the chances of eventually living in

institutions are greatly decreased. There is also the possibility that many of them may also find employment in the community.

### Altering schools

In developing a Life Skills facility, ramps and elevators are provided to give handicapped children physical access to the classrooms. Ramps have to be specially designed to ensure that motorized wheelchairs will not burn out going up or down, and elevators have to be large enough to hold the motorized wheelchairs.

As well as the capital costs associated with renovations, \$25 000 is allocated *per school* for the Life Skills program to provide equipment and materials including stoves, refrigerators, sinks, typewriters or business machines.

In addition, the program provides the services of special education consultants to visit schools, talk to the handicapped

students, their teachers and principals. The consultants will also attend board and public meetings to explain the Life Skills program, if school divisions request the service.

The Life Skills program stresses the individual needs of the students, by breaking the assistance offered down into components they need to function in society.

If for example, some children cannot read the labels on food cans, they are taught to make books of the labels and match them to the products they want when they go shopping.

The program also specializes rather than generalizes. In schools where there is a Life Skills kitchen, students are taught how to prepare and cook vegetables and, in the process, learn good nutritional habits.

The presence of handicapped students in schools has had an effect on many of the other students as well. The school population has learned to be comfortable with the special students. They have learned when to offer help, and when to allow the students to try things on their own. In addition, they have gained some insight into the obstacles being surmounted by these special children.

## New France-Canada company to build nuclear sub

International Submarine Engineering Limited of Vancouver and Comex SA of Marseilles, France, have formed a new company, International Submarine Transportation Systems Inc., to produce the world's first privately owned nuclear-powered submarine.

The *Sea Shuttle-Saga N*, which is expected to be ready for testing in 1989, is being developed for offshore work such as the underwater repair and inspection of pipelines. It will act as a mother ship in ice infested waters for divers and for vehicles operated by remote control.

International Submarine Engineering and a subsidiary, Energy Conversion Systems Inc., had announced plans for the \$70-million project earlier in Vancouver, but the creation of the new company was formally announced at the Canadian Offshore Resources Exhibition held in Vancouver in October.

The Vancouver company is responsible for developing the nuclear power source for the submersible. The nuclear reactor will provide power for seven to ten years.

Comex, a diving equipment company, has already built the hull of the submarine and is working on the technical equipment. The submarine will have a crew of six and room for seven divers.