

- Principal Canadian exports are organic chemicals; salt, sulphur, earth and stone; wood pulp, paper and paperboard; boilers and machinery; and electrical machinery and equipment. Imports from Thailand include electrical machinery and equipment, fish products, boilers and machinery, and footwear and other apparel.
- Thailand's economic expansion offers opportunities for Canadian companies, large and small, to partner with Thai companies. For example, Met-Chem Canada Inc. (Montreal) and Thai Special Steel Industry Company Ltd. are developing steel engineering to feed Thailand's construction boom. In Ontario, Country Style Donuts (Richmond Hill) and Yogen Fruz (Markham) have both signed franchising agreements to feed an expanding and affluent Thai middle class curious about new tastes. SR Telecom (Saint-Laurent, Quebec), ATI Telecom International Inc. (Edmonton) and Ultimateast Data Communications Ltd. (Saint John's) are among the companies supplying Thailand's need for informatics and telecommunications technology. Environmental companies such as Bovar Inc. (Calgary), Hatfield Consultants (West Vancouver), Philip (Toronto), Target (Burnaby, B.C.) and Cougar Helicopters Inc. (Halifax) are joining with Thai counterparts to deal with the environmental pressures stemming from rapid economic growth.

#### **Development Assistance Co-operation**

- Canada has provided more than \$350 million in official development assistance to Thailand since 1981. The country is making remarkable economic progress, though it still faces some constraints in achieving sustainable growth.
- Assistance focuses on human resources development and increasing Thailand's access to Canadian technology and expertise in support of private sector development, infrastructure services, natural resources and environmental management, and women in development. Official development assistance funding in 1994-95 totalled \$19 million.
- Two key Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) projects are Enterprise Thailand-Canada, which fosters joint ventures and other commercial collaboration between Canadian and Thai firms, and a human resources development project that provides technical assistance, training and technology transfer through a consortia of Canadian and Thai institutions and businesses.