

News Release

Communiqué

Minister for
International
Trade



Ministre du
Commerce
extérieur

No. 137

June 12, 1989.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE MINISTER RETURNS FROM
SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS MISSION TO SPAIN

International Trade Minister John C. Crosbie returned this past weekend from a successful business mission to Spain. The Presidents and CEOs of nine Canadian companies accompanied the Minister during the mission's three-city tour from June 4-8, 1989.

The trade visit began in Madrid where Mr. Crosbie had discussions with key Spanish ministers including his host, Secretary of State for Trade, Apolonio Ruiz Ligeró; the Minister of Economy and Finance, Carlos Solchaga; and the Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Minister, Carlos Romero. During these meetings Minister Crosbie emphasized the excellent potential which exists for increasing business between Canada and Spain, particularly given the opportunities which are emerging from the creation of a single European market in 1992, and the Canada-US Free Trade Agreement.

The highlights of the Madrid portion of the visit were the delegation's audience with the King of Spain, His Majesty Juan Carlos I, and Mr. Crosbie's key-note address to the inaugural luncheon of the Hispano-Canadian Association.

In Madrid, the Minister also discussed with his Spanish counterparts the agreement of Canada and the EC to set up a working group to examine the problem of overfishing in the waters of the Northwest Atlantic outside Canada's 200 mile exclusive economic zone. Representatives of both governments agreed that Canadian/EC differences in this area should be examined seriously to determine how they might be resolved, and that both sides would be guided by a commitment to the principles of conservation and rational management. To assist with this process, Canada and Spain will exchange scientific information.

.../2