



# communiqué

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## MINISTER REGAN RETURNS FROM MEXICO

The Honourable Gerald A. Regan, Minister for International Trade, returns today from Mexico where he led the first ever Canadian oil and gas equipment manufacturers' mission to that country. The purpose of this mission was to increase Mexico's and Pemex' awareness of Canadian capabilities and to promote sales of Canadian equipment and services for the oil and gas industry.

Minister Regan and the mission met with Mr. Ramon Beteta, General Manager of Pemex, to discuss Pemex requirements and the specific interests of mission members. The Minister and the mission received an exceptionally warm reception at Pemex which is looking to diversify its sources of supply. As a result of this mission, Pemex is becoming increasingly aware of the quality and scope of Canadian capability in this vital industry and new business relations are being forged. Mission members will remain in Mexico this week to pursue discussions initiated during Minister Regan's visit.

Minister Regan also met with Mexican ministers and officials. During his meeting with Mr. Silva Herzog, Secretary of Finance and Public Credit, he reviewed the current economic and financial situation of Mexico and prospects for the future. Mexico has adopted a rigid program to recover from the economic crisis that occurred in 1982 and Secretary Silva Herzog was able to brief the Minister on the significant progress that has been made.

Mr. Hernandez, Secretary of Commerce and Industrial Development, and Minister Regan reviewed the current state of our trading relations with Mexico and discussed new areas of trade and industrial cooperation between the two countries. The Ministers agreed that there continue to be significant opportunities for Canadian and Mexican companies to work together and to benefit together.

Mr. Javier Jimenez-Espriu, Sub-Secretary of Transport and Communications, briefed Minister Regan on plans for the modernization of the Mexican railways, Mexico's satellite program and telecommunications developments. Minister Regan reviewed past Canadian participation in assisting Mexico in developing these sectors and he indicated Canada's desire to pursue and intensify this cooperation.

Finally, Minister Regan met with Mr. Aguirre, Mayor of Mexico City, to discuss expansion plans for the Phase IV Mexico City subway and to support the efforts of Canadian manufacturers in the pursuit of this project.