

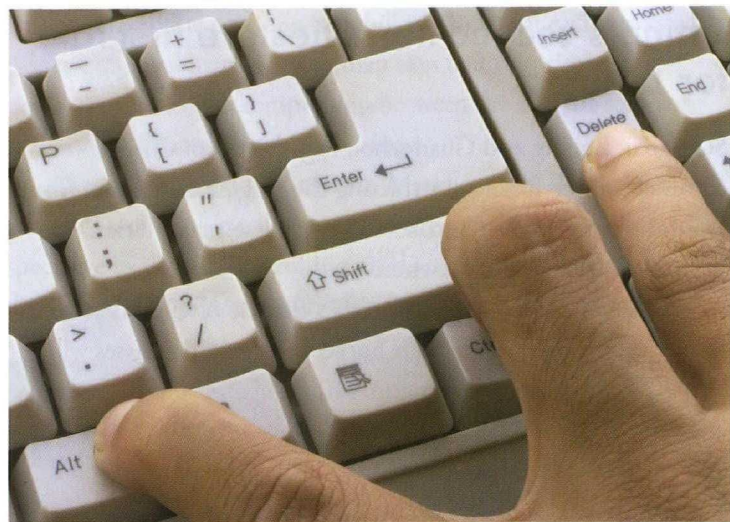
Mexican ICT fair re-boots this winter

Mexico City, February 26-29, 2008 > The Canadian Embassy in Mexico City is organizing a Canada pavilion at Expo Comm, Mexico's largest and longest running exhibition and conference of telecommunications, wireless, networking and Internet technologies.

Experts say some 150 Canadian companies are already active in the Mexican ICT market. According to Canada's Trade Commissioner Service, the biggest opportunities are in software solutions and IT services, telecom (mobile applications), electronic components and service, IT security, multimedia and e-learning.

By attending Expo Comm, Canadian companies can build on their strong presence in the Mexican ICT market, which is growing at a rate of more than three times the country's gross domestic product. In 2006, this sector grew by some 14%, imports were up 24% and software purchases increased by 13%.

Last year's event attracted 289 exhibitors and five international pavilions, including Canada's, which received the



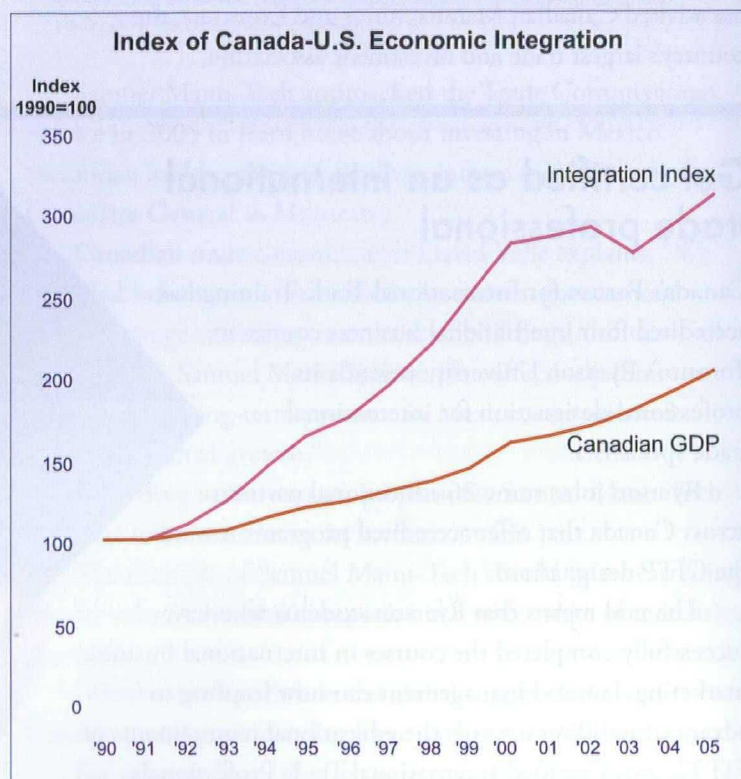
award for the best international pavilion. Complementary services, including company matchmaking, will be organized by Canadian officials in Mexico for those who register before December 20, 2007.

For more information, contact Emily Lukas, Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada, tel.: (613) 944-2780, email: emily.lukas@international.gc.ca.

Canada-U.S. economic integration continues, but at a slower pace

The perception that Canada and the U.S. have become more economically integrated following the implementation of the North American Free Trade Agreement is broadly supported by a range of statistics. But the high-tech collapse of 2000 and the security changes which followed 9/11 led to a perceived thickening of the border and uncertainty about future integration. An index created by Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada's Office of the Chief Economist shows that the pace of integration did slow after 2001, but has begun to pick up again in recent years. Economic integration allows firms to acquire inputs and serve markets from wherever it is most efficient to do so. Moreover, evidence suggests that economic integration allows firms in both countries to better contend with international competition.

Provided by the Office of the Chief Economist, Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada (www.international.gc.ca/eet).



Data: Statistics Canada

Where the ocean market meets

Abu Dhabi, January 21-23, 2008 > The Middle East Ocean Science and Technology Expo will feature the most current technology available to the growing industry of ocean technology and marine science.

Every segment of this dynamic market continues to require new technologies, whether in underwater defence, offshore oil and gas, environmental surveying and monitoring, pollution control, shipping, or ocean mapping and engineering.

Attending buyers and specifiers, including engineers, scientists, government, military and industry professionals, will be able to use the expo as a place to source products and services and build relationships with hundreds of global suppliers.



The Middle East ocean market holds exciting opportunity for both the region's own buyers and suppliers as well as the international community.

For more information, contact David Jayaraj, Organiser's Agent, Middle East Ocean Science and Technology Expo, tel.: (416) 802-9452, email: davidjayaraj@rogers.com.

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Arbitration has many advantages over litigation, say experts. It is often faster and more cost-effective, and it affords flexible procedures in a less public forum. In addition, McDougall says, "in many jurisdictions, home-field advantage can be decisive, making international arbitration preferable to litigating disputes in your adversary's home courts."

Arbitration under the auspices of the ICC is subject to several international treaties, under which countries agree to recognize and enforce agreements and awards. The main treaty, the New York Convention, counts over 130 countries as parties. As a result, arbitral awards are generally easier to enforce internationally than court decisions.

Established in 1923, the ICC's International Court of Arbitration pioneered international commercial arbitration. Today, some 120 lawyers and legal experts from more than 80 countries and territories compose the court. This gives it a rich and diverse cultural and legal perspective.

In addition, the court is supported by a 50-person secretariat in Paris—which includes 30 attorneys of over 20 nationalities that speak all of the world's main languages—that is routinely considered the best administrative staff in the business.

"ICC arbitration is flexible. The parties can tailor the arbitration to their needs and have control over many other elements of the arbitration, such as who will hear the case and

where the arbitration will take place," says Perrin Beatty, President and CEO of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, the Canadian representative to the ICC.

"As well, the ICC court scrutinizes awards for form and substance, which enhances their quality. ICC awards are seen as high quality ones that are respected worldwide. This recognition, and the ICC court's scrutiny, are very helpful at the enforcement stage."

Arbitration hearings are not public proceedings, Beatty notes, and only the parties themselves receive copies of the awards.

"Unlike court cases that can become the subject of media attention, arbitration cases are not publicized since these are private proceedings."

Also attractive to business people is the fact that arbitration awards are subject to fewer challenges than court judgments.

"For this reason, arbitration can be a more efficient and affordable means of dispute resolution than court litigation," says McDougall. "From start to finish, the timeline for an arbitration is often shorter than for a similar lawsuit. This means cases can be resolved sooner and at less cost to the parties."

For more information on ICC arbitration, go to www.chamber.ca, under "ICC Arbitration," or contact Brian Zeiler-Kligman at the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, tel.: (613) 238-4000, ext. 225, email: bzeiler-kligman@chamber.ca.