

## A WORLD-CLASS TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

*"We ship all over North America using highway and intermodal carriers. Overall, I would rate the distribution network as excellent."*

**Charlie Connors**  
*Deployment Coordinator*  
*Michelin Tires (Canada) Ltd.*

*"Deregulation has led to better transportation services. We have seen a significant improvement in rail transit times and reliability. On the trucking side, carriers have expanded their direct service networks and reduced the amount of interlining."*

**David Tough**  
*Manager, Distribution Services*  
*Dow Chemicals Canada Inc.*

*"Our plants produce frozen foods for the Canadian, U.S. and overseas markets. Our operations require excellent access to quality temperature-controlled transportation services."*

**David McInroy**  
*Traffic Manager*  
*McCain Foods Limited*

A 1993 report published by the World Economic Forum rates countries on several competitiveness criteria. Four of these criteria — roads, railroads, air transport and ports of access — deal with the adequacy and flexibility of transportation infrastructure relative to business requirements. Canada's average rating for these criteria was the highest among G-7 nations.

Transportation is the cornerstone of Canada's industrial strength. Its ports handle some 400 million tonnes of commodity annually. Each year, rail companies move more than 250 million tonnes of freight on 91,000 kilometres of track. Canada's airports handle 1.6 billion tonnes/kilometres annually.

### **NORTH-SOUTH CONNECTIONS**

Shipments from Canada to the U.S. travel by road, rail, air, marine, pipeline, and intermodal services.

Road transport is dominant, a fact which reflects the large flow of manufactured goods and the integration of regional markets. Increasingly, inter-

modal services are competing with trucking companies for this traffic.

Rail is the mode of choice for many bulk shippers, particularly for exports of resource products from western Canada.

Marine carriers also handle bulk shipments. Marine travel is concentrated in the Great Lakes/St. Lawrence Seaway system and on the east and west coasts of North America.

Flights from Canadian airports serve all major North American and global destinations. More than 20 million passengers pass through Canadian airports each year. Air cargo services permit overnight delivery from Canadian centres to customers throughout North America and overseas. For example, Northern Telecom uses air freight to provide next day service throughout North America for shipments of communications equipment.

Civil aviation services between Canada and the United States are provided under a bilateral agreement. The two countries are working to liberalize the agreement to expand