

News briefs

In a bid to win a major slice of the world market for tele-communications technology, Nova Corporation of Calgary and Alberta Government Telephones (AGT) of Edmonton have announced the formation of Novatel Communications Ltd. of Calgary, the first Canadian-owned company to offer a complete turnkey cellular radio system. Nova and AGT will share equally in the Novatel joint venture which provides both cellular systems and mobile cellular telephones. The basic foundation for Novatel Communications was established through the acquisition and reorganization of Westech Systems Ltd. of Edmonton and International Systcoms Ltd. of Montreal.

Eleven Canadian financial institutions, including chartered banks, Caisses de dépôt, insurance firms and Northern Telecom Pension Trust Fund, have formed a credit-insurance company to help make more fixed-rate loans available to medium-size corporate borrowers. To be called the Industrial Credit Insurance Company (ICIC), the firm, headquartered in Toronto, will make use of a recent federal reinsurance policy under which the government will agree to take a portion of the loan risk for such a company. Participants have agreed to put up a total of \$25 million. ICIC is a new kind of institution in Canada and will be regulated by the office of the federal Superintendent of Insurance.

Canadians want free trade with the United States just as much as they did 30 years ago, according to a recent Gallup Poll. In a survey of more than 1 000 adult Canadians, the public opinion institute found 54 per cent of respondents felt Canada would be better off without tariffs and custom charges between the two countries. While 29 per cent felt Canada would be worse off with free trade, 17 per cent could not make up their minds. The results were almost identical to those of 1953, Gallup said. Only in Ontario did less than a majority approve of free trade with the US.

A report from the Newfoundland Petroleum Directorate says that there might be as much as 15 billion barrels of recoverable crude oil off the province's shores, including 2.5 trillion litres of natural gas off the Labrador coast and on the Grand Banks. Canada's largest offshore find may require new technology to extract oil unreachable by conventional drilling.



Rod Macivior, The Citizen

Equine ecstasy! A group of friends gathered together at Farrier's Farm near Ottawa recently. They were joined by four-year-old Tuff-E-Nuff who sat down at the table and tucked into his own bowl of oats.

Defending world champion John Primrose of Edmonton, Alberta, shot 188 targets out of 200 to win the World Moving Target Championships held recently in Edmonton. In women's competition, the top Canadian was Susan Natrass of Edmonton who took the bronze medal with a closing score of 169 targets out of 200.

Microtaure Inc., an Ottawa-based computer software house specializing in Telidon applications, has signed a distribution agreement with Mitsui and Co. Ltd., the leading Japanese trading company which recently acquired exclusive sales and marketing rights for Telidon in Pacific Rim countries. Microtaure's Teligraph software for decoding and page creation is the first complete implementation of the Telidon-NAPLPS North American videotext standard. It not only permits on-line decoding of Telidon-format pages of information using standard off-the-shelf microcomputers, but also provides full facilities for the creation of pages which are faster and more versatile than the conventional approach.

Streamlined application regulations to the Foreign Investment Review Agency took effect July 2. They will be applicable when a foreign company proposes to make a new investment or plans to directly acquire a Canadian company with up to \$5 million in assets and 200 employees. Previously, the regulations

had set a limit at \$2 million in assets and less than 100 employees. Indirect acquisitions involving \$15 million or less in assets and fewer than 200 employees will now also qualify for shorter review.

Sue Holloway of Ottawa was a double gold medal winner as Canada dominated the kayak events at an international canoe and kayak regatta held recently in Vichy, France. The Canadians also claimed seven silver and three bronze medals. Holloway teamed with Alexandra Barre of St. Foy, Quebec, for the gold medal in the women's K2, then teamed with Barre, Lucie Guay of Montreal and Barbara Olmstead of North Bay, Ontario, to win the K4.

Canada Weekly is published by the Public Affairs Branch, Department of External Affairs, Ottawa K1A 0G2.

Material may be freely reprinted. A credit would be appreciated. Photo sources, if not shown, will be provided on request to the editor.

Cette publication existe également en français sous le titre Hebdo Canada.

Algunos números de esta publicación aparecen también en español bajo el título Noticiario de Canadá.

Alguns artigos desta publicação são também editados em português sob o título Notícias do Canadá.