

well as industrial and packaging applications in domestic and offshore markets. Waferboard/OSB is used predominantly in the residential and commercial construction sector in both Canada and the United States. At present, only limited volumes of waferboard/OSB are exported offshore and very little of the product is upgraded.

In 1988, the value of shipments for the sector totalled an estimated \$950 million, which represented about 6.5 per cent of total wood products shipments. About 80 per cent of softwood

plywood and some 50 per cent of waferboard/OSB is consumed in the domestic market.

Exports in 1988 were valued at \$335 million and included sales of waferboard/OSB and softwood veneer to the United States, and softwood plywood sales to the EC and Japan. Exports represented about 31 per cent of the value of all structural panel product shipments in 1988. Plywood imports have not generally been a significant factor in the Canadian market, due mainly to differences in product standards, high Canadian tariffs, and currency exchange rates unfavourable to imports into Canada.