

"We are fortunate to have the FTA dispute settlement mechanism to review the basis of these decisions in an objective and impartial manner," Mr. Hockin said. "We are confident that the U.S. duty will be overturned, resulting in a very real and tangible benefit to the Canadian softwood lumber industry."

The U.S. market is critical to the economic well-being of the Canadian industry. Canadian lumber exports to the United States exceeded \$4 billion in 1992, accounting for roughly 54 percent of Canada's total lumber production.

"The Canadian industry took the lead in mounting Canada's defence in the injury proceedings. I congratulate the industry on today's results."

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

Media Relations Office  
External Affairs and International Trade Canada  
(613) 995-1874