

re and Industries



Chinese Language Capabilities

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Despite the intense competition, opportunities exist for Canadian firms offering unique or niche technologies — particularly those with

Internet and Electronic Commerce

There are currently 700,000 Internet subscribers in Hong Kong and the number of local firms selling products to customers on-line and

Hong Kong Market Size (US\$ Million)

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Chinese-language capabilities. For example, there is significant demand for Cantonese-language multimedia products, such as CD-ROMs, information kiosks, multimedia phones, video compact discs, etc., for both local consumption and export markets.

Estimates for 1998-2000

In terms of software, there are promising prospects in applications software (particularly for Chinese-language systems); Internet; electronic commerce; graphics and desktop publishing; computer-aided design; networking and communications; engineering and production control; and fourth-generation language

placing orders with suppliers is increasing. Software for these applications will be a major growth area over the next year and beyond. Keep an eye out for the proposed HK\$13 billion Cyberport facility—a hi-tech multimedia hub—to be completed in two phases, commencing in 2001.

The Canadian Presence

Hong Kong imported over \$250 million worth of high-tech products from Canada in 1997, consisting primarily of telecommunications equipment, network equipment, software and multimedia products. More than twenty Canadian high-tech firms currently have regional offices in Hong Kong, and many more maintain a presence by working through local agents and distributors.

Access to other markets While Hong Kong continues to be a good market for Canadian software and multimedia products and services, it also serves as an important gateway into the large Chinese market and the Asian continent. To learn more about these excitina opportunities, take a look at the full market report *The* Software and Multimedia Markets in Hong Kong, prepared by the Market Research Centre.



applications.