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POLYSAR OPENS OFFICE IN SINGAPORE

SINGAPORE--The Minister for International Trade, James Kelleher, announced today that one of Canada's foremost companies, Polysar Limited, a world leader in high technology petrochemical products, will open a representative office in Singapore in the second half of this year. "This new office will initially employ close to 25 persons. It will focus on business development, market research, sales promotion, and providing technical services to the Asia Pacific region."

Polysar is also undertaking feasibility studies related to interest in establishing research and development facilities in Singapore. Initially Polysar will establish technical services laboratories, and in the longer term introduce a pure research capability, which will employ up to 50 persons. Polysar is attracted by the pool of locally trained polymer scientists and technicians in Singapore, and envisages the establishment of research links with different Singapore institutions, in particular the National University of Singapore and Singapore Polytechnic. Polysar's research in Singapore will be directed towards market requirements in the Asia Pacific region. It will complement research at Polysar's major laboratories in Sarnia, Ontario, Canada and eventually involve a two-way flow of scientists and technicians.

Polysar's initiative not only recognizes the high level of skills and services available in Singapore, it is an important step towards establishing scientific links between Canada and Singapore. "From a Canadian perspective, Polysar is making an invaluable contribution not only to strengthening the Canadian presence in Singapore, but to expanding the awareness in the region of the Canadian achievements in petrochemical marketing and research, especially the high technology capabilities Canadian firms offer," Mr. Kelleher said.

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