TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

A Guide for Canadian Exporters

External Affairs and International Trade Canada

Canada

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I. THE COUNTRY

Area and Geography

Trinidad and Tobago are two islands of the Caribbean united in nationhood though separated by 35 km of sea. They are the most southerly of the eastern Caribbean chain of islands, extending from Florida, U.S., in the north to Venezuela, South America, in the south. The islands are bound by the Atlantic Ocean to the east and the Caribbean Sea, to the north, and are easily accessible to international air and sea traffic. Trinidad has an area of 4 278 km^2 and Tobago an area of 300 km^2.

Three mountain ranges traverse the island of Trinidad from east to west; the northern range reaches a maximum elevation of 949 m. Typically, however, the terrain is gently undulating with low hills and tropical forests. Tobago rises to a height of 554 m at the centre of the island.

Approximately one-third of Trinidad is under cultivation while nearly half the island is covered with tropical forest. Tobago is an island of natural beauty, of coral reef formations and sandy coastal beaches. The indigenous resources of the islands include crude oil and natural gas; there is also an asphalt lake in the southern part of Trinidad.

Climate

Trinidad and Tobago enjoy a tropical climate with relatively high daily average temperatures that vary between 21-35°C (70-95°F). The climate is moderated by sea breezes and northeast trade winds. Lying south of the hurricane belt, the islands are relatively free of violent storms.

The period from July to December is the wettest of the year, although it is usually interrupted by a temporary dry spell in October. Generally, the first six months of the year are dry with a few irregular showers in April and May.

Local Time

Trinidad and Tobago operate on atlantic standard time (add one hour to eastern standard time). They do not use daylight saving time.

Population

The estimated population of this cosmopolitan nation is 1.2 million, almost all of whom live on Trinidad. Trinidad and Tobago is a multi-racial society comprised of the following ethnic representations: Afro-Trinidadians, 40.8 per cent; Indo-Trinidadians, 40.7 per cent; and other groups, 18.5 per cent.

Principal Cities

Port of Spain, situated in northwest Trinidad, is the commercial centre and main seaport. Forty-eight kilometres to the south is San Fernando, the centre of the oil and gas industry. Scarborough (population 5 000) is Tobago's chief town and port.

Language

English is the official and commercial language of Trinidad and Tobago.

Religion

There is freedom of religious practice on the islands, with the Christian, Hindu and Islamic faiths predominating.

Weights and Measures

Metric weights and measures are used locally.

Electricity

The standard electricity supply is 110-115V, 220-240V, 60 cycles, single-phase for domestic use, and 400-440V, 60 cycles, three-phase for commercial and industrial use.

Public Holidays

New Year — *January 1*
Good Friday — *March/April (variable)*
Easter Monday — *March/April (variable)*
Whit Monday — *May/June (variable)*
Corpus Christi — *May/June (variable)*
Labour Day — *June 19*
Emancipation Day — *August 1*
Independence Day — *August 31*
Republic Day — *September 24*
Christmas Day — *December 25*
Boxing Day — *December 26*
Divali (Hindu Festival) — *October/November (variable)*
Eid-ul-Fitr (Moslem Festival) — *Variable*

In addition, the Monday and Tuesday preceding Ash Wednesday, although not official holidays, are annual Carnival days. It is virtually impossible to conduct any business during these two days of revelry.

Business Hours

General hours of business are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, Saturdays. Banking hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon and from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Fridays.

History

1498 — Christopher Columbus discovered Trinidad
1595 — Sir Walter Raleigh arrived in Trinidad and caulked his ships with asphalt from Pitch Lake
1797 — Britain captured Trinidad from Spain
1802 — Trinidad became the first British crown colony
1814 — Tobago joined the Windward Islands as a British colony
1834 — Abolition of slavery
1845 — Arrival of first East Indian indentured labourers
1889 — Tobago and Trinidad joined administratively
1899 — Trinidad and Tobago became a joint Crown colony
1956 — Self-government granted by the British
1962 — Trinidad and Tobago became independent (August 31)
1973 — Trinidad and Tobago joined CARICOM
1976 — Trinidad and Tobago became a republic (September 24)

Government

Trinidad and Tobago has adopted a Westminster-style of parliament, inherited from the British. The new constitution of the twin island state, which became effective August 1, 1976, provides for the appointment of a president as head of state, and for the establishment of a Parliament consisting of a Senate and a House of Representatives.

The 36-member House of Representatives is elected every five years in general elections. The Senate consists of 31 members. Of these, 16 are appointed by the president upon the advice of the prime minister, six on the advice of the leader of the opposition and nine at the discretion of the president.

The president is elected for a five-year term by the Electoral College which is made up of both Houses of Parliament. The executive power rests with the prime minister and cabinet members.

The legal and judicial system, based on English Common Law and practice, is independent of the executive and legislative functions of the government. The chief justice is appointed by the president after consultation with the prime minister and leader of the opposition. Judges are appointed by the president upon advice of the Judicial and Legal Commission.

II. ECONOMY AND FOREIGN TRADE

Overview

The twin island nation of Trinidad and Tobago, the second largest among the English-speaking Caribbean nations, is richly endowed with oil and natural gas, and has a well-developed physical infrastructure and a well-trained human resource base. It also has a technically efficient industrial base, particularly in the energy sector.

However, between 1983 and 1989, the economy registered negative growth, due mainly to the dramatic fall in world oil prices and production. Earnings from the petroleum sector, which account for over 70 per cent of all export income, have dropped dramatically and resulted, therefore, in the imposition of severe foreign exchange restrictions.

In an effort to arrest the decline and to restructure the economy, the government has begun to limit public spending, to reschedule its external debts and to encourage export-oriented manufacturing and import replacement.

In the foreseeable future, Trinidad and Tobago's economic performance will depend primarily on strategic planning and development of the petroleum sector. Efforts are under way to stem the decline in oil production and boost gas reserves in order to support enhanced petrochemical capacity. At the current production rate of 165 000 bopd, the proven oil reserves of 550 million barrels are estimated to last until 1997. Recoverable reserves are estimated at 21 million barrels, projected over a 15-year period. Proven natural gas reserves stand at 350 billion m^3 and recoverable reserves are estimated at 517 billion m^3.

A new public sector investment program calls for new investments totalling TT$3.8 billion over the three-year period from 1988 to 1991. Among the priority sectors targetted for investment are petroleum and gas, agriculture, tourism, and manufacturing. In addition, considerable funds will be directed to social programs and to revitalizing the country's infrastructure. In the government's diversification plan, the agriculture and agro-industrial sector is also earmarked for substantial new investment.

The performance of Trinidad and Tobago's economy in 1988 reflected the continuing economic crisis. Almost every economic indicator reflected the downturn. Real GDP fell by 3.8 per cent, following directly on the heels of a 7.4 per cent decline in 1987. There were also widespread declines in production. The distribution sector, where output fell by 9.5 per cent, was the worst affected. Smaller declines were recorded by finance (8.2 per cent), government (7.9 per cent) and petroleum (6.2 per cent). The Central Bank reported that the situation was exacerbated by a sharp contraction of the external payments deficit, equivalent to 1.6 per cent of GDP at current market prices, and by a further narrowing of the fiscal deficit.

However, there are positive indications of diversification in the economy. Oil revenues are decreasing as a percentage of Trinidad and Tobago's total exports, while the non-oil sector is increasing its contribution to total export sales. After five years of negative growth, the deficit was reduced in 1988 from three to 1.3 per cent annually, and there were very distinct and encouraging statistical indications of continued improvement at the end of the first quarter of 1988. As well, recurrent expenditure had reduced by more than 15 per cent and export earnings had increased by 2.1 per cent in the first quarter.

During the first nine months of 1988, inflation fell to an average of 5.7 per cent, down from 7.7 per cent for the same period in 1987. The decline was influenced by such factors as tighter demand-management policies, improvements in productivity and increases in domestic food production. Despite the improvements, the devaluation of the TT dollar in August 1988, as well as the scarcity of food crops, gave rise to concerns about recurring price increases.

In view of the existing financial constraints, Trinidad and Tobago's economy is expected to register negative growth in 1989. Unemployment, which was pegged at 22.1 per cent in 1988 (up from 21.5 per cent in 1987), will be appreciably higher. The decline of foreign reserves will also continue. However, the government's access to International Monetary Fund (IMF) resources under the IMF standby arrangement, and an agreement between the government and several of its creditors to reschedule the external debt, are expected to provide a framework for improved economic performance over the medium-term. A turnaround in the economy is anticipated in 1990.

The Key Sectors

Petroleum. Trinidad and Tobago's petroleum industry is the mainstay of the local economy, with crude oil exports being the major foreign exchange earner. Efforts are under way to stem a decline in oil production and boost gas reserves in order to support enhanced petrochemical capacity.

Trinidad's oil fields produce approximately 160 000 bopd of crude annually. Production comes from the following state-owned companies, TRINTOC, TRINTOPEC and TRINMAR. In addition, AMOCO (U.S.) and P.C.L.O. (U.K.) are producers. Oil exploration is carried out on land and offshore; the marine fields contribute approximately 73 per cent of the country's total oil production.

In the first nine months of 1988, crude oil production was 6.5 mcm, down 4.4 per cent from the same period in 1987. Production from offshore wells dropped from 5.1 million m^3 (75.5 per cent of total output) to 4.8 million m^3 (74.1 per cent of total output). This drop has been ascribed to a number of factors, including the maturation of existing wells, the high cost of secondary recovery in marine fields and the non-discovery of new offshore deposits. Total production, therefore, has declined from a peak of 13.3 million m^3 in 1978 to 8.78 million m^3 in 1988.

The significance of petroleum exports to the economy is apparent in the relatively high petroleum export/GDP ratio. The high proportion of income earned from the production and export of petroleum has been a longstanding feature of Trinidad and Tobago's economy. Against this backdrop, therefore, specific objectives have been identified that will determine the thrust of the petroleum sector over the medium term. These initiatives include:

- Sustaining the level of production from existing fields by applying enhanced oil recovery techniques;
- Planning a land exploration program aimed at recovering 64.3 million barrels of heavy oil, by means of reactivating some 743 wells over the next five years;
- Encouraging further land and marine exploration, i.e. three offshore blocks consisting of 168 224 ha to be offered via international tenders;
- Implementing refinery rationalization with a view to achieving long-term viability; and
- Developing an Institute of Petroleum with research and development capabilities to support industry activities.

The achievement of these objectives will be pursued through implementation of a number of policies that reflect the importance of the petroleum sector both domestically and internationally.

Natural Gas. Natural gas is one resource that Trinidad and Tobago possess in abundance, with proven reserves amounting to 197.3 billion m^3, excluding associated gas. This resource is important in that it can be used as one of the main platforms for economic expansion. The first major natural gas discovery was made during the major oil exploration initiatives of the 1960s. Additional discoveries were made in the 1970s off both Trinidad's eastern and northern coasts.

In 1987, natural gas production amounted to 2 360 million m^3 compared with 2 256 million m^3 in 1985 and 920 million m^3 in 1983. The overall rate of consumption has continuously improved. In 1987, consumption reached 90 per cent of total production, compared with 87.7 per cent in 1986 and 75 per cent in 1984.

Development of Trinidad and Tobago's abundant supply of natural gas was placed in the hands of a state-owned gas exploration and production facility named TRINTOMAR. The mandate of this local company is to develop and produce gas and condensate resources from marine fields, in order to reduce dependency on AMOCO, which accounts for 85 per cent of the country's total gas production. TRINTOMAR forecasts a yield of 740 billion cu. ft. of gas and 21 million barrels of condensate per year.

In addition, plans have been made to established gas-based industries and downstream activities of secondary industries. Moreover, transmission of gas by pipeline to homes for domestic use and utilization of the product as an alternate fuel for the automotive industry are two additional possibilities under exploration. Using natural gas as an automotive fuel will also generate new revenue and earn foreign exchange. Finding new domestic markets for natural gas is imperative as the export potential of gas is extremely limited at present.

Agriculture. Agriculture is becoming increasingly important to the national economy. Its contribution to gross domestic product (GDP) increased from 3.5 per cent in 1984 to 4.7 per cent in 1988. This sector employs about 60 000 people who contribute to such major activities as sugar, cocoa, coffee, copra, and citrus production and processing of tobacco, vegetables, poultry, fish, and forestry products.

Sugar is the major export crop, and claims 18.8 per cent of all cultivated lands or 8 per cent of the islands' total land area. Approximately 8 000 people are employed by the sugar industry. Production, which declined in 1984 to 96 000 t, climbed to 135 000 t in 1989, including production of refined sugar.

Coffee and cocoa production continue to decline. In 1988, 0.6 and 1.7 million Kg respectively were produced, the bulk of which was exported. On the other hand, citrus production, which had increased from 4.7 million Kg in 1985, declined to 2.9 million Kg in 1987. Production of poultry, eggs, meat, and fresh milk continues to show encouraging growth.

Major emphasis is being placed on further development of the agricultural sector, in order to curtail food imports and expand non-traditional exports. The government has shown support for agricultural development by establishing an Agricultural Development Bank, the purpose of which is to grant loans to farmers at comparatively liberal terms through its soft loans portfolio.

Within the framework of the development strategy, the sugar cane industry will be revamped to include considerable product diversification and to ensure that production is cost-effective and efficient. Other activities will be introduced to increase the efficiency of the agriculture sector overall, so that by increasing its share of exports, it will also increase its foreign exchange earnings.

Caroni (1975) Ltd. Caroni is a wholly government-owned agricultural enterprise. The company employs over 10 000 workers and owns 32 208 ha of land, of which 14 430 ha are reserved for sugar cane and 3 100 ha for food crops.

Due to depressed sugar prices on world markets and in order ensure Caroni's viability, the government has directed the company to institute a diversification program aimed at import substitution and at developing future export markets.

Caroni currently has a herd of 800 buffalypsos on 987 ha of land under beef pasture and development. The company plans to expand the beef herd to 1 800 head in order to supply the local fresh meat market. It also maintains a feed lot at La Gloria estate where 1 000 animals are prepared for the meat market annually. Caroni's dairy herd of 300 milking cows has also been targetted for a three-stage expansion to 2 000 head.

In addition, the company entered into rice production in 1985, reaping 0.7 million kg of paddy from 267 ha under cultivation. Plans are to produce 5.4 million kg paddy from 800 ha by 1989. In 1985, 475 ha of land were put under citrus cultivation. This was expanded to 800 ha in 1988, in the hope that locally available citrus concentrate would replace imports.

The company also has 106 ha of coffee, 227 ha of bananas and 85 ha of miscellaneous food crops such as passion fruit, cassava, pawpaw, pigeon peas, pineapples, and corn under cultivation. Studies are underway to test the feasibility of growing peanuts and white potatoes. The government of Trinidad and Tobago is optimistic that Caroni's diversification plan will yield the desired results and will ensure the company's viability in the future.

Plans are under way to make greater and more efficient use, where feasible, of by-products such as bagasse for the production of particle board and animal feed, as well as to diversify the output mix into the manufacture of chemicals using proven technical processes. These initiatives include:

- the manufacture of industrial alcohol, compressed yeast, citric acid and fancy molasses;
- the manufacture of feed production of syrups based on sugar; and
- the production of soil conditioners from bagasse.

Viable agro-industries will also serve as a major source of industrial raw materials to strengthen domestic manufacturing and reduce reliance on imports.

Fisheries. Fishing has grown in importance over the past few years and the processing industry is largely owned by the state. In an effort to reduce the country's TT$30-million annual imports of fish and fish products, the government has placed emphasis on the exploitation of marine resources, including aquaculture geared towards the rearing of freshwater fish and development of shrimp farming for both domestic and export markets.

Forestry and Mining. Approximately 45 per cent of Trinidad and Tobago's land surface is forested. Forest resources include teak, pine and a variety of other species. The government would like to see these fully utilized, thus maximizing the commercial value of the resource. The ultimate aim is to produce veneer, furniture, handicrafts, toys, souvenirs, etc., as opposed to maintaining the traditional focus on unfinished lumber for the building industry.

The territory's mineral wealth includes petroleum oil, lignite, low grade coal, gypsum, limestore, silica sand, gravel, clay, and asphalt. A large surface deposit lake of asphalt is situated on the south-western coast. The world-famous Pitch Lake produces large quantities of road surfacing material.

Industry. Industrial production in 1988 accounted for 43.6 per cent of GDP at factor cost (current prices) with petroleum's contribution recorded at 23 per cent, a decline of 1.7 percentage points over 1987. The manufacturing sector (excluding petroleum, petrochemical and cement industries) consists largely of facilities producing consumer goods. These industries, which are based on import substitution, account for about two-thirds of value-added products in the manufacturing sector.

The Government of Trinidad and Tobago has identified several key industrial areas for investment. These include:

- resource-based sectors, including agro- and wood-based industries;
- export-oriented manufacturing, including those downstream from oil and gas utilizing industries, such as ammonia, methanol and urea;
- skill-intensive high technology and science-driven industries that are based on microprocessor technology, biotechnology and new materials;
- ceramic- and glass-based products; and
- garment and fashion industries.

The government will also turn its attention to developing the computer software, metal working and engineering industries and to the manufacture of waterproofing and insulation materials from asphalt.

Construction. Negative growth continues in the construction sector, as major projects are put on hold due to the decline in the economy. However, the government may well stimulate the sector by introducing a "job creating" policy.

Tourism. Development of the tourism industry is aimed at encouraging visitors to gain a full appreciation of the country's immense cultural diversity, rich natural endowments and interesting history. To this end, improvements have been made to the airport facilities at Piarco (Trinidad) and Crown Point (Tobago). The Crown Point project, which commenced in April 1988, includes lengthening of runways to permit international air carriers direct access to Tobago. In addition, a deep water harbour project launched in Tobago in April 1988, is intended to provide adequate berthing facilities for international cruise ships. At Port of Spain (Trinidad) a new cruise ship reception area has recently been established, and at Piarco, a state-of-the-art radar system is currently being installed. A land use study is being conducted at Piarco to define fully a number of proposed projects and to establish the viability of constructing new airport facilities, including a new terminal building, industrial park, cargo and aircraft maintenance centres, and a hotel complete with world trade centre facilities.

Tourism, therefore, is expected to make a major contribution to the diversification of the economy, primarily through direct employment, generation of foreign exchange and creation of linkages with other sectors of the economy.

Investment Incentives

Investment Policy. The government's policy is to promote a mixed economy in which private-sector activities provide the basis for growth and development. Favoured investments are those that earn or effect savings of foreign exchange, create a significant number of permanent jobs and use local raw materials. Investments which offer prospects for future expansion, technological development or the establishment of new and modern industries are also likely to be promoted. In order to encourage investment, the government has introduced a number of tax and other incentives which are outlined below.

Tax Incentives

Fiscal Incentives Act 1979. The Pioneer Industries Act of 1950 permitted industries so declared to qualify for a five-year tax holiday from the first day of production. After the introduction of the Fiscal Incentives Act 1979, no new industries were granted pioneer status. Under this act, an approved product qualifies for a tax holiday depending on the local value which is determined in accordance with the following table.

	Local Value Added	Tax Holiday Period
Group I Enterprise	50% or more	9 years
Group II Enterprise	25%-50%	7 years
Group III Enterprise	10%-25%	5 years
Enclave Enterprise		10 years
Highly Capital-Intensive Industries		10 years

An enclave enterprise is one whose product(s) is exclusively for export. A highly capital-intensive enterprise is one whose capital investment is not less than TT$50 million or EC$50 million (East Caribbean). Benefits to be derived under this act include total or partial relief from corporation tax and customs duty.

The net loss incurred during the tax holiday period, with respect to an approved product, is to be carried forward and written off without limit in computing chargeable profits for the approved enterprise for the five years immediately following the tax holiday period. Dividends or other distributions, excluding interest, which are derived from the profits of an approved product may be wholly or partly exempt from income tax. Where the shareholder or his/her nominee is a non-resident, the exemption applies only in so far as the tax exceeds the tax liability in the country of which the recipient is a resident.

Provisions under the In Aid of Industry Ordinance apply from the first year following the tax holiday period. However, a deduction as an initial allowance for capital expenditures incurred in the manufacture of an approved product is granted only for those expenditures incurred after the expiration of the exemption period.

In Aid of Industry Ordinance. This provides incentives to manufacturing trades. Industrial buildings qualify for an initial allowance of 10 per cent in the year in which the expenditure was incurred, provided they house a qualifying trade. An annual allowance of 2 per cent is granted in each of the subsequent 45 years. Qualifying trades are outlined in Schedule 1 of the In Aid of Industry Ordinance.

An initial allowance of 50 per cent of expenditures is granted on plants and machinery, except the manufacture of petroleum, petrochemicals and sugar, for which the initial allowance is 20 per cent. Enterprises enjoying concessions under the Fiscal Incentives Act 1979 are not entitled to claim an initial allowance.

Hotel Development Act 1963. Profits derived from new hotels are except from tax for five to 10 years, while profits derived from renovated hotels are exempt for a period not to exceed 10 years. Equipment owned by the hotel owner or operator is permitted to depreciate at an accelerated rate of 20 per cent, based on the capital value of the asset in any five of eight accounting periods following the tax holiday. For an approved hotel, losses incurred in the tax-exempt period and for eight subsequent years can be set off against subsequent hotel income without limitation.

Interest on an approved loan used for an approved hotel project, as well as any distribution of that interest, is also exempt from tax in the hand of the recipient. Where a dividend is paid out of the profits accruing to the hotel owner or operator, it is exempt in the hands of the recipient if he or she is a resident. Where the recipient is a non-resident and liable to tax in his or her country of residence, the exemption is limited to the amount that the tax payable in Trinidad and Tobago exceeds the tax payable in the non-resident's country of residence.

Petroleum Taxes Act 1974. In computing the Supplemental Petroleum Tax (SPT) chargeable under exploration and production licences, an exploration allowance equal to 150 per cent of the direct cost of drilling exploration wells is deductible from gross income. There is also an allowance equal to the tangible costs incurred in development activity carried out in marine areas. An allowance of 140 per cent of all capital expenditure for plants and machinery to be used in enhanced recovery on land is deductible in arriving at the SPT.

Allowances with respect to land operations are deductible only from the gross income generated by the land operations, while allowances with respect to marine operations are deductible only against gross income from marine operations. Where deductible allowances exceed gross income in any financial year, the loss can be carried forward only to the extent that it would reduce the SPT to not less than 50 per cent of the amount that would otherwise be payable, had the set-off not been allowed.

In calculating the Petroleum Profit Taxes (PPT), the allowances permitted under the In Aid of Industry Ordinance apply. The initial allowance on new plant and machinery is 20 per cent, based on 120 per cent of the expenditure. In the exploration and development of new wells, an initial 10-per cent allowance is permitted on new expenditure directly related to the exploration and development activity. There is also an annual allowance prorated over the estimated life of the asset e.g. oil well, or 5 per cent, whichever is greater.

Approved Mortgage and Other Companies. Approved companies are exempt from corporation and other taxes. An approved company is one which agrees to finance, by way of mortgage, the purchase of newly constructed houses, pursuant to the Housing Act 1962 and other relevant legislation. An approved company may distribute the total of its exempt income, which will also be exempt in the hands of its members. Debenture interest, paid by an approved company from profits exempt from tax, is exempt in the hands of the debenture holder.

An approved property development company is entitled to a 15-per cent deduction of expenditures incurred in the construction of a building to be used for commercial or industrial purposes. This is granted only in the year in which the building is completed. In order to be recognized by the Board of Inland Revenue as an approved property development company, certain conditions must be satisfied.

The profits of any investment company are exempt from corporation tax. In order to qualify, the company must be publicly held, have 80 per cent or more of its investments in shares, bonds or marketable securities, and distribute 90 per cent or more of its profits within six months of its financial year-end.

Expansion of Established Enterprises. Where profits are re-invested or the existing capacity for approved products is expanded, an additional investment allowance of 100 per cent, spread over three years, is granted.

Export Production. All exports qualify for an export allowance, with the exception of re-exports, sugar, mineral oil and its products and products enjoying concessions under the Pioneer Industries Act 1950 and the Fiscal Incentives Act 1979. Export financing facilities offered by the Export Development Corporation include export credit insurance, pre- and post-shipment guarantees, and discounting facilities at concessionary rates.

Promotional Expenses. Companies incorporated and resident in Trinidad and Tobago are allowed a promotional allowance of 150 per cent of expenditures incurred in the expansion of foreign markets for locally produced goods shipped in commercial quantities.

Market Grant. The government of Trinidad and Tobago provides a grant in the amount of 50 per cent of expenditures incurred in developing either local or foreign markets for approved products. The grant is also exempt from corporation tax.

Scientific Research. Under the In Aid of Industry Ordinance, where expenditure on scientific research is not considered to be a capital expense, it may be deducted in computing profits for income tax purposes. Where the expenditure is considered a capital expense, it may be written off over a five-year period, starting with 60 per cent in the first year and 10 per cent in each of the following four years.

Value-Added Tax. In 1990, the entire system of indirect taxation was restructured to accommodate adoption of a new broad-based value-added tax. Radical fiscal reform of the country's tax structure has begun, and the emphasis is now on shifting from a system of direct taxation to one that increases the indirect tax burden.

Trade Agreement

1. Trinidad and Tobago is a signatory to the Caribbean Common Market Agreement (CARICOM) which came into effect in 1973. The CARICOM agreement exempts goods originating in a member Caribbean country and having 50 per cent or more local content from customs duty.

2. CARIBCAN is a Canadian program that promotes commonwealth Caribbean trade, investment and industrial cooperation. It also provides commonwealth Caribbean and Canadian business people who wish to take advantage of Caribcan with information regarding requirements governing the importation of goods to Canada, with support for Canadian investment in the Commonwealth Caribbean, and with the names of associations and government agencies in Canada and in the Caribbean region that can assist in promoting trade, investment and industrial cooperation between Canada and the commonwealth Caribbean. Caribcan came into effect in June 1986. Its main feature is the unilateral extension by Canada of preferential duty-free access to the Canadian market for almost all imports from commonwealth Caribbean countries. In brief, Caribcan has created a new and more favourable environment for economic partnership.

   Caribcan's basic objectives are to enhance the commonwealth Caribbean's existing trade and export earnings, to improve trade and economic development prospects in the region, to promote new investment opportunities, and encourage enhanced economic integration and cooperation within the region.

   Canada has attached no time limit to Caribcan. However, since granting duty-free access to imports from the commonwealth Caribbean conflicts with Canadian obligations under the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT), Canada had to obtain the approval of the GATT-contracting parties. In November 1985, these parties granted Canada a waiver that permits the duty-free provisions of Caribcan. The waiver was granted until 1998, at which time Canada must request an extension.

A few products are excluded from duty-free treatment under Caribcan. These reflect the economic sensitivities of certain Canadian industries, and include textiles and clothing, footwear, luggage and handbags, leather garments, lubrication oils and methanol, all of which are subject to Canada's Most Favoured Nation (MFN) tariff, or to lower rates of duty for developing countries as set out under the General Preferential Tariff (GPT) or under the British Preferential Tariff (BPT).

"Rules of origin" have been established to determine which goods are entitled to enter Canada duty-free under Caribcan. In order to qualify for duty-free treatment, the goods must be grown, produced or manufactured in the commonwealth Caribbean, but may also incorporate materials or components from outside the area, providing they meet certain conditions. A minimum of 50 per cent of the ex-factory price of the goods must originate in any of the beneficiary countries, or in Canada.

3. Caribbean countries also benefit under the U.S. program Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI).
4. African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries are signatories to the European Economic Community (EEC) trade agreement which was signed on February 28, 1975 and is referred to as the Lome Convention. The benefits consist largely of extending duty-free access to industrial products produced in the 45-member ACP countries.

Government Agencies

The Industrial Development Corporation (IDC). The IDC was established in 1959 to stimulate, facilitate and undertake industrial development in Trinidad and Tobago. In order to discharge its function, IDC has the power to provide financial assistance by taking up share or loan capital, or by granting or guaranteeing loans. A "one-stop shop" has been established at the IDC and offers local and foreign investors assistance in processing applications for the following:

- import duty and other concessions;
- hotel development incentives;
- factory sites and accommodation;
- technical/technological/franchise agreements;
- alien landholding licences for holding shares and for company directorships;
- start-up work permits; and
- negative listing

In addition, the IDC provides a program of management counselling, business promotion, technical management assistance, project identification and preparation, industrial land development and maintenance, and offers advice on pre-investment studies.

Small Business Development Company. In the course of presenting the country's 1989 budget, the Minister of Finance and the Economy announced the establishment of the Small Business Development Company, whose mandate is to:

- provide funding for new enterprises and the expansion of existing ones;
- facilitate the provision of financial support from commercial banks through joint financing schemes;
- facilitate technical assistance in the areas of management, marketing and other support services; and
- provide financing for raw materials on revolving credit.

The Development Finance Company (DFC). The DFC was established in 1970 as a joint venture between the government and private sector. At present, the DFC provides long- medium- and short-term financing for businesses that can prove their financial viability. Among its services, the DFC provides:

- raw material financing on revolving credit;
- guarantees for letters of credit;
- financing of overseas contracts by providing raw material financing and performance bonds; and
- management of government funds, including the hotel fund, footwear fund and the small business fund.

The Management Development Centre (MDC). Established in 1973, the MDC provides training in all aspects of management in both the private and public sectors. It also provides advisory and consultancy services, undertakes research and provides up-to-date documentation on modern management practices. Consultancy services are provided in the areas of management appraisals, management information systems, evaluation and company performance, costing and product analysis, and market surveys. The MDC has the power to establish and waive fees for its training courses and consultancy services.

The Export Development Corporation (EDC). The EDC was established in 1984 to encourage, promote and expand export-oriented business. The EDC provides exporters with general export advisory services and maintains a trade information service. It provides financial assistance to exporters in the form of market development grants. The EDC is expected to expand its portfolio to include business export insurance, and was recently appointed by the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago to manage a discounting facility of US$1 million that will enhance the export credit facility. The EDC has also been appointed to certify exports under the CARIBCAN regime.

Agricultural Development Bank (ADB). The ADB, established in 1968, is one of the primary agencies responsible for providing financial and technical assistance to entrepreneurs in the agricultural sector.

Caribbean Industrial Research Institute (CARIRI). The CARIRI was established in 1970 by the government of Trinidad and Tobago in co-operation with the United Nations Development Programme. It provides industry with technical services in the areas of:

- economic and technical feasibility studies;
- engineering services;
- physical measurement and materials testing;
- process trouble-shooting; and
- collection and dissemination of technical information, including expertise for accessing international databases.

CARIRI is involved with the British Columbia Institute of Technology in training and certifying food processors in the Caribbean to ensure that they meet Canadian and American import requirements.

The Trinidad and Tobago Bureau of Standards (TTBS). Established in 1972, the TTBS deals with standards and specifications for all goods used in, imported from and exported to Trinidad and Tobago. The Bureau issues certification through independent inspection, testing and the use of the "Trinidad and Tobago Standard Mark." The Bureau also certifies products on behalf of international standards organizations, including Underwriters Laboratories of the U.S.A., the Canadian Standards Association and the British Standards Institute.

Foreign Investment

The Government of Trinidad and Tobago welcomes investment of foreign capital in the domestic economy and supports joint ventures as the preferred mechanism of investment. However, up to 100 per cent foreign ownership will be allowed where the benefits to the country justify it.

Investment priorities include those activities that earn foreign exchange, create a significant number of jobs and make efficient use of local raw materials. The repatriation of capital and transfer of dividends depend upon the "approved investment" status granted by the Central Bank.

The establishment of the "free zones" is a further attempt to attract foreign investment to the country. For an enterprise to operate in the free zone, it must:

- be incorporated or registered under the Trinidad and Tobago Companies Ordinance;
- have the approval of the Central Bank pursuant to the Exchange Control Act;
- obtain the approval of the Free Zone Company Ltd.; and
- meet work permit requirements for foreign employees.

Some of the benefits derived from operating within the free zone include:

- freedom from payment of customs duties on capital goods and on raw materials used in the manufacturing process;
- freedom from some requirements of the Exchange Control Act;
- exemption from payment of certain taxes; and
- exemption from the application of the Aliens Landholding Act.

The Aliens Landholding Act 1962

The Aliens Landholding Act 1962 specifies that only citizens of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago may purchase houses and freehold land in the country. The act is presently under review by the government, which has always tended to allow for some flexibility. However, foreign investors should acquaint themselves thoroughly with this legislation before undertaking investment.

Banking and Finance

The Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago is responsible for monitoring and regulating the activities of commercial banks and other financial institutions. It is also the note-issuing authority. The Trinidad and Tobago dollar is pegged against the U.S. dollar. (US$1 = TT$4.25)

The Exchange Control Act of 1970 governs all transactions in foreign currencies. The Central Bank administers the act on behalf of the Ministry of Finance. All transactions between residents and non-residents that involve the payment of foreign currency require prior approval by the Central Bank.

Commercial Banks are governed by the Banking Act 1964, as well as the Central Bank. Eight commercial banks account for a total of 118 branches throughout both islands. Five of the eight have foreign affiliates. Canada has long been active in Trinidad and Tobago's banking industry. Canadian banks active on the islands include the Bank of Nova Scotia (Scotiabank), the Bank of Commerce and the Royal Bank of Trinidad and Tobago.

Other financial institutions include 10 finance houses, six trust companies, four thrift institutions, a stock exchange, 40 insurance companies, two private mortgage companies, two merchant banks, a unit trust, and a national insurance agency.

For the protection of depositors, membership in the Deposit Insurance Corporation Fund is mandatory for all banks and financial institutions.

The Trinidad and Tobago Stock Exchange, established in 1981 and regulated by the Securities Industries' Act, provides a marketplace for stockbrokers and shareholders to meet. The Exchange consists of eight firms which provide brokerage services.

Foreign Trade

Given the country's vast oil reserves, export trade is an important component of the economy. In 1983, exports accounted for 30 per cent of GDP, while in 1988, they were estimated at 33.9 per cent. Exports in 1988 totalled TT$5 586 million while imports amounted to TT$4 507 million, creating a net surplus of TT$1 078 million in the merchandise account.

The trade account surplus moved from a low of TT$174.1 million in 1978 to a peak of TT$2 158.4 million in 1980, but deficits of TT$1 360.4 million and TT$1 171.3 million were recorded in 1982 and 1983. Since that time, the adjustment process has created surpluses in the merchandise account for the years 1984 to 1988. However, there was one exception; in 1985, a TT$386.8 million deficit was recorded.

Terms of trade improved sharply in 1979 and 1980 over 1978, but dropped slightly in 1981. This was accounted for by a decline in the average unit value of exports against imports, and was due largely to unfavourable developments in the world oil market.

Using the average value of exports/imports, the net terms of trade for the period from 1980 to 1987 were:

1980 — 124.1%	1984 — 100.2%
1981 — 121.1%	1985 — 91.6%
1982 — 102.5%	1986 — 72.6%
1983 — 97.9%	1987 — 63.5%

The economy is dependent on imports for almost all of its capital goods, as well as a substantial proportion of its intermediate and consumer products. Canada continues to be one of Trinidad and Tobago's major trading partners, along with the U.S., Japan and the U.K. The rate of exchange is C$1 = TT$3.70.

Main Canadian Exports to Trinidad and Tobago (C$000)

Commodity	1986	1987	1988
Meat	2 918	1 793	778
Fish	10 004	8 333	4 233
Vegetable and food preparations	19 039	13 782	17 585
Pharmaceutical and medical supplies	4 845	4 062	2 670
Plastic and rubber materials	2 916	3 229	2 866
Lumber (softwood)	2 701	2 383	736
Paper and newsprint	3 771	4 011	8 702
Woven fabrics	1 585	1 621	1 753
Iron and steel products	2 075	1 343	1 677
Machinery and related parts	1 011	1 002	1 311
Electrical and electronic products	13 166	2 262	2 768
Other special industries parts and machinery	1 969	1 611	2 697
TOTAL main commodities	66 000	45 432	47 776
TOTAL all commodities	85 987	70 505	54 897
Main commodities as percentage of total	76.8%	64.4%	87.0%

Main Canadian Imports from Trinidad and Tobago (C$000)

Commodity	1986	1987	1988
Cocoa and coffee (fresh)	1 057	125	188
Distilled alcoholic beverages	3 457	319	1 330
Precious metals in ores	1 979	1 400	428
Urea	7 747	2 170	10 363
Fuel oil	22 479	12 349	23 346
Steel wire rods	14 160	13 138	17 886
TOTAL main commodities	50 879	29 501	53 541
TOTAL all commodities	54 090	36 875	56 395
Main commodities as per cent of total	94.1%	80.0%	95.0%

III. DOING BUSINESS IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Trade Prospects for Canadian Products and Services

Agri and Food Products and Services. The agriculture and agro-industrial sector will be the principal recipients of major multilateral and bilateral financing. The developing and restructuring will require a full range of products, including livestock, equipment and services.

Oil and Gas Equipment and Services. This sector is Trinidad and Tobago's largest foreign-exchange earner and very significant expenditures are planned to improve production and lower costs. Proposed projects include a refinery rehabilitation program, oil and gas exploration and distribution and construction of a liquid gas extraction facility.

Industrial Machinery, Plants and Services. Significant expenditures are planned to enable expansion of export-oriented industries and to support government import replacement policies. Emphasis will be directed towards food and fruit processing facilities.

Advanced Technology, Products and Services. As Trinidad and Tobago's telecommunication, computer and data processing requirements continue to grow, there will be a demand for computers and related software.

Tourism. The tourism sector is expected to make a major contribution in the country's economic turnaround. Infrastructural facilities are being put into place to accommodate cruise ships, international flights to Tobago and increasing hotel requirements.

International Financial Institutions

The Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) is becoming more active in Trinidad and Tobago. Two projects of interest to the Canadian industry are the US$10-million Caroni (1975) Ltd. project and the US$4.6-million Tanteak project. The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) is reviewing applications for projects relating to water utilities (WASA), health services, tourism development, and oil refinery rehabilitation. As well, a major infusion of US$400 million is expected from the IBRD to assist the government of Trinidad and Tobago with investments and balance of payments support.

Distribution and Sales Channels

When marketing products in Trinidad and Tobago, Canadian exporters are advised to use the services of a local agent, distributor or trading house.

Establishing a local agent can be favourable to a foreign supplier because he or she facilitates rapid contact with the buyer. State agencies also prefer to deal with local firms that represent foreign exporters. Canadian firms wishing to enter into agency agreements with local firms are reminded that they should seek advice from the Canadian trade commissioner service about prospective local agents and distributors.

Newspapers, Radio and Television

The daily newspapers include the *Trinidad Guardian* and *Trinidad Express*, while the weekend newspapers are the *Sunday Guardian* and *Sunday Express*. There are two AM/FM radio stations and a lone two-channel TV station.

Price Quotations

Whenever possible prices should be quoted on a c.i.f. (cost, insurance and freight) basis in Canadian dollars. Otherwise, quote f.o.b. (free on board) port of shipment. Quotations in U.S. dollars are acceptable.

Correspondence and Trade Literature

All product and company literature, brochures and correspondence should be in English.

Methods of Payment

Terms of payment should be by confirmed letter of credit, sight draft against payment on arrival of shipment or 90-120 day credit terms.

Due to foreign exchange restrictions, Canadian exporters should exercise caution before filling orders. The Commercial Division of the Canadian High Commission can assist exporters in determining a buyer's ability to honour their commitments.

Patent, Trademarks and Copyrights

Patents, trademarks and copyrights are regulated in accordance with the Patents, Design and Trademarks Ordinance. Registration under the Ordinance provides protection for the period stated in the legislation.

Transportation, Utilities and Communication

The main international airport is located at Piarco, approximately 27 km from the city of Port of Spain in Trinidad. The other domestic airport is at Crown Point in Tobago. Fourteen airlines operate 375 scheduled weekly flights linking Trinidad and Tobago to 24 countries and 28 cities. On average, there are 50 landings and take-offs daily. Landing and terminal facilities are being enhanced at Crown Point to accommodate direct international flights.

There are two major seaport facilities in Trinidad. One is located at Port of Spain and the other is found along the west coast at Point Lisas. The port facility in Tobago is located at Scarborough. Two passenger cargo boats provide regular inter-island service.

In 1986, 670 vessels of more than 100 (net) registered tonnes called at Port of Spain. Of these, 411 were container carriers, 181 were conventional break bulk carriers and three were special lumber carriers. In 1986, Port of Spain handled 980 172 metric tonnes of imports and 86 452 metric tonnes of exports. Trans-shipment amounted to 19 584 metric tonnes.

At present, there are nine berths at Port of Spain and turnaround time is approximately two days. There is also extensive storage space and merchandise handling equipment and dry dock facilities are available. Service is provided by 19 shipping lines to nearly all parts of the world. There is also a scheduled shipping service from Trinidad and Tobago by the state-owned Shipping Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago (SCOTT).

Internal transport is entirely by road. The total number of registered vehicles in 1985 was 336 769. The Public Service Transport Corporation, a state-owned enterprise, operates a bus service. There is no rail network.

Major utilities include the Trinidad and Tobago Electricity Corporation (T&TEC), Water and Sewerage Authority (WASA) and the Trinidad and Tobago Telephone Company (TELCO). Of these, TELCO has sold minority shares (49 per cent) to Cable and Wireless West Indies Ltd. All are all state-owned enterprises and are operated by a board of directors which reports directly to the Minister of Public Utilities.

Overseas telecommunication services are managed by the Trinidad and Tobago External Telecommunications Company (TEXTEL) which offers a wide range of services.

IV. CUSTOMS AND EXCHANGE REGULATIONS

Currency and Exchange Rate

The unit of currency is the Trinidad and Tobago dollar (TT$), which is divided into 100 cents. Following devaluation in August 1988, the TT$ parity was fixed at the rate of TT$4.25 = US$1.00. Notes are issued in denominations of $100, $20, $5, and $1, coins in denominations of 50, 25, 10, five and one cent. Visitors are advised to make use of travellers cheques. Major credits cards are accepted at hotels.

Exchange Control

Approval for the release of foreign exchange for the payment of imports is contingent upon compliance with relevant customs and licensing requirements. Ensure that foreign exchange is available before finalizing a transaction.

Import Licences

While most commodities may be imported under open general licence arrangements, some imports fall under the provision of a negative list. The negative list, however, is being revised constantly to remove all impediments to importation.

Import Duties

The Trinidad and Tobago customs tariff is a one-column tariff that uses the Customs Co-operation Council Nomenclature (CCCN). Provision is also made for statistical classification in accordance with Revision 2 of the Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) system.

No preferential treatment is accorded, other than for goods produced in CARICOM-member states. These goods are generally duty-free. Duties are typically levied on value, although certain fluid products are assessed specific duties according to net weight or volume. Duties are levied as a percentage of the c.i.f. value — the value of the item delivered to the customs house at the point of entry, including insurance and freight. A valued-added tax (VAT) of 15 per cent was introduced in January 1990, on all imports, with a zero rating exemption accorded a few food and drug imports.

Documentation Procedures

All shipping documents must be provided to the customs authorities and all applicable custom charges must be paid before goods are released. Subsequently, the documents must be made available to the exchange control authority, in order to obtain approval for the remittance of funds in a foreign currency.

V. YOUR BUSINESS VISIT TO TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

When planning a trip to Trinidad and Tobago, consult with the trade commissioner in the Commercial Division of the Canadian High Commission in Port of Spain, well in advance of your departure. Indicate the purpose of the visit, include several copies of product brochures and provide information on any initial contacts made with potential Trinidadian business people. Based on this information the commercial staff will be pleased to arrange a tentative itinerary and make appointments on your behalf prior to your arrival.

Buying Season

The main buying seasons are during the Carnival, Easter and Christmas periods. Ethnic festivities also influence buying patterns for the consumer market, and buyers usually place orders six months prior to these festive periods.

When to Go

Avoid the Carnival period in February/March, when hotel accommodation is difficult to obtain.

How to Get There

Air Canada and British West Indies Airways (BWIA) have regular flights from Toronto to Port of Spain. The number of flights vary according to the season.

Internal Travel

There are some 6 436 km of good roads. Taxis can be hired at negotiable rates or car rentals are available from agencies at the airport or in Port of Spain.

Passport

A valid passport is required for entry into Trinidad and Tobago. A visa is not required. Travellers must have either a return or through ticket or deposit sufficient funds to cover the purchase of a ticket with immigration authorities upon arrival. There is a departure tax of TT$50 per person, except for visits of less than 24 hours.

Health Certificate

Where visitors to Trinidad and Tobago have recently travelled to areas infected with cholera and yellow fever, an international certificate of vaccination issued not less than six days and not more than six years previously, is required. Reasonable medical facilities, modern drugs, etc. are readily available.

Clothing

Light tropical-weight clothing is suggested.

Currency Regulations

Visitors are not normally required to declare all currency in their possession when entering or leaving the country. Foreigners are subject to the same TT$200 currency restrictions imposed on residents travelling outside the country. Gold and foreign bank notes brought into the country by bona fide visitors or tourists may be taken out again without restriction.

VI. EXPORT ASSISTANCE

Market Advisory Services

As a service to Canadian business, the federal government maintains 112 trade offices throughout the world. These provide assistance to Canadian exporters and aid foreign buyers in locating Canadian sources of supply. In addition to providing a link between buyer and seller, the trade commissioner advises Canadian exporters on all aspects of marketing. Trade commissioners also play an active role in seeking out market opportunities and encouraging promotional efforts.

The trade development offices of External Affairs and International Trade Canada offer an additional source of information. Each of these offices concentrates on markets in specific geographical regions. In this case, responsibility for Trinidad and Tobago falls under the Caribbean and Central America Trade Development Division (LCT) in Ottawa.

The trade development divisions are also responsible for providing exporters with marketing assistance and advice, and informing business people about export services provided by the Canadian government and about specific export opportunities as they arise.

Export Development Corporation

The Export Development Corporation (EDC) is a Canadian Crown Corporation whose purpose is to facilitate and develop Canadian export trade. EDC provides insurance, guarantees and export financing which, combined with financial advice and the organization of financial packages, enable Canadian exporters to compete effectively abroad.

EDC's head office is in Ottawa. Regional offices are maintained in Montreal, Toronto, Vancouver, Winnipeg, London, Calgary, and Halifax. Enquiries about export financing for a specific geographical area should be addressed to the manager of the appropriate department in the Export Financing Group in Ottawa.

Program for Export Market Development (PEMD)

A trade promotion program of External Affairs and International Trade Canada, PEMD is designed to assist individual firms participate in or undertake various types of export promotion activities. PEMD covers both government- and industry-initiated projects and is designed to assist companies irregardless of size. Promotional activities can include participation in trade fairs outside Canada, visits of foreign buyers to Canada, trade missions to markets outside Canada and establishment of sales offices abroad to sustain current marketing efforts. Applications should be submitted to the regional office of the International Trade Centre (ITC) in which the applicant firm is registered.

Trade Fairs and Missions

In order to assist Canadian exporters in further developing foreign markets, the Fairs and Missions Division of the Latin America and Caribbean Branch of External Affairs and International Trade Canada, organizes and implements the following trade promotion programs:

- participation in trade fairs in Canada and abroad;
- trade missions to and from Canada;
- in-store promotions and point-of-sale displays; and
- export-oriented technical training for buyers' representatives.

Further information is available from:

The Deputy Director
Fairs and Missions Division (LSTF)
Latin America and Caribbean Branch
External Affairs and International Trade Canada
125 Sussex Drive
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0G2
Tel: (613) 996-5357
Telex: 053-4124 (LSTF)
Fax: (613) 996-0677

Info Export

Info Export provides an instant guide to all export programs and services of the federal government. It provides contact with External Affairs and International Trade Canada's information network of general information and supplies advice on the best potential markets. It can also be used to direct companies to provincial governments and International Trade Centres. A broad selection of export trade literature is available, including *CanadExport*, a bi-monthly newsletter published in English and French. The toll-free InfoExport hotline number is 1-800-267-8376.

Industrial Co-operation with Developing Countries

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) supports Canadian involvement in investment projects in developing countries through its Industrial Co-operation Program. Under this program, CIDA offers a wide range of services. To obtain information on any of CIDA's support mechanisms, contact:

The Industrial Cooperation Division
Canadian International Development Agency
200 Promenade du Portage
Hull, Quebec
K1A 0G4
Tel: (819) 997-7901
Telex: 953-4140
Fax: (819) 953-5024

Provincial Governments

Each provincial government has a department which provides guidance on business development, including trade.

VII. USEFUL ADDRESSES

In Canada

High Commission for
Trinidad and Tobago
75 Albert Street, Suite 508
Ottawa, Ontario
K1P 5E7
Tel: (613) 232-2418
Telex: 053-4343
Fax: (613) 232-4349

Consulate of Trinidad and
Tobago
2005 Sheppard Ave East,
Suite 303
Willowdale, Ontario
M2J 5B4
Tel: (416) 495-9442
Fax: (416) 495-6934

BWIA International
40 Holly Street, Suite 401
Toronto, Ontario
M4S 3C3
Tel: 1-800-327-7401

In Trinidad and Tobago

Commercial Division
Canadian High Commission
72 South Quay
Box 1246
Port of Spain
Trinidad
Tel: (809) 623-7254
Telex: 22429 DOMCAN WG
Fax: (809) 624-4016

Air Canada
Furness Building
84 Independence Square
Port of Spain
Trinidad
Tel: (809) 625-2191

Trinidad and Tobago
Industrial Development
Corporation
10-12 Independence Square
Port of Spain
Trinidad
Tel: (809) 623-7291

Trinidad Hilton Hotel
Lady Young Road
Belmont
Port of Spain
Trinidad
Tel: (809) 624-3211

Holiday Inn Hotel
Wrightson Road
Port of Spain
Trinidad
Tel: (809) 625-3361

International Trade Centres

If you have never marketed abroad, please contact the International Trade Centre in your province. International Trade Centres are co-located with the offices of Industry, Science and Technology Canada, except for the Northwest Territories and the Yukon.

Newfoundland and Labrador
International Trade Centre
Parsons Building,
90 O'Leary Avenue
P.O. Box 8950
St. John's, Newfoundland
A1B 3R9
Tel: (709) 772-5511
Telex: 016-4749
Fax: (709) 772-5093

Prince Edward Island
International Trade Centre
Confederation Court Mall
Suite 400, 134 Kent Street
P.O. Box 1115
Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island
C1A 7M8
Tel: (902) 566-7400
7443
Telex: 014-44129
Fax: (902) 566-7450

Nova Scotia
International Trade Centre
Central Guarantee Trust Building
1801 Hollis Street
P.O. Box 940, Station M
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 2V9
Tel: (902) 426-7540
Telex: 019-22525
Fax: (902) 426-2624

New Brunswick
International Trade Centre
Assumption Place
770 Main Street
P.O. Box 1210
Moncton, New Brunswick
E1C 8P9
Tel: (506) 857-6452
Telex: 014-2200
Fax: (506) 857-6429

Quebec
International Trade Centre
Tour de la Bourse
800, place Victoria
C.P. 247
Montréal, Québec
H4Z 1E8
Tel: (514) 283-8185
Telex: 055-60768
Fax: (514) 283-3302

Ontario
International Trade Centre
Dominion Public Building
1 Front Street West,
4th Floor
Toronto, Ontario
M5J 1A4
Tel: (416) 973-5053
Telex: 065-24378
Fax: (416) 973-8714

Manitoba
International Trade Centre
330 Portage Avenue,
8th Floor
P.O. Box 981
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 2V2
Tel: (204) 983-8036
Telex: 07-57624
Fax: (204) 983-2187

Saskatchewan
International Trade Centre
6th Floor
105-21st Street East
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
S7K 0B3
Tel: (306) 975-5925
Telex: 074-2742
Fax: (306) 975-5334

Alberta
International Trade Centre
Room 540
Canada Place
9700 Jasper Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta
T5J 4C3
Tel: (403) 495-2944
Telex: 037-2762
Fax: (403) 495-4507

British Columbia
International Trade Centre
Scotia Tower, Suite 900
650 West Georgia Street
P.O. Box 11610
Vancouver, British Columbia
V6B 5H8
Tel: (604) 666-1444
Telex: 045-1191
Fax: (604) 666-8330

Industry, Science and Technology Canada

The offices of Industry, Science and Technology Canada are co-located with the International Trade Centres, and are also situated in the following locations.

Business Centre
Industry, Science and
Technology Canada
235 Queen Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0H5
Tel: (613) 995-5771

Northwest Territories
Department of Industry,
Science and Technology
Canada
Precambrian Building
P.O. Bag 6100
Yellowknife, Northwest
Territories
X1A 1C0
Tel: (403) 920-8575
Fax: (403) 873-6228

Yukon
Industry, Science and
Technology Canada
Suite 301
108 Lambert Street
Whitehorse, Yukon
Y1A 1Z2
Tel: (403) 668-4655
Fax: (403) 668-5003

Export Development Corporation

Head Office
Export Development Corporation
151 O'Connor Street
P.O. Box 655
Ottawa, Ontario
K1P 5T9
Tel: (613) 598-2500
Fax: (613) 237-2690
Telex: 053-4136

Atlantic Region
Export Development Corporation
Suite 1003
Toronto-Dominion Bank Building
1791 Barrington Street
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3L1
Tel: (902) 429-0426
Fax: (902) 429-0881

Ontario Region
Export Development Corporation
Suite 810
National Bank Building
150 York Street
P.O. Box 810
Toronto, Ontario
M5H 3S5
Tel: (416) 364-0135
Fax: (416) 862-1267

London District Office
Export Development Corporation
451 Talbot Street
Suite 303
London, Ontario
N6A 5C9
Tel: (519) 645-5828
Fax: (519) 645-4483

Quebec Region
Export Development Corporation
Tour de la Bourse
800 place Victoria
Suite 2724
C.P. 124
Montréal, Québec
H4Z 1C3
Tel: (514) 878-1881
Fax: (514) 878-9891

Prairie and Northern Region
Export Development Corporation
Suite 2140
Bow Valley Square III
255-5th Avenue S.W.
Calgary, Alberta
T2P 3G6
Tel: (403) 294-0928
Fax: (403) 294-1133

British Columbia and Yukon Region
Export Development Corporation
Suite 1030
One Bentall Centre
505 Burrard Street
Vancouver, British Columbia
V7X 1M5
Tel: (604) 688-8658
Fax: (604) 688-3710

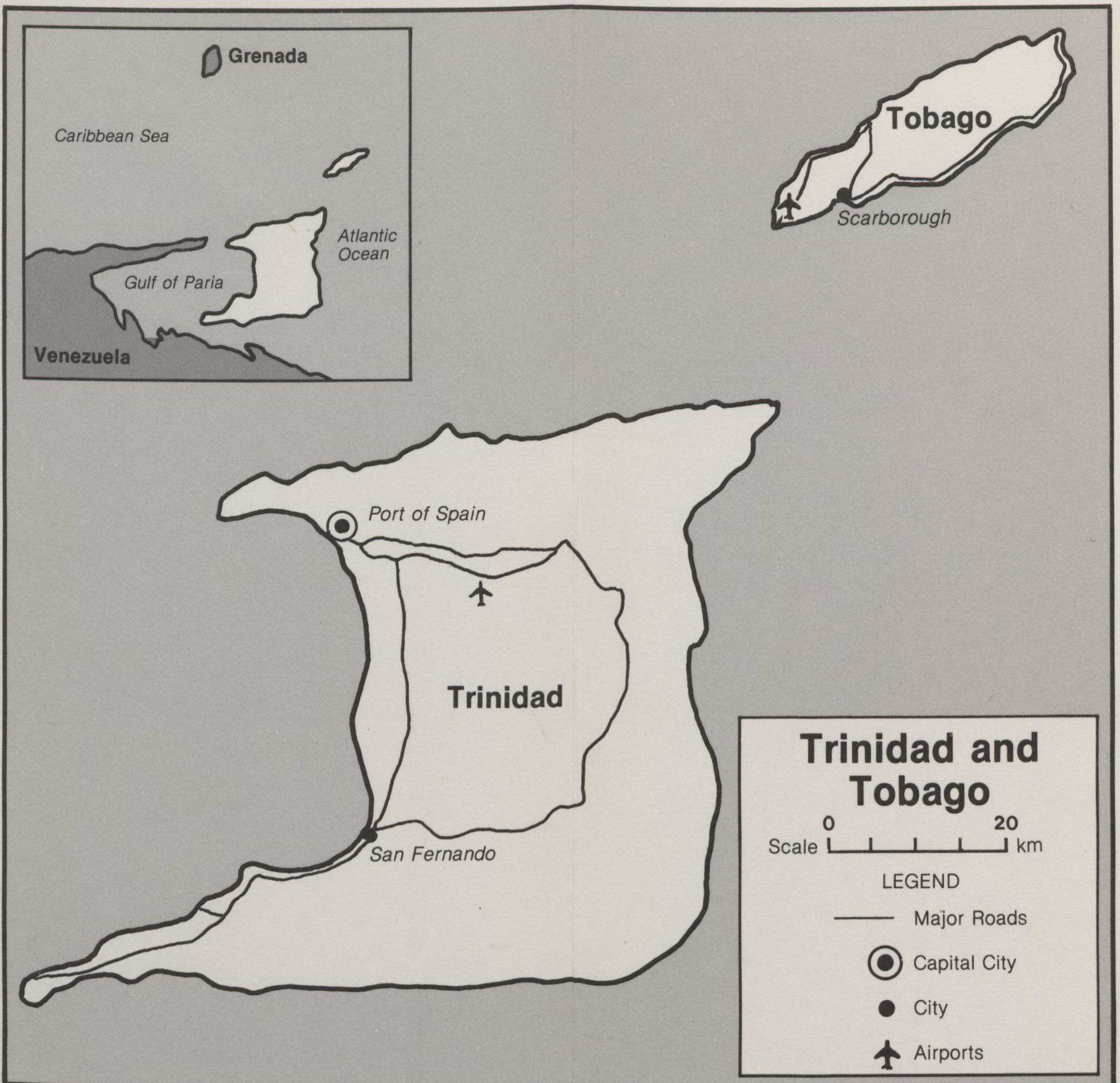
Manitoba/Saskatchewan District Office
Export Development Corporation
330 Portage Avenue
Suite 707
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 0C4
Tel: (204) 983-5114
Telex: 1-800-665-7871
Fax: (204) 983-2187

APPENDIX — REFERENCES

Trinidad and Tobago — A Guide for Businessmen and Investors, Coopers & Lybrand, John Hunt & Company.

Doing Business in Trinidad and Tobago: Information Guide, Price Waterhouse

An Economic Profile of Trinidad and Tobago, Royal Bank of Trinidad and Tobago.


Grenada
Caribbean Sea
Atlantic Ocean
Gulf of Paria
Venezuela
Tobago
Scarborough
Port of Spain
Trinidad
San Fernando
Trinidad and Tobago
0
20
Scale
km
LEGEND
Major Roads
Capital City
City
Airports

External Affairs and International Trade Canada

Affaires extérieures et Commerce extérieur Canada