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BOMBARDIER INC. HAS BEEN AWARDED A \$26 MILLION ORDER BY THE SOCIÉTÉ NATIONALE DES CHEMINS DE FER TUNISIENS

The Minister of State for External Relations, the Honourable Pierre De Bané, announced today on behalf of the Minister for International Trade, the Honourable Ed Lumley, that Bombardier Inc. of Montreal has been awarded a \$26 million order by the Société nationale des chemins de fer tunisiens (SNCF) (the Tunisian national railways corporation).

A few months ago, the SNCF issued an international call for tenders to which Bombardier responded. The Canadian government agreed to provide financing comparable to that being offered by the other competitors. The Export Development Corporation is the main source of the Canadian financing. The Canadian International Development Agency is contributing some funds within its development cooperation program with Tunisia.

This announcement was made during a press conference hosted by Mr. G. Lepage, President of Railway Products and Diesel Division of Bombardier Inc., attended by the Honourable Pierre De Bané, the Honourable Serge Joyal, Minister of State and Member of Parliament for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve, who contributed to this contract by travelling to Tunisia to support Bombardier's efforts through representations to Tunisian authorities. Also in attendance were other Montreal area Members of Parliament.

The contract awarded to the Railway Products and Diesel Division of Bombardier consists of 13 MXS 624 locomotives with a net power output of 2,200 HP for metric railway and 9 MXS 620 locomotives of 2,400 HP for standard railway. Deliveries are scheduled for the end of 1983. This order represents 200,000 person/hours of work for Bombardier's Montreal plant.

"I am pleased to see Canadian firms acquiring a good share of the growing world market for transportation equipment," noted the Honourable Ed Lumley, Minister of International Trade. "Bombardier has had a number of successes in obtaining locomotive contracts abroad in the past few months."