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VESSEL TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR THE PORT OF HONG KONG

The Honourable Edward C. Lumley, Minister of Trade, announced today the signing of a contract between the Hong Kong Marine Department and Canadian Commercial Corporation for the System Definition Phase of a Vessel Traffic Management System (VTMS) valued at approximately \$2 Million Canadian dollars. It will be undertaken by the Canadian Coast Guard and Leigh Instruments Limited.

The contract was awarded as the first phase of a total design, procure, construct package including implementation and training of Hong Kong operators. The VTMS, when fully operational, will ensure that the Port of Hong Kong has an effective means of controlling the ships in its congested waters thereby increasing the safety and efficiency of marine traffic.

Leigh Instruments Ltd., one of Canada's leading high technology firms, has been instrumental in the design and implementation of VTMS for Vancouver and Les Escoumins and has employed similar technology in the development, implementation and supply of air traffic control systems in Canada.

The service from the Canadian Coast Guard will be made available through the Cost Recoverable Technical Assistance Program. This program provides expertise unique to government on a cost recoverable basis with the objective of helping Canadian companies market their goods and services abroad.

Minister Lumley originally discussed this project with Governor MacLehose during his visit to Hong Kong in 1980. He noted that the award of this contract is an excellent illustration of the way in which the public sector resources can be utilized in support

of Canadian companies to meet advanced technological requirements of foreign governments.

The combined resources of Leigh Instruments and those of the Canadian Coast Guard provide the Canadian Commercial Corporation with the expertise essential to meeting Hong Kong's requirements. The work is due to begin in June of this year and is to be completed within a period of twenty-one months.

Canadian Commercial Corporation contracts with foreign governments and international agencies on behalf of Canadian suppliers of goods and services. In fiscal year 1980-81, CCC achieved sales of over \$400 Million involving 500 Canadian firms and more than 50 foreign customers.

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