

equipment. The statutory rate of duty is 2½% British preferential and 15% most-favoured-nation.

The duty otherwise payable on machines, accessories, attachments, control equipment, tools and components may be remitted if such remission is in the public interest and the goods imported are not available from production in Canada. A Machinery and Equipment Advisory Board advises the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce regarding the eligibility of machinery for remission of duty. Final authority for granting remission lies with the Governor in Council.

Machinery producers may also apply for remission of duty on production parts and components which they cannot procure in Canada. This provision is intended to stimulate Canadian machinery manufacturers to specialize their production and enable them to compete more effectively.

Since June 1971 the Machinery Program has been extended to imports covering machinery for use in sawmills and logging. The Machinery and Equipment Advisory Board examines all tariff remission applications in respect of machinery and equipment or production tooling for the manufacture of original equipment, automotive parts and accessories.

Construction industry information

17.2.4

A preliminary thesaurus of Canadian construction industry terms has been compiled in both English and French to assist in resolving the ambiguity in construction terminology. A glossary equating French and English construction industry terms has also been prepared. At present the Canadian construction thesaurus is being expanded to produce a Canadian thesaurus of building science and technology.

The pilot phase of the Construction Information System operated by the Canadian Construction Information Corporation has been completed. Results from interviews with users indicate enthusiastic acceptance by the industry. The data bank continues to expand.

The department has continued to encourage the increased use of dimensional standardization and coordination of building components and buildings. Initially, conferences were held throughout Canada to acquaint policy-makers within the industry with the technological and economic advantages of modular standardization. The present program of metric conversion has resulted in an increased emphasis by industry on the benefits of modular coordination. In addition, a directory of modular building components is published.

The promotion of universal use of the National Building Code is continuing. Manitoba has established a provincial building code based on the NBC for all larger cities and towns. Alberta, Saskatchewan, Ontario, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and British Columbia have taken similar action and Quebec is studying its feasibility. A *Building standards index* lists all codes, standards and specifications used in the Canadian construction industry.

Export opportunities for the goods and services of the construction industry continue to be identified through the department's trade posts abroad and in cooperation with industry.

Industrial design

17.2.5

The design program, authorized by the National Design Council Act 1961 and administered by the department's Office of Design is aimed at promoting and expediting improvement in the products of Canadian secondary industry. The Office of Design, in cooperation with provincial industry departments, is supporting product design and development programs whereby field teams provide in-company design assistance to small companies.

Other design programs include: financial and technical assistance to education institutions to introduce design training at the technical and university