

As at December 1, 1979, CDC's consolidated assets amounted to \$2,768 million and shareholders equity was \$825 million.

## Federal protection and standards

18.4

### Patents and trade marks

18.4.1

Branches of the corporate affairs bureau administer the legislation affecting patents and trade marks, in the federal consumer and corporate affairs department.

**Patents.** Patents for inventions are issued under the provisions of the Patent Act (RSC 1970, c.P-4; 1970-72 c.1) and patent regulations have been proclaimed to carry into effect the objectives of the act. Applications for patents for inventions and requests for information about such patents should be addressed to the Commissioner of Patents, Ottawa, K1A 0E1.

By March 31, 1979, the patent office had issued 1,051,151 patents which are classified for searching into 340 main classes and 34,594 subclasses of subject matter. About 21,000 new patents are granted each year.

A public search room and library are maintained where the public may obtain information about Canadian and foreign patents. Paper copies of Canadian patents issued from January 1, 1948 are available at \$2 each plus postage. Microfiche copies cost \$1. The official journal of patents, the weekly *Patent Office Record*, lists patents issued during the week covered, and other information about services provided.

Many foreign patents are kept in the patent office library for public use. British patents and their abridged specifications from 1617 to date and United States patents from 1845 to date are available, as well as many patents, indexes, journals and reports from Australia, Austria, Belgium, Colombia, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, France, Federal Republic of Germany, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland and Yugoslavia.

**Trade marks.** The trade marks office, a branch of the corporate affairs bureau, administers the Trade Marks Act (RSC 1970, c.T-10) which covers all legislation on registration and use of trade marks and supersedes from July 1, 1954 former legislation enacted under the Unfair Competition Act, the Union Label Act and the Shop Cards Registration Act. Correspondence relating to an application for registration of a trade mark should be addressed to the Registrar of Trade Marks, Ottawa.

Applications are advertised in the *Trade Marks Journal*, a weekly publication that also gives particulars of every registration of a trade mark. The required fee payable on application for registration of a trade mark is \$100.

### Industrial design and timber marks

18.4.2

The Industrial Design Act provides up to 10 years protection for the shape, pattern, ornamentation or configuration of articles of manufacture, provided such new design is registered within one year of publication in Canada. Protection is granted if an examination does not reveal that any other design already registered or published is identical with or closely resembling the proposed design. The name of the proprietor, the letters Rd. (Registered) and the year of registration must appear upon the article to which the design applies.

Individuals or companies floating timber on the inland waters of Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick must, under the Timber Marking Act, select a mark or marks for the timber and apply for the registration of such marks within one month of engaging in this business.

### Standards Council of Canada

18.4.3

This council, with headquarters in Ottawa, is the national co-ordinating agency through which organizations concerned with voluntary standardization may co-operate in recognizing, establishing and improving standards in Canada through a national standards system. Sponsored by the council, the system includes organizations involved in standards-writing, testing and certification.