

made to a small business operating for gain or profit where the principal business carried on comes within any of the following classes: manufacturing, wholesale trade, retail trade, service business, construction, transportation and/or communications.

Business Improvement Loans are available for the purchase of land (with buildings thereon) for the operation of a small business enterprise; the renovation, improvement, modernization, extension, construction and/or purchase of premises; the purchase, installation, renovation, improvement and/or modernization of equipment of a kind usually affixed to real or immovable property; and the purchase, installation, renovation, improvement and/or modernization of equipment of a kind not usually affixed to real or immovable property.

The maximum amount a borrower may have outstanding at any one time may not exceed \$100,000. BILs can be used to finance up to 90% of land and premises costs and up to 80% of equipment costs. The maximum rate of interest cannot exceed 1% more than chartered bank prime rates plus a one-time front-end fee of 1%. The repayment period shall not exceed 10 years, with installments at least annually. BILs must be secured, at least by the asset being financed. Applications for BILs should be made by small business enterprises directly to chartered banks, Alberta Treasury branches or other designated lenders.

16.2.3 Machinery program

This program is an industrial development incentive with a twofold objective. It encourages machinery manufacturers to derive optimum benefit from the tariff on machinery and enables machinery users to acquire advanced production equipment at the lowest possible cost.

The program assists Canadian machinery manufacturers by ensuring tariff protection on the machinery and equipment they produce as soon as they are able to supply. Direct contacts between machinery producers and users encourage the purchase of Canadian-made machinery instead of imported equipment. Machinery users benefit from remissions of duty under the program in terms of reduced cost for the purchase of advanced production equipment not obtainable in Canada.

16.2.4 Defence industry productivity

The Defence Industry Productivity Program (DIPP) offers financial assistance to Canadian companies to develop and manufacture defence-related products. The program assists a wide

range of industrial sectors, including aerospace and electronics.

Contributions are provided toward the eligible costs of the following types of projects carried out in Canada: research and development, source establishment, capital assistance and market feasibility studies.

16.3 Federal protection and standards

16.3.1 Patents and trade marks

The intellectual property directorate, a part of the corporate affairs bureau of Consumer and Corporate Affairs Canada, administers legislation covering patents, trade marks, copyright and industrial design.

Patents. Patents for inventions are issued under the provisions of the Patent Act (RSC 1970, c.P-4; 1984 c.1) and the patent rules. Applications for patents for inventions and requests for information about such patents should be addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, Ottawa-Hull K1A 0E1.

By March 31, 1986, the patent office had issued nearly 1.2 million patents which are classified by subject matter so that they can be searched easily.

Patents remain in force for 17 years from the date of issue. Paper copies of Canadian patents issued before 1948 may be purchased from the Commissioner of Patents. Patents issued after January 1, 1948 are available from Micromedia Ltd., Hull, Que. J8X 3X2. Microfiche copies of all Canadian patents are available from Micromedia Ltd. The official journal of the patent office, the *Patent office record*, is published weekly and contains information about all patents issued during that week. It is available from the Canadian Government Publishing Centre, Supply and Services Canada, Ottawa K1A 0S9.

The patent office has a public search room holding many journals, textbooks and reports, as well as the patents of other countries including the United States, Great Britain, France, Japan and the Federal Republic of Germany.

Trade marks. Trade marks are registered under the provisions of the Trade Marks Act and the trade mark rules. Applications for registration of a trade mark should be sent to the Registrar of Trade Marks, Ottawa-Hull K1A 0E1.

Applications are examined for compliance with the requirements of the Trade Marks Act and rules and, if found acceptable, are advertised in the *Trade marks journal*. There is a 30-day period after advertisement in which