



Government of Canada

Gouvernement du Canada

software

Discover Innovative Canadian Capabilities

Canadian Software and Computer Services: Programmed for Success!

Software drives the information economy, and Canadian companies produce great software. From multimedia to e-commerce, business intelligence to wireless, Canada's software industry has a wealth of talent, an amazing capacity for innovation, and a research base that's second to none. So, whether you're interested in buying or investing, advanced research and development (R&D) or production capacity, *if you're looking for excellence in software, look to Canada!*

You Name It, Canada Does It — Superbly!

In virtually every area you can think of, Canadian software firms are world leaders. Here are four:

- > **Multimedia** — if you've seen films like *Lord of the Rings*, *Gladiator* or *Titanic*, you've experienced Canadian multimedia magic in action. Three of the films that were Oscar-nominated for best visual effects in 2002 used Canadian special-effects software from companies such as Alias|Wavefront and Discreet — *Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring*, *AI: Artificial Intelligence* and *Pearl Harbor*. In fact, according to *Wired* magazine, Canada supplies 80 percent of the animation and special-effects software used in Hollywood.
- > **Security** — global demand for security technologies has never been greater, and the many Canadian software firms active in the security field are ready to meet needs from biometrics, to encryption, to information technology (IT)-based inspection aids and firewalls. Canadian companies like Entrust, with 1200 clients in more than 40 countries, and Imagis, with 130 major biometric installations worldwide, are providing security solutions around the globe.
- > **Business intelligence and document management** — these are keys to success for any company. With 50 offices around the world, Cognos is the world's second-largest business-intelligence firm, and Vancouver's Crystal Decisions is number three. Five million users representing 90 percent of the Fortune 500 rely on Hummingbird software.
- > **IT services** — provide the software and the infrastructure that make the high-tech world go round. Here, too, Canada is at the forefront, with world-class Canadian-founded companies like the Quebec-based CGI Group, employing more than 11 000 people around the globe, and X-Wave of Newfoundland and Labrador with 2400 professionals in offices across Canada, the United States and Ireland.

Snapshot of a Flourishing Industry

The Canadian software and computer-services industry is thriving, with excellent prospects for growth, from coast to coast.

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| > \$28.6 billion in total revenues | > 44 000 firms nationwide |
| > 253 600 software workers | > 22 percent revenue growth in 1999–2000 |
| > Annual software R&D investment of \$728 million | > Export-oriented — 73 percent of Canadian software revenues come from foreign sources |

Our software industry is supported by a cutting-edge research infrastructure — establishments like Canada's National Research Council, the Centre de recherche informatique de Montréal (CRIM), and funding organizations such as the Canadian Network for the Advancement of Research, Industry and Education (CANARIE), and Communications and Information Technology Ontario (CITO). Vancouver's New Media Innovation Centre (NewMIC) is a collaborative industry-academia-government research centre, whose members include Electronic Arts, IBM, Nortel Networks, Sierra Wireless, Sony Corporation of America, TELUS and Xerox.

