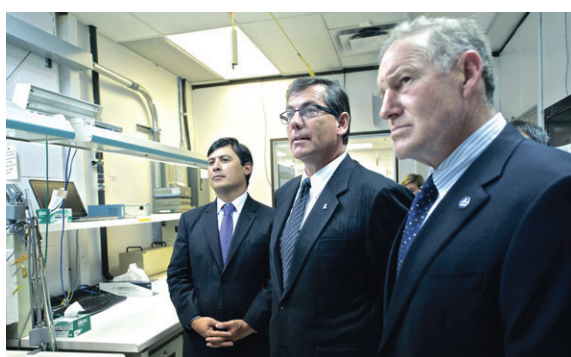


(From left) Wellington-Halton Hills MP Michael Chong, Minister of State (Finance) Kevin Sorenson and Canadian Space Agency (CSA) president Walter Natynczyk toured CPI Canada in Georgetown Monday after it was announced the company has been awarded a \$3.3 million contract from CSA. CPI is developing the Extended Interaction Klystron (EIK), a satellite radar component that will be used in the Surface Water and Ocean Topography mission.

Photo by Jon Borgstrom



## CPI wins Space Agency contract

By **LISA TALLYN**  
Staff Writer

A Georgetown-based company has been awarded a \$3.3 million contract to develop a satellite radar component that will play a key role in the first-ever global survey of surface water.

Communications and Power Industries Canada Inc. (CPI Canada) will receive the funds from the Canadian Space Agency (CSA) it was announced Monday on behalf of Minister of Industry James Moore by Minister of State (Finance) Kevin Sorenson and Wellington-Halton Hills MP Michael Chong who both toured the Georgetown company. Also on the tour was CSA President Walter Natynczyk.

CPI will develop the Extended Interaction Klystron (EIK) for the Surface Water & Ocean Topography (SWOT) mission. The EIK will generate pulses used to gather surface information.

The SWOT mission—a joint mission between NASA and the French Space Agency (CNES)—will survey 90 per cent of the globe, studying the Earth's lakes, rivers, reservoirs and oceans.

SWOT data could lead to improvement in many water-related services in Canada, including operations at sea and water management systems and will provide measurements for lakes and rivers in northern Canada where none exist. The information could help Canada more efficiently manage water resources, prepare for potential flooding and help avoid costly damage from flood and drought. The mission is planned for launch in 2020.

The investment will support local high-technology jobs and economic growth.

"Scientists current ability to measure the

changing amount of water held in lakes is limited, as only 15 per cent of Earth's lakes are presently measured from space," said CPI Canada president Joe Caldarelli. "The SWOT mission will inventory more than one million bodies of water in Canada, and it is expected to yield a better understanding of how climate-induced changes can impact freshwater resources worldwide."

"Using CPI Canada's high-power EIK to enable the SWOT radar, the mission can collect more complete water information," said Caldarelli. "For the past decade, CPI Canada has been working with several international space agencies to develop the technology necessary for this vital program and we look forward to continuing to contribute to the SWOT mission."

Sorenson said the Government of Canada is "proud to support this world-class innovation, which will provide Canada with invaluable information on the water spanning our vast country."

"By learning more about our resources we can more efficiently manage our water, prepare for potential flooding and help Canadians avoid costly damage from flooding or drought," Sorenson said.

Chong said for Canada, which has coasts on three oceans and an estimated three million freshwater lakes, participating in the program "just makes sense."

"The important innovation created right here in Georgetown will play a key role in the SWOT mission and could help us better manage one of the most important resources. For Canada especially, this mission will give us new and valuable data on the many lakes which have been largely unstudied until now," said Chong.



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