This report describes the CORCAN operations at Warkworth Institution as an example of a leading prison industry in Canada. This case study was conducted to gain insights into the distinguishing characteristics of this program.

The CORCAN operation manufactures a variety of components for modular office furniture, and produced in excess of $3 million worth of products in the 1992-93 fiscal year. Production facilities include five shops: cabinet, paint, sheet metal, welding and upholstery.

Inmates in the CORCAN program work a full day and are paid only for those hours worked. They receive training in one of the trades areas, and a record is kept of all apprenticeship hours which may be applied against requirements for trades apprenticeship.

The report reviews the manner in which CORCAN was integrated into the institution, the broad changes brought about by demands for product quality, and the nature of employee and organizational involvement.