

INFORMATION SHEET

Can't Find Skilled Trades People – What's Offshore?

Australia has experienced consistent trade shortages across the 13 key occupations measured by the HIA- Austral Bricks Trade Index. To tackle these shortages in the workforce, HIA has been re-examining the employment pathways from post apprenticeship training, upskilling and undergoing career development programs. We have also revisited the offshore options to help fill certain gaps.

Where a shortage of skills is causing bottlenecks, there is the temporary 457 visa pathway that can be considered to address workforce issues.

The 457 visa is the most commonly used program to sponsor skilled overseas workers temporarily for up to four years.

For a skilled position in your workforce that remains unfilled there may be a temporary offshore worker ready to lend a hand.

To help you understand the 457 skilled worker visa option, HIA's Immigration Outreach Officer is available to help. On placement from the Department of Immigration and Citizenship, our Industry Outreach Officer can help explain temporary and permanent skilled migration options.

Also to help you with the next steps towards sponsoring a 457 Visa worker, HIA has partnered with a number of Registered Migration Agents who can assist members to reduce the cost, handle the paper work and simplify the process of sponsoring overseas workers.

Fragomen 201 Elizabeth Street SYDNEY NSW 2000 Telephone number: 02 8224 8555	Deloitte 225 George Street SYDNEY NSW 2000 Telephone number: 02 9322 7000
KPMG 10 Shelley Street SYDNEY NSW 2000 Telephone number: 02 9335 7000	Australian Migration & Visa Lawyers Level 7 199 George Street BRISBANE QLD 4000 Telephone number: 07 3212 2200

The Australian Migration and Visa Lawyers firm has a database of skilled workers overseas who are interested in working in Australia and are able to assist with sourcing an interested tradesperson from offshore locations such as the UK.

In the first instance, contact HIA's Immigration Outreach Officer Margaret Granger care of (02) 6245 1367, and at immigration.officer@hia.com.au to discuss 457 visa options or to seek further assistance of a Registered Migration Agent.