

**'457 VISA LAW – ADDRESSING AUSTRALIA'S SKILLED  
LABOUR SHORTAGE', BY MARIA JOCKEL, LAWBOOK CO, 2009**

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Immigration is a flow of people into a country and in our case it is into Australia.

Immigration may be temporary or on a permanent basis, and in order that a non-Australian citizen may travel to and enter Australia, the person must hold a valid visa.

This book focuses on the Business Long Stay Visas (subclass 457), a visa subclass that allows the holder to enter and remain in Australia on a temporary basis.

The book has 27 chapters. The first 6 chapters provide an overview of the Australian immigration system and its structure, the sources of Australian immigration law and the role of policy in immigration decision-making and general information about visas.

Further chapters set out the criteria and the processes in relation to three of the main grounds for eligibility of a subclass 457 visa, namely, sponsorship by an Australian business, labour agreement and regional headquarters/Invest Australia Supported Skills programs. The text further discusses the compliance requirements and the consequences of breach of visa conditions. In conclusion, the writer sets out the changes to legislation and procedures as part of the reform program and provides the readers with details of websites relating to industrial law and related issues.

The writer should be congratulated for her work in putting together one of the most complex of visa subclasses. The book is informative and the blending of up-to-date black letter law and cases brings relevance to the text. However, the book would have been even more helpful if it had also provided information on classes and other subclasses that also address Australia's skilled labour shortage. In this way, both migration practitioners and members of the community would have found greater use for the book.

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