



Australian Government
Department of Home Affairs

LABOUR AGREEMENT – ON HIRE

Under the *Migration Act 1958*

Between

Commonwealth of Australia as represented by the
Assistant Minister for Immigration
(Assistant Minister)

and

XXXXX Pty Ltd

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Labour Agreement

Effective Date: Date signed by the Commonwealth being the last part to sign the Agreement.

Parties

The Commonwealth of Australia (the “Commonwealth”) as represented by the Assistant Minister for Immigration (the “Minister”). The Commonwealth’s particulars are set out in **Item 1 of Schedule 1**.

AND

The party specified in **Item 2 of Schedule 1** (the “Approved Sponsor”). The Approved Sponsor’s particulars are set out in **Item 2 of Schedule 1**.

Background

- A. This labour agreement (the “Agreement”) is a “labour agreement” as defined in the Migration Regulations.
- B. This Agreement will be administered by the Department of Home Affairs (“the Department”) on behalf of the Commonwealth.
- C. This Agreement sets out the terms and conditions by which the Approved Sponsor may recruit, employ or engage the services of overseas workers who are intended to be employed or engaged by the Approved Sponsor as holders of Subclass 482 Skills in Demand (SID) visa in its business undertaking as described in **Item 3 of Schedule 1**.
- D. For the purposes of employer sponsored visa programs, the Sponsor, by virtue of entering into this Agreement, will also be an “Approved Sponsor” as defined in the Migration Act.

Operative Part

1. Definitions

- 1.1 Unless the context indicates a contrary intention, words and phrases in this Agreement have the same meanings attributed to them in the Migration Act and the Migration Regulations.
- 1.2 In the event of any inconsistency between this Agreement and the Migration Act and the Migration Regulations, the Migration Act and the Migration Regulations will prevail.
- 1.3 In this Agreement:

Address means a party’s address set out in **Schedule 1**.

Adverse information has the same meaning as in the Migration Regulations.

Agreement means this labour agreement, any schedules, attachments and any documents incorporated into this labour agreement by reference.

ANZSCO means the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations.

AQF means the Australian Qualifications Framework.

Australian where the context so admits, means an Australian citizen (whether born in Australia or elsewhere) or a non-citizen who, being usually resident in Australia is the holder of a permanent visa granted under the Migration Act.

Australian Apprentices includes all formal apprentices and trainees who have signed a training contract which is registered with the relevant State or Territory Government authority. Australian Apprenticeships lead to nationally accredited qualifications, may combine time worked with training and can be full-time, part-time or school-based.

Benching means placing a Primary Sponsored Person on leave without pay between contracts.

Business Day means a day on which business is generally conducted in the Australian Capital Territory, and excludes Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays.

Business Address means the physical address at which a business is located.

Caveat means a condition that excludes an occupation from use under a visa program in certain circumstances. A summary of these caveats is provided on the Department's website. For the specific wording of each caveat, see the legislative instrument for the relevant visa program as outlined on the Department's website.

Client organisation means a client of the Company other than a related business of the Company to whom a primary sponsored person has been on-hired to perform certain specified duties for a specified period in return for a fee payable by the Client Organisation.

Confidential Information in relation to a Party, means information that is:

- (a) by its nature capable of being protected in law or equity as confidential;
- (b) designated by a Party as confidential in **Item 5 of Schedule 1**; or
- (c) in the case of the Commonwealth's Confidential Information, the Approved Sponsor knows or ought to know is confidential;

but does not include information:

- (d) which is or becomes public knowledge other than by breach of the Contract or any other confidentiality obligations; or
- (e) that has been independently developed or acquired without reference to the other Party's Confidential Information.

Concessions means any variations to the requirements prescribed in the Migration Legislation in relation to the skills, qualifications, employment background, level of English Language proficiency and the Core Skills Income Threshold, as amended from time to time, specified in an instrument made under the Migration Regulations.

required for the nomination and grant of a Subclass 457 visa.

CSIT means the Core Skills Income Threshold specified in an instrument made under the Migration Regulations.

Damages means all liabilities, losses, damages, costs and expenses, including legal fees and disbursements and costs of investigation, litigation, settlement, judgment, interest and penalties.

Earnings has the same meaning as in the Migration Regulations.

Employment period means the stay period that an Approved Sponsor requests for the Nominee in the nomination application form.

Effective Date means:

- (a) the date (if any) specified in **Item 4 of Schedule 1**;
- (b) if no such date is specified, the date on which this Agreement is signed by the parties, or if signed on separate days, the date of the last signature.

Email Account means a party's email address set out in **Schedule 1**.

IELTS means the International English Language Testing System.

List of eligible skilled occupations means the list of occupations available for the Subclass 457 visa programs included in the relevant current legislative instrument.

Migration Act means the *Migration Act 1958*, as amended from time to time.

Migration Legislation means the Migration Act and/or the Migration Regulations and/or any instruments made under the Migration Act or the Migration Regulations as amended from time to time.

Migration Regulations means the *Migration Regulations 1994* made under the *Migration Act 1958*, as amended from time to time.

Minister or **Assistant Minister** means a reference to a “Minister” appointed to administer the Department and includes where relevant, delegates of the Minister.

Monetary benefits means Earnings other than the agreed money value of non-monetary benefits.

Nominate means to lodge a nomination application for a SID visa under the Migration Legislation.

Nomination means a nomination referred to in section 140GB of the Migration Act.

Nomination Ceiling means the number of nominations that an Approved Sponsor can have approved in a Year for a specified Occupation as defined in **Schedule 2**.

Nominee means the Overseas Worker specified in a nomination.

Occupations means those occupations prescribed in **Schedule 2**.

On-hire¹ means a person’s business activities which include activities relating to either or both of:

- (a) the recruitment of labour for supply to another business; and
- (b) the hiring of labour to another business;
- (c) the reference to ‘another business’ in paragraph (a) and (b) above, includes any other business that is related to a person’s business.

Overseas Worker means the holder of, or an applicant or proposed applicant for a TSS or SID visa.

Postal Address means the address to which mail is delivered.

Primary Sponsored Person has the same meaning as in the Migration Regulations.

Recent Australian Graduates includes Australians who completed higher education (university) courses in the last 12 months.

SID visa means a Skills in Demand (SID) (subclass 482) visa, which is a temporary visa within the meaning of the Migration Act.

Standard business sponsor has the same meaning as in the Migration Regulations.

Standard temporary skilled visa program requirements refers to the legislative requirements that must be met for the SID visa program if the sponsor is a standard business sponsor.

Terms and conditions of employment takes the same meaning as in the Migration Regulations.

The Department means the Department of Home Affairs.

Workforce means the total number of Australian workers and temporary visa holders engaged by the Approved Sponsor (including as contractors).

Workplace law means the *Fair Work Act 2009*, and relevant laws of the Commonwealth and of the relevant State or Territory relating to equal employment opportunity, unlawful discrimination and workplace health and safety legislation regulating the employment by the Approved Sponsor of its Primary

¹ An example of On-hire is where a person proposes to sponsor someone to come to Australia for the purpose of hiring out the visa holder’s services to client organisations, rather than to work directly in the person’s business.

Sponsored Persons.

Workforce plan means a report that outlines the current, and where requested, projected future composition of an Approved Sponsor's workforce. It should include details of the total number of Australian workers (including permanent residents) and temporary visa holders engaged by the Approved Sponsor.

Year means the period of 12 months commencing on the day this Agreement commences, or a period of 12 months commencing on an anniversary of that day.

2. Interpretation

(corresponding meanings) a word that is derived from a defined word has a corresponding meaning.

(headings) clause headings, the table of contents and footnotes are inserted for convenience only and do not affect interpretation of this Agreement.

(references) a reference to a party, clause, paragraph or schedule is a reference to a party, clause, paragraph or schedule to, or of this Agreement.

(requirements) a requirement to do anything includes a requirement to cause that thing to be done, and a requirement not to do anything includes a requirement to prevent that thing being done.

(including) including and **includes** are not words of limitation, and a list of examples is not limited to those items or to items of a similar kind.

(rules of construction) neither this Agreement nor any part of it is to be construed against a party on the basis that the party or its lawyers were responsible for its drafting.

(singular and gender) the singular includes the plural and vice-versa, and words importing one gender include all other genders.

(legislation) a reference to any legislation or provision of legislation includes all amendments, consolidations or replacements and all regulations, directions or instruments issued under it.

(day) unless stated otherwise a reference to a day is a reference to a calendar day.

(month) a reference to a month is a reference to a calendar month.

(person) a reference to a person includes an individual, a body corporate, statutory corporation, partnership, body politic and permitted assigns, as the context requires.

(writing) a reference to a notice, consent, request, approval or other communication under this Agreement or an agreement between the parties means a written notice, request, consent, approval or agreement.

3. Agreement period

3.1 This Agreement commences from the Effective Date as specified in **Item 4 of Schedule 1**.

3.2 Unless terminated earlier in accordance with clause 16 of this Agreement, the period of this Agreement will be the time specified in **Item 4 of Schedule 1**.

4. Pre-contractual representations

4.1 The Approved Sponsor warrants that information supplied to the Commonwealth with respect to the Approved Sponsor being a fit and proper person to enter into this Agreement and upon which the Commonwealth relied, was true and correct.

Nomination of Overseas Workers

5. Nomination requirements

- 5.1 The Approved Sponsor may only nominate an Overseas Worker for:
- (a) Occupations outlined in **Schedule 2** that:
 - (i) are on the Critical Skills Occupation List (CSOL) for the SID visa at the time the Nomination application is lodged; and
 - (ii) meet any Caveats that are imposed on the nominated occupation;
 - (b) up to the Nomination Ceiling specified in **Schedule 2**;
 - (c) an Occupation to be performed in a location listed in **Schedule 2**; and
 - (d) an Employment period consistent with the length of the contract with the Client Organisation for the Nominee's services and no longer than the maximum visa period as outlined in **Schedule 4**.
- 5.2 The Approved Sponsor acknowledges that the Assistant Minister may, in his/her absolute discretion, vary the:
- (a) Nomination Ceilings up or down;
 - (b) Concessions; or
 - (c) Occupations.
- 5.3 If the Approved Sponsor wishes to increase the Nomination Ceilings in any year during the period of this Agreement as set out in **Schedule 2** to this Agreement, they must provide the Department with the information detailed in **Schedule 7**. A departmental decision-maker will then assess whether the Department will agree to proposed variations to the existing agreement.
- 5.4 The Approved Sponsor acknowledges that there is no guarantee that additional Nominations and increases in the Nomination ceilings will be agreed to and that the Commonwealth reserves the right to make the final decision as to the Nomination Ceiling for each year of the Agreement.
- 5.5 Before they nominate a Nominee under this Agreement, the Approved Sponsor must take all reasonable steps to ensure that:
- (a) it recruits suitably skilled Australians who are available, including undertaking Labour Market Testing where specified in **Schedule 3**;
 - (b) the Overseas Worker will be able to meet any revised visa requirements outlined at **Schedule 4**; and
 - (c) the Overseas Worker will hold relevant licensing/registration or certification were required for the nominated occupation, when performing the occupation.
- 5.6 The Approved Sponsor will aim to ensure that in any one Year period overseas workers do not comprise more than a third of their Workforce.
- 5.7 In addition to SID nomination requirements outlined in the Migration Regulations, the Approved Sponsor must demonstrate, through written evidence, when lodging a SID nomination, that the standard skilled visa requirements as outlined in the Migration Regulations in relation to terms and conditions of employment, including any requirements related to the CSIT, earnings and/or working hours are met, unless varied in **Schedule 2**.
- 5.8 The Approved Sponsor must comply with any additional requirements for nomination that are stipulated by the Assistant Minister in **Schedule 3**.

6. Visa requirements

- 6.1 The Approved Sponsor acknowledges that as part of the visa application process, the Nominee will need to meet the criteria for grant of a visa as outlined in the Migration Regulations. This may include requirements that the Nominee has:
- (a) the sufficient skills, experience and English proficiency to perform the nominated occupation, and
 - (b) demonstrated this where requested by the Department.
- 6.2 In most cases, these requirements mirror standard temporary skilled visa program requirements.
- 6.3 Where variations to regulatory or policy requirements apply for visa applicants who are being sponsored under this Agreement, because the Assistant Minister has agreed to certain Concessions, these are specified in **Schedule 4**.

7. Visa period

- 7.1 The Approved Sponsor acknowledges that when nominating an Overseas Worker for a SID visa the Approved Sponsor will select a proposed employment period of up to a maximum of four (4) years. If approved, the SID visa for the Nominee will be granted for the requested period, unless a different or more restricted period is specified in **Schedule 4**.

8. Sponsorship obligations

- 8.1 The Approved Sponsor must satisfy its sponsorship obligations in the Migration Regulations as varied, if at all, in **Schedule 5**.
- 8.2 The Approved Sponsor must satisfy:
- (a) additional obligations imposed in accordance with subsection 140H(3) of the Migration Act.
 - (b) its sponsorship obligations in **Schedule 6** (if any), which are additional obligations to the sponsorship obligations in the Migration Regulations as varied (if at all).
- 8.3 The Approved Sponsor must comply with Workplace law, and immigration laws regulating employment of the Approved Sponsor's sponsored overseas workers.

9. Reporting

- 9.1 The Approved Sponsor must provide a report to the Department within 30 days following a request by the Assistant Minister. This report must include the items outlined at **Schedule 7** to this agreement.

10. Review

- 10.1 This Agreement will be reviewed after three years and/or on an annual basis where additional Nominations increasing the Nomination Ceilings are sought by the Approved Sponsor.

11. Audits of this Agreement

- 11.1 The Assistant Minister may, from time to time, audit the Approved Sponsor's performance of its obligations in this Agreement and the Approved Sponsor will cooperate with the Assistant Minister for the purpose of such audits.
- 11.2 Without limiting the generality of the preceding clause, the Approved Sponsor will:
- (a) liaise with and provide information and assistance to the Assistant Minister as reasonably required by the Assistant Minister for the purposes of such audits;

- (b) comply with the Assistant Minister's reasonable requests or requirements for the purposes of such audits.
- 11.3 Unless specified otherwise in the Migration Legislation, the Approved Sponsor will retain all records generated for the purposes of this Agreement for seven (7) years from the date of expiration or termination of this Agreement.

Miscellaneous Provisions

12. Notices

- 12.1 Any notice, demand, consent or other communication given or made under this Agreement:
- (a) must be clearly readable;
 - (b) must, unless it is sent by email, be signed by the party giving or making it (or signed on behalf of that party by its authorised representative);
 - (c) must, unless it is sent by email, be left at the Address or sent by pre-paid security post (air mail if outside Australia) to the Business Address of the recipient; and
 - (d) may be sent by email to the receiving party's Email Account.
- 12.2 A notice to be served on the Commonwealth will be taken to be served if it is served on the Department's address in **Item 1 of Schedule 1**.
- 12.3 A party may change its Business Address, Postal Address or Email Account for the purpose of service by giving notice of that change to the other party in accordance with clause 12.1.
- 12.4 Any communication will be taken to be received by the recipient:
- (a) in the case of a letter, on the third (seventh, if sent outside the country in which the letter is posted) Business Day after the date of posting;
 - (b) in the case of an email, at the end of the day in which the email is transmitted.

13. Variation and entire agreement

- 13.1 The contents of this Agreement constitute the entire agreement between the parties and supersede any prior negotiations, representations, understandings or arrangements made between the parties regarding the subject matter of this Agreement, whether orally or in writing.
- 13.2 Unless otherwise specified in this Deed, a provision of this Agreement can only be varied by a written document executed by or on behalf of all parties.

14. Suspension

- 14.1 The Assistant Minister may, in his/her absolute discretion, suspend this Agreement, in whole or in part, including in situations where Adverse Information regarding the Approved Sponsor has been received, is being investigated and is not considered reasonable to disregard.
- 14.2 The Approved Sponsor and other third parties are not entitled to any compensation or payments as a result of the Assistant Minister suspending this Agreement under clause 14.1.
- 14.3 Where the Assistant Minister suspends this Agreement in accordance with clause 14.1 the Assistant Minister will notify the Approved Sponsor in writing.
- 14.4 For the avoidance of doubt, where the Assistant Minister notifies that this Agreement has been suspended in accordance with clause 14.3, the suspension shall take effect at the time the notice is taken to be received

by the Approved Sponsor, in accordance with clause 12.

- 14.5 Where the Assistant Minister suspends this Agreement in accordance with clause 14.1, the Assistant Minister may, in determining the order for considering and disposing of nomination applications and visa applications, give the lowest priority to applications made under this Agreement.
- 14.6 After a period of suspension, the Assistant Minister may, at his/her absolute discretion, choose to resume this Agreement by notifying the Approved Sponsor in writing.
- 14.7 Where the Assistant Minister chooses to resume this Agreement in accordance with clause 14.6 and notifies the Approved Sponsor, the Agreement will resume at the time the notice is taken to be received, in accordance with clause 12.
- 14.8 For the avoidance of doubt, any period of suspension will have no impact on and will not amend the period of this Agreement. The period of this Agreement will remain as specified in **Item 4 of Schedule 1**.

15. Termination

- 15.1 The Assistant Minister may, in his/her absolute discretion, terminate this Agreement at any time including for reasons of public interest where:
- (a) there is a change in policy or a change in government which results in a change in policy settings; or
 - (b) Adverse Information has been received by the Department regarding the Approved Sponsor and it is not considered reasonable to disregard.
- 15.2 The Approved Sponsor will not be entitled to any compensation or payments as a result of the Assistant Minister terminating this Agreement under clause 15.1.
- 15.3 Otherwise, if the Assistant Minister contends that the Approved Sponsor is in default under this Agreement, the Assistant Minister may, without prejudice to any right of action or remedy which has accrued or which may accrue (including the Assistant Minister's entitlement to terminate in accordance with clause 15.1):
- (a) suspend this Agreement in whole or in part; and
 - (b) serve notice on the Approved Sponsor, advising that this Agreement is suspended and requiring the Approved Sponsor to rectify to the satisfaction of the Assistant Minister, those aspects of the Approved Sponsor's performance which are of concern to the Commonwealth; or
 - (c) terminate this Agreement without prejudice to any right of action or remedy which has accrued or which may accrue.
- 15.4 If the Approved Sponsor is in breach of a sponsorship obligation in the Migration Legislation the Approved Sponsor will be taken to be in default under this Agreement as if the statutory obligation was a contractual obligation of the Approved Sponsor.
- 15.5 For the avoidance of doubt, a breach of the Approved Sponsor's warranty given in clause 4.1 with respect to pre-contractual information, will entitle the Assistant Minister to suspend this Agreement and serve a notice under clause 14.3 and/or to take any other contractual redress in accordance with this Agreement.
- 15.6 A party may, in its discretion, terminate this Agreement early by giving 28 days' notice to the other party, whereupon this Agreement will be terminated with effect 28 days after the notice of termination is served. A party serving a notice of termination under this sub-clause:
- (a) need not specify a reason for serving the notice;

- (b) may withdraw the notice before the 28 days have elapsed; and
- (c) will not be liable to compensate the other party for costs or damages that may arise from the early termination.

15.7 For the avoidance of doubt if this Agreement is terminated for any reason, or for no reason:

- (a) the Approved Sponsor's approval as a sponsor for the purposes of this Agreement will thereby be automatically terminated; and
- (b) visas granted pursuant to this Agreement will be subject to the operation of the Migration Legislation.

15.8 A waiver by a party in respect of any breach of a condition or provision of this Agreement will not be deemed to be a waiver in respect of any continuing or subsequent breach of that provision, or breach of any other provision. The failure of a party to enforce at any time any of the provisions of this Agreement will in no way be interpreted as a waiver of such provision.

16. Sanctions

16.1 Instead of terminating this Agreement:

- (a) the Commonwealth may, in its discretion bar the Approved Sponsor, for a specified period, from making further nominations under this Agreement, or
- (b) the Assistant Minister may, in his or her absolute discretion, give the lowest processing priority to nomination applications and visa applications made under this Agreement.

16.2 The Commonwealth may, in its discretion, instead of terminating this Agreement or in addition to terminating this Agreement, take action against the Approved Sponsor for a breach of contract to recover damages and/or for injunctive relief.

16.3 The Commonwealth may, in its discretion, instead of taking any enforcement action under this Agreement or in addition to taking such enforcement action, pursue a civil penalty or issue an infringement notice under the Migration Legislation for failing to satisfy a sponsorship obligation.

17. Adverse Information

17.1 The Sponsor is required to disclose to the Department Adverse Information about the Sponsor or any persons associated with the Sponsor.

17.2 The Sponsor is required to disclose such Adverse Information to the Department, as soon as practicable, after it becomes aware of such information.

17.3 Unless otherwise agreed, the Sponsor must respond to any notices in the timeframe requested in the relevant notice (including any requests for information included in the notices) issued by the Department in relation to Adverse Information that the Department has become aware of, or Adverse Information that the Department reasonably believes or suspects to exist and should be disclosed.

17.4 "Associated with" has the same meaning as in regulation 1.13B of the *Migration Regulations 1994*.

18. Relationship between the parties

18.1 Nothing in this Agreement:

- (a) constitutes a partnership between the parties; or
- (b) except as expressly provided, makes a party an agent of another party for any purpose.

18.2 A party cannot in any way or for any purpose:

- (a) bind another party; or
- (b) contract in the name of another party.

18.3 If a party must fulfil an obligation and that party is dependent on another party, then that other party must do each thing reasonably within its power to assist the other in the performance of that obligation.

18.4 If the Approved Sponsor is constituted by more than one legal entity (such as a partnership or an unincorporated association), each of those legal entities will be jointly and severally liable for the performance of all of the Approved Sponsor's obligations under this Agreement.

19. Assurances, counterparts and assignment

19.1 Each party must promptly execute all documents and do all other things reasonably necessary or desirable to give effect to the arrangements recorded in this Agreement.

19.2 This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts.

19.3 A party cannot assign or otherwise transfer its rights under this Agreement without the prior written consent of the other party.

20. Dispute resolution

20.1 The Parties will deal with any dispute arising during the course of this Agreement as follows:

- (a) the party claiming that there is a dispute must notify the other party of the dispute;
- (b) the parties will use reasonable endeavours to resolve the dispute by direct negotiation;
- (c) the parties must allow 28 days from notification of the dispute to reach a resolution or to agree to refer the dispute to mediation in accordance with, and subject to, The Institute of Arbitrators and Mediators Australia Mediation Rules or some other form of alternative dispute resolution procedure agreed to in writing by the Parties; and
- (d) in the event that:
 - (i) the Parties have attended mediation, or some other form of alternative dispute resolution procedure; and
 - (ii) no written settlement agreement is executed within 15 Business Days (or such extended time as the Parties may agree in writing before the expiration of the 15 Business days) of the conclusion of the mediation or some other form of alternative dispute resolution procedurethen either Party may commence legal proceedings or terminate this Agreement.

20.2 The Parties acknowledge that the Migration Review Tribunal and Administrative Appeals Tribunal may have jurisdiction to review decisions in relation to nomination applications and visa applications. This Agreement does not abrogate any rights of a merits review by the Migration Review Tribunal or the Administrative Appeals Tribunal.

21. Confidential information and information sharing

21.1 If a party's information is specified as Confidential Information in **Item 5 of Schedule 1**, the other party will not disclose the information without the first party's prior written consent, except when disclosure of the information is required by law, statutory or portfolio duties.

21.2 The Approved Sponsor consents to information concerning it which is relevant to the operation of this Agreement being shared by the Assistant Minister with:

- (a) State or Territory government agencies in the State or Territory in which the Approved Sponsor conducts business, where those agencies have regulatory or other relevant interests in the operation of this Agreement;
 - (b) Commonwealth agencies with regulatory or other relevant interests in the operation of this Agreement, including the Department of Education, Skills and Employment.
- 21.3 The Approved Sponsor will allow the disclosure of information related to this Agreement for various reporting and Commonwealth disclosure obligations. These disclosures include:
- (a) disclosure of procurement information for the Department's annual reporting purposes;
 - (b) disclosure to the Parliament and its committees, as appropriate, in line with the Government Guidelines for Official Witnesses before Parliamentary Committees and Related Matters;
 - (c) disclosure of information consistent with the Freedom of Information Act 1982;
 - (d) disclosure of discoverable information that is relevant to a case before a court; and
 - (e) disclosure of information as required under other legislation or Commonwealth policy.
- 21.4 The Approved Sponsor acknowledges that the Department will publish information on its website regarding this Agreement, with more sensitive business information contained in labour agreement requests and agreements, as specified at **Item 5 of Schedule 1** to remain confidential.
- 21.5 The Approved Sponsor must comply with any reasonable request by the Commonwealth for information to enable the Commonwealth to meet its obligations in this Agreement.
- 21.6 Clause 21.3 survives the termination or expiration of this Agreement.

22. Fettering and publishing

- 22.1 Nothing in this Agreement fetters or detracts from the Commonwealth's discretions, functions or powers under the Migration Legislation, Workplace law or other relevant Commonwealth laws.
- 22.2 In the event the Commonwealth has published an outline of this Agreement, the published outline is an invitation to treat with prospective sponsors and is not an offer to enter into contractual relations with any such sponsor on the basis of the published outline.
- 22.3 The Commonwealth may grant or refuse to grant consent, in its absolute discretion, to any application by the Approved Sponsor for consent to a change in control of the Approved Sponsor that may be inimical to the Approved Sponsor's capacity to perform its obligations under this Agreement, and the Commonwealth may attach such conditions on a consent as the Commonwealth sees fit.

23. Legal expenses

- 23.1 Each party must pay its own legal costs and disbursements in connection with the negotiation, preparation, execution and carrying into effect of this Agreement.
- 23.2 The Approved Sponsor must pay any stamp duty assessed on or in relation to this Agreement and any instrument or transaction required by or necessary to give effect to this Agreement.

24. Survival after termination

- 24.1 Any provision of this Agreement which expressly or by implication from its nature is intended to survive the termination or expiration of this Agreement and any rights arising on termination or expiration will survive, including Confidential Information, and the Approved Sponsor's sponsorship obligations.

25. Governing law and jurisdiction

25.1 The laws applicable in the Australian Capital Territory govern this Agreement.

25.2 The parties submit to the non-exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of the Australian Capital Territory and any courts competent to hear appeals from those courts.

26. Indemnity

26.1 The Approved Sponsor agrees to indemnify the Assistant Minister from and against any:

- (a) cost or liability incurred by the Assistant Minister; or
- (b) loss or expense incurred by the Assistant Minister in dealing with any claim against it including legal costs and expenses on a solicitor/own client basis and the cost of time spent, resources used or disbursements paid by the Assistant Minister,

arising from:

- (c) any act or omission by the Approved Sponsor or its Personnel in connection with this Agreement;
or

- (d) any breach by the Approved Sponsor of its obligations or warranties under this Agreement;

irrespective of whether there was fault on the part of the person whose conduct gave rise to that liability, loss or damage, or loss or expense.

26.2 The Approved Sponsor's liability to indemnify the Assistant Minister under clause 26.1 will be reduced proportionately to the extent that any breach of this Agreement by the Assistant Minister or any act or omission involving fault on the part of the Assistant Minister contributed to the relevant cost, liability, loss, damage, or expense.

26.3 The right of the Assistant Minister to be indemnified under clause 26.1 is in addition to, and not exclusive of, any other right, power or remedy provided by law, but the Assistant Minister is not entitled to be compensated in excess of the amount of the relevant cost, liability, loss, damage, or expense.

26.4 In clause 26.1:

- (a) "the Assistant Minister" includes officers, employees and agents of the Assistant Minister; and
- (b) "Personnel" means a party's officers, employees, agents, contract staff or professional advisers engaged in, or in relation to, the performance or management of this Agreement.

26.5 Clause 26.1 will survive six (6) years from the expiration or termination of this Agreement.

Schedule 1

Particulars

Item 1

Commonwealth Particulars

Name: Department of Home Affairs
Address: 6 Chan Street, BELCONNEN ACT 2617
Email Address: labour.agreement.section@homeaffairs.gov.au
Contact Officer: Director, Labour Agreement Section

Item 2

The Approved Sponsor's Particulars

Name:
ACN:
ABN:
Business Structure:
Business Address:
Postal Address:
Telephone Number:
Email Address:
Contact Officer:

Item 3

The Approved Sponsor's Business

Industry Segment: On-Hire

Item 4

Commencement and period

Effective Date: The date signed by the Commonwealth being the last party to sign the Agreement
Cease Date: Five (5) years from the Effective Date

Item 5

Commercial-in-Confidence Information

The company specific information (i.e. non-template text) contained in the Schedules to this Agreement.
All information provided to request and secure access to this Agreement.

Schedule 2 Concessions relating to nomination criteria covered by this agreement

Item 1 Occupations, Nomination Ceiling and Location

The Approved Sponsor is able to nominate occupations on the Critical Skills Occupation List for the SID visa at the time the Nomination application is lodged.

The table below specifies the Nomination Ceilings per year and where the nominated positions should be based (i.e. the location of work).

Visa	Nomination Ceilings					Location of Work
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	
SID	0	0	0	0	0	X

Note:

- The Assistant Minister may vary the ceiling number and Occupations at any time, with ceiling numbers subject to annual review.
- Only Nomination Ceilings approved will be agreed to when this Agreement is executed. If the Approved Sponsor wishes to increase the ceilings specified above, they must seek a variation to this Agreement as outlined at clause 5.3 to this Agreement.

Item 2 Concession to Occupation Tasks

There are no Concessions to the tasks expected to be undertaken by Nominees in the following occupations under this Agreement, with the tasks expected to align with those outlined in ANZSCO.

Item 3 Concessions regarding terms and conditions of employment

The Approved Sponsor must, in addition to the information prescribed in the Migration Regulations, demonstrate through written evidence, at Nomination that:

- (a) the Nominee will be engaged full time;
- (b) the Nominee will be paid by the on hire company and not by a third party;
- (c) the Monetary benefits of the nominee's annual Earnings for a 38 hour week will be:
 - (i) 20% above the rate of CSIT; and
 - (ii) Not be less than what an Australian performing equivalent work in the Approved Sponsor's workplace at the same location would be receive on an annual basis.

Schedule 3 Additional requirements for nomination

Item 1 Labour market testing requirements

Evidence of labour market testing must accompany nominations lodged in accordance with this Agreement. The evidence provided should be equivalent to that required under Standard temporary skilled visa program requirements.

Item 2 Employment contract

The application must be accompanied by a signed copy of:

- (a) the contract with the Approved Sponsor under which the Nominee is engaged; and
- (b) the contract that the Approved Sponsor maintains with the Client Organisation in relation to the Nominee.

Schedule 4 Concessions relating to visa criteria covered by this Agreement

Item 1 Qualifications and Experience

Nominees must have at least two (2) years relevant work experience, in addition to qualification/experience requirements for the occupation as outlined in ANZSCO.

Item 2 English Language

Nil concessions

Item 3 Visa period

The length of a visa granted under this agreement will be determined according to the policy parameters in place under Standard temporary skilled visa program requirements, with a maximum visa period of two (2) years available for certain occupations and a maximum of four (4) years for all other occupations on the list of eligible skilled occupations.

Schedule 5 Variation of sponsorship obligations

Item 1 Obligation to cooperate with inspectors

The obligation in regulation 2.78 of the Migration Regulations applies and is not varied.

Item 2 Obligation to ensure equivalent terms and conditions of employment

The obligation in regulation 2.79 of the Migration Regulations does not apply and the following applies:

- (a) Primary Sponsored Persons must be employed in on-going full-time positions. A full time position is one in which hours worked equate to those worked by equivalent Australian full-time workers in the person's workplace at the same location. Where there is no equivalent full-time Australian worker, a full-time position equates to a 38 hour working week.
- (b) the Monetary benefits of the nominee's annual Earnings for a 38 hour week will be:
 - (i) 20% above the rate of CSIT; and
 - (ii) Not be less than what an Australian performing equivalent work in the Approved Sponsor's workplace at the same location would be receive on an annual basis.
- (c) Primary Sponsored Persons must be paid throughout their employment;
- (d) the Approved Sponsor cannot place a Primary Sponsored Person on, or grant, leave due to the unavailability of a work assignment without prior agreement of the Department (i.e. Benching is not permitted).
- (e) the Approved Sponsor is to contact Department before granting leave without pay (maximum 60 days) and must not compel overseas workers to use their annual leave, while they await their next assignment.

Item 3 Obligation to pay travel costs to enable sponsored persons to leave Australia

The obligation in regulation 2.80 of the Migration Regulations applies and is not varied.

Item 4 Obligation to pay costs incurred by the Commonwealth to locate and remove unlawful non-citizens

The obligation in regulation 2.81 of the Migration Regulations applies and is not varied.

Item 5 Obligation to keep records

The obligation in regulation 2.82 of the Migration Regulations applies and is not varied.

Item 6 Obligation to provide records and information to the Assistant Minister

The obligation in regulation 2.83 of the Migration Regulations applies and is not varied.

Item 7 Obligation to provide information to Immigration when certain events occur

The obligation in regulation 2.84 of the Migration Regulations applies and is not varied.

Item 8 Obligation to ensure Primary Sponsored Person works or participates in nominated occupation, program or activity

The obligation in regulation 2.86 of the Migration Regulations applies and is not varied.

Item 9 Obligation not to recover, transfer or take actions that would result in another person paying for certain costs

The obligation in regulation 2.87 of the Migration Regulations applies and is not varied. For clarity, the Approved Sponsor must not charge employees for services.

Schedule 6 Additional sponsorship obligations specific to this Agreement

The additional obligations listed below are applicable and commence when the Primary Sponsored Person commences his or her employment or engagement with the Approved Sponsor, and ends on the earlier of the day on which the Primary Sponsored Person:

- (a) is granted a further substantive visa that is:
 - (i) not a SID visa; and
 - (ii) in effect; and
- (b) ceases employment or engagement with the Approved Sponsor.

Item 1 Obligations not to recruit where money owed

The approved Sponsor must not Nominate Primary Sponsored Persons or secondary sponsored persons who it has assessed, reasonably suspects or ought to reasonably suspect of owing money as a result of being recruited.

Item 2 Obligations to allow inspection and copy

1. The Approved Sponsor will allow:
 - (a) the Commonwealth;
 - (b) the Australian National Audit Office; or
 - (c) the Ombudsman's Office,to access the Approved Sponsor's premises, and/or the premises of the Client Company, at all reasonable times and to inspect and copy all relevant documentation and records, however stored, in the Approved Sponsor's possession or control, with respect to the Approved Sponsor's performance of its obligations under the Agreement.
2. This right of access is subject to:
 - (a) compliance with the Approved Sponsor's reasonable security procedures;
 - (b) each party bearing its own cost arising out of or in connection with any access, audit or inspection; and
 - (c) if appropriate, entering into a deed of confidentiality relating to non-disclosure of the Approved Sponsor's confidential information.
3. The Approved Sponsor will ensure that any other agreements that it enters into with anyone else for the purpose of this Agreement, contains an equivalent clause granting the rights of access as specified in this Schedule. This clause will survive for seven (7) years from the date of expiration or termination of this Agreement.

Item 3 Obligations to comply with workplace laws

The Approved Sponsor must:

- (a) ensure that primary sponsored persons are placed in a work environment that complies with all relevant Commonwealth and State/Territory Workplace law including, but not limited to, Occupational Health & Safety and workers compensation laws for the duration of their employment; and
- (b) monitor compliance with workplace rights by the Client Organisation.

Item 4 Information on workplace rights

The Approved Sponsor must ensure that all Primary Sponsored Persons engaged under this Agreement are supplied with workplace rights information within seven (7) days of commencing employment in the Nominated Occupation with the Approved Sponsor.

Item 5 Obligations regarding sanctioned sponsors

The Approved Sponsor must not:

- (a) place a primary sponsored person in a workplace owned, operated and or managed by a Sanctioned Sponsor;
- (b) place a primary sponsored person in a workplace owned, operated and or managed by a Former Sanctioned Sponsor without the written permission of the Department;
- (c) continue to place its primary sponsored persons in the workplace of a Client Organisation who is or has become a Sanctioned Sponsor.

Item 6 Obligations regarding contracts with the Client Organisation

The Approved Sponsor will for each primary sponsored person, enter and maintain a contract with the Client Organisation. Any such contract must not be inconsistent with the terms and conditions of this Agreement and should include obligations on the Client Organisation to:

- (a) ensuring that the work environment at the Client Organisation complies with all relevant Commonwealth and State/Territory Workplace law; and
- (b) provide for the Commonwealth to access their premises for monitoring purposes.

Item 7 Obligations to pay salary directly

An Approved Sponsor must pay the nominee directly, including taxes and superannuation.

Item 8 Obligations regarding salary deductions

An Approved Sponsor may not deduct an amount from an amount payable to a primary sponsored person unless the deduction is authorised:

- (a) in writing by the employee and is principally for the employee's benefit; or
- (b) authorised by the employee in accordance with an enterprise agreement; or
- (c) authorised by or under a modern award or a Fair Work Act order; or
- (d) authorised by or under a law of the Commonwealth, a State or a Territory, or an order of a court.

Item 9 Obligations regarding salary deductions

An Approved Sponsor must not charge Overseas Workers fees for services provided, including for their nomination and securing employment.

Schedule 7 Information to be provided to the Department

The Approved Sponsor must provide the following documentation to the Department when requested or when seeking additional Nomination Ceilings:

- (a) updated Workforce Plans;
- (b) evidence of labour market testing that has been undertaken during the last 12 months;
- (c) evidence of salary arrangements for, and amounts paid to, Primary Sponsored Persons;
- (d) details of any breaches of immigration or other Commonwealth or State laws;
- (e) the dates and numbers and occupations of any and all Australian workers who have been retrenched or made redundant in the past 12 month period; and
- (f) any additional information requested by the Assistant Minister.

Signing Page

SIGNED, SEALED AND DELIVERED for and on behalf of the **COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA** under the written authority of the **Assistant Minister for Immigration** by its duly authorised departmental official in the presence of

Signature of delegate

Signature of witness

Name and position of delegate

Name of witness

Date *dd/mm/yyyy*

Date *dd/mm/yyyy*

SIGNED SEALED and DELIVERED for and on behalf of [**Sponsor's Name**] Pty Ltd)

ACN: XXX XXX XXX

ABN: XX XXX XXX XXX

in accordance with the requirements of section 127 of the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth):

Signature of director

Signature of director/company secretary

Name of director

Name of director/company secretary

Date *dd/mm/yyyy*

Date *dd/mm/yyyy*