

Inventory of Barriers to Trade In Services

Country: AUSTRALIA

Reference Number: AST- 5

Suppliers Affected: ALL

Source: memo EPT-0661

Canadian Source: YES

Canadian Negotiating Priority: N/A

Status: Active

Created: 16/12/88

Last Updated: 18/01/89

Barrier Type:

BMP BARRIERS TO MOVEMENT OF PERSONNEL

Sector: ALL DIVISIONS

1 - ALL SECTORS

Detailed Description:

There are immigration/visa difficulties for the entry of key management and technical personnel. A joint venture agreement in the service sector will often require the transfer of skills to Australian employees. Even when skill transfer would require only a short training period, Australian regulations involve a long process, including advertising three times, before personnel may enter, with the result that an outside firm is often unable to have staff in Australia to obtain the business.

Note: the following changes to the temporary entry policy took effect on May 26, 1987:

- Companies will be able to make arrangements with the Department of Immigration for streamlined health and character checks, which are the main impediments to a speedy entry.

- Staff of foreign companies will not be subject to the present Australian labour market test if their posting is for 12 months or less. (Previously, postings of more than four months required testing against the local labour market to ensure that the