

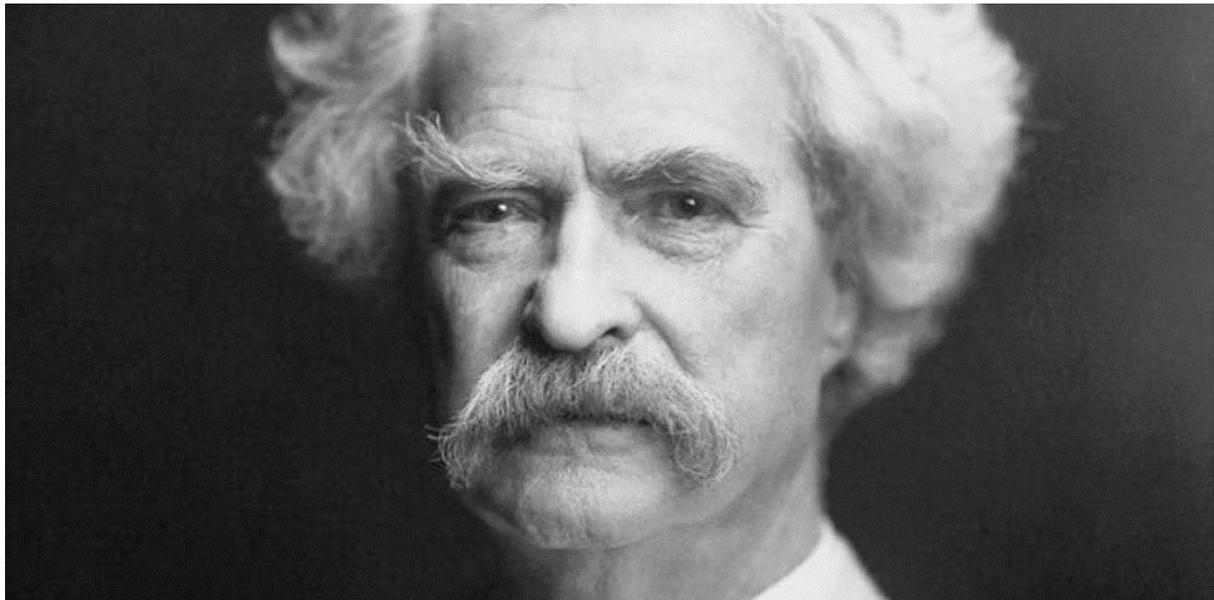


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Executive Search & Board Advisory

Recent Changes to the Temporary Work (Skilled) Visa (Subclass 457)



*"Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails.
Explore. Dream. Discover"* Mark Twain

On Friday 30 June 2017 the Australian Government released the updated Short-term Skilled Occupation List (STSOL) and Medium and Long-term Strategic Skills List (MLTSSL) that will be effective from 1 July 2017 for the Temporary Work (Skilled) visa (subclass 457).

Under the two new visa programmes, one two-year and one four-year, called the Temporary Skill Shortage Visa that will come into force in March 2018 (and in the intervening period), the occupation lists that determine eligibility for each visa, the Short-term Skilled Occupation List (STSOL) for the two- year visa and the Medium Long Term Strategic Skills List (MLTSSL) had some anomalies when first published in May 2017.

Blenheim Partners led representations to and meetings with government ministers and government staffers on behalf of senior Directors, CEOs, Executives and business leaders. This resulted in revisions to the lists published on 30 June 2017 from the draft lists published in May. In particular the key positions of Chief Executive Officer or Managing Director, Corporate General Manager, Chief Information Officer as well as a number of other key positions were moved to the MLTSSL allowing 4 year terms and the opportunity for permanent residency.

These changes have been important for Australian organisations to access international talent to maintain and enhance competitiveness in what is increasingly an international marketplace. This is

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especially so as it relates to technology and innovation. Access to the best talent is essential for Australian businesses, wherever it is in the world and this is becoming more critical as the shift occurs in the Australian economy from a reliance on the resources sector to other sectors.

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- Board Strategy and Structure Consulting;
- External Succession Planning; and
- Executive Re-Engagement / Transition.

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