



### **Employment Opportunities in the Northern Territory of Australia**

The Northern Territory of Australia presents bright employment prospects for Filipino workers given the growth in trade and commerce which offers growing opportunities in business and skilled migration services. The economy of the Northern Territory is forecasted to register an annual growth rate of 5.2% from 2005 to 2009. Its primary industries are retail and wholesale trade, rural industries and fisheries, defense, tourism, mining, energy and international trade.

The Territory's several major infrastructure projects, particularly the construction projects for the Defense Support Industry which is the third largest contributor to the territory's economy, have led to a steady growth in the demand for support services, such as repair and maintenance, construction and purchase of new hardware. The skilled trades currently in demand in the defense industry include automotive mechanics, boil-makers/welders, fitters/turners, metal trades and construction workers.

The other major developments in the Northern Territory include the following:

- The construction of Darwin LNG Plant which established Darwin as Australia's second international gas hub.
- The construction of a thirty-three story luxury apartment complex (A\$90 million), twenty-six story Outrigger Pandanas Resort (A\$90 million) and Alcan Alumina Refinery Expansion.
- The development of transport infrastructures to support the AustralAsia trade route which is an international freight handlers moving tonnage between Australia and Asia.

The Philippines has a great opportunity to supply Filipino skilled labor to Australia since Filipinos are well known for their competence, good work attitudes, fluency in the English language and their adaptability to a multi-cultural language. At present, there are about 6,000 Filipinos in the Northern Territory of Australia.

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