Since it was first published in 1986, this comprehensive work on the law of contract has evolved and expanded to become an all-encompassing resource for all those involved in business transactions of every kind.

Fundamental questions are addressed about the binding nature of business transactions, their legal effect, content, formation, interpretation and breach. Numerous related aspects are dealt with in detail, including agency, co-parties, cession, variation of contracts and their termination.
The author, Professor Robert Sharrock BCom LLB of the University of KwaZulu-Natal in Pietermaritzburg, who is an attorney and conveyancer, has meticulously updated this ninth edition which includes over 200 new case summaries, and entirely rewritten the chapters on Interpretation and Credit Agreements.

Separate chapters are dedicated to specific contracts such as Sale, Lease, Insurance, Employment, Partnership and Consumer Agreements. In addition, the author covers arbitration of disputes, remedies for breach, security for performance, and one of the author's academic specialities, insolvency of a party to the contract and its consequences. An appendix delivers the data on electronic transactions.

The relevant cases and legislative authorities are seamlessly woven into the text and fully indexed, thereby avoiding footnotes. A very useful list of further reading on the main topics covered is provided for those who require greater depth of coverage.

This book will continue to be a valuable storehouse for legal practitioners, students, business administrators, and others tasked with the complex minefields of commercial compliance. It also covers a significant part of the syllabus recommended by the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants.

The author and publisher Juta are to be commended for this significant and polished contribution to the business of business.

*Review by Louis Rood BA LLB (UCT), Consultant at Fairbridges Wertheim Becker.*