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U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U. S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Administrative Appeals Office (AAO)
20 Massachusetts Ave. N.W., MS 2090
Washington, DC 20529-2090



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services



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DATE: SEP 12 2012

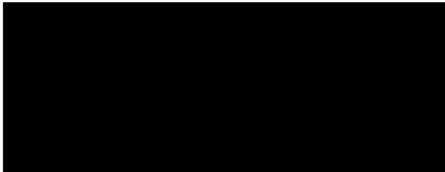
OFFICE: NEBRASKA SERVICE CENTER

FILE: 

IN RE: Petitioner: 
Beneficiary: 

PETITION: Immigrant Petition for Alien Worker as a Multinational Executive or Manager Pursuant to
Section 203(b)(1)(C) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1153(b)(1)(C)

ON BEHALF OF PETITIONER:



INSTRUCTIONS:

This is the decision of the Administrative Appeals Office in your case. All documents have been returned to
the office that originally decided your case. Any further inquiry must be made to that office.

Thank you,

Perry Rhew
Chief, Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The preference visa petition was denied by the Director, Nebraska Service Center. The matter is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The decision of the director will be withdrawn and the appeal will be sustained.

The petitioner is a multinational corporation operating in the United States as an importer and distributor of diamond tools. Accordingly, the petitioner endeavors to classify the beneficiary as an employment-based immigrant pursuant to section 203(b)(1)(C) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. § 1153(b)(1)(C), as a multinational executive or manager.

Section 203(b) of the Act states in pertinent part:

(1) Priority Workers. -- Visas shall first be made available . . . to qualified immigrants who are aliens described in any of the following subparagraphs (A) through (C):

* * *

(C) *Certain Multinational Executives and Managers.* -- An alien is described in this subparagraph if the alien, in the 3 years preceding the time of the alien's application for classification and admission into the United States under this subparagraph, has been employed for at least 1 year by a firm or corporation or other legal entity or an affiliate or subsidiary thereof and who seeks to enter the United States in order to continue to render services to the same employer or to a subsidiary or affiliate thereof in a capacity that is managerial or executive.

The language of the statute is specific in limiting this provision to only those executives and managers who have previously worked for a firm, corporation or other legal entity, or an affiliate or subsidiary of that entity, and who are coming to the United States to work for the same entity, or its affiliate or subsidiary.

The director denied the petition concluding that the petitioner is ineligible based on its failure to meet two statutory requirements. Specifically, the director determined that the petitioner failed to establish that the beneficiary was employed abroad in a qualifying managerial or executive capacity or that he would be employed in the United States in a qualifying managerial or executive capacity. Additionally, relying on the common law definition of the term "employee," the director concluded that the petitioner and the beneficiary do not have an employer-employee relationship.

On appeal, counsel submits an appellate brief in which he fully addresses all of the director's adverse findings. In response to the findings regarding the petitioner's statutory ineligibility, counsel supplements the record with detailed information delineating the beneficiary's roles and job duties in his respective positions with the foreign and U.S. entities. Counsel has also presents legal arguments addressing the common law basis for denial.

Despite the sound legal grounds that formed the basis for the director's decision, the AAO finds that on appeal, the petitioner established its statutory eligibility by a preponderance of the evidence. On the basis of this finding, the director's denial must be withdrawn.

In visa petition proceedings, the burden of proving eligibility for the benefit sought remains entirely with the petitioner. Section 291 of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1361. The petitioner in the instant case has sustained that burden.

ORDER: The appeal is sustained.