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AMNESTY

Hiring Top Executives and Managers With the L-1A Visa

Posted: February 14th, 2011

I recently received a wonderful note that reminded me of the utility of the L-1A Visa, which allows management level non-immigrants to work in the U.S. for up to seven years.

The executive who sent the note was an executive in charge of sales for a fast-growing global mid-cap company that delivers software and high-tech equipment solutions to financial institutions and retailers.

He was extremely thankful for the efforts of our office in enabling his quick and smooth entry into the U.S., stating that “the [U.S.-Canadian] border agent commented that the application was the most thorough he has seen in his substantial history with the process – deemed himself the Toronto L-1 Visa expert and was adamant that I send his compliments to you. [He] also commented that I should be able to renew for the next [several] years using this level of documentation.”

This L-1A visa can be a wonderful solution for recruiting top flight executives and managers for a number of reasons.

First, there are a wide variety of businesses that can sponsor an L-1A Visa applicant. Second, the sponsor need not be U.S. owned or incorporated. Third, the worker does not necessarily need to be directly employed by the sponsor and can be paid through a personnel service or agency, although there are numerous legal intricacies associated with hiring through staffing agencies generally.

To be sponsored for an L-1A visa, the employee must have been employed outside of the U.S. for at least one year in the preceding 3 years in a managerial/executive position by a parent company, subsidiary, or corporate affiliate of the U.S. sponsoring employer. The prospective employee will also need to be employed in the U.S. by the sponsoring employer in a managerial/executive position after being granted a work visa.

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The initial petition is approved for up to three years and can be renewed for two-year periods twice for a total of seven years on one petition.

We have helped many businesses to obtain workers using the L-1A Visa and other visa solutions to human resource needs. If you are an employer seeking to hire a management level worker who might qualify for an L-1 Visa, or any other kind of work visa, do not hesitate to call our offices at (847) 564-0712. You are also welcome to check out the pertinent section of [our Website](#) for more information.