TINDALL & FOSTER, P.C.
IMMIGRATION, EMIGRATION & RELATED INTERNATIONAL LAW

IMMIGRATION BULLETIN

Thursday, April 17, 2008

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE ANNOUNCES SIGNIFICANT ADVANCES IN IMMIGRANT VISA AVAILABILITY FOR MANY EMPLOYMENT-BASED IMMIGRANT VISA CATEGORIES

Each month the U.S. Department of State publishes the Monthly Visa Bulletin, reporting current immigrant visa availability under the annual quota system for U.S. immigration. Visa availability is expressed in terms of "cut-off" dates for each category. An employment-based applicant's "priority date," most often the date an Application for Permanent Employment Certification was filed on his or her behalf, determines the applicant's place in line for an immigrant visa number.

Visa availability has advanced for the month of May, with new priority date cut-offs for many employment-based immigrant visa categories, as charted below:

EB Category	April 2008	May 2008
EB-1, All Areas of Chargeability	Current	Current
EB-2, All Areas of Chargeability except China and India	Current	Current
EB-2, China	12/01/2003	01/01/2004
EB-2, India	12/01/2003	01/01/2004
EB-3, All Areas of Chargeability except China, India, & Mexico	07/01/2005	03/01/2006
EB-3, China	02/08/2003	03/22/2003
EB-3, India	10/01/2001	11/01/2001
EB-3, Mexico	10/01/2001	07/01/2002
Other Workers, All Areas of Chargeability	03/01/2002	01/01/2003

For more information on any of these employment-based classifications, or to initiate the permanent residency process and establish a priority date for a foreign national employee, contact your Tindall & Foster immigration attorney. Your Tindall & Foster attorney will be able to assist you by developing a case-specific strategy for pursuit of permanent residency under an appropriate employment-based category for your company's employees. As always, Tindall & Foster, P.C. will continue to monitor changes in immigrant visa availability and will make future updates available via the Tindall & Foster web site and in future Email Bulletins.