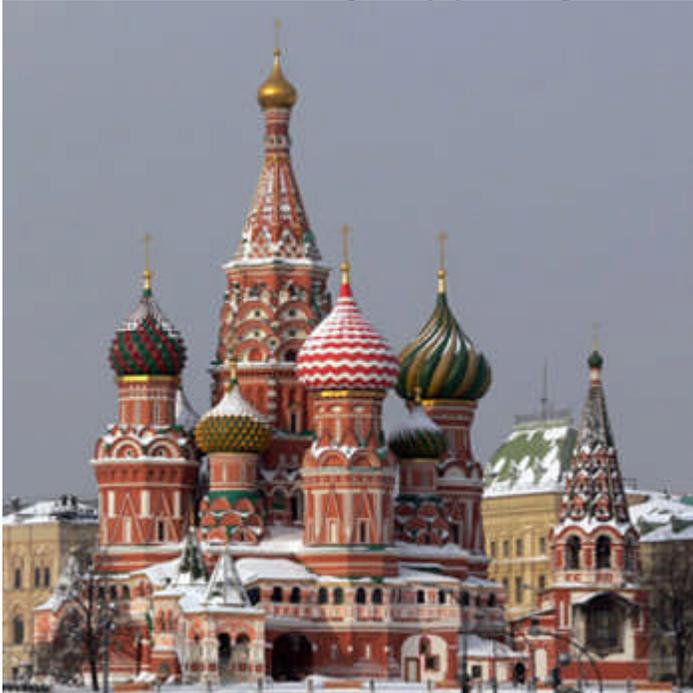




Russian AmCham no longer enjoys exemption to health tests for workers



The American Chamber of Commerce in Russia is the largest foreign business organization in Russia, advocating for the trade and investment interests of more than 800 member companies. Their mission is to promote the development of commercial relations between the Russian Federation and the international community.

AmCham broadly advocates regulatory improvements in the U.S. and Russia, offers concrete assistance to individual company members in resolving problems, and provides business development opportunities through its networking events.

See more on their website:
www.amcham.ru

Dear Partners,

Move One has learned companies belonging to the American Chamber of Commerce in Russia can no longer exempt their foreign employees from having to undergo a battery of five different health tests when applying for work permits.

This change revokes an exception that the Chamber and its 800 companies had been enjoying since shortly after the requirement was instituted by Russia's Federal Migration Service.

In July 2005, the Federal Migration Service announced that all foreigners

receiving work permits had to be tested for six diseases: HIV, chlamydia, chancre, tuberculosis, syphilis and leprosy. The director of the American Chamber of Commerce in Russia objected at the time, and the Federal Migration Service agreed to make an exception, so that employees working for American Chamber companies only had to undergo HIV tests before receiving work permits.

The Federal Migration Service has said that the new decision to revoke the exemption was made by the Russian Health and Social Development Ministry, which declined to discuss the matter when queried by The Moscow Times in early September.

It is unclear whether the decision is retroactive, which might mean hundreds of workers would have to be retested. Officials at the American Chamber of Commerce said they will seek to address the issue, and to have the exemptions reinstated.

Under the rules originally announced in July 2005, work applicants must be tested in private or state clinics in Russia or, if they do the tests abroad, get the results translated into Russian and notarised. But test results issued in 25 countries, including Italy, Finland, the Baltic states and China, are not accepted.

Move One will monitor the situation closely and will provide the updates on changes. For further information on this situation or any relating to our operations in Russia please contact: Kasia Pinska kasia.pinska@moveonerelo.com
tel: +36-1-266-3280 ext.200