



PRESS RELEASE

UNITED STATES EMBASSY SELECTS LEHMAN, LEE & XU

The United States Embassy has selected Lehman, Lee & Xu from every Chinese law firm in Beijing to assist and give counsel for their labor and employment law issues in China.

Ground was broken February 10, 2004 for what Charles E. Williams, Director and Chief Operating Officer of the Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations described as, "The largest single construction project undertaken by the Department of State on foreign soil." Chinese subcontractors are providing much of the labor, and building materials are of both American and Chinese origin. The entire planning and construction process for the new Embassy is occurring simultaneously with the planning for a new Chinese Embassy in Washington, DC, underscoring the words of Ambassador Clark T. Randt, Jr: "The United States' bilateral relationship with China may well be the most important relationship in the world today." Expected completion of the new Embassy will be in time for the 2008 Olympics.

The Embassy has retained the Lehman law firm to review the China Mission Locally Employed Staff Handbook and determine whether it is compliant with local labor regulations, to review drafts of the Embassy's contract agreements with the DSB and advise if there are clauses in the contract that expose the China Mission to unnecessary liabilities, and to provide advice regarding local pension and supplementary pension program regulations. Lehman, Lee & Xu will also provide advice regarding the use of offshore pension programs, and regarding local laws as they relate to benefits such as the heating allowance and other requirements. They will also provide legal counsel in matters relating to labor disputes as necessary.





Lehman, Lee & Xu recently hosted the Director-General of the International Labor Organization, Juan Somavia, for a presentation of China's new labor contract law, which will be implemented January 1, 2008. This new law will affect every employment relationship in China, as it creates new rights for every employee.

Lehman, Lee & Xu is a prominent Chinese corporate law firm and trademark and patent agency. The firm has offices in Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen, Hong Kong, Macau, and Mongolia and is managed by Mr. Edward Lehman, who has two decades of legal experience in China.



