



## GUAM RULES ON HIRING AND EMPLOYMENT OF ALIEN WORKERS REVISED

The Guam Department of Labor (GDOL) has announced revisions to Guam rules concerning the hiring and employment of alien workers, which took effect on 01 October 2009. The most significant provisions include the following:

- Repatriation bonds must be valid for two (2) years from the date of issuance. These bonds are drawn to insure that the costs of workers' airfare and other transportation expenses, in case of repatriation, are available should the employer default on this obligation.
- Employers are given a leeway in the assignment of foreign workers to additional projects within the period allowed for their work in Guam, for as long as the workers are GDOL-certified.
- H2B workers are mandated to have their GDOL-issued ID's with them at all times, to be presented during inspection by GDOL or other government officers.
- All H2B workers leaving the island must be escorted by company personnel when they depart, to ensure the workers' actual departure.

The Philippine Consulate General in Agana also reported the following developments related to the Guam buildup:

- The preparatory work for the buildup at present is still in the phase of the preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). There are processes to be undertaken prior to contract biddings and actual construction work. After the EIS is completed and published, a period for public comments will be observed first before approval of the project may be signed by the Secretary of Navy.
- Rear Admiral Douglas T. Biesel, Commander of the US Naval Forces Marianas and the Joint Region Marianas based in Guam, is optimistic that by early next year, projects for the buildup will start upon completion of all the requirements.