

Overview of the Sole Representative Visa Extension

The Sole Representative visa—also known as the *Representative of an Overseas Business visa*—enables a senior employee of a non-UK company to establish a commercial presence in the UK. If you're nearing the end of your initial visa period, it is vital to act promptly to extend your Sole Representative visa and continue your business operations without disruption.

Visa extensions are granted based on continued compliance with the visa's original conditions and your business's sustained presence in the UK.

When and How to Apply for an Extension

Applicants must usually apply for an extension before their current leave expires, ideally within the final 28 days of validity. The key requirements include:

- Proof of ongoing employment with the parent company abroad.
- Evidence of the UK branch's activity, including financial records, staffing, and operational footprint.
- Demonstration of control by the parent company, ensuring that the UK entity remains a branch or subsidiary.
- No change in representation, meaning the individual must remain the sole representative.

Applications are made online, accompanied by detailed supporting documentation to confirm ongoing eligibility under the UK immigration rules.



Key Criteria Considered by the Home Office

To approve a visa extension, the Home Office will assess:

- The viability and activity of the UK business.
- The representative's exclusive role in the UK and continued employment overseas.
- Compliance with visa terms during the initial stay.
- Evidence that the applicant has not taken on additional clients or businesses outside the parent company.

Any deviation from the original terms can jeopardize the renewal.

Path to Settlement

After five years under this visa category (including extensions), applicants may become eligible for Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR), provided they meet continuous residence and compliance requirements.



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Phone: +44 (0)20 3411 1261

Email: info@visaandmigration.com

Website: https://www.visaandmigration.com/

Location: TBXH Sunley House, 4 Bedford Park, Croydon, CRO 2AP, UK