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## ESSILOR AIMS TO BOOST INDUSTRY EXPERTISE IN MEETING SPECIAL VISUAL NEEDS

Essilor is launching a new European training program designed to help eyecare professionals better support the needs of individuals with out-of-the-ordinary problems who require special lenses to correct their vision.

Special lenses help people with complex visual needs who cannot be corrected within ordinary ranges of lenses. Often these individuals are highly ametropic, but may also have other conditions that require special lenses to correct and treat the eye. Some 7 million people worldwide have extreme ametropia that requires special lenses. Per country their numbers may be small but their need is great.

Essilor's new training program aims to advance understanding across the optics industry of the power and possibilities of special lenses and equip eyecare professionals to improve eyesight, whatever the visual needs they encounter. Following a pilot with French opticians, Essilor Academy Europe is now rolling out a series of face-to-face training sessions, initially in French and English, kicked off with a webinar on special lenses on April 29th.

The training covers essential areas such as how to do an eye examination for patients with complex refractive errors, understanding what types of special lenses can improve certain visual defects and how to help wearers adapt to



special lenses. This initiative enables Essilor, its network of partner labs and optician clients to show they have the expertise to find the right solution for every wearer, even those with very complex visual needs.

Essilor has a Special Lenses (SL) Lab in Ligny-en-Barrois, France, with a team of people dedicated to designing and manufacturing special lenses. These are often made by hand and require many hours work by a specialist combining the latest optics expertise with specific manufacturing techniques to create a truly personalized solution. The SL team achieved a new world record in March in its manufacturing of optical lenses: -108.00 diopters 6.00 cylinder, custom-made for Mr Miskovic, a photographer in Slovakia, who suffers from a complex combination of eye conditions.