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## A MADE TO MEASURE LENS TO IMPROVE SIGHT

Across Europe, more than half a million people have complex vision problems that cannot be corrected using ordinary lenses. To meet these rare but highly specialized needs, Essilor has created a dedicated team at its Special Lens (SL) Lab in France to provide personalized lens solutions for wearers across Europe.



Essilor's SL Lab in the Meuse region regroups over 90 experts of whom 11 are dedicated to special lenses with a unique know-how that combines lens-making craftsmanship and innovative nano-technology. These specialists daily push back the boundaries of optics design to create lenses that are powerful, personalized and aesthetically pleasing. For example, at the end of last year, Essilor succeeded in making a record-breaking -104D cyl 6.00 lens for a photographer met by Essilor Slovakia during the world sight day.

The team at SL Lab is highly skilled in key areas such as facet workmanship – to reduce the thickness of the edge of concave lenses or to lighten glasses, or polymerization – assembling two different lens sections together to get more flexibility in terms of power and usage. Lenses are made by hand and often require many days of work using traditional surfacing or polishing tools adapted to highly atypical requirements. Some complex needs may require up to six separate lenses to produce a final pair of lenses.

The site of the SL Lab has nearly 150 years' history of innovation for Essilor, having seen numerous inventions such as the industry's first progressive lens, Varilux. Today it continues the Group's traditions, expertise and mission – improving lives by improving sight – with an ambition to double Essilor's activity in special lenses by 2017. Some 7 million people worldwide have extreme ametropia that requires special lenses. It's the perfect opportunity for Essilor, and its network of partner labs and ECP clients, to demonstrate they have the capability to find the right solution for every wearer need everywhere in the world.

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