

For World Sight Day 2016 Essilor launches the “Love To See Change” campaign to encourage people everywhere to pledge to take care of their eyes

Company will match every pledge with \$1 granted to initiatives supporting visual health programs for those in need

(Charenton-le-Pont, France – October 7, 2016) - Starting this World Sight Day on October 13, Essilor Group calls on people worldwide to commit to have their eyes checked. For each pledge taken, Essilor will donate 1\$ⁱ to a selection of initiatives that are bringing good vision to underprivileged or underserved populations around the world.

With the “Love to See Change” campaign Essilor wants to raise awareness on the importance of regular eye checks - and on the global public health issue that uncorrected refractive error represents - so that everyone, everywhere, can have the vision correction they need to learn better, work better and live better.

«Having your eyes checked on a yearly basis is fundamental to protect the most important sense we have as human beings: our sight. At Essilor, we are committed to visual health for all, including the 2.5 billion people in the world who do not have the vision correction they need,” said Jayanth Bhuvaraghan, Essilor’s Chief Mission Officer. « Through this pledge, we hope to encourage everyone to commit to love their eyes, spread the word and join us in creating the change that is needed for the whole world to see clearly. »

In just three clicks on www.lovetoseechange.com, a dedicated website available in six languages, people wishing to support this campaign can take the pledge and choose the initiative they would like the Essilor Group to support on their behalf. This campaign starts October 13 and will last until end of the year.

Essilor teams worldwide “Love to See Change”

On World Sight Day itself, the Essilor Group will organize events in some forty countries across the world to raise public awareness on the importance of good vision for all. Thanks to the involvement of internal teams along with eye care professionals, Essilor and its partners will offer vision tests in the streets, shopping malls, train stations, schools and other public places around the world, from India and the United States to Germany, Australia and Thailand.

Last year, at World Sight Day 2015, more than 23 000 eye tests were performed and a social media campaign reached nearly 300 000 people worldwide.

Key suppliers join in the action

Along with Essilor’s 61,000 employees worldwide, Essilor is joining hands with some of its key suppliers who are committed to improving awareness on the importance of healthy vision. At the headquarters of Google, Orange and Havas in France, eye screenings and awareness events will take place, encouraging the firms’ staff to take the pledge and share their commitment with their customers and families.

An ongoing commitment to good vision for all

Good vision is imperative to meeting the UN's Sustainable Development Goals as seeing well is a necessary condition to learn and to work to the best of one's abilities. In line with its mission to improve lives by improving sight, Essilor continuously innovates to widen access to eyewear that is tailored to each person's unique visual needs and lifestyle. With 2.5 billion people in the world still suffering from uncorrected poor vision, Essilor has accelerated its commitment to healthy vision for all by developing cross-sector partnerships, inclusive business models and strategic giving initiatives. Through these actions, the Group has provided first-time access to vision care to over three million people living in underserved areas since 2013.

For more information on Essilor's initiatives to improve vision care access for the 2.5 billion uncorrected people worldwide, go to www.essilorseechange.com.

About World Sight Day

World Sight Day is an annual event set up by the World Health Organization in 1998 to draw international attention to visual impairment issues.

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About Essilor

The world's leading ophthalmic optics company, Essilor designs, manufactures and markets a wide range of lenses to improve and protect eyesight. Its mission is to improve lives by improving sight. To support this mission, Essilor allocates more than €200 million to research and innovation every year, in a commitment to continuously bring new, more effective products to market. Its flagship brands are Varilux[®], Crizal[®], Transitions[®], Eyezen[™], Xperio[®], Foster Grant[®], Bolon[™] and Costa[®]. It also develops and markets equipment, instruments and services for eyecare professionals.

Essilor reported consolidated revenue of more than €6.7 billion in 2015 and employs 61,000 people worldwide. It markets its products in more than 100 countries and has 32 plants, 490 prescription laboratories and edging facilities, as well as five research and development centers around the world. For more information, please visit www.essilor.com.

The Essilor share trades on the Euronext Paris market and is included in the Euro Stoxx 50 and CAC 40 indices.

Codes and symbols: ISIN: FR0000121667; Reuters: ESSI.PA; Bloomberg: EI:FP

ⁱ For the first 100,000 participants