

Essilor is Gold Sponsor of the 2nd World Congress of Optometry

(Charenton le pont, September 8, 2017) – Essilor is a proud Gold sponsor of the 2nd World Congress of Optometry (WCO) in Hyderabad, India. In line with Essilor’s mission of improving lives by improving sight, the Congress will focus on “Accessible, quality vision and eye health”. Essilor is committed to partnering with the WCO to raise awareness on the importance of vision and the key role of optometrists in providing vision care to patients and customers around the world.

More than 1200 eye care professionals are expected to attend the Congress which will this year focus on *Accessible, quality vision and eye health*. The theme relates to the WHO “Universal Eye Health: A global Action plan 2014-2019” targeting a 25% reduction of avoidable vision impairment by 2019. Lectures and seminars will be presented by leading experts from across the globe, featuring cutting edge research and clinical practice. The Congress also serves to define the agenda of accessible vision care.

For 170-years Essilor has pioneered ophthalmic optics innovation and it continues to invest in solutions that bring better vision to people who need it around the world. Working closely with the optical industry, the Essilor Group supports eye care professionals by driving public awareness, creating value through innovation and services and sharing scientific education through dedicated centres, such as The International Vision Academy in Singapore and The Essilor Academy in Paris.

Jayanth Bhuvanaraghan, Chief Mission Officer of Essilor International, said: *“Essilor is proud to work hand in hand with optometrists and other eye care professionals all over the world to address growing consumer needs. Today one third of the world’s population suffers from uncorrected poor vision, arguably the world’s biggest disability. Addressing this issue is a big challenge for all of us in the optical industry but I am confident that together we can create awareness and access to solve the problem in one generation. I congratulate the WCO for choosing to focus on such a relevant and pressing topic for this years’ Congress.”*

Essilor partner, The Vision Impact Institute, has been actively involved in raising the priority of vision care since its inception. Kristan Gross, Global Executive Director, Vision Impact Institute, will share data at the Congress with a focus on “Vision and Road safety”. This relates to the recent announcement of a three year partnership between Essilor and the Fédération Internationale de l’Automobile (FIA). Essilor and India’s national FIA club will share more on this partnership to promote the role of vision in road safety and the importance of regular vision checks, at the Essilor/FIA booth.

Essilor’s support of optometrists and other eye care professionals is deeply rooted in the Group’s 170 years history. As the industry faces increasing demand for better vision, Essilor furthers its commitment and to eye care professionals all over the world.

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 €7.1 billion in 2016 and employs approximately 64,000 people worldwide. It markets its products in more than 100 countries and has 33 plants, 490 prescription laboratories and edging facilities, as well as 5 research and development centers around the world (as of December 31, 2016). For more information, please visit <https://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.

Notes to editors

The 2nd World Congress of Optometry takes place 11-13 September 2017 in Hyderabad, India. This biennial congress is a World Council of Optometry initiative in partnership with its members the Asia Pacific Council of Optometry and the India Vision Institute.

The World Congress provides optometrists, vision scientists, educators, researchers, students and other visual health professionals with an exciting programme including lectures and workshops in a variety of areas including ocular disease, binocular vision, glaucoma, low vision, contact lenses.

The Scientific track of the programme will feature cutting edge research and clinical practice; the Educators' track will offer a unique platform to shape optometric education. The World Congress will bring together optometric expertise from across the world offering delegates globally recognised US COPE and UK CET continuing education accreditation.

At a strategic level the Presidential Forum will convene Presidents of national optometric associations, Deans of schools of optometry and key industry stakeholders to discuss the progress of optometry and shape the future of the profession across the world.

Complemented by an expansive exhibit hall featuring the newest in products and technology, and social events featuring the culture of the beautiful country of India, this promises to be an exciting and progressive meeting for global optometry!

Congress information: <http://worldcongressofoptometry.org>

Media Contact: Vinod Daniel, CEO India Vision Institute - Email: Vinod.daniel.am@gmail.com - Tel: 91 9840237322

CONTACTS

Corporate Communication

Lucia Dumas

Tel.: +33 (0)1 49 77 45 02

Media Relations

Mailis Thiercelin

Tel.: +33 (0)1 49 77 45 02