



News & Information

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VARILUX CONTINUES LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE IN TECHNOLOGY AND TRAINING
With the success of Varilux Physio, Essilor introduces new educational programs for ECPs

DALLAS – (March 31, 2006) – With the successful launch of Varilux Physio™ and Varilux Physio 360°™, Essilor of America has once again revolutionized the optical industry. Along with introducing breakthrough technology, Varilux is committed to developing in-depth training programs to help eye care professionals understand and promote new products and technologies as well as providing patients with better vision.

“Varilux Physio and Varilux Physio 360° have been superb additions to the Varilux brand,” said Mike Daley, president of Essilor Lenses. “Overall awareness of Varilux Physio has heightened in the industry and we have received great feedback from both eye care professionals and their patients.”

To create Varilux Physio and Varilux Physio 360°, Essilor leveraged a patented new design and manufacturing process to introduce W.A.V.E. Technology: Wavefront Advanced Vision Enhancement™ to progressive addition lenses (PAL). Through W.A.V.E. Technology, the front side design of Varilux Physio utilizes digital surfacing on the molds. Varilux Physio offers wearers improvements in all fields of vision. With Varilux Physio 360°, W.A.V.E. Technology is applied to both the front and back of the lens with 360° Digital Surfacing™, which minimizes distortions and preserves and enhances the effectiveness of the front design. Varilux Physio 360° offers the ultimate in progressive precision. Beginning April 3, 2006, Varilux Physio and Varilux Physio 360° will also be available in 1.5 index clear and Transitions® gray and brown.

Essilor is proud to offer educational opportunities for eye care professionals and recently received certification to offer a Varilux Physio course for continuing medical education (CME)

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credit. During this American Board of Optometry (ABO) certified course, opticians will have the opportunity to learn more about the benefits of Varilux Physio. For one hour of CME credit, the course discussion topics will include:

- Understanding the effects of higher order aberrations on vision
- Differentiating between molding technologies and associated design limitations
- Understanding how distance correction affects the wearer's perception of the PAL design

Power Lunch, a general knowledge Varilux Physio seminar, presented by Pete Hanlin, ABOM, LDO, training and development manager of Essilor Lens Group, will be held at Vision Expo East from 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 2, 2006. Similar seminars will be held across the country for ABO credit. Eye care professionals who would like to attend one of these upcoming seminars should contact their Essilor Brand Sales Consultants.

Essilor is also developing ABO, Council on Optometric Practitioner Education (COPE) and Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology (JCAHPO) approved courses in a home study version. Essilor plans to release this program on a CD later this year. This home study course will include information on the latest in lens and wavefront technologies.

Essilor continues to generate excitement from eye care professionals about the latest in lens technology and many eye care professionals are now wearing the lenses themselves. Susan C. Oleszinski, O.D., M.A., vice president and executive director of The Eye Institute, said, "I just received my Varilux Physio 360° lenses – my overall impression is excellent. The clarity at all distances is excellent – truly a great lens!"

For more information about Varilux, please visit www.Varilux.com.

Essilor is the leading manufacturer of optical lenses in the United States and is the market leader in progressive, high-index and anti-reflective coated lenses. A pioneer in the development and production of ophthalmic lenses, Essilor employs more than 8,500 people throughout North America. Essilor manufactures optical lenses under the Varilux®, Crizal®, Thin&Lite®, DEFINITY™ and other Essilor brand names. Essilor Laboratories of America (ELOA)

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is the largest, and most trusted, optical lab network in the U.S. and offers a wide choice of services and lens brands, including Essilor premium lenses, to eye care professionals across the nation. Essilor of America, Inc. (Essilor) is a subsidiary of Paris-based Essilor International, S.A., a publicly held company traded on the Euronext Paris stock exchange (Reuters: ESSI.PA).

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