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**News & Information**

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**ESSILOR HOSTS DEFINITY EDUCATION DINNERS IN WESTERN UNITED STATES**  
*Essilor teaches ECPs about the benefits and technology behind DEFINITY*

**DALLAS** – (May 1, 2006) – Essilor of America, Inc. is hosting a series of educational dinners in various cities in the western United States to heighten awareness and help educate eye care professionals (ECPs) about DEFINITY™ progressive lenses.

In 2005, Essilor announced the nationwide availability of DEFINITY, a lens that uses a patented, two-surface, offset design and digital processing to achieve a lower distortion than other progressive addition lenses. DEFINITY features a breakthrough exclusive technology, known as DUAL ADD® which maximizes the available design space of the lens and allows for the least amount of peripheral distortion, while providing a smoother transition between all distances. DEFINITY also features GROUND VIEW ADVANTAGE™, which reduces the near add power to help minimize distortion and flatten the field of vision. This creates clearer vision when patients look down.

“These dinners give us the opportunity to introduce our breakthrough DUAL ADD technology, share the unique benefits that DEFINITY can provide to patients, and demonstrate how DEFINITY progressive lenses compliment other existing Essilor products,” said Francois Glon, general manager, DEFINITY.

The evenings feature a doctor from the DEFINITY speakers bureau and Maureen Cavanagh, national sales director for DEFINITY. The speakers provide an in-depth overview of DEFINITY and its technology, ideal patients for the product, and how to fit and dispense the lens effectively.

The dinners began in March 2006, and more than 50 ECPs have attended each of the events that took place in Denver, Seattle and Portland. Upcoming cities where dinners are planned include Salt Lake City, Sacramento, Los Angeles and San Diego.

DEFINITY is the perfect lens for the active lifestyles of today's presbyopes. With superior intermediate vision and the least amount of unwanted astigmatism of any progressive lens, DEFINITY makes computer use, driving or any other everyday activity more comfortable. GROUND VIEW ADVANTAGE provides clearer vision when looking down, making going up and down stairs, playing golf or tennis or navigating uneven surfaces easier.

DEFINITY also comes with the latest anti-reflective coating from Essilor, Crizal Alizé with Clear Guard™. The newest Crizal® lenses provide the clearest, sharpest vision possible by not only reducing glare, but now they actually allow lenses to stay cleaner by repelling dust, fingerprints, oil, grease, water and smudges.

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 over 6,100 people in more than 100 facilities throughout the 50 states. Essilor manufactures optical lenses under the Varilux®, Crizal®, Thin&Lite®, DEFINITY™ and other Essilor brand names. Essilor Laboratories of America (ELOA) 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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