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**ESSILOR VISION FOUNDATION EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AUDREY REED NAMED  
ERNST & YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR® 2010 AWARD  
FINALIST IN SOUTHWEST AREA – NORTH**

**DALLAS – (June 14, 2010)** – Essilor of America, Inc., the nation’s leading manufacturer of optical lenses, today announced that Audrey Reed, executive director of the Essilor Vision Foundation, is a finalist for the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year® 2010 Award in the Southwest Area – North. According to Ernst & Young LLP, the awards program recognizes entrepreneurs who demonstrate extraordinary success in the areas of innovation, financial performance and personal commitment to their businesses and communities. Reed was selected as a finalist from nearly 65 nominations by a panel of independent judges. Award winners will be announced at a special gala event on Saturday, June 19, at the Dallas Sheraton.

“I am pleased to be among the many talented individuals recognized by this prestigious award program,” said Audrey Reed, executive director, Essilor Vision Foundation. “Any honor I receive for my personal efforts is also a direct reflection of the work the Essilor Vision Foundation has done to eliminate poor vision and its lifelong consequences.”

The Essilor Vision Foundation is a public non-profit organization established by Essilor of America to give children a brighter future by helping them see the world more clearly. Its programs focus on improving the quality of school vision screenings, providing eye exams and eyeglasses to children who could not get them otherwise and educating parents and communities about the importance of children’s vision care and the role it plays in literacy, society, and the economy.

The Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year awards program celebrates its 24th anniversary this year. The program has expanded to recognize business leaders in over 135 cities in 50 countries throughout the world.

Regional award winners are eligible for consideration for the Ernst & Young LLP Entrepreneur Of The Year national program. Award winners in several national categories, as well as the overall national Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year award winner, will be announced at the annual awards gala in Palm Springs, California on November 13. The awards are the culminating event of the Ernst & Young Strategic Growth Forum, the nation's most prestigious gathering of high-growth, market-leading companies.

### **Sponsors**

Founded and produced by Ernst & Young LLP, the Entrepreneur Of The Year awards are pleased to have the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation and SAP America as national sponsors.

In Southwest Area-North, sponsors include Smith Frank & Partners; First United Bank & Trust; Roach, Howard, Smith & Barton; Solomon Edwards Group; VIP Search; Ussery Printing; D CEO Magazine; Journal Record; Ft. Worth Business Press; Smart Business Magazine and Munsch, Hardt, Kopf & Harr

### **About Essilor**

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 9,000 people throughout North America. Essilor manufactures optical lenses under the Varilux<sup>®</sup>, Crizal<sup>®</sup>, Thin&Lite<sup>®</sup>, Xperio<sup>™</sup> and DEFINITY<sup>®</sup> 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).

### **About Essilor Vision Foundation**

Essilor Vision Foundation is a public non-profit charity established by Dallas-based Essilor of America, the leading manufacturer of optical lenses in the United States. The foundation's mission is to eliminate poor vision and its lifelong consequences.

We strive to give children a brighter future by helping them see the world more clearly. Our programs focus on improving the quality of school vision screenings so fewer children slip through the cracks, providing eye exams and eyeglasses to children who would not get them otherwise, and educating parents and communities about the importance of children's vision care and the role it plays in literacy, society, and the economy.

**About Ernst & Young's Entrepreneur Of The Year® Awards Program**

Ernst & Young's Entrepreneur Of The Year® is the world's most prestigious business award for entrepreneurs. The award makes a difference through the unique way it encourages entrepreneurial activity among those with potential and recognizes the contribution of people who inspire others with their vision, leadership and achievement. As the first and only truly global award of its kind, Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year® celebrates those who are building and leading successful, growing and dynamic businesses, recognizing them through regional, national and global awards programs in more than 135 cities in 50 countries.

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