



**News & Information**

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**ESSILOR EXPANDS VARILUX PHYSIO PRODUCT LINE WITH NEW MATERIALS**  
*Varilux Physio 360° and Varilux Physio now available in Thin&Lite 1.60,  
Airwear Polarized and Thin&Lite 1.74*

**DALLAS** – (August 22, 2006) – Essilor of America, Inc. announces that the Varilux<sup>®</sup> Physio 360<sup>o</sup>™ and Varilux Physio™ product lines will now be available in Thin&Lite<sup>®</sup> 1.60, Airwear<sup>®</sup> Polarized and Thin&Lite 1.74. Eye care professionals (ECPs) can now offer premium products in every material option, thus providing patients the sharpest progressive vision available in distance, mid-range and near. These new materials will be introduced beginning in September, and will continue to launch throughout 2006 to give the Varilux Physio 360° and Varilux Physio product line an extensive range of material options to meet all patient needs.

“Clearly no product on the market offers your patients the vision benefits of Varilux Physio 360°. It is the ultimate lens product to offer all your presbyopic patients. We are thrilled to add these new materials to the Varilux brand. Varilux Physio 360° and Varilux Physio are our premier products, and by offering these lenses in the most advanced materials, we can provide ECPs and their patients with even more options,” said Mike Daley, president of Essilor Lenses. “Not only will these lenses offer patients the sharpest progressive vision possible to allow them to see near, far and everything in-between with the fewest higher order aberrations, but they are also now available in materials that meet each patient’s individual needs.”

**Varilux Physio 360° and Varilux Physio in Thin&Lite 1.60**

In September, Essilor will introduce Varilux Physio 360° and Varilux Physio in Thin&Lite 1.60 in clear and, for the first time, in Transitions<sup>®</sup> Lenses. Thin&Lite 1.60 is the only 1.60 index material available with three premium brands: Varilux, Crizal<sup>®</sup> and Transitions Lenses. Thin&Lite 1.60 material is 30 percent thinner than the standard CR-39<sup>®</sup> and can be completely adapted to all needs. The new 1.60 material has been introduced to better answer today’s patients’ needs, and is excellent for rimless eyewear and ideal for active patients who want a

lightweight lens with high performance. It is available with Crizal Alizé with Clear Guard™ for optimal durability, cleanability and smudge resistance. Power ranges for this product are: -12.00 to +8.00, cyl 4.00, ADD 0.75 to 4.00.

**Varilux Physio 360° and Varilux Physio in Airwear Polarized**

Coming in October, Varilux Physio 360° and Varilux Physio in Airwear Polarized will provide the sharpest, most comfortable progressive vision in the sun. This combination delivers unmatched contrast sensitivity, depth perception and superior glare reduction, as well as 100 percent UV protection. This is the first time that patients can have the clarity of W.A.V.E. Technology™ with UV protection and the comfort of a Polarized lens. With Essilor's proprietary polarized process and Airwear's official American Optometric Association Seal of Acceptance for Ultraviolet Absorbers/Blockers, patients can be assured of receiving the best lens product available to meet their outdoor needs. Varilux Physio in Airwear Polarized is available with Crizal Alizé with Clear Guard, which comes standard on Varilux Physio 360°.

**Varilux Physio 360° and Varilux Physio in Thin&Lite 1.74**

Exclusively from Essilor, in December, Thin&Lite 1.74 will be available in Varilux Physio 360° and Varilux Physio to offer patients the ultimate in optics, aesthetics and comfort. Thin&Lite 1.74 material is the thinnest and flattest lens available, with the sharpest vision in the center and periphery of the lens. It is 50 percent thinner than the standard CR-39 material. This is the perfect lens choice for patients with higher prescriptions and those looking for high-tech products with aesthetic appeal. All Thin&Lite 1.74 lenses come systematically with Crizal Alizé with Clear Guard to give patients the clearest vision possible. Power ranges for Varilux Physio 360° and Varilux Physio in Thin&Lite 1.74 are: +9.00 to -18.00, cyl 4.00, ADD 0.75 to 4.00.

In January of 2006, Essilor launched Varilux Physio 360° and Varilux Physio as the first lens designs to deliver the corrective power of W.A.V.E. Technology to presbyopes seeking the sharpest, most natural vision. Through W.A.V.E. Technology: Wavefront Advanced Vision Enhancement™, Essilor has adapted the wavefront technology used in laser surgery to

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correct vision by detecting and even eliminating many surface distortions to perfect progressive lenses. For the first time, Varilux engineers can analyze the entire beam of light entering the pupil and then identify distortion and compensate for it, thus controlling the quality of the wavefront passing through the lens to achieve optimal acuity. W.A.V.E. Technology uses patented, proprietary software in both lens designs to scan the entire surface of the lens, calculating the targeted optical function for each gaze direction. Through these engineering advancements, W.A.V.E. Technology achieves unmatched visual acuity and comfort for the wearer.

Varilux Physio 360° offers the ultimate in progressive precision. 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. Essilor has developed 360° Digital Surfacing, which combines a patented calculation engine to optimize design, as well as a patented digital surfacing manufacturing process to produce the back side surface of the lens.

For more information, visit [www.varilux.com](http://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 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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