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**ESSILOR CELEBRATES GRAND OPENING OF WORLD-CLASS
INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER**

*New Facility Combines Essilor's R&D and Engineering Groups to Enhance
New Product Development*

DALLAS – October 4, 2012 – Essilor of America, the nation's leading manufacturer of optical lenses, today celebrated the grand opening of its new world-class Innovation and Technology Center in Farmers Branch, Texas.

Farmer's Branch city officials joined Essilor of America president and chief executive officer, John Carrier, at a reception hosted at the impressive 43,000 square-foot facility, which was designed and constructed by Dallas based firms GSR Andrade Architects, Hillwood Construction Services and JJA, Inc. The new Innovation and Technology Center, which was relocated from St. Petersburg, Fla. to Farmers Branch, allows Essilor to combine and strengthen its research and development and engineering resources under one roof.

“Along with recently being named one of [Forbes Most Innovative Companies](#) for the second year in a row, the Innovation and Technology Center is one of the many examples of our continued commitment to research and development,” said John Carrier, president and Chief Executive Officer, Essilor of America. “In relocating the Innovation and Technology Center to our headquarters in Dallas, we'll be able to better identify and develop innovative products that meet and exceed our customer's needs.”

Chief financial officer and senior vice president, finance & administration of Essilor of America, Kevin Rupp; corporate senior vice president, global engineering, Patrick Poncin; corporate senior vice president, research & development, Eric Perrier; and the outgoing corporate senior

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vice president, research & development, Jean-Luc Schuppiser, also attended the event along with employees of the Innovation and Technology Center and Essilor of America headquarters.

“As World Sight Day approaches on Oct. 11, this new center is one additional way Essilor and the Essilor Vision Foundation can provide clear vision for people around the globe,” said Carrier.

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[®], Crizal[®], Xperio[®], DEFINITY[®], Thin&Lite[®] 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 eyecare professionals across the nation. Essilor of America, Inc. (Essilor) is a subsidiary of Paris-based Essilor International, a publicly held company traded on the Euronext Paris stock exchange (Reuters: ESSI.PA).

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