



Essilor in discussions with PPG regarding Transitions Optical joint venture

Charenton-le-Pont, France (January 15, 2013 – 8:30 a.m.) – Essilor International is currently in discussions with PPG Industries, Inc. relating to the future of Essilor's and PPG's joint venture, Transitions Optical, a leading provider of photochromic lenses to optical manufacturers worldwide.

These discussions are likely to continue for several months.

Essilor holds a 49% interest in Transitions Optical which was formed in 1990 while PPG is the majority shareholder, holding a 51% interest in the joint venture companies. Transitions Optical is a consolidated subsidiary of PPG.

While the discussions between PPG and Essilor continue, Transitions Optical intends to continue to operate its business without interruption or change in customer service. As previously announced, Transitions Optical is on schedule in expanding its new technology platforms through major new product introductions globally.

Essilor continues to develop its mission to provide better vision through a clear and solid strategy based on organic growth and partnerships that are key value creators for the Company.

About Essilor

The world's leading ophthalmic optics company, Essilor designs, manufactures and markets a wide range of lenses to improve and protect eyesight. Its corporate mission is to enable everyone around the world to access lenses that meet his or her unique vision requirements. To support this mission, the Company allocates around €150 million to research and development every year, in a commitment to continuously bring new, more effective products to market. Essilor's flagship brands are Varilux[®], Crizal[®], Definity[®], Xperio[®], Optifog[™] and Foster Grant[®]. It also develops and markets equipment, instruments and services for eyecare professionals.

Essilor reported consolidated revenue of €4.2 billion in 2011 and employs around 48,700 people in some 100 countries. It operates 19 plants, a total of 390 prescription laboratories and edging facilities, as well as several research and development centers around the world.

For more information, please visit www.essilor.com.

The Essilor share trades on the NYSE Euronext Paris market and is included in the EuroStoxx 50 and CAC 40 indices.

Codes and symbols: ISIN: FR0000121667; Reuters: ESSI.PA; Bloomberg: EI:FP.



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