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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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OPTICAL WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SPONSORS MAKE PROGRAMS POSSIBLE

Dallas, TX – The Optical Women's Association (OWA) is starting out the New Year right with a bounty of sponsors, both returning and new. The diversity of the Professional Development Sponsors reflects the expanding reach of the OWA to the membership and industry.

"OWA membership dues only covers a fraction of the costs of bringing quality programs and benefits to our members," said Christie Walker, OWA president. "We count on our sponsors' generous support, which makes possible member benefits such as educational webinars, networking events, our monthly subscription to *FastCompany*, and the annual book selection, to provide members with the tools they need for enhancing and promoting the leadership role of women."

The Optical Women's Association is happy to welcome back previous sponsors and announce a few who have "upgraded" to higher levels of sponsorship. Additionally, the OWA is pleased to welcome several new sponsors for 2014.

Platinum Sponsors

Luxottica is a leader in the design, manufacture, distribution and sale of premium, luxury and sports eyewear of high technical and stylistic quality that improve the well-being and satisfaction of its customers.

Marchon is one of the world's largest manufacturers and distributors of quality eyewear and sunwear. The company markets its products under prestigious brand names and distributes its frame lines through local sales offices throughout the world.

Safilo designs, manufactures, and distributes high-quality prescription frames, sunglasses and sports eyewear under licensing agreements for leading luxury and premium brands as well as under its own brands.

Upgraded to Platinum Level in 2014

VSP Vision Care/Altair/Eyefinity known as VSP Global is a complementary group of companies working together to meet and exceed the needs of eye care professionals and their patients by combining the strength and expertise of each of these companies.

Gold Sponsors

Essilor is a leading manufacturer and wholesale distributor of optical lenses in the United States. As a fully-integrated optical company, Essilor specializes in ophthalmic lens production, manufacturing and distribution in addition to wholesale optical laboratory operations.



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The **Jobson Optical Group** integrates print, web, research, data, and custom publishing solutions to provide industry news and analysis, of everything from new products to fashion trends, to become a leading source of information and marketing for the ophthalmic community.

International Vision Expo combines first-rate continuing education sessions with hands-on product comparisons and evaluations to provide quality events that enhance both professional skills and business prospects; developed by industry professionals for industry professionals.

VisionWeb provides software and technology services to streamline and simplify the eye care industry through online ophthalmic product ordering and electronic claim filing solutions, with technology that helps drive out inefficiency and increase customer satisfaction.

New for 2014

Marco offers eye care professionals a complete range of traditional vision diagnostic equipment, designed to make practices more efficient and effective, while making the work of the practitioner and staff simpler and easier.

Silver Sponsors

The Charmant Group is a leading manufacturer and wholesale distributor of ophthalmic eyewear and sunglasses, dedicated to bringing quality, innovation, and value to eyewear.

ClearVision is a leading global designer and distributor of eyewear and sunwear for men, women and children, serving optical professionals throughout the U.S. and around the world.

Hoya is a leading manufacturer and wholesale distributor of optical lenses specializing in processes in optical engineering with high-tech knowledge of advanced materials.

L'Amy America is part of the Groupe TWC-L'Amy, the largest accessory company in France, developing eyewear for brands such as Ann Taylor as well as its own house brands of eyewear.

REM Eyewear is a leading designer and marketer of eyewear worldwide, with headquarters in Los Angeles, Sydney, Hong Kong, and the UK, serving more than 80 countries on six continents.

Shamir is a leading manufacturer of high-quality progressive lenses and molds, known for its innovation, technological sophistication and rigorous quality assurance practices.

Silhouette, based in Austria, is a leading international frame manufacturer known for their minimalistic designs made from high-tech materials.

Tura, a leading distributor of fashion eyewear in the eyewear frame sector, introduced the concept in the 1940s that glasses were a fashion accessory and not just a medical device.

The Vision Council serves as the global voice for vision care products and services, representing manufacturers and suppliers of the optical industry.



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Friends of the OWA

Employee owned **Walman Optical** provides eye care practices with premium quality ophthalmic products and services through their independent network of ophthalmic labs.

Jeanie Premium Products markets products such as diamond-cut tools, as well as services including diamond ophthalmic, optic regrind and reblade, to manufacturers in the ophthalmic, optic and medical device industries.

Zyloware ranks as a leading American source for eyewear, sunglasses and optical accessories. Since 1923 Zyloware has provided top quality products and in-house services including design, marketing, quality control and customer service.

New for 2014

4PatientCare delivers industry leading multi-modal intelligent, interactive messaging solutions that integrate administrative, clinical and health plan messaging needs.

New for 2014

Hilco provides smart solutions to common business problems, with innovative products and programs that promote business growth for the eye care professional.

New for 2014

SynergEyes is committed to providing the highest quality, technologically advanced contact lenses to help eye care professionals address a wide spectrum of vision conditions.