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ESSILOR DONATES CLOSE TO ONE MILLION PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT TO SUPPORT GLOBAL COVID-19 RELIEF EFFORTS

Essilor Group stands in solidarity with all those who have been affected by the Covid-19 pandemic around the world.

Through its wide and close-knit network, the Group deployed an extensive plan of donations of protective equipment across four continents to healthcare systems, patients and communities across the world.

To limit the spread of the virus, Essilor Group has donated close to 1 million protective equipment including face masks, as well as goggles and face shields. Beneficiaries include local hospitals and frontline workers such as healthcare personnel, firefighters, caregivers, and security forces in China, Italy, France,

Germany, Spain, Portugal, USA, Brazil, Colombia, Israel, Australia, India, Bangladesh, and many more. Other donations include protective gloves, hand sanitizing gels and plano glasses.

Paul du Saillant, CEO of Essilor International, declared: “Our heart goes out to everyone affected by this unprecedented global health crisis. Essilor is committed to using its collective power and global presence to support our people and the communities around us and around the world. As the Covid-19 crisis evolves, Essilor will continue to align its philanthropic efforts prioritizing essential supplies, medical and emergency assistance thanks to the joint efforts of country teams, online businesses, Essilor Vision Foundations and the support of Vision For Life™”.

Key contributions across Essilor Group countries and regions include:

China

Essilor and its local entities donated over 200,000 face and eye masks, protective goggles, and anti-fog goggle cloths. Recipients include the Shanghai Traffic Police force, responsible for checking on the health of people entering the city, the Shanghai Customs as well as local healthcare workers at the Tongji Pediatric Hospital in Wuhan and the Aier Hospital in Xiaogan, Hubei. An additional 500,000 masks are currently underway to Aier that will help protect staff in their eye hospitals.

In addition, 1.5 million Renminbi (RMB), or 198,000 euros, have been donated by Essilor and its partners to the Wuhan Charity Federation for epidemic protection and prevention purposes. The donations have been used to purchase masks, goggles and protection items.

France

In France, a total of more than 20,000 masks have been donated by the Essilor Group entities.

The protective equipment was donated to local hospitals, pharmacies and frontline workers including healthcare personnel, firefighters, caregivers and security forces – in the communities surrounding the group’s sites and facilities. In addition, Essilor France donated 10,000 protection goggles to the French health ministry. Financed by Essilor’s social impact fund, Vision for life, the equipment will be distributed across French hospitals that need it most, including Hôpital de La Rochelle, Hôpital de Versailles, Hôpital de Mantes etc. Other donations include hydroalcoholic gels, hospital gowns, overshoes, gloves and protective caps.

Italy

Essilor Italia has allocated its entire stock of 700 protective glasses – immediately available in the warehouse – to several Hospital Institutes in Lombardy, one in Veneto as well as the Municipality of Milan, the city where the company is based. An additional 3,000 protective glasses are underway, which will be donated to other Italian hospitals in the most affected areas.

UK

In the UK, our online business Glasses Direct have donated 4,000 glasses to staff of the National Health Service (NHS).

United States

In the United States, Essilor of America is in the process of donating over 100,000 pieces of protective equipment (surgical masks, N95 masks and protective eyewear) amongst hospitals and crisis response organizations in Texas and Ohio, as well as to U.S. optometry schools and eye care professionals providing emergency and urgent care services.

Our online business EyeBuyDirect also donated Blue Protect glasses to children, who due to the lock down spend a lot of time in front of screens and more than ever need to protect their eyes.

And Satisloh North America has contributed 12,500 pairs of medical gloves to a local donation center in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.



Canada

Essilor Group subsidiary, Clearly, responded to the call of the authorities for the general public and business community to contribute, with the donation of safety glasses to Vancouver Coastal Health earlier this month. The eyewear retailer has requested its global eyeglass and sunglass manufacturers to switch their production to supply face shield and safety glass and is aiming to donate tens of thousands of these much needed items.

Latin America

To support frontline healthcare workers suffering from chronic shortage of medical supplies and personal protective equipment, Essilor donated safety glasses to hospitals in Brazil (close to 15,000 pieces) and in Colombia (6,000 pieces) and is delivering face shields to major public hospitals in Mexico (6,000 pieces), Brazil, and Colombia.

SEE ALSO

2020.02.19

CORPORATE

ESSILOR SUPPORTS CORONAVIRUS RELIEF EFFORTS IN CHINA

From ensuring employees' safety, to providing generous financial support and in-kind donations to support the Wuhan region as well as other areas in need, Essilor Group together with its partner entities have activated quickly to help address the outbreak.

