



For Immediate Release

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VSP Offers Eyecare Benefits in the United Kingdom

*VSP Vision Care, the largest vision care company in the US,
expanding access to eyecare benefits in the UK and Ireland*

Following an initial launch in the UK last year with existing partners, VSP Global[®] today announced that VSP[®] Vision Care will expand on its current vision care offering in the United Kingdom and will also begin to provide benefits in Ireland through financial advisers and healthcare specialists. This announcement is in line with previous expansions into Australia and Canada, and strengthens the global eye care benefit offering for VSP clients.

Commenting on the UK expansion, VSP Vision Care President, Jim McGrann, said: “VSP provides a vision benefit that helps people see clearly, while also supporting their overall health. Our clients have been asking us to bring our benefit offering here, and we’re excited to have a quality product in the UK that addresses the needs of our clients and members.”

Roy McLoughlin, Independent Financial Adviser, Master Adviser, commented: “It is excellent news that the largest vision care provider in the US is expanding in the UK. The more choice that advisers have when talking to employers about their employee benefit options, the better. The VSP vision care proposition, where any surplus is reinvested back into the company to increase access to eye care, is likely to be well received by UK employers.”

Two million people in the UK have sight loss¹, over 50 per cent of which could be avoided through proper care². VSP Global covers the entire vision care market, by providing eye tests, manufacturing and distributing glasses and lenses, as well providing eye care insurance. Whilst each of these divisions generate revenues, the surplus is re-invested back into the company to support their mission, meaning that overall, the company is not-for-profit and its main purpose is to serve its members.

McGrann added: “Many chronic conditions can be detected early through an eye examination, allowing a person and their employer to avoid cost and significant lost productivity issues related to these diseases. 500,000 working days are lost each year through diabetes alone, in the UK.”³

Jeremy Chadwick, Managing Director for VSP Vision Care in Europe, the Middle East and Africa, is overseeing the expansion into the U.K. and will be responsible for the growth in this

new market. His background includes extensive health insurance experience in the U.K. and European marketplace across multiple distribution channels and customer segments.

Notes to editors:

Sources:

¹ Buchanan, Sarah. "Falls in older people with sight loss: a review of emerging research and key action points," 15 Jul 2013. Published by Thomas Pocklington Trust

² Access Economics, 2009

³ Office for National Statistics, *Sickness Absence in the Labour Market*, April 2012

About VSP Global

VSP Global unites industry-leading companies to bring high quality, high fashion eyewear, customized lenses and ophthalmic technology to help people see across the globe.

VSP Global companies include:

- Not-for-profit **VSP Vision Care**, the largest vision benefits and services company within the US;
- **Marchon[®] Eyewear Inc.**, the 3rd largest manufacturer, designer and distributor of quality fashion and technologically advanced eyewear in the world;
- **Eyefinity[®]**, the largest premier practice management software company for the eyecare industry;
- **VSP Optics Group**, industry leaders in new lens technologies, production processes, service and logistics;
- **VSP Global Retail Development**, a recently announced new line of business focused on developing tools and solutions that both address current and future consumer demands and help eye care providers become more competitive retailers.