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PPG Industries

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PPG INDUSTRIES CONTINUES TO EXPAND MEMBERSHIP OF CR-39™ LICENSED LENS CASTER PROGRAM

Pays Tribute to Long-Standing Partnership with Signet Armorlite at the OLA 2006

ORLANDO, Fla., Nov. 14, 2006 — At the Optical Laboratories Association's (OLA) exposition and conference, PPG Industries, Inc. announced the addition of longtime partner Signet Armorlite, Inc. to the CR-39™ Licensed Lens Caster Program. Signet Armorlite joins over a dozen other loyal caster members from around the world who comprise this growing group.

“Signet Armorlite is a descendent of our earliest caster partners, making this addition to the program particularly significant,” said Christine Camsuzou, general manager of optical materials, PPG, during the formal induction of Signet Armorlite into the program at the OLA's annual event to honor the nation's top 25 independent laboratories.

“Armorlite Company was a pioneer in plastic lenses, leading the way for successful casting methods and serving as the worldwide source for lenses made with *CR-39* monomer – as lab and manufacturer – for six years,” she added. “Signet Uptown was one of the first all-plastic wholesale labs. When the companies merged to form Signet Armorlite, they remained dedicated to the lens material that started it all.”

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Preserving the Future

The *CR-39* Licensed Lens Caster Program was created earlier this year in honor of the 60th anniversary of the patent of *CR-39* monomer. The program's objective is to provide assurance to labs and retailers that they are getting the product they trust when they specify lenses made with *CR-39* monomer. Members of the program use only pure *CR-39* monomer – no hybrid formulations – for lenses marketed as made from *CR-39* monomer, and provide only lenses made with *CR-39* monomer for customers who specify or request it by name.

CR-39 monomer was the first resin to be widely used in the manufacture of plastic ophthalmic lenses, ushering in a new age of advanced materials for eyewear. Bringing the benefit of lighter weight and better impact resistance than the glass lenses that preceded them, plastic lenses today represent the largest category of lenses sold worldwide.

“Converting production from glass to lenses made with *CR-39* monomer required new technologies, equipment and skills,” said Camsuzou. “From pioneering new processing techniques to spearheading innovative awareness campaigns, labs played an important role in this transition.

“As our year-long 60th anniversary celebration draws to a close, we resolve to remember our renewed sense of gratitude for the laboratory partners who have played such an essential role in the worldwide success of *CR-39* monomer, and who remain the safeguard for the quality of patients' lenses.”

For information on the program and a full list of members, visit www.cr39casters.com.

For more information about PPG's optical materials and products, visit

<http://ppgopticalproducts.com> or contact customer service at 1-800-323-2487.

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About PPG

PPG Industries is the world's leading maker of optical resins and introduced the first hard resin lens material, *CR-39* monomer, in 1945 and the first tri-performance lens material, Trivex™ monomer, in 2001. It is majority owner of Transitions Optical, the leading supplier of photochromics to optical manufacturers worldwide; owner of International Polarizer, the world's largest manufacturer of sunglass polarizer; and owner of Intercast Europe S.p.A., the world's leading manufacturer of nonprescription hard resin cast sunlenses. In addition to optical coatings and materials, PPG is a leading global supplier of specialty and industrial chemicals, coatings, flat and fabricated glass, and fiber glass. With 110 manufacturing locations and equity affiliates in more than 20 countries, sales in 2005 were US\$10.2 billion.

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PPG Industries, Inc. announced the addition of Signet Armorlite to its CR-39™ Licensed Lens Caster Program, which is dedicated to supplying authentic *CR-39* monomer to the industry. Shown left to right are Christine Camsuzou, General Manager of Optical Materials, PPG, and Bruno Salvadori, President & CEO of Signet Armorlite.