

# Eyewear Intelligence

News and analysis of the international market

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PUBLICATIONS

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- Italian eyewear production is up by 2.9%
- Investors wonder about **Safilo's** future under new leadership after **Delgado's** exit
- **Vittorio Tabacchi** claims that too many mistakes were made at **Safilo**
- **Alaïa** partners with **Kering Eyewear**
- **loves** signs **Alviero Martini** license
- New brand and investments for **Inspecs**
- **L'Amy** expands and reorganizes
- **Maui Jim** launches its optical lenses
- New digital strategy for **ic! Berlin**
- **Italia Independent** needs more cash
- **Glorify** goes for crowdfunding
- **Fielmann's** sales rose by 3.8%

## Corporate

**Blackfin, Frameri, Optica's 16, PogoTec, Spektre, Zeiss, etc.**

## Management & Distribution

**Alain Afflelou, Area 98, Essilor, GrandVision, Hi-Vision, Safilo, Westgroupe, etc.**

## Others

**Dita, Intel, Julbo, Kuboraum, Kytтанen, Mido, Okia, Optic 2000, Optical Discount, Quiksilver, Timberland, Transitions, Vision Express/ Tesco, Vision Expo East, VSP, etc.**

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says that Pascual will continue to develop its strategy of international development and digital transformation, optimizing the different sales channels. Poux's resignation comes one year after Afflelou decided to shelve a plan to go back to the stock exchange to help reduce its high level of indebtedness. It made the attempt in 2012, but then its shareholders preferred to sell the company to an institutional investor, **Lion Capital**. Poux started at Afflelou as an accountant in 1993 and rose gradually through the ranks, becoming its CEO in 2011.

Two members of **Essilor International's** board of directors have resigned ahead of the company's planned merger with **Luxottica**. One of them, **Henriette Fore**, was recently appointed executive director of **Unicef**, starting on Jan. 1. Another director, **Yi He**, was representing **Valoptec**, the association of Essilor employees who are shareholders of the group. Essilor said it was inappropriate to nominate two new directors in view of the proposed combination with Luxottica. Fore had been nominated for a seat on the board of the future **Essilor Luxottica** group, and a new female director will be nominated to take her place.

**Westgroupe** has announced the promotion of **Michael DeBono** to the position of chief operating officer. For over 25 years, he has been in the optical industry. He joined the Canadian company in 2005 as national sales manager and took charge of North American sales five years later. He was made executive vice president of global sales in 2015, running the North American and international sales teams. He will continue to oversee them in his new position in Montreal.

**Hi-Vision**, the maker and distributor of ophthalmic lenses headquartered in South Korea, has appointed **Orlando Escalona** as its new sales manager for the Europe and Africa region. Escalona has more than 27 years of experience in the sector of ophthalmic lenses in Latin America. After working for **Sola Optical**, he has spent the past 12 years at **ILT**, as director of the Latin American region.

+++ **Adil Mehboob-Khan**, a former joint chief executive of **Luxottica**, has become the CEO of the famous **Liberty London** store +++ **Antonio Besana**, a former executive of **GfK** who was most recently deputy general manager for the Italian market and regional retail director for Eastern Europe, has left the company after 20 years of service +++