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ZEISS Vision Care announces investment in Ocumeda amid plans to scale the leading tele-ophthalmology platform with Fielmann Group

- ZEISS Vision Care announced today that it has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire a 10% stake in Ocumeda at a total company valuation of €100m from Fielmann Group
- Ocumeda is Europe's leading tele-ophthalmology platform connecting about 300,000 active patients and 700 optical retail stores with ophthalmologists and the medical community
- ZEISS Vision Care and Fielmann Group plan to expand the open tele-ophthalmology platform across Europe

ZEISS Vision Care, an internationally leading technology company in the eye and vision care industry, announced today that it has signed a definitive agreement to acquire a 10% stake in Ocumeda AG ("Ocumeda") from Fielmann Group for €10m, with the intention to acquire up to a 25% stake. The transaction values Ocumeda at €100m.

Sven Hermann, President and CEO of ZEISS Consumer Markets and Member of the Executive Board of the ZEISS Group: "Our investment in Ocumeda is part of our commitment to protect and improve the vision and visual health of consumers. We want to strengthen accessible eye and vision care – in Ocumeda we have found an excellent partner for this mission. A partner who shares our high standards in innovation and quality. Ocumeda already plays an important role as a future-proof platform provider for the ZEISS EyeCare Network, giving our customers the possibility to be successful in a business area with high potential and significant impact on consumers."

"At ZEISS Medical Technology, central to our mission is the advancement of medical progress through innovative technologies and workflows. An important pillar of that progress is helping to make eye and vision care more accessible. ZEISS Vision Care's investment in Ocumeda underscores this strong commitment to innovation and accessibility", says Maximilian Foerst, President and CEO of ZEISS Medical Technology and Member of the Executive Board of the ZEISS Group.

Marc Fielmann, CEO of Fielmann Group: "We are excited to welcome ZEISS Vision Care as a strategic investor in Ocumeda. Together, we look forward to expanding Europe's leading tele-ophthalmology platform as an open resource for patients, opticians, optometrists and ophthalmologists. This partnership marks an important milestone in Fielmann Group's Vision 2035 growth strategy, which aims to make primary eyecare accessible and affordable. This way we pursue our purpose – to help everyone hear and see the beauty in the world."

Benedikt Wiechers, CEO and Founder of Ocumeda: "This investment is another important step forward in our mission to prevent vision loss for millions of people. ZEISS Vision Care's commitment to innovation and excellence perfectly aligns with our own values. Building on the strong foundation we created with Fielmann, ZEISS Vision Care will empower us to accelerate the expansion of our network of opticians, optometrists, and ophthalmologists into further markets and address the growing global shortage in accessible eye care."



Press contact

ZEISS Vision Care
Maria Conrad
+49 (0) 7361 591-1378
maria.conrad@zeiss.com

www.zeiss.com/newsroom
www.zeiss.com/vision-newsroom

About ZEISS

ZEISS is an internationally leading technology enterprise operating in the fields of optics and optoelectronics. In the previous fiscal year, the ZEISS Group generated annual revenue around 11 billion euros in its four segments Semiconductor Manufacturing Technology, Industrial Quality & Research, Medical Technology and Consumer Markets (30 September 2024).

For its customers, ZEISS develops, produces and distributes highly innovative solutions for industrial metrology and quality assurance, microscopy solutions for the life sciences and materials research, and medical technology solutions for diagnostics and treatment in ophthalmology and microsurgery. The name ZEISS is also synonymous with the world's leading lithography optics, which are used by the chip industry to manufacture semiconductor components. There is global demand for trendsetting ZEISS brand products such as eyeglass lenses, camera lenses and binoculars.

With a portfolio aligned with future growth areas like digitalization, healthcare and Smart Production and a strong brand, ZEISS is shaping the future of technology and constantly advancing the world of optics and related fields with its solutions. The company's significant, sustainable investments in research and development lay the foundation for the success and continued expansion of ZEISS' technology and market leadership. ZEISS invests 15 percent of its revenue in research and development – this high level of expenditure has a long tradition at ZEISS and is also an investment in the future.

With over 46,000 employees, ZEISS is active globally in around 50 countries with more than 60 sales and service locations, around 40 research and development facilities, and 35 production facilities worldwide (30 September 2024). Founded in 1846 in Jena, the company is headquartered in Oberkochen, Germany. The Carl Zeiss Foundation, one of the largest foundations in Germany committed to the promotion of science, is the sole owner of the holding company, Carl Zeiss AG.

Further information at www.zeiss.com

ZEISS Vision Care

ZEISS Vision Care is one of the world's leading manufacturers of eyeglass lenses and ophthalmic instruments. The unit is allocated to the Consumer Markets segment and develops and produces offerings for the entire eyeglass value chain that are distributed globally under the ZEISS brand.

About Fielmann Group AG

The Fielmann Group is a stock-listed German family business active in vision care and audiology, serving 30m customers with eyewear, contact lenses, primary eyecare services and hearing aids. As one of the leading vision care providers worldwide, it operates an omnichannel platform consisting of digital sales channels and more than 1,200 stores in Europe and the United States. Founded in 1972, the company is led by Marc Fielmann, representing the second generation of the Fielmann family, which still owns the majority of the company's stock. By staying true to its customer-centric values, the Fielmann Group helps everyone hear and see the beauty in the world. Thanks to the dedication of its more than 24,000 people worldwide, the company consistently achieves customer satisfaction and retention rates of around 90% and has fitted more than 200m pairs of individual prescription glasses.

About Ocumeda AG

Ocumeda is the leading tele-ophthalmology platform in Europe. It's mission: preventing vision loss and blindness for millions of people. The company was founded by an interdisciplinary team around renowned ophthalmologists, who were repeatedly confronted with patients with serious eye diseases that were in many cases diagnosed too late – with the consequence that vision loss was no longer avoidable. This observation was the impetus for founding Ocumeda, with the aim of making eye care accessible for everyone. To date, Ocumeda has already examined over 270.000 patients with its network of over 700 optical retail stores and ophthalmologists across Europe.