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THE OPTICAL WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION CELEBRATES SUCCESSFUL GLOBAL CONNECTION EVENT AT SILMO PARIS

DALLAS, TX – September 27, 2025 – The Optical Women's Association (OWA) is proud to announce the successful conclusion of its Global Connection Event at SILMO Paris, "Seeing Beyond: The Power of Women in Optical Innovation," held on September 26th at the SILMO Talks Stage. The event brought together industry leaders and optical professionals from around the world to celebrate and promote the achievements of women driving change in the optical industry.

Facilitated by Nancy Gries, Chair of the OWA International Expansion Committee, the event featured an inspiring panel of accomplished leaders, including Olga Prenat (EssilorLuxottica), Kivilcim Erdogan (Bausch & Lomb), and Atissa Tadjadod (Silhouette). Opening remarks were delivered by Amélie Morel, President of SILMO and Director of Communications for MOREL. The panel discussion explored topics including technological innovation, AI, sustainability, human resources, and vision health, highlighting the critical role women play in shaping the future of the optical industry.

During the discussion, panellists shared their vision and advice for how women will transform the optical industry. Kivilcim Erdogan encouraged attendees to "claim your seat, be clear about what you're aiming for, don't be shy of your colours and emotions, and to be sure to elevate while you're rising." Olga Prenat added, "Be yourself, never give up, be clear of your objectives and mentors," emphasising the importance of authenticity and guidance in professional growth. Atissa Tadjadod concluded with a call to action for the industry: "I think we need to make women choose this industry. The more we talk about what this industry has to offer, the more women can enter. Stick to what you're good at."

"The energy and engagement at SILMO were incredible," said Nancy Gries. "It's clear that women around the globe are making tremendous contributions to optical innovation, and OWA is committed to supporting their growth, connection, and leadership on an international scale."

The event concluded with a networking session and champagne toast, providing attendees the opportunity to connect with OWA International Committee members, the panellists, and fellow professionals, share experiences, and learn more about the organisation's plans for global expansion.

Visit www.opticalwomen.com for more information.

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About the Optical Women's Association: Founded in 1997 as a nonprofit, the Optical Women's Association is committed to supporting and promoting the professional development of women involved in all facets of the optical industry. As the vision of the OWA evolves and expands, it maintains the focus of the OWA's founding principles and core mission: to enhance and promote the leadership role of women in the optical industry through networking, education and peer support.