Media release

O=MEGA23/WCO4 boasts a broad and innovative program

27 February 2023 – The team behind the upcoming O=MEGA23/WCO4 conference has started revealing the unique format and key themes for the event, taking place in Melbourne from 8-10 September 2023.

For the first time, O=MEGA23, the biggest eye care and eyewear fair in Australia, combines with the fourth World Congress of Optometry, to create the most credentialed and largest optometric clinical conference in the Southern Hemisphere. This will be an exciting international event that should not be missed.

Melbourne optometrist Timothy Lo, an Optometry Victoria South Australia board member and program director for the event, said: “The program is unique, and will be a first for Australia due to its global focus and diversity of topics.

“Speakers have all participated in a competitive submission process, and I can confirm it will be a very strong evidence-based program,” he continued. “From what I’ve seen so far, there will be significant and cutting-edge content.”

Timothy explained that the partnership with the World Council of Optometry has given O=MEGA a far larger scope than previous events, and the combined program will be the largest Australian event the sector has ever seen.

“A key focus will be the innovative research that can be applied in the clinical practice, and a core theme of the event is collaboration. The breadth and depth of the program is something we are getting very excited about. The goal is to provide optometrists around the globe and Australia the opportunity to interact with a host of key speakers and international researchers and see how their work is relevant on the global stage,” he said.

In collaboration with Indigenous Allied Health Australia (IAHA) and other outstanding speakers from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, the program will also incorporate indigenous and cultural diversity sessions in a new format.

The bi-annual O=MEGA event is the biggest in the Southern hemisphere, while the World Congress of Optometry is an international event hosted in a different city across the world also on a bi-annual basis. This partnership is a unique alignment and rare opportunity to combine a national and international audience to create the largest optometry conference in the country.

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About the World Council of Optometry

The World Council of Optometry (WCO) is an international membership-based non-profit organization for individual optometrists, industry professionals and optometric organizations that envisions a world where optometry makes high quality eye health and vision care accessible to all people. Its mission is to facilitate the development of optometry around the world and support optometrists in promoting eye health and vision care as a human right through advocacy, education, policy development and humanitarian outreach. To learn more, please visit www.worldoptometry.org or follow us on LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

About Optometry Victoria South Australia

Optometry Victoria South Australia (OV/SA) is the professional association for optometrists in Victoria and South Australia. Our mission is to advance and promote the profession of optometry, and to provide our members with the resources, tools, and support they need to deliver high-quality eye care to their patients. Find information, updates, and events at www.optometry.org.au or follow us on Facebook or LinkedIn.

About ODMA

ODMA is the peak body of wholesalers, manufacturers, and importers of optical products in Australia. Its mission is to strengthen, support and grow the optical industry for the benefit of members. Our members constitute the majority of the wholesale optical industry in Australia including prescription spectacle lenses, optical frames, sunglasses, and sight testing equipment. Learn more at www.odma.com.au or follow us on Facebook or Instagram.