

Alcon debuts as independent, publicly traded company

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New Delhi: Following the completion of its separation from Novartis, the global leader in eye care, Alcon has announced its debut as an independent, publicly traded company. The company's shares began trading on the SIX Swiss Exchange and New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) from 9th April.

Alcon is the largest eye care device company in the world, with complementary businesses in Surgical and Vision Care. The company has a global presence in 74 countries including India and serves patients in more than 140, with fast-growing businesses in emerging markets. Alcon has the widest array of eye care offerings in the industry with products that can treat eye disorders at each stage of life.

“For more than 70 years, Alcon has been dedicated to helping people see brilliantly and now, as an independent company, we are pursuing even more opportunities to further that mission,” said David Endicott, Chief Executive Officer of Alcon. “We are poised to achieve sustainable growth and create long-term shareholder value as a standalone company. We have a long history of industry firsts and, as a nimble medical device company, we are sharply focused on providing innovative products that meet the needs of our customers, patients and consumers.”

Eye care is an approximately \$23 billion a year market, growing at roughly 4 percent annually. Last year, Alcon had sales of \$7.1 billion, including \$4.0 billion in Surgical – up 7 percent from the prior year – and \$3.1 billion in Vision Care – up 3 percent.

Under the terms of the separation, each Novartis shareholder or ADR (American Depositary Receipt) holder will receive one Alcon share for every five Novartis shares or ADRs they held as of the close of business on April 1, 2019, the record date for the distribution.

As an independent company, Alcon will have more focus and flexibility in pursuing its own growth strategy driven by rapid iterative innovation. The company will have a distinct investment identity with a more efficient capital structure that will allow it to expand markets, enter promising adjacencies and introduce new business models. These benefits, combined with Alcon's industry-leading customer relationships, favorably position the company to achieve sustainable growth.

Alcon is headquartered in Geneva. The company has maintained a presence in Switzerland for more than 40 years and it is where the company was incorporated prior to the Novartis acquisition. Alcon's facilities in Fort Worth, Texas, will remain a major operational center and innovation hub with a large base of employees.

Alcon will continue its substantial Corporate Giving efforts, which in 2018 included \$62 million in monetary and product donations. Through its charitable organizations, the Alcon Foundation and Alcon Cares, Alcon partners with hundreds of charitable organizations to help increase access to eye care, providing sight-restoring surgeries, eye exams and other services to people in underserved communities around the world. Alcon also sponsors hands-on and virtual eye care provider training and skills-transfer to strengthen the level of care and supports its communities through charitable donations and associate volunteerism.

The company launched a new global website that can be found at www.alcon.com.