



The Contact Report

CLMA News



**Daniel Bell,
President**

I have read
m a n y
a r t i c l e s
r e l a t e d

to the risks associated with the use of contact lenses and I would say that most have described the issue very accurately. I represent nearly 100 US companies that produce custom made contact lenses and our members have been swamped with questions related to solutions and lens care over the past two weeks.

We must recognize that the first case of fusarium keratitis in a GP patient may present itself any day and that our efforts should be spent in support of these patients and our customers.

We now find it difficult to explain to consumers that gas permeable lenses (or solutions used for gas permeable lenses) have not been included in any of the recent complaints of fusarium keratitis. This area appears to need media clarification. It is significant to note that bacterial binding in GP lenses has been clinically proven to be less prevalent and may be the reason for reduced infectious

keratitis cases worldwide. GP lens wearers are probably no more compliant than soft lens wearers when it comes to lens care but these patients benefit from new research into polymers that are safe and effective for the consumer.

A web search for problems associated with the use of gas permeable lenses indicates that GP lenses save consumer dollars, improve vision in young myopic patients and have over thirty years of trouble free use. The FDA MAUDE site for adverse events shows only 4 relatively small complaints from GP patients over the past five years with no serious consequences. This data reflects the use of nearly 12 million lenses manufactured during that time period.

WEBMD recently summarized a review of lens safety using the 2005 analysis of CL patients. The study included 6,245 people who had been given prescriptions for the silicone hydrogel lenses. Most (80%) wore their lenses nonstop for at least three weeks. During the year-long study, few participants had corneal infections. Two had corneal infections that led to vision loss. Eight others had corneal infections that didn't cause vision loss.

Overall, the yearly rate of corneal infections was 18 per 10,000 people, the study shows. That's similar to rates previously reported for conventional, extended-wear soft lenses worn for fewer consecutive nights, according to the researchers.

Researchers' Pecking Order

Schein's team calls contact lenses "very safe" in general, though they note that contact lenses are associated with some extra risks, compared with eyeglasses.

They rank the risk of vision loss from eye infection for different types of contact lenses:

Lowest risk: Rigid, gas-permeable contact lenses for daily wear

Next-to-lowest risk: Soft contact lenses for daily wear.

Highest risk: Siliconehydrogel contact lenses for extended wear of three-to-four weeks.

SOURCES: Schein, O. Ophthalmology, Dec. 2005; vol 112: pp 2172-2179. New release, Johns Hopkins University

I am not surprised to see that daily wear gas permeable lenses were ranked safest in all categories by Johns Hopkins researchers in 2005 and I am not

sure if many patients recognize that there is a difference in lenses and **I ask you to consider telling the good news to your customers.**

Healthy Vision 2010

Those of us involved with the vision health of our citizens are well aware that Healthy People 2010, a national health promotion and disease preventing initiative, includes vision objectives.

One of these is Objective 28.9 - Increase the use of appropriate personal protective eyewear in recreational activities and hazardous situations around the home. A portion of this objective pertains to increasing the utilization of protective eyewear while playing sports.

The National Eye Institute, one of the Federal government's National Institutes of Health (NIH), in collaboration with the Coalition to Prevent Sport Eye Injuries is convening a meeting for professional groups and organizations involved in this area. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss and share ideas on the opportunities and challenges we face in preventing sports eye injuries. We would like to invite a representative of your organization who has interest and/or expertise in decreasing the number of avoidable eye injuries that occur while participating in sports.

The meeting is scheduled for June 1 and 2, 2006 at the Natcher Conference Center on the NIH campus in Bethesda, Maryland. The meeting will begin on Thursday, June 1 from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm and continue on Friday, June 2 from 8:30 - 4:00 pm.

The agenda will be set to identify the current status of sports injuries and to brainstorm on ways to increase the utilization of sports protective eyewear as outlined in the above mentioned vision objectives in Healthy People 2010. Definite outcomes and action items will be identified during this meeting. Additional meeting materials will follow.

Welcome New Members

The CLMA Board of Directors is pleased to accept membership applications from:

International Membership

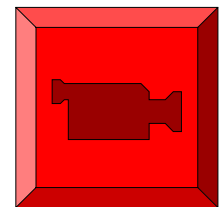
Woehlk-Contact-Linsen GMBH
Buergermeister-Schade-Str. 16
Schoenkirchen, GERMANY
24232
(49) 431-991-1235
(49) 431-991-1702 (Fax)
Official Rep: Lothar Haase,
Managing Director
lothar.haase@woehlk.com

Associate Membership

WaveFront Sciences, Inc.
14810 Central Ave., SE
Albuquerque, NM 87123
(505) 275-4747
(505) 275-4749 (Fax)
Official Rep: James Copland,
Optical Engineer
info@wfsci.com

Mark Your Calendars

Spotlight On...Vision



Dave Rusch, Chair
GP Lens Committee

After exhausting our initial 500 disc reproduction of the PBS program, our second supply of 500 DVDs of this mini documentary have been received at the CLMA office and are ready for distribution. For CLMA members, you may purchase additional copies of "Spotlight On...Vision" at cost or \$2.40 each plus shipping (while supplies last). This DVD is being broadcast via PBS stations throughout the USA from early 2006 through at least April. During May of 2006, we will receive the Nielson Reports that will tell us how often this mini-documentary was broadcast.

By late May, 2006, this DVD will be downloadable from our website www.contactlenses.org ECPs will be able to make available to their patients private or waiting room viewing of this positive reinforcement of the benefits of GP contact lenses.

Will your accounts respond affirmatively when asked by viewers if GP contact lenses could be a viable option for the vision health of consumers?

Open the door for new accounts. Sit with them and show them this mini-documentary. It only takes up to 6 minutes. Talk to them about ways to use it in the office: staff education, Doctor awareness for responses to patients, and patient education in their reception/waiting area.

November 9-11, 2006

Do You Have The.... *Rx for Success??*

Over 5,000 of the Rx for Success - the Presbyopia Tool Kit have been distributed during the last 5 months.

Have you received your first 20 complimentary kits from the CLMA office? All CLMA members are entitled to receive the first 20 of these kits complimentary as a benefit of

membership in the CLMA. Many CLMA members continue to reorder these kits providing them to their accounts through various promotional methods. You, too, can receive additional kits at cost plus shipping. Just call or email Pam. If you haven't viewed the kit in its entirety, you may not realize why it is so popular. Time's a wastin'.

If you have viewed and used it, how do you measure the effectiveness of the Tool Kit? Have your accounts actually viewed the CD? Perhaps you need to walk your accounts through the Tool Kit content to help them to realize the practice value of fitting GP Presbyopia lenses and doing business with your company.

To get the Presbyopia Tool Kit into the hands of interested OD students, the CLMA and GP Lens Institute are offering each graduating senior at USA schools of Optometry a discounted price deal. A flyer/coupon is included with each Graduate Educational Kit offering the Tool Kit special pricing of \$10.00 per kit, including shipping. At that price, interested graduates can easily afford it, but we are not automatically giving them out free to everyone-including the uninterested. To date, we will be distributing approximately 800 of these GP educational kits and the special offer for a Tool Kit.

In view of the high cost of the current schools program format,

the GP Lens Committee has been actively working on alternate ways to provide EFFECTIVE student education at lower costs. This includes online education, AOASA presentations, and cooperative effort with other organizations. Significant progress is necessary, and is being made, in order to maintain a high level of cost effectiveness. We expect to have much more on these efforts at the Annual Meeting in Scottsdale this fall.

Scottsdale Marriott at McDowell Mountains



Scottsdale, Arizona

2007-2008 Is Coming
Archer Holcomb, Chair
Technical Affairs Committee

Plans are underway to conduct the testing for completion of the 2007-2008 Seal of Excellence in Manufacturing Awards.

Applications to participate in this program will be sent out during May, 2006. Each location that wishes to participate in this testing procedure will need to submit the signed application and fee along with a listing of 30 of their accounts that could possibly be contacted to participate along with your laboratory in this program.

During the last two years of testing, there were 32 CLMA laboratory locations that participated in this program - a record amount of participation. There are a few CLMA member laboratories that have received this Award each year the program/testing has been done. Congratulations to each CLMA member laboratory that agrees to stand behind it's product lines, participate in this program and continues to provide quality custom manufactured contact lenses to the vision industry.

CLMA members are to be commended for their quality products, ongoing research and development and enhancing the their own companies to remain competitive in today's market. Prove to our vision industry that you are worthy of the CLMAs

Seal of Excellence in Manufacturing.
Participate in the 2007-2008 Seal of Excellence.

Thursday, November 9, 2006
7:30 AM
Maximum 52 Swingers

OPTIMUM
 Unsurpassed Wettability
 Exceptional Comfort
GP CONTACT LENSES
 Proudly Made With

	OPTIMUM Classic	OPTIMUM Comfort
	OPTIMUM Extra	OPTIMUM Extreme

GP Material	Classic	Comfort	Extra	Extreme
Hydrophilic (HCL)	20	84	100	125
Hydrophobic	12	6	3	6
Weight	1.19	1.16	1.17	1.16
Modulus	1.827	1.806	1.833	1.832

CONTAMAC US



CLMA Board of Directors
Spring Meeting
May 20, 21 2006
Kansas City, MO.

Innovation...
"Another inherent character trait in the family of Larsen products."

Our LaserMP 2011 CLR The Specific Printing Unit is now over twenty times over. An innovative, high-speed, and precise unit for custom surface and the ability to print and color on optical lens printing. Combined printing, laser, and laser printing. You can easily print a custom lens within three seconds or less. Contact lens ink using wettable high precision made from our contact lenses. Just one unit and one machine for all lenses. Contact us now call for our single block for sale.

LARSEN EQUIPMENT DESIGN Call 1-800-789-5121
 1117 NW 12nd Street, Suite, WA 98007
 Phone: (206) 789-5121 Fax: (206) 789-7756 Email: info@larsenequipment.com

Precision...
"Another inherent character trait in the family of Larsen products."

The new Model ACB-102 PD Laser Blocker improves blocking precision and efficiency. This well-regarded state blocker unit is now the standard for the industry. Precision grinding and non-thickness control systems with, reproducible, pin-to-pin application solutions. Also the improved in continuous speed to enhance throughput. Our new blocker like our family of products, offers the kind of convenience you've come to expect from Larsen Equipment Design. A case for water based resin.

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 1117 NW 12nd Street, Suite, WA 98007
 Phone: (206) 789-5121 Fax: (206) 789-7756 Email: info@larsenequipment.com

Productivity...
"Another inherent character trait in the family of Larsen products."

Larsen Equipment Design has developed the finest equipment in the industry for over 25 years. Our standard focus on equipment and process make us a sought-after supplier of equipment solutions as well as process consultation. If you are serious on improving your production through better productivity processes, then we are here to assist you. Contact Larsen Equipment Design. For equipment or lab process consulting please contact:

LARSEN EQUIPMENT DESIGN Erik Larsen 1-800-789-5121
 1117 NW 12nd Street, Suite, WA 98007
 Phone: (206) 789-5121 Fax: (206) 789-7756 Email: info@larsenequipment.com

Simplicity...
"Another inherent character trait in the family of Larsen products."

Accurately polished lens edges are crucial for patient comfort and satisfaction. This simple, reliable, maintenance-free edge is perfect for today's manufacturing process. Simple that control the lens profile as there are no change, lack of moving parts to adjust. Constructed from durable stainless steel, these products are the ultimate in reliability and an virtually maintenance free.

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 1117 NW 12nd Street, Suite, WA 98007
 Phone: (206) 789-5121 Fax: (206) 789-7756 Email: info@larsenequipment.com

Mark Your Calendars**Scottsdale, Arizona****November 9-12, 2006**

David Bland, Chair
Convention Committee

The 45th Annual CLMA Meeting and Exposition promises to be a memorable one. To be held at the Marriott McDowell Mountain, one of the Premier resort properties in Scottsdale, Arizona. The service and ambience of the all suite hotel will surely spoil you. Surrounded by breathtaking views of the Rose Hued McDowell Mountains and situated on the Tournament Players Golf Course this Mediterranean Style Resort is the PERFECT meeting destination. With its open air lobby, ornate ironwork, and magnificent lobby bar and outdoor fireplace it is sure to become a CLMA favorite.



CLMA guests will be treated exclusively to two room suites offering 575 square feet of beautifully appointed parlor living area with separate sleeping rooms and luxurious triple sheeting and feather pillows. Some suites even offer private patios and balconies to enjoy the sunset from outdoors. Regardless, the views are spectacular.

To make your hotel reservations, log onto our website www.clma.net, take the link for the Annual Meeting and look for the Marriott link provided to book your reservations. CLMA

Members will receive the special room rate of \$179.00 per night. **HURRY ROOMS WON'T LAST LONG!**

The Renowned Tournament Players Course (TPC) of Scottsdale with its two championship courses is home to the FBR (formerly known as the Phoenix Open), the largest spectator golf event in the world. Thursday, November 9, 2006 the Desert Course will play host to the CLMA Annual Golf Tournament so we can "Play Where the Pros Play". No doubt this course along with the cast of CLMA golfers will make for a most enjoyable and memorable event. Our golfing event is limited to 52 players - starting at 7:30 AM - November 9, 2006.



If you are not a golfer, take the Sedona shopping excursion. And for spouses, a trip to the **Spa** may be in order on Saturday, November 11, 2006.

President's Wild West Adventure

Sheriff Dan Bell and his posse invite you to Pinnacle Peaks Friday evening. Spice up the evening with a Chili Cook Off followed by dinner and country and western dancing. Experience the Wild West in true cowboy fashion by gathering around the bonfire, participating in the quick draw contest, calf roping and tomahawk toss.

It's sure to be a rip roaring good time.

Anticipate next issue of The Contact Report: June, 2006