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[54] **CONTOURED DUCT APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR INSERTION OF FLEXIBLE INTRAOCULAR LENS**

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[57] ABSTRACT

[21] Appl. No.: **985,026**

An apparatus and associated method for deforming and inserting a flexible intraocular lens into an eye which permits the size of an ocular incision to be significantly smaller than the diameter of the intraocular lens being implanted, and its embodiments are suitable for use with lenses having radial flange or projecting filament haptics. The apparatus includes a contoured duct with a pair of internal guiding grooves configured to engage peripheral edges of the lens, curling the lens as it is advanced along the longitudinal duct axis from the elongated inlet to the coaxially aligned generally circular outlet of the duct. The guiding grooves are mutually opposed and converge along the length of the duct to essentially the periphery of the duct outlet. A lens is implanted utilizing this apparatus by loading the lens into a receiving chamber adjacent to the lens-curling contoured duct, inserting the outlet or a cannular probe communicating coaxially with said outlet into the ocular incision, and advancing the lens through the duct and then through the outlet into the eye.

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[51] Int. Cl.⁵ **A61F 9/00**

[52] U.S. Cl. **606/107; 623/6**

[58] Field of Search **606/107; 623/4, 6**

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20 Claims, 2 Drawing Sheets

