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(54) **SILICONE HYDROGEL LENSES WITH WATER-RICH SURFACES**

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(58) **Field of Classification Search**

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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

The invention is related to a hydrated silicone hydrogel contact lens having a layered structural configuration: a lower water content silicone hydrogel core (or bulk material) completely covered with a layer of a higher water content hydrogel totally or substantially free of silicone. A hydrated silicone hydrogel contact lens of the invention possesses high oxygen permeability for maintaining the corneal health and a soft, water-rich, lubricious surface for wearing comfort.

20 Claims, 10 Drawing Sheets