

2. A bifocal contact lens blank as defined in claim 1 wherein said locus of tangent points is in generally semi-circular form, said semi-circle extending downwardly from the radially innermost edges of said offsetting surfaces, said semi-circular locus lying generally parallel to the outer diameter of the lower edge portion of said lens blank.

3. A bifocal contact lens blank as defined in claim 1 wherein said locus of tangent points is substantially a single point, said offsetting front surfaces having their innermost edges substantially tangent to each other.

4. A contact lens blank as defined in claim 1 wherein said distant and near vision front surface segment radii of curvature are arranged such that the centers of curvature of such radii lie on the optical center line of the lens blank, said lens blank thereby being a monocentric blank.

5. A corneal contact lens made from a single piece of optically transparent material, said lens having a rear surface adapted to overlie the cornea of the eye in use, said rear surface having a given radius of curvature and a given center of curvature, with the front surface of said lens being subdivided into distant vision and near vision areas, with said distant vision area, in position of use of the lens, lying on the upper half of the lens and the near vision segment lying on the lower half of the lens, said two segments occupying substantially the entire front surface of the lens, and with the distant vision segment terminating in at least one lower edge portion which extends, throughout the major part of its extent, substantially horizontally along a lens meridian, said near vision segment terminating in at least one upper edge portion extending, throughout the major portion of its extent, substantially horizontally and in substantial radial alignment with said at least one lower edge of said distant vision segment, said near and distant vision segments meeting each other along a locus of tangent points lying generally centrally of said lens front surface, and being joined to each other at remaining points on said lens front surface by a pair of offsetting surfaces extending generally radially between adjacent portions, respectively, of said upper and lower edges of said near and distant vision front surfaces, said offsetting surfaces having portions of increasing width as such surfaces approach the radially outer margins of said lens.

6. A corneal contact lens as defined in claim 5 in which said locus of tangent points lying generally centrally of said lens front surface comprises substantially a single point, with said pair of offsetting surfaces having

their radially innermost edges virtually tangent to each other so as to form, in effect, a single segment line.

7. A corneal contact lens as defined in claim 5 wherein each of said rear surface, distant vision front surface and near vision front surface radii of curvature has a given center of curvature, and wherein all of said centers of curvature lie on substantially a single straight line, thereby rendering said contact lens unit a monocentric bifocal lens.

8. In a corneal contact lens unit made from an optically transparent material and including a front surface portion, a rear surface portion and an outer edge portion of substantially circular configuration in front elevation, said rear surface portion being subdivided into three areas, said areas including a center section of generally circular form in front elevation and being adapted to overlie the cornea, said center section having a given, first radius of rear surface curvature, a second area in the form of a circumferentially extending peripheral surface lying adjacent the outer periphery of said lens, being annular in front elevation and having a radius of peripheral surface curvature greater than said given first radius of rear surface curvature, and a third area in the form of a circumferentially extending secondary surface of annular form in elevation and lying intermediate said center section area and said peripheral surface area, said secondary surface having a given, secondary radius of rear curvature greater than said first radius of rear surface curvature, and less than said radius of curvature of said peripheral surface, whereby said rear surface includes center, secondary curve, and peripheral curve bands of increasing radii of curvature, the improvement comprising said lens front surface having a lower front surface portion which in turn is subdivided into a lowermost chordal surface adapted to be covered by the lower lid and an intermediate surface portion adapted to be seen through by the user, said lowermost chordal surface and said intermediate surface portions being radially offset from each other and joined to each other by a lid-engaging lens support surface extending generally horizontally across the lens in position of use, said support surface facing downwardly so as to engage the upper surface of said lower lid, with said lowermost chordal surface having at least portions of its rear surface formed by portions of said peripheral and secondary curve rear lens surfaces, whereby said lens may closely and comfortably overlie said cornea without impairing the ability of said lens to translate in response to downward eye movement.

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