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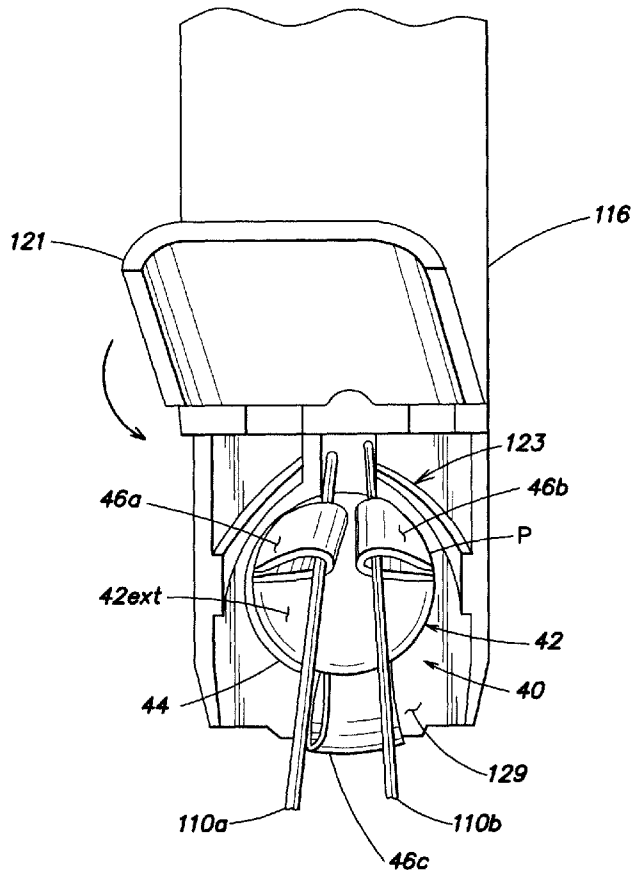
[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD OF PREPARING A MULTIELEMENT INTRAOCULAR LENS FOR INSERTION



(57) Abstract: A method of folding a multiple element IOL comprising folding the first lens element and second lens element such that the second lens element at least partially surrounds the first lens element and such that, after folding, both the first lens element and the second lens element are substantially aligned along the optical axis. A hinged apparatus such as a cartridge may be used to cause the second lens element to be folded. A method of loading a multielement IOL comprising folding the haptics such that a portion of the haptics contacts an exterior side of one of the first lens element and the second lens element.

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European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declaration under Rule 4.17:

— *as to the identity of the inventor (Rule 4.17(i))*

Published:

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— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV. A61F2/16

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
A61F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)
EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 2005/074838 A (VISIOGEN INC [US]; TSAI GEORGE [US]) 18 August 2005 (2005-08-18) paragraphs [0032], [0035], [0036], [0039]; claims 1,11,12,14; figures 2,6,7,9-11	1-7, 9-13,43, 45,47,48
A	US 2004/160575 A1 (AYTON IAN [US] ET AL) 19 August 2004 (2004-08-19) paragraphs [0065], [0066], [0071], [0073]; claims 1,6,12,13,16; figures 15-18	1,4,6,10
A	WO 01/34067 A (BAUSCH & LOMB SURGICAL INC [US]) 17 May 2001 (2001-05-17) page 19, lines 2-5; figures 8,9	1,3

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[X] Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

[X] See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
26 August 2008	01/09/2008

Name and mailing address of the ISA/	Authorized officer
European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Merté, Birgit

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/US2007/081747

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4 828 558 A (KELMAN CHARLES D [US]) 9 May 1989 (1989-05-09) column 3, line 35 - column 4, lines 9-13	18-23
Y	column 5, lines 27-41	32,39, 40,43
A	column 7, lines 17-22; figures 3,6	1,14, 24-27, 47,48
Y	WO 99/29267 A (ALLERGAN SALES INC [US]) 17 June 1999 (1999-06-17)	28,32, 39,40
A	page 7, lines 18-23; figures 7,9,10	2,34-37
A	US 5 100 410 A (DULEBOHN DAVID H [US]) 31 March 1992 (1992-03-31) abstract; figures	8
X	WO 01/56508 A (ACCOMMO AG [CH]; HAEFLIGER EDUARD ANTON [CH]) 9 August 2001 (2001-08-09)	18-20, 22,25
Y	page 2, line 37 - page 3, line 26	28,32, 39,40,43
A	page 5, line 18 - line 23 page 6, lines 6-31; claims 3,5,9; figure 2	21,24, 26,27, 47,48
Y	EP 1 481 652 A (ALCON INC [CH]) 1 December 2004 (2004-12-01)	43
A	paragraph [0013]	45
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
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Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. [X] Claims Nos.: 15-17,30,31,41
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgeryInserting an IOL in an eye is an invasive step performed in by an ophthamologist during eye surgery

2. [ ] Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International search can be carried out, specifically:

3. [ ] Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. [X] As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers allsearchable claims.

2. [ ] As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.

3. [ ] As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search reportcovers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. [ ] No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

[ ] The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.

[ ] The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.

[X] No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-14

   A method of facilitating loading a multielement IOL having a plurality of haptics coupling a first lens element and a second lens element into an injector, wherein at least one of the haptics is folded radially inward while the first lens element and the second lens element are substantially aligned along the optical axis.

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2. claims: 18-29

   A method of folding a multiple element IOL comprising first and second lens elements aligned along an optical axis such that the second lens element at least partially surrounds the first lens element and, after folding, both lens elements are substantially aligned along the optical axis and at least a portion of an interior surface of the second lens element contacts at least a portion of an exterior surface of the first lens element.

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3. claims: 32-40,42

   A method of facilitating loading an IOL inserter with an IOL comprising first and second lens elements aligned along an optical axis, wherein the second lens element is located on a hinged apparatus and the hinged portions are rotated to cause the second lens element to be folded such that the second lens element at least partially surrounds the first lens element and such that, after folding, both the first lens element and the second lens element are substantially aligned along the optical axis.

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4. claims: 43-48

   A method of facilitating loading an IOL inserter with an IOL comprising first and second lens elements aligned along an optical axis, wherin the second lens element is located on a hingeless cartridge, pushing the IOL along the lumen causing the second lens element to be folded such that the second lens element at least partially surrounds the first lens element and such that, after folding, both lens elements are substantially aligned along the optical axis.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No
PCT/US2007/081747

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