



NASA: Meeting Vision Challenges of Space Travel while Helping Mankind

Bob Main, ABOM CEO Web Vision Centers

Advisor to NASA for Eye Care Technology



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## Life in Space





# **The Problem**



- Astronauts are Experiencing Vision Changes During Long-Duration Flights
  - Body Fluids Shift
  - Creating Increased Intracranial Pressure (VIIP)
  - Flatting the Eye Globe
    - Hyperopic shifts (+0.5 D to +1.75 D)
    - Papilledema (Grade 1-3)
    - Choroidal folds
    - Cotton wool spots







#### **NASA Looking For Solutions**



#### **Optical Industry Helping**







#### The Challenge: Develop Programmable Eyeglass Lenses

- Programmable in Two Ways
  - 1. Change Rx in Various Regions of the Lens
  - 2. Changing the Power to Maximize Vision at Different Distances
- Lenses Programed with Laptop Inflight





#### 1) Changing the Lens Rx/Power in Various Regions of the Lens



# **The Problem Needs a Solution**

- Over 70% of Astronauts Have Had Vision Changes
- Some as Much as 1.75D
- Trouble Reading Checklists and Instruments
- Currently Using Multiple Pairs of Glasses/Lenses
- Could be a "Show Stopper" for Mars Trip



# **The Solution**



- Programmable Lenses
- Change/Reprogram Power Independently in Various Power Zones as Rx Changes





#### 2) Changing the Power to Maximize Vision at Different Distances





#### The Problem Astronauts Have Different Tasks That Require Different Visual Needs















#### **The Solution**

- Programmable Lenses with Auto Focusing Capabilities
- Rx Changes Automatically as User Looks at Different Distances





### **Auto-Focusing Glasses**





## **Auto-Focusing Glasses**





# Is This Possible?

- Working with Two Companies that Have the Core Technology
- Technology has Been Demonstrated
- Working on a Three Year Pathway
- NASA/NSBRI Challenge Must Also Improve Life for Mankind



#### How Will This Technology Help People on Earth?

- Reprogram Eyeglasses to Fit Various Daily Visual Tasks
- Possibilities are Unlimited!













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# **Thank You Questions?**