Claims:

1. A system for detecting defects in a contact lens including lens material having fluorescent material therein, comprising:

a first ultra violet light source to illuminate said contact lens with ultra violet light in a first color spectrum to excite fluorescent emission by said contact lens material of light in a second color spectrum;

a camera having a lens for inspecting, said contact lens suspended in saline solution to output a digital image including an image produced by light in the second color spectrum, wherein fluorescent material appears white in said image;

a first optical filter positioned between the camera and said contact lens to filter the emitted fluorescent light from said contact lens, said optical filter further arranged to prevent the camera from picking up stray light and other spectrums of light; and

a computer having an associated memory, an input for accepting the digital image output from said camera, and an output for an analyzed digital image,

wherein said analyzed digital image includes visible indications of any imperfections detected in said contact lens material, and

wherein said first ultra violet light source is disposed around the lens of said camera and on top of said contact lens.

2. A system as claimed in claim 1

wherein said first ultra violet light source comprises an array of UV light emitting diodes.

3. A system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a strobe controller capable of energizing said first ultra violet light source in synchronous operation with the image acquisition of said camera.

4. A system as claimed in claim 3, further comprising a feature within the strobe controller capable of energizing said first ultra violet light source with different timing pulses in synchronous operation with the image acquisition of said camera.