thickness, cross-sectional area and/or shape of the element. Accordingly, for a given cross-sectional shape and thickness, the higher the modulus of elasticity of the material, the greater the stiffness of the material in that region, alternately. materials with identical elastic moduli may be fabricated to have different stiffness depending on the geometric properties (e.g.: a item with a rectangular cross-section has a greater resistance to bending when the bending moment is aligned to the longer side of the rectangle as compared to the short side). The increased stiffness in the single high modulus of elasticity zone 106 will make the contact lens 100 less likely to fold and easier to handle.

In an alternate exemplary embodiment, the high modulus of elasticity zones may be positioned at discrete locations within the peripheral zone of the contact lens. The Acuvue® Oasys® for Astigmatism and the Acuvue® Advance® For Astigmatism each feature an accelerated stabilization design. In this design, the contact lens comprises four active zones of added thickness positioned in the midperiphery of the contact lens and a dual thin zone in the superior and inferior portions of the periphery. Accordingly, with this type of design, high modulus of elasticity zones would preferably be positioned at the thin zones symmetric about the vertical meridian of the contact lens.

Figure 2 illustrates an exemplary embodiment of a contact lens 200 comprising an optic zone 202, a peripheral zone 204 and two discrete high modulus of elasticity zones 206 and 208. For purposes of this description, the contact lens 200 is assumed to be designed in accordance with the accelerated stabilization design described above. In this exemplary embodiment, the high modulus of elasticity zones 206 and 208 are annular structures positioned in regions of thinner contact lens material as described above. As in the previously described exemplary embodiment, the high modulus of elasticity zones 206 and 208 may be varied in thickness, width, shape, orientation and may comprise any suitable material having a modulus of elasticity greater than that of the bulk contact lens material. Figure 3 illustrates an exemplary embodiment of a contact lens 300 with the same type of thin zones as in Figure 2 (accelerated stabilization design), but wherein the shape

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Figure 2 illustrates an exemplary embodiment of a contact lens 200 comprising an optic zone 202, a peripheral zone 204 and two discrete high modulus of elasticity zones 206 and 208. For purposes of this description, the contact lens 200 is assumed to be designed in accordance with the accelerated stabilization design described above. In this exemplary embodiment, the high modulus of elasticity zones 206 and 208 are non-annular structures positioned in regions of thinner contact lens material as described above. As in the previously described exemplary embodiment, the high modulus of elasticity zones 206 and 208 may be varied in thickness, width, shape, orientation and may comprise any suitable material having a modulus of elasticity greater than that of the bulk contact lens material. Figure 3 illustrates an exemplary embodiment of a contact lens 300 with the same type of thin zones as in Figure 2 (accelerated stabilization design), but wherein the shape