

1 COMPOSITE PACKAGING ARRANGEMENT FOR CONTACT LENSES

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

5 The present invention relates to a composite
or secondary packaging arrangement for the containment
of hydrophilic contact lenses in a sterile aqueous
solution. More specifically, the invention pertains to
a composite or secondary packaging arrangement wherein
10 pluralities of disposable hydrophilic contact lenses
possessing different medical characteristics or
prescriptions are contained in one or more specific
packaging arrays which are then collectively housed in
separate paired box-like containers or carton structures
15 in a preselected customized manner so as to provide
specified or essentially measured supplies of differing
contact lenses for use in both eyes of a consumer over a
predetermined period of time.

 The packaging of hydrophilic contact lenses in
20 a sterile aqueous solution is well known in the contact
lens manufacturing technology. In particular, such
packaging arrangements generally consist of so-called
blister packages which are employed for the storage and
dispensing of the hydrophilic contact lenses by a
25 medical practitioner or to a consumer who intends to
wear the contact lenses. Generally, such hydrophilic
contact lenses, which may be disposable after a single
wear or short-term use, are manufactured from suitable
hydrophilic polymeric materials. These materials may
30 be, amongst others, copolymers of hydroxyethyl
methacrylate containing from about 20% to 90% or more of



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1 water, depending upon the polymer composition.
Generally, such contact lenses must be stored in a
sterile aqueous solution, usually in isotonic saline
solution in order to prevent dehydration and to maintain
5 the lenses in a ready-to-wear condition.

2. Discussion of the Prior Art

Heretofore, contact lens manufacturers
normally utilized stoppered glass bottles containing
10 sterile saline solutions in which the hydrophilic
contact lenses were immersed as storage and shipping
containers for individual contact lenses. Each bottle
was sealed with a suitable silicone stopper and provided
with a metal closure as a safety seal in the
15 configuration of an overcap. When the contact lens was
intended to be removed from the bottle for use by a
patient, the metal closure safety seal was required to
be initially torn off the bottle, thereafter the stopper
withdrawn and the lens lifted out from the bottle
20 through the intermediary of a suitable plastic tweezer
or pouring the contents out. This entailed the
implementation of an extremely complicated procedure,
since the contact lens was difficult to grasp and remove
from the saline solution contained in the bottle due to
25 the transparent nature of the contact lens which
rendered it practically invisible to the human eye.

More recently, containments in the form of
blister packages have been developed for hydrophilic
contact lenses, and which enable the storage and
30 shipping of the hydrophilic contact lenses in a simple
and inexpensive expedient manner, while concurrently

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1 facilitating the conveniently easy removal of the
contact lens by a practitioner or a patient.

For instance, a blister package which is
adapted to provide a sterile sealed storage environment
5 for a disposable or single-use hydrophilic contact lens,
wherein the lens is immersed in a sterile aqueous
solution; for example, such as in an isotonic saline
solution, is described in U.S. Patent No. 4,691,820 to
Martinez; which is assigned to the common assignee for
10 the present invention, and the disclosure of which is
incorporated herein by reference.

Thus, in the above-mentioned U.S. patent, the
blister package for storing and dispensing a hydrophilic
contact lens includes an injection-molded or
15 thermoformed plastic base portion incorporating a molded
cavity which is surrounded by an outstanding planar
flange about the rim of the cavity. A flexible cover
sheet is adhered to the surface of the flange so as to
sealingly enclose the cavity in a generally liquid-tight
20 mode. Within the cavity of the base portion, a
hydrophilic contact lens is immersed in a sterile
aqueous solution, such as an isotonic saline solution.
A portion of the side wall of the cavity is inclined to
form a ramp extending upwardly towards the flange from
25 the bottom of the cavity, and the cover sheet is adapted
to be stripped from the flange in order to expose the
cavity and inclined side wall whereupon the lens may be
readily manually removed by being slid upwardly and out
of the cavity along the inclined ramp surface of the
30 cavity.

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1 A further improvement upon the versatility of
blister package construction has been achieved in that
the cavity in the base portion is constituted
essentially of a semi-spherical configuration
5 dimensioned so as to be adapted to closely support the
contact lens therein while immersed in an aqueous
solution for ease of removal and also to facilitate an
inspection process. Moreover, the foregoing
construction primarily considered the utilization of
10 such blister packages for the dispensing of individual
contact lenses, with such blister packages being
ordinarily separate or single packagings, or arrays of
specified interconnected blister packages which may then
be housed in larger quantities within a further
15 container, such as a rigid cardboard or paperboard
carton construction employed for the retail sales of the
lenses, and forming a composite or secondary packaging
arrangement.

 Accordingly, an important aspect resided in
20 being able to furnish a user of such disposable
hydrophilic contact lenses with a packaging arrangement,
such as a carton, containing a specific supply of
contact lenses, the latter of which are normally worn
for only a single day; in essence, for ordinarily 8 to
25 18 hours within a 24-hour period and thereafter
discarded. Hereby, the packaging of a supply of contact
lenses was designed to enable the user to store and
provide indication for replenishing the supply of
contact lenses at regular intervals; for example, at
30 periods of 30 days, although it can also be intended to
provide containments or packages each containing

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supplies of the contact lenses for shorter or lengthier periods of days, weeks or even months. Consequently, the present invention contemplates the provision of composite or secondary packaging arrangements for specified quantities of such hydrophilic contact lenses, wherein these packaging arrangements incorporate boxing one or more arrays of blister packages containing contact lenses in a dual or twin carton structure each storing specific contact lenses for respectively the left and right eye of a user, enabling a rapid and precise determination as to the quantity of hydrophilic contact lenses contained therein, and with such packaging arrangements each being of a compact nature which is completely protective of the hydrophilic lenses.

In copending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/414,515 (Attorney's Docket No. VTN-170, 9014Z-II), which is commonly assigned to the assignee of this application and the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference, there are disclosed packaging arrangements in which a plurality of blister packages each having a semi-circular cavity containing respectively one hydrophilic contact lens in a sterile aqueous solution. A specified quantity of such blister packages has molded plastic base members thereof each containing a contact lens positioned in a contiguous array, and with the array being covered by a single flexible cover sheet constituted of a laminated foil or silicon oxide, or other suitable material structure to provide a sealed environment for each of the contact lenses contained in the cavity formed in each base

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1 member. Weakening lines are formed in the flexible
cover sheet intermediate adjoining base members to
enable detachment from the array of individual blister
5 packages containing one of the hydrophilic contact
lenses as may be required by a user.

In particular, a plurality of such arrays of
continuous packaging arrangements for contact lenses,
which arrays are in an interconnected planar form, are
10 adapted to be arranged superimposed in a generally
rectangular carton. Each successively superimposed
array is inverted and rotationally reversed relative to
a preceding underlying array so as to enable the
respective arrays to be interleaved and compactly
support each other. The cavities containing the contact
15 lenses of a superimposed array are arranged inverted
relative to the cavities of an array of blister packages
located therebeneath or thereabove, such that the
mutually inverted cavities will be positioned adjacent
20 to cavities of a superimposed array in an interleaved
compact arrangement at minimum spacial requirements.
Consequently, a plurality of planar arrays of blister
packages which are each respectively interconnected by a
single flexible cover sheet for each array are adapted
for positioning in a superimposed contacting
25 relationship within a substantially rigid rectangular
carton, with such arrays containing a specific quantity
of disposable hydrophilic contact lenses to furnish a
user with a desired supply; for instance, thirty (30)
30 five blister packages each; in essence, a thirty-day
supply of contact lenses, although other quantities may

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1 also be readily contemplated depending upon the
particular wishes of a consumer, such as 60-day or
90-day supply (3-month supply), or even in larger
quantities, and as discussed in detail hereinbelow.

5 Each of the blister package base members has
an outstanding substantially rigid planar flange
encompassing a respective lens-receiving cavity therein,
the latter of which is offset towards one end of the
flange. The planar flange as disclosed herein, pursuant
10 to a preferred embodiment, may possess a generally
teardrop or wedge-shaped configuration; in effect, two
converging side walls, the opposite ends of which extend
into convex semi-circular end walls. Alternatively, the
flange may have spaced sidewalls extending in parallel
15 relationship in the form of a so-called "duckbill."
Moreover, the narrow end of the flange remote from the
lens-receiving cavity may be curved downwardly. The
lens-receiving cavity is preferably formed offset
towards the wider end of the respective planar flange,
20 as described hereinbelow.

Furthermore, although the flange is described
as being either teardrop or wedge-shaped in its planar
extent, it is also possible to contemplate utilizing
rectangular flanges for the base members of the blister
25 packages which are interconnected in arrays of specific
quantities by means of a single flexible cover sheet,
such as described in copending U.S. Patent Application
Serial No. 08/257,796, filed June 10, 1994; or even
loosely located adjacent each other in predetermined
30 arrays of blister packages.

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Other configurations for the planar flange and/or base member of the blister package are also contemplatable. For instance, by way of example, the flange portion extending about the lens-containing cavity may be circular in shape and have a so-called spoon handle-like portion extending radially therefrom. Moreover, numerous further shapes for the base members and flanges readily suggest themselves; for example, as illustrated and elucidated in copending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/414,514 (Attorney's Docket No. VTN-171, 9014Z-III), the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

The presence of the flange is adapted to provide a support for a superimposed or therebeneath located array of blister packages, thereby formulating rigid and compact packaging arrangements within the carton, in which the cavities containing the hydrophilic contact lenses of superimposed arrays are substantially protected against potentially damaging external influences, such as shocks or impacts which may be imparted to the filled carton during handling thereof.

Each molded plastic base member of a blister package may be constituted from a suitable injection molded or thermoformed thermoplastic sheet material, such as a polyolefin, for instance polypropylene; whereas the flexible cover sheet may be constituted of a laminate of a polypropylene or other suitable plastic film and aluminum foil or with silicon oxide forming a barrier material with a plastic layer, suitably imprinted and which is adapted to be heat-sealed to the flange extending about the cavity of the package

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1 containing the hydrophilic contact lens. The flexible
cover sheet may be of a construction and imprinted in a
novel manner as disclosed in copending U.S. Patent
Application Serial No. 08/106,386; filed on August 13,
5 1993; entitled "Method of Double-Sided Printing of a
Laminate and Product Obtained Thereby", commonly
assigned to the assignee of the present application and
the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by
reference.

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SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Accordingly, in order to provide a versatility
of contact lens packaging arrangements affording
consumers a large variety of quantities and packagings
15 in conformance with their particular intended use and
requirements, the present invention pertains to the
provision of novel composite or secondary packaging
arrangements for the containment of hydrophilic contact
lenses which are immersed in sterile aqueous solutions.

20 Pursuant to a specific embodiment, the
secondary packaging may comprise rigid carton structure
adapted to receive one or more arrays of interconnected
blister packages each containing a hydrophilic contact
lens, and whereby the arrays of blister packages are
25 interconnected by flexible cover sheets, so as to be in
either inverted or superimposed relationship in a
compact stored position relative to each other whereby
specific quantities of such superimposed or interleaved
arrays are stored therein in a compact mode for maximum
30 protection and availability or accessibility to an
ultimate consumer.

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1 Hereby, provision is made for such composite
or secondary packagings or cartons containing one or
more arrays of blister packages, whereby, in particular,
pairs of such cartons are positioned in contiguous
5 relationship and provided with a single overwrap or
closure sleeve and whereby contact lenses may be
provided in respectively each of the cartons; for
example, lenses for the right and the left eye
customized pursuant to medical prescriptions for the
10 right and left eyes of the prospective user.

Moreover, it is also possible to contemplate
providing a plurality of such pairs of composite or
secondary packaging arrangements each consisting of
respectively paired cartons to be combined and packaged
15 being retained together by a shrinkwrap plastic film, so
as to enable the formation of secondary packages of
multiplicities of cartons containing larger quantities
of lenses for use by a consumer, for example, such as a
three-month supply of contact lenses for both the left
20 and right eye which is practical and economical from a
retail sales standpoint.

Moreover, pursuant to another aspect of the
invention, rather than having discrete pluralities of
arrays of blister packages contained in each carton
25 forming the secondary packaging, such arrays may be
constituted of a continuous array strip interconnected
by the flexible cover sheet and containing a large
number of blister packages, whereby the continuous array
is folded in a sinusoidal pattern within each respective
30 carton, so as to be able to be dispensed as individual
separate blister packages in accordance with the needs

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1 of a user, upon each respective blister package being
severed from an end of the array which is extended
outwardly of the respective carton.

It is also possible to contemplate the
5 provision of secondary packaging or carton structure in
which the continuous array or strings of blister
packages are adapted to be dispensed through a
dispensing aperture formed in an end wall of the
respective carton, and with the remaining blister
10 packages of the array being protectively stored in the
carton. In that connection two of such dispensing
cartons are provided in a side-by-side position
encompassed by a single cover member interconnecting the
cartons, whereby each carton is adapted to store arrays
15 of blister packages containing contact lenses
specifically prescribed for respectively the left and
the right eye of a particular patient or user. In this
connection, each carton may be in the nature of a non-
disposable dispenser, or may be constituted of a more
20 durable housing; for instance, a plastic container or
other material possessing a rigid design for the
containment of the strings or arrays which are adapted
to be sold to a physician or consumer, possibly
separately from the containers.

25 Pursuant to another aspect of the invention,
it is possible to contemplate the provisions of a
foldable travel case in which the latter contains arrays
of blister packages of contact lenses for both eyes of a
user.

30 It is also possible to provide a compact-like
case containing stowed arrays of contact lenses whereby

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1 the interior surface of a lid for the case may contain a
mirror which is of assistance to a consumer when
applying or removing a respective contact lens from the
eye.

5 Accordingly, it is an object of the present
invention to provide a novel composite or secondary
packaging arrangement for the containment of arrays of
blister packages each containing hydrophilic contact
lenses in a sterile aqueous solution, and wherein the
10 secondary packaging comprises interconnected carton
structure for the supplying of different contact lenses.

Still another object of the present invention
is to provide carton structure in which a pair or
multiplicity of adjoiningly arranged cartons each
15 contain at least one array of blister packages, and
which are interconnected by a single cover member so as
to enable the dispensing of individual contact lenses in
a predetermined mode.

20 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Reference may now be had to the following
detailed description of preferred embodiments of a
composite or secondary packaging structure for the
containment of arrays of blister packages, taken in
25 conjunction with the accompanying drawings; in which:

Figure 1 illustrates a perspective view of a
first embodiment of a secondary packaging arrangement
pursuant to the invention comprising a pair of cartons
each containing a supply of contact lenses, with the
30 cartons being in side-by-side relationship and which are
interconnected by a single closure member;

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1 Figure 2 illustrates a perspective and
generally exploded diagrammatic view of a continuous
strip-like array of interconnected blister packages
adapted to be arranged in respectively one of the
5 cartons of Figure 1;

 Figure 3 illustrates a longitudinal sectional
view taken along line 3-3 in Figure 1 showing generally
diagrammatically the arrangement of the array of blister
packages of Figure 2 within the carton structure;

10 Figure 4 illustrates a plurality of pairs of
cartons as shown in Figure 1 interconnected through the
intermediary of a plastic shrinkwrap film;

 Figure 5 illustrates a perspective generally
diagrammatic view of a pair of interconnected secondary
15 packaging arrangements in the form of cartons having
dispensing orifices for respectively dispensing
individual blister packages from a continuous array of
such blister packages;

 Figure 6 is a sectional view taken along line
20 6-6 in Figure 5;

 Figure 7 illustrates a perspective view of a
secondary packaging arrangement in the shape of a travel
case; and

 Figure 8 illustrates a perspective view
25 showing a mirrored compact case containing a plurality
of arrays of blister packages.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

 Referring in particular to Figure 1 of the
30 drawings, showing a perspective view of a secondary
packaging arrangement, in this instance there is

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disclosed a pair of rectangular lower carton portions 10, 12 each having, respectively, bottom 14, side 16 and end walls 18 and evidencing an open top 20, and which cartons are adapted to be commonly closed by means of a sleeve-like cover member 22 which may have open ends or, if desired, closed ends adapted to be opened as needed so as to enable the lower carton portions 10, 12 having located therein arrays of blister packages 24 containing hydrophilic contact lenses to be selectively slid out from one end of the cover member 22 so as to enable separation and dispensing of individual of the blister packages therefrom. It is also possible to contemplate that the cover member 22 be constituted from a plastic shrinkwrap material rather than being formed from a rigid material. Alternative, the blister packages 24 may be individual in nature; in essence, no interconnected but merely located in specific arrays and/or loose layers in each lower carton portion 10, 12. This will enable dispensing of single blister packages 24 without the need for having to separate the package from the remaining arrays of blister packages in the cartons.

As shown in this instance, the arrays of blister packages in each of the cartons may comprise a plurality of adjacently arranged base members in coplanar orientation, similar to those shown in copending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/414,515 (Attorney's Docket No. VTN-170, 90142-II), interconnected by a flexible cover sheet so as to sealingly enclose the cavities containing the contact lenses in each of the base members of the blister

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packages. Hereby, suitable perforations may extend across the flexible cover sheet intermediate the adjoining wall portions of contiguous blister packages of the array so as to facilitate the separation of individual of the blister packages from the array for dispensing single contact lenses to a user.

With respect to the foregoing, although it is shown in Figure 2 that each of the cartons contains a continuous sinusoidally folded strip or length array of the blister packages, rather than the foregoing, each of the arrays may consist of a predetermined limited number of coplanarly arranged base members interconnected by a length of flexible cover sheet in a manner as described in the aforementioned U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/414,515 (Attorney's Docket No. VTN-170, 9014Z-II).

In the present instance, each carton 10, 12 contains a specific quantity of blister packages or arrays of blister packages intended to fulfill the needs of a user for a specified period of days or weeks. Each carton is adapted to contain contact lenses prescribed specifically for one eye, with contact lenses prescribed for respectively the left eye being stored in one carton 10, and those for the right eye in the other carton 12. The use of these two or dual interconnected containers 10, 12 may be such that in accordance with specific orders from a prospective user, the contents of the cartons may be customized prior to filling so as to fulfill the medical prescription for both eyes of a specific user, and whereby both types or prescription of contact lenses may thus be compactly housed within a single twin-or dual-carton packaging arrangement; in

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1 effect, consisting of the two cartons 10, 12 as enclosed
by the single or common cover structure or member 22.

Alternatively, as also shown in Figure 4 of
the drawings, a plurality of such pairs of cartons 10,
5 12, with each pair being enclosed by a common cover
member 22 or being each of a closed construction having
openable lids or flag structure, as shown in above-
mentioned copending U.S. Patent Application Serial No.
08/257,796, may, in turn, be encased by a suitable
10 plastic shrinkwrap film 30 so as to enable larger
quantities of product, for example, a three month's or
even greater supply of contact lenses, to be shipped
enclosed in one package for the convenience of the user
or for a physician or optometrist prescribing and/or
15 dispensing the lenses to the user. This will not only
provide for convenience in shipping, but will also
economize on packaging and shipping cost while rendering
the entire arrangement attractive to a user.

Referring to Figures 5 and 6, there is
20 disclosed a pair of side-by-side cartons 34, 36
encompassed by a single or common outer casing or wall
structure 38, or enclosed by a shrinkwrap material, and
with a dispensing slot 40 formed at one end 42 of
respectively each carton, so as to enable the selective
25 dispensing of individual blister packages from a
continuous strip or array of such packages sinusoidally
folded within each applicable carton, as shown in Figure
4. This arrangement may be employed both for the left
and right cartons and may be customized with regard to
30 their contents in accordance with their left eye and
right eye contact lens prescription of a potential user.

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1 When dispensing of contact lenses is not
currently required, a flap 44 positionable over the slot
of each carton for dispensing individual and selective
blister packages may be folded down and possibly closed
5 off by means of a suitable latching arrangement, so as
to protectively house the contents of the cartons when
not in use.

Referring to Figure 7, there is disclosed a
travel case 50 consisting of hingedly foldable walls 52,
10 54, which may be constituted of paperboard, pressed
cardboard or suitable plastic, or other even more
durable containers constituted from other rigid
materials such as wood or metal, and in which the
interior thereof provides for a longitudinal hinge
15 structure to enable for opening and closing, and with
both walls having recessed configurations for receiving
each an array of blister packages which are respectively
interconnected by a length of the flexible cover sheet,
and which are positioned in a back-to-back relationship
20 when the travel case is folded shut about the hinging
line along the direction of the illustrated arrows.
This provides for an inexpensive and convenient method
of transporting arrays of the blister packages when
travelling without taking up too much space while
25 concurrently being highly protective of the arrays of
blister packages.

Similarly, in Figure 8 of the drawings, there
is shown a generally rectangular compact case 60, which
may be paperboard, pressed cardboard, molded from a
30 plastic material, or consisting of more durable
materials, such as wood or metal, and have decorative

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1 indicia provided thereon similar to a ladies' makeup
compact case, and in which each side of the interior
case includes a recess for stowing or housing an array
of blister packages, each of which may selectively
5 contain contact lenses for the left eye and right eye
prescriptions of a user, and in which the inside surface
of one wall or lid portion 64 may include a mirror 66
which will facilitate the efforts of a user in inserting
a contact lens into the eye, or removing the lens
10 therefrom.

The foregoing arrays housed in the dual
cartons and containers enable the provision of numerous
variations and quantities of contact lenses within
respective differently sized carton structures and may
15 be customized in accordance with instructions received
in the shipping facility of the manufacturer from
ophthalmologists, optometrists, or even from final users
in accordance with their specifications as to quantities
and the prescriptions of contact lenses contained in the
20 various arrays of blister packages relative to the left
and right eye of the ultimate user.

From the foregoing, there is obtained an
extremely versatile secondary or composite packaging
arrangement adapted to a wide variety of purposes and
25 suitable for the specific needs of different consumers.

While there has been shown and described what
are considered to be preferred embodiments of the
invention, it will, of course, be understood that
various modifications and changes in form or detail
30 could readily be made without departing from the spirit
of the invention. It is, therefore, intended that the

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1 invention be not limited to the exact form and detail
herein shown and described, nor to anything less than
the whole of the invention herein disclosed as
hereinafter claimed.

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What is claimed is:

1. A composite packaging including a generally rigid containment having a plurality of paired compartments each containing at least one array of packaging arrangements housing hydrophilic contact lenses in a sterile aqueous solution, wherein the contact lens contained in one of said paired compartments differ from the contact lens contained in the other of said paired compartments; each said array comprising a plurality of molded plastic base members each having a cavity for containing a contact lens immersed in said solution and a flange extending about said cavity; and flexible cover sheet means superimposed on and extending over respectively each said base member and dimensioned to be detachably sealed to the surface of said flange, said cover sheet means sealingly extending about said cavity and having edge portions providing gripping means for enabling separating said cover sheet from said flange so as to expose said cavity and facilitating external access to the contact lens.
2. A composite packaging as claimed in claim 1, wherein said rigid containment comprises a carton having first and second packaging array-receiving carton portions each possessing at least one of said paired compartments; and a closure member encompassing said carton portions in the inserted conditions thereof and enabling selective manipulation of said carton portions to enable access to the at least one array of packaging arrangements contained therein.
3. A composite packaging as claimed in claim 2, wherein said closure member comprises a sleeve having at least one openable end to facilitate selective manipulation and insertion therein of said carton portions.
4. A composite packaging as claimed in claim 2, wherein each said carton portion comprises an upwardly open rectangular box structure.

5. A composite packaging as claimed in claim 4, wherein said box structures are positioned in a side-by-side arrangement within said closure member.
6. A composite packaging as claimed in claim 2, wherein said closure member is constituted of paperboard.
7. A composite packaging as claimed in claim 2, wherein said closure member is constituted of pressed cardboard.
8. A composite packaging as claimed in claim 2, wherein said closure member is constituted of molded plastic material.
9. A composite packaging as claimed in claim 2, wherein said closure member is constituted of durable materials.
10. A composite packaging as claimed in claim 2, wherein said closure member is constituted of plastic shrinkwrap film.
11. A composite packaging as claimed in claim 2, wherein said at least one array located in each said respective carton portion is positioned as in a continuous sinusoidally folded strip of interconnected packaging arrangements.
12. A composite packaging as claimed in claim 2, wherein a plurality of superimposed arrays are located in each said respective carton portion.
13. A composite packaging as claimed in claim 1, wherein said at least one array

comprises two separate arrays of packaging arrangements arrayed in interleaved manner in each said compartment whereby said cavities of one of said separate arrays are positioned facing said cavities of the other of said two separate arrays.

14. A composite packaging as claimed in claim 1, wherein said rigid containment comprises a rectangular carton having first and second said compartments, each said compartment having a dispensing orifice for the withdrawal and severing of individual of said packaging arrangements from a respective one of said compartments.

15. A composite packaging as claimed in claim 14, wherein said compartments are positioned in a side-by-side arrangement in said carton, each said orifice being formed in an end wall of said carton and communicating with a respective one of said compartments.

16. A composite packaging as claimed in claim 15, wherein openable flap means covers each respective orifice to protect the array in said compartments during storage therein.

17. A composite packaging as claimed in claim 15, wherein each said array in each respective said compartment comprises a continuous sinusoidally folded strip of interconnected packaging arrangements adapted to be drawn out through said orifice for selectively dispensing individual of said packaging arrangements.

18. A composite packaging as claimed in claim 1, wherein means further comprising in combination at least one additional containment connected to the first said containment by interconnecting means.

19. A composite packaging as claimed in claim 18, wherein said interconnecting means

comprises a shrinkwrap film encompassing said containments.

20. A composite packaging as claimed in claim 1, wherein said containment is formed of a material selected from the group of materials consisting of paperboard, pressed cardboard, molded plastic, wood and metal materials.

21. A composite packaging as claimed in claim 1, wherein said containment comprises a hingedly connected folding structure having packaging array-stowing recess portions.

22. A composite packaging as claimed in claim 21, wherein said containment comprises a travel case.

23. A composite packaging as claimed in claim 21, wherein said containment comprises a compact having at least one mirrored inner wall surface and a recess portion for stowing at least one said packaging array.

24. A composite packaging as claimed in claim 1, wherein each base member includes a flange extending between a wide end and a narrow end said cavity being located proximate the wide end of said flange and said flange extending outwardly about the periphery of said cavity, said cavity consisting of a concave indentation in said base member and having a shape in substantial conformance with the shape of the contact lens adapted to be contained therein, said base member of said at least one array being oriented such that the cavity of a base member is adapted to be arranged adjacent the narrow end of respectively an adjacently located base member in an alternatively disposed manner.

25. A composite packaging as claimed in claim 24, wherein each said flange has a

generally planar surface configuration facing said superimposed cover sheet means in contacting relationship.

26. A composite packaging as claimed in claim 24, wherein a releasable seal is formed between said cover sheet means and the planar surface of each said flange sealingly encompassing the peripheral edge of each said cavity.

27. A composite packaging as claimed in claim 26, wherein said seal comprises a heat seal.

28. A composite packaging as claimed in claim 1, wherein each said molded plastic base member is constituted of a thermoformable plastic material.

29. A composite packaging as claimed in claim 1, wherein said flexible cover sheet means is a multi-layered foil laminate having an outer layer of said laminate consisting of a plastic film contacting the surface of the flanges of each of said molded plastic base members.

30. A composite packaging as claimed in claim 29, wherein said plastic film is heat sealed to said flange surface of each said molded plastic base member for sealing each cavity containing the contact lens.

31. A composite packaging as claimed in claim 1, wherein said molded plastic base members and said flexible cover sheet means conjointly form moisture and vapor-imperviously sealed containments for said contact lenses in each of said cavities.

32. A composite packaging as claimed in claim 1, wherein said plurality of said base

members are contiguously arranged and detachably interconnected in said at least one array by said flexible cover sheet means for the containment of a specified number of said contact lenses.

33. A composite packaging as claimed in claim 32, wherein said flexible cover sheet means connects said plurality of base members in a coplanar array.

34. A composite packaging as claimed in claim 33, wherein weakening lines are formed in said flexible cover sheet means intermediate each of said adjacently arranged base members of said at least one array to enable separating said plurality of base members into individual packaging arrangements each consisting of a single base member.

35. A composite packaging as claimed in claim 34, wherein said plurality of base members are separable into individual blister packages each containing a single contact lens.