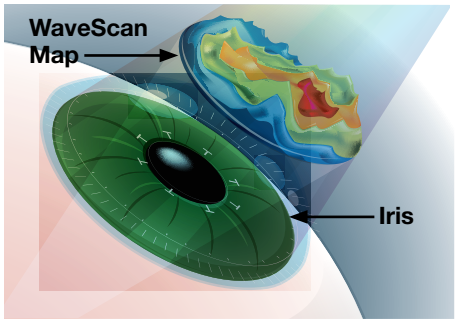
NASA APPROVES ADVANCED LASIK FOR USE ON ASTRONAUTS

While LASIK has been in use for almost a decade, it wasn't until it advanced to become an ultra-precise, all-laser procedure that NASA approved it for use on astronauts.

WHAT IS ADVANCED LASIK?

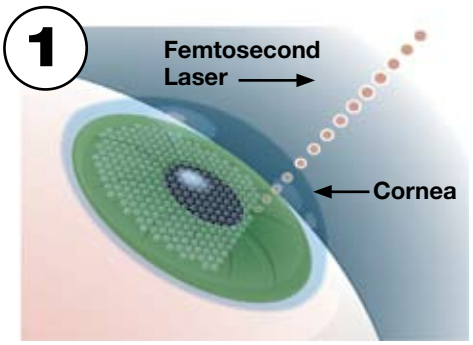
New NASA guidelines specify that only the most-advanced form of LASIK may be performed on its candidates using precise measurement, and femtosecond and wavefront-guided lasers in the two-step procedure.

INDIVIDUALIZED MEASUREMENT



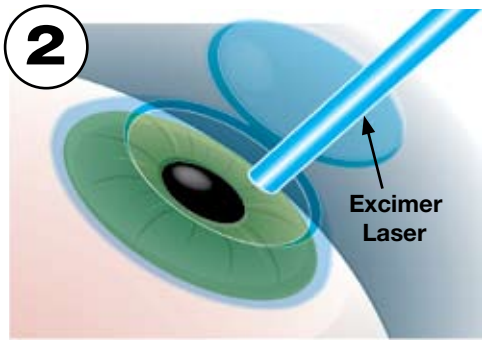
WaveScan mapping with Iris Registration allows the Advanced CustomVue LASIK treatment to be customized for each individual. The WaveScan WaveFront System captures unique imperfections in each individual's eyes, linking diagnostic information with laser treatment. Iris Registration reads the specific characteristics of the iris to accurately align the wavefront laser treatment.

LASER-CREATED FLAPS



The IntraLase FS (femtosecond) Laser for corneal flap creation replaces the hand-held microkeratome blade historically used in the first step of LASIK. The computer-guided, ultra-fast laser virtually eliminates almost all of the most severe, sight-threatening LASIK complications related to microkeratomes[1]. The FS Laser also creates an optimal surface below the flap, allowing better visual outcomes.

WAVEFRONT-GUIDED VISION CORRECTION



The Advanced CustomVue procedure provides the most precise, accurate form of laser vision correction available today. WaveScan measurements are fed into the wavefront computer-guided excimer laser for custom-corrected vision treatment.

This highly advanced combination of LASIK technologies has been proven in extensive clinical trials to provide both excellent safety and outstanding visual outcomes — beyond 20/20 in many cases[2].

LASIK HAS "THE RIGHT STUFF"

- An estimated 50 percent of rejected NASA candidates are dismissed due to poor vision.
- The physically demanding, extreme zero-gravity conditions that astronauts endure make even simple contact lens care and maintenance a challenge.
- The advanced, all-laser LASIK procedure has also been cleared for U.S. military personnel, including Naval aviators, and most recently, Air Force pilots.
- Consumers looking for proof that LASIK is safe, effective, and advanced enough for them need look no further; LASIK has proven it has "The Right Stuff."
- The NASA decision was made following review of extensive Department of Defense clinical data which validated the combination of advanced all-laser LASIK technologies provides excellent safety and vision.

Source: AMO, Inc.

1. Durrie, Daniel, "Randomized Prospective Clinical Study of LASIK: IntraLase Laser versus Mechanical Keratome" American Society of Cataract & Refractive Surgery, May 4, 2004

2.Tanzer DJ, Schallhorn SC. Comparison of visual outcomes with femtosecond and mechanical microkeratomes for wavefront-guided LASIK. Presented at the American Academy of Ophthalmology annual meeting; November 13, 2006; Las Vegas, NV.