



**EUROMCONTACT
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Contact lenses market is expected to continue to grow in the future, with new wearers and reduction of drops-out. At the same time manufacturers need to adapt to the regulatory changes with the implementation of the Medical Devices Regulation, and face the complexity linked to the unknown around Brexit, presented Nicoletta Losi, EUROMCONTACT president, at the 2019 BCLA conference.

On 31st May 2019, EUROMCONTACT President Nicoletta Losi, presented the "*New medical devices Regulation and Brexit: the European Contact Lens market today and tomorrow*" at the 2019 BCLA conference. The BCLA conference takes place in Manchester- United Kingdom- from 30th May to 1st May 2019 and gather more than hundreds of European eye care professionals and industry representatives.

Nicoletta Losi highlighted the new regulatory requirements of the Medical Devices. The stricter requirements imposed on Notify Bodies will likely result in the number of Notified Bodies, and in an increase of audits costs – while today there is no visibility on the scope of the increase. The regulation includes a traceability system for medical devices through a Unique Device Identifier. Here again, while the principle of the traceability is understood and supported by the industry, the practical implementation raises a lot of issues – and the system is still being discussed for contact lenses. The clinical investigation and evaluation requirements are much stricter than in the past – meaning that industry will have to collect additional clinical data and of higher quality – which is certainly a concern for the smaller laboratories producing made-to-order lenses. Brexit has been adding its part of uncertainty to a situation already quite complex and industry has reacted to the extent possible and put in place 'contingency plans' to be able to continue to place on the market contact lenses on the EU and the UK markets after Brexit.

Nicoletta Losi concluded here presentation with the EUROMCONTACT statistical report of the market for 2018. EUROMCONTACT has been collecting data of the market for over more than 15 years. In 2018, the market value of soft contact lenses (SCLs) at industry to eye care professionals (ECP) level grew by 4.5% to € 1'831 million. The expectations for the future is that the market will continue to grow, from new wearers and from the reduction of drops out.

EUROMCONTACT is the voice of European contact lens and lens care industry to the European Institutions, media, stakeholders and the public. EUROMCONTACT is the European Federation of National Associations and International Companies of Contact Lens and Lens Care Manufacturers. EUROMCONTACT members include National Associations of Manufacturers, representing Belgium, Netherlands, Germany, Italy, Spain, Switzerland and the United Kingdom; the global companies Alcon, Bausch & Lomb, CooperVision, Johnson & Johnson Vision, Mark'ennovy, Menicon and the European Federation for the Contact Lens Industry EFCLIN.

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