

OSN AT ISSUE:

## Best of Refractive 2005

AT ISSUE posed the following question to our experts:

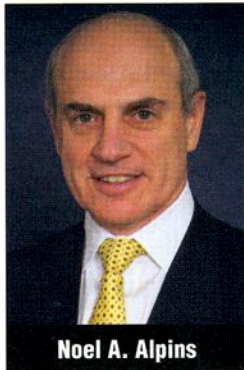
“What do you think was the biggest news in refractive surgery in 2005, and why?”

**NOEL A. ALPINS, MD:**

### Integration of wavefront

The news that prevailed throughout 2005 was the progressive integration of wavefront technology with other refractive modalities of implant technology and the ongoing reduction of spherical aberrations. Astigmatic aberrations are also being separately addressed with the combination of topographic data with wavefront refractive data to reduce overall astigmatism to a greater extent than may be currently achieved.

Wavefront-corrected refractive implants for spherical aberrations are now prevalent and have become available in combination with other advances in refractive cataract surgery, such as the Tecnis multifocal from Advanced Medical Optics (available in some countries) and the Alcon AcrySof IQ with visible blue light filter for potential protection of the macula.



Noel A. Alpins

Astigmatic aberration studies examining the benefits of combining wavefront refractive with topographic data were commenced this year, employing the process of vector planning with the Bausch & Lomb Zywave technology and the AMO Visx Wavescan. In a related development, the major commercial event of 2005 was the union of two leading companies, AMO and Visx, to form a large, integrated refractive corporation that will be of increasing significance in coming times.

As a result, the benefits of integrating topography data in wavefront and standard refractive treatments are likely to become more evident and provide another significant incremental step in the improvement of laser vision correction outcomes.

### For Your Information:

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