



Technological Advances In Eyewear

(NAPSA)—Cool video beamed from Saturn isn't the only thing NASA has done for us lately. For as long as there's been a space program, the agency has pioneered new technology that winds up benefiting average people here on Earth—and that may be especially true when it comes to eyeglasses.

NASA innovations in frame and lens technology—including the lightest weight frames ever designed—have begun showing up in today's top sunglass models. The result: better fit and better protection against ultraviolet radiation.

"Ultraviolet rays are implicated in the development of cataracts, macular degeneration and other diseases of the eye," says Dr. Keith Manuel, consultant to NASA and chief optometrist to NASA's Astronaut Corps. "Wearing sunglasses is as important as protecting your skin every day with SPF 15."

The new technology is available from such brands as:

- **Silhouette**—At 0.7 ounces (the weight of three paper clips), the Titan Minimal Art titanium frames are the lightest in the world. The sleek designs have no screws or hinges—potential dangers for astronauts, who wear them under extreme conditions for many hours at a time. The company's Voyager Lens protects eyes from ultraviolet and infrared light, as well as excessive blue light.

- **Adidas**—During athletics, the eyes expend more than 25 percent of the body's energy. The Performance Sunglass Collection's high-tech lenses feature Light Stabilizing Technology, which helps eyes adjust as the wearer moves quickly



Ultra-lightweight sunglasses are an important part of an astronaut's equipment.

through alternating bright and dark conditions, providing relief during extended wear. Polarized performance filters conquer glare and help the eyes avoid fatigue.

The Performance Sunglass frames are as innovative as the lenses. Tri-Fit Temples with adidas' patented Traction Grip and the Double-Snap Nose Bridge allow the wearer to adjust the frames to a near-custom fit for maximum comfort. The temples also feature Quick-Release Hinge technology—they release upon impact, providing protection from injury to the face.

- **Daniel Swarovski**—The Crystal Eyewear Rondette Collection offers distinctively elegant sunglasses in a selection of shapes and fashion colors, subtly decorated with rondette (round) crystals. All lenses provide 100 percent protection from ultraviolet rays.

All of these collections are available with corrective lenses from fine optical professionals. To learn more, visit www.silhouette.com, www.adidas-eyewear.com and www.daniel-swarovski.com.