



**Visian Implantable Collamer Lens provides U.S. Bobsled Pilot with the vision to lead his Team to first Olympic Gold in 62 Years.**

March 1, 2010. In a historic moment for the United States bobsled team, Steven Holcomb piloted bobsled USA-1 to the Olympic gold medal in the four-man event, ending a 62-year Olympic medal drought for the American. Holcomb's heroic mastery of the treacherous track is made even more significant by the fact that not long ago, he had 20/500 vision -- "profound visual impairment" caused by keratoconus-- that very nearly ended his bobsledding career. Contact lenses could no longer provide the level of visual acuity required for Holcomb to compete. Finally, with the help of U.S. bobsled coach Brian Shimer, he was deemed a good candidate for the Visian ICL. Holcomb said. "I couldn't wear contacts the day of the surgery, so they literally had to walk me around the room. And then they did it, I got up, and just like that, I was 20/20. It's incredible. I call it an eye-opening experience."



## **Implantable Lens Gives US Bobsled Captain Vision to Win Gold**

*Steve Holcomb Credits the Visian ICL with Restoring His Eyesight and Enabling Historic Victory*

**Monrovia, Calif. -- March 1, 2010 --** Just two years ago, U.S. Olympic bobsled team captain and gold medal winner Steve Holcomb was dealing with eyesight that was so impaired it threatened to end his bobsledding career.

"It got to a point in 2008 where I couldn't see anymore," Holcomb said in an interview with NBC. "They couldn't make contacts strong enough. I went to my coach and told him I had to quit."

But that was before Holcomb learned about the Visian ICL (Implantable Collamer Lens) - an implantable lens approved by the US FDA to treat patients with up to -20 diopters of nearsightedness.

Holcomb had the Visian ICL implanted in both eyes, and his vision immediately improved from a reported 20/500 (legally blind) to 20/20.

"As soon as I was up, I could see 20/20," Holcomb added. "It has been pretty incredible ever since."

With normal vision restored, Holcomb was able to resume his career and achieve Saturday's historic victory piloting the U.S. Bobsled four-man team to its first Olympic gold medal in 62 years.

The Visian ICL is made of Collamer, a proprietary, highly bio-compatible material that allows the lens to be rolled into a tiny cylinder for insertion into the eye during an outpatient procedure. Once inserted, the lens gently unfolds behind the iris, where it is tucked into place by the surgeon.

Implanted in more than 150,000 eyes worldwide, the Visian ICL offers a far wider treatment range for nearsightedness than LASIK. Unlike laser-based procedures, the implantable lens is an "additive" procedure that does not excise corneal tissue or irreversibly reshape the eye. It can therefore be removed or replaced if necessary.