Following the Aug. 31, 2011, acquisition of Astra Tech AB by DENTSPLY International, a leading manufacturer and distributor of dental products, DENTSPLY Implants is the union of two successful and innovative dental implant businesses: DENTSPLY Friadent and Astra Tech Dental.

As the result of bringing together the No. 3 and No. 4 dental implant companies worldwide, (Astra Tech Dental and DENTSPLY Friadent, respectively), DENTSPLY Implants is poised to take a leading position in the dental implant market, the company said.

Aside from the sheer dollars and cents, there are many other aspects that make this the company to watch. As proudly communicated through its name, DENTSPLY Implants is a company owned and supported by DENTSPLY International, which, for more than a century now, has grown to become one of the largest professional dental products company in the world and whose products are used in more than 120 countries around the globe.

"Dental implants have revolutionized care for patients with missing teeth and can help to provide a positive impact on the overall quality of life," said Scott Root, president, DENTSPLY Implants North America. "Under our new company, DENTSPLY Implants, we are able to truly leverage the many years of expertise and experience, and products and services of both the former Astra Tech Dental and DENTSPLY Friadent organizations to provide our customers with a broad portfolio of dental implant solutions."

DENTSPLY Implants in North America offers a comprehensive line of implants including ANKYLOS® Implant System, ASTRA TECH Implant System™ and XIVE® Implant System as well as digital technologies such as ATLANTIS™ patient-specific abutments, Symbios™ regenerative bone products and professional development programs designed to support dental professionals in providing predictable and lasting implant treatment outcomes.

Each of the three implant systems offers its own unique benefits. The Tissue Care Concept of the ANKYLOS Implant System allows for subcrestal implant placement and measurable gain in interdental papillae height, while the BioManagement Complex™ of the ASTRA TECH Implant System provides exceptional marginal bone level maintenance results compared to that of the current standard norm. The more traditional internal flat-to-flat configuration of XIVE offers restorative simplicity and versatility to implant treatment. All of the implant systems are designed for use with either a one- or a two-stage approach.

DENTSPLY Implants is also the provider of ATLANTIS patient-specific abutments. Through the use of 3-D scanned images and the proprietary ATLANTIS VAD (Virtual Abutment Design) software,