The big 150

Chicago's Midwinter Meeting shows how it's grown with three days of education, events and, yes, cake pops

If you were turning 150 years old, you'd probably want to throw a big party to celebrate. The organizers behind the Chicago Midwinter Meeting feel the same way — and they are expecting about 30,000 dental professionals and industry representatives to attend the big shindig.

In a far cry from the first Midwinter Meeting, which consisted of a one-day gathering of local members, this week's event features an array of live patient care presentations, hands-

OHA gala celebrates 25 years

It was a night of "Smiles Under Silver Stars" as dental industry professionals gathered Wednesday night for Oral Health America's 25th Annual Gala & Benefit, which took place at the Hilton Chicago. In addition to being a major fundraiser for OHA's programs, which connect communities with resources to drive access to oral health care, this year's occasion was also in celebration of the 25th anniversary of the gala and the 60th anniversary of OHA itself.

OHA started in 1955 as the American Foundation for Dental Education to expand the pool of qualified dental educators. OHA's history was celebrated at a reception before the gala and with a presentation during the event.

The evening began with a cocktail hour, followed by a culinary feast. The evening also featured live music and live and silent auctions. The 2015 raffle, sponsored by Aspen Dental, offered a chance to win a 2015 Audi A3 Cabriolet.

Presenting sponsor of the gala was Kavo Kerr Group; technology sponsors were Ivoclar Vivadent and Patterson Dental; diamond sponsors were Colgate Palmolive, DentaQuest Foundation, DENTSPLY International, Henry Schein, Philips Sonicare, Scan and Septodont; platinum sponsors were Darby Dental, DentalEZ and Midmark; and gold sponsors were Belmont Publications, Bisco, Burkhart, DentaPure, Unilever and Planmeca.

Those in attendance represented hundreds of companies, dentists and industry professionals.
on workshops, lectures and social events. There are also more than 600 companies awaiting your presence in Hall F on level three of the McCormick Place West Building.

And because it wouldn’t be a birthday party without cake, you can have that, too. Each day from 1 to 3 p.m., Midwinter Celebration cake pops will be served on the exhibit floor.

Check on your health

The Midwinter Meeting is a great time to learn new tips for caring for your patients, but there are also opportunities to see to your own health.

Pelton & Crane will offer ergonomics evaluations in booth No. 100 (aisle 100, near the Rebate Redemption Center). During these free sessions, physical therapists will consider how individual professionals position themselves around the chair and on their stools in an operatory.

Additional information about areas of pain or discomfort, leisure activities and pain management techniques will help ergonomics professionals analyze each dental professional’s most common practice. These assessments will last 15 to 30 minutes, and participants will leave with advice for simple improvements.

Elsewhere, you can schedule a health screening with BlueApple Health. The company offers more than 31 tests, at prices up to $115, to assess cardiovascular risk.

Exhibit hall changes

This year, there is a little less time to explore the exhibit hall. The hall will close at 4 p.m. on Saturday, so make sure you fit in everything you need to do before then.

Remember, you can earn 1 C.E. credit for time spent on the exhibit floor each day of the meeting. Look for C.E. codes near the Overlook Café at least one hour after the floor opens.

Several food and coffee stations will be located throughout the exhibit hall, and the Hospitality Hub will sell beer, wine and appetizers at the end of each day.

Here in Chicago

For more information on educational courses, events or exhibit hall listings, download the free 2015 Midwinter Meeting mobile app or pick up an on-site program.
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Richard Creaghe, DDS
San Rafael, CA

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This offer is only valid for redemption during Chicago Dental Society Midwinter Meeting 2015 at booth #1831. This offer cannot be combined with any other discount.
Since 2008, few dental practices have been immune to the downturn in the economy throughout North America. This is evidence that dentistry is no longer recession-proof.

At the same time, dentistry has seen technological advances that were unimaginable 20 years ago. Staying “current” means higher capital and operating costs for practice owners. In a declining economy, spending on upgrades for equipment and infrastructure may be one way to survive and thrive. But acquiring capital to acquire a practice or build, renovate or expand an existing clinic facility may be challenging for some dentists, particularly first-timers.

Adding a line of credit is advisable for temporary cash flow coverage and is recommended for added peace of mind. But before deciding to build, expand or upgrade the physical plant or invest in any other practice enhancement, it is vital to consider how it will impact all aspects of your business, so you can make informed choices. In other words, this is the time to develop your practice business plan.

A business plan, sometimes called a marketing plan, is a valuable tool for any practitioner. Beyond it being a requirement for borrowing through a traditional lending institution, it is a foundation for policies, protocols and processes that will give the practice operational structure. It will serve as a guide for the principal, professional advisers, employees and others who will be involved in the practice.

The process for creating a practice business plan, which is a modified business plan, varies slightly depending on whether it is for a start-up or an existing practice, but the principles are the same. The five Ps — product, promotion, place, price and people — are the basic elements that should be given equitable weight, recognizing that each will have multiple impacts that contribute to measurable outcomes.

Budgeting is part of the “price” element within the practice plan and should be done as the final step, after considering all of the other four components. There are two parts to preparing the budget — revenue and expenses. Think conservatively — under forecasting revenue and overestimating operating costs can provide peace of mind to any investor.

Budgeting is part of the “price” element within the practice plan and should be done as the final step, after considering all of the other four components. There are two parts to preparing the budget — revenue and expenses. Think conservatively — under forecasting revenue and overestimating operating costs can provide peace of mind to any investor.

Estimating revenue is dependent upon the operator’s skills, anticipated demand, composition and quality of the dental team, fees, billing and collection, etc. An experienced clinician will have reasonable expectations of his production capabilities.

Other considerations need to include the operating schedule and types of services that will be delivered. For example: Number of hygienists and their operating schedule will influence the demand for dentistry, and, of course, referrals to specialists will impact production. Daily practice production can range from $2,500 to $10,000.

For many dentists, the expenses may be more challenging to predict. Capital costs and operating expenses are generally separated for planning purposes. Operating costs should recognize fixed (those which are not production-related, such as rent and utilities) and variable (those which are directly influenced by production, such as dental supplies and lab fees). Today, total (capital and operating) expenses have escalated during the past decade and now average 60 to 80 percent for many family practices.

In today’s dental marketplace, investing in a practice takes more than money. Time, effort, skills and collaboration turn dreams to realities, starting with developing a custom practice plan. Even for a mature dentist, this may require expertise from a team of experienced professionals who can help turn challenges into opportunities.

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There is a better way (and LVI can show you how to get there)

By Mark Duncan, DDS, LVIF, FAGD, FICCMO, Clinical Director, LVI

You know how those days go — all morning long, it felt like you were struggling to keep on track with the schedule. Your team is frustrated because they haven’t had their full hour lunch more than one day a week in as long as they can remember. You walked by the sterilization room 15 minutes ago, and it sure sounded like they were complaining to each other because you said to work in that emergency, and they were struggling to figure out how to pick up their kid from daycare on time. Again.

You want them to enjoy working here, but you have to be able to pay the bills. And your best assistant asked you again if she can have that raise you have been promising her. Don’t they understand?

Today will be another day of three chairs and patient after patient asking you questions about treatment, all eager to get started with getting their mouth fixed, but yet you still won’t see any of them show up on the schedule. They said they wanted to do the work, but for some reason, they never seem to come back and do it.

They say insurance doesn’t cover it, or they ask for a pre-determination. Too bad they don’t know the pre-determination doesn’t mean much.

Today, you have 27 patients on your schedule and will work your butt off and still not have a chance to pee. It looks like you should be able to be done by 5, but today will finish worse than yesterday.

It feels like half of your patients are crankier than you are, and your team isn’t really talking to you today, and you know when you get home, all you will want to do is go to sleep and wake up on Saturday — except it’s still Tuesday!

It doesn’t make sense — you have taken C.E. courses every time they come to town. The new insurance plan was supposed to make things easier. You bought a bunch of new equipment to save money on taxes — of course now you have to pay for it every month — but why does it seem like the harder you work, the further behind you get? There has to be a simple reason.

Well, it turns out there actually is — and it’s something that you learned when you were about 5! Do unto others. More specifically, build systems in your office so that you can treat your patients the way you would want to be treated — comprehensively and with exceptional information to make good decisions — and produce a consistent experience time after time.

While doing that, add exceptional care — esthetic adhesive excellence like you see in the journals. But how? Well, the answer happens to be the foundation that LVI was built upon — building the excellence in a patient-centered practice. And the programs at LVI have been teaching clinical excellence and communication and business systems for almost 20 years to help doctors do a better job of not only seeing the patient but, more importantly, connecting with them.

Two decades of not only communication but comprehensive diagnosis and clinical excellence. As a result, the doctors at LVI have a statistically higher professional satisfaction and income.

Isn’t it time you go find out what they are doing differently? Yes. Yes, it is — and congratulations on the journey you are about to start.
Microdent introduces its first universal connection implant

Company launches international marketing campaign to expand operations in the United States, Latin America and the Middle East

By Javier de Pison, today Staff

Last year, Microdent Implant System introduced Ektos, its first universal internal connection implant.

Recognized worldwide for developing the first bone expanders and implants, such as the Genius, the main advantages of using Microdent implants include the company’s long background as a manufacturer and its firm commitment to quality.

Microdent Director of Production, Research and Development Joan Muñoz says the company has 25 years of manufacturing experience “backed by evidence that proves the main features of our implants: great osseointegration and very long durability.”

Microdent’s R&D director adds that the company’s implants have a unique, distinctive design.

“They are manufactured with extreme precision to ensure the best possible function,” he explains, “but what makes Microdent unique in the market is our special thread design, which provides great self-tapping capacity and large contact surface with bone for the best possible osseointegration.”

Muñoz says quality has always been Microdent’s top priority. Asked what differentiates Microdent from the competition, he provided a list of innovations developed by the company.

- **Ektos Implants**: Microdent’s new universal internal connection implant prevents rotational movement and creates a conical coupling area between the implant and prosthesis that provides the most effective connection sealing.
- **Genius Implants**: An internal connection implant with hexagonal ribbed cone that allows for perfect sealing of the implant-prosthesis junction in a monoblock. The Genius’ emerging cone design provides a surface area for biological growth, which reduces gingival retraction.
- **Microdent External Connection Implant**: An implant system more robust and resilient than the universal external connection, which offers the same type of connection for prosthetic restorations.
- **Atraumatic expanders**: Microdent’s bone expanders provided oral implantology with an important technological innovation, a global reference product that is a must for any implant professional. This practical and simple instrument avoids surgical trauma and, because it works progressively, allows effective control of the expansion process.
- **Cortical Fix**: Like the expanders, the Cortical Fix is also an important technological innovation in the oral implants field that allows the use of a minimally invasive sinus lift, atraumatic technique.

Microdent has launched an international marketing campaign to expand its operations in the United States, Latin America and the Middle East.

“Having launched an advertising campaign in print and online,” Muñoz said, “And will be providing free online implant courses through the Dental Tribune Study Club to show the quality and advantages of Microdent Implant System.”

For more information, please visit www.microdentsystem.com.

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*Microdent Director of Production, Research and Development Joan Muñoz at Microdent’s manufacturing plant. (Photo/Javier Pison, today Staff)*

*Ektos is Microdent’s first universal internal connection implant. (Photo/Provided by Microdent)*
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By Shofu Staff

Very few composites on the market are able to boast positive results at eight years. In the case of Shofu’s composite, Beautifil, data from an ongoing 13-year study performed by the University of Florida was recently published in the Journal of the American Dental Association.

After 13 years, 61 percent of restorations were retained. Out of the retained restorations, 48 percent observed no changes according to the modified USPHS criteria. Only two out of the 41 restorations recalled at 13 years noted incidents of secondary caries. No secondary caries had been noted at the eight-year endpoint.

The study conducted by Gordan et al. postulated that these overall positive results may be directly attributable to the unique giomer chemistry found in Beautifil II. The term “giomer” refers to Shofu’s proprietary surface pre-reacted glass (S-PRG) filler particles, shown in various studies to release six ions: fluoride, sodium, strontium, aluminum, silicate and borate, all with known bioactive properties.

Unlike glass ionomers and composites, which require water absorption following photocure to release fluoride, giomers undergo an acid base reaction during manufacturing. This process protects the filler from moisture for long-term strength and durability, while still allowing fluoride rechargability from household dental hygiene products.

In addition to the bioactive benefits associated with the giomer chemistry, Beautifil II, the latest generation of the Beautifil line, offers a host of other features:

• **Predictable esthetics:** Beautifil II was developed to simulate the internal structure of natural teeth with ideal light transmission and optical characteristics.

• **Versatility:** Excellent natural shade reproduction can be achieved with a chameleon effect, using a single shade that blends well with surrounding teeth, making the restoration undetectable. In esthetically demanding cases, additional shades can be used to achieve exceptional results.

• **Handling characteristics:** The handling characteristics were achieved with the inclusion of nanoparticles, making Beautifil II a user-friendly material that is easy to sculpt with no slump, is non-sticky and wets the preparation well with good thixotropic qualities.

• **Optimum polishability:** In addition to the S-PRG fillers, discrete nano fillers have been included in the filler structure of Beautifil II to obtain a filler load of 83 percent for fast and easy polishing with an outstanding surface luster that retains over time. (In the eight-year study, 95 percent of luster retained.)

• **Anti-plaque effect:** On the surface of a tooth restored using Beautifil II, a “material film” layer is formed by saliva that is reported to minimize plaque adhesion and inhibit bacterial colonization. Although this “material film” layer may be removed by brushing, subsequent layers are reproduced by saliva. Therefore, S-PRG filler has a function of inhibiting plaque accumulation.

As a special incentive, clinicians who purchase Beautifil II at the Chicago Midwinter Meeting will receive a complimentary Super-Snap X-Treme Mini Kit and two T&F Diamond Hybrid points. Stop by booth No. 2411 today!
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The federal government imposes certain restrictions on, and pursuant to the Sunshine Act requires public reporting of, transfers of value to a practitioner. This includes promotional programs. This promotion is a reportable event.
By Whip Mix Staff

If a patient is happy with his or her smile after receiving a restoration, the majority of patients will be happy overall. Function and esthetics do go hand in hand, and being able to deliver a restoration that fits correctly, as well as looks nice, is the ultimate goal.

It is said that approximately 80 percent of restorative cases are sent to the lab without any type of photography. Being a lab technician may be somewhat like being a detective, as you must work to put a puzzle together. Restorations for anterior cases can become especially challenging, as you may not know exactly what they should look like and an error may lead to an unhappy patient while reworking the case.

So what if there was an easy way to capture a patient’s photo with highlighted data points? What if this information could be emailed to the lab to be used with patient models? What if the lab could use this photography as an overlay to the actual model? What if the lab could mount the model with confidence knowing that it matched the look of the patient? What if the lab could tell if the model was accurate before mounting at all?

Meet Max. Max is an android app that virtually documents this critical data. Max, short for MaxAlign, is a communication vehicle between the dentist office and the laboratory and is, therefore, used in both areas.

Max works best on a Samsung Galaxy 10.1 or 10.5 tablet with an 8 mega-pixel rear camera and flash. This size tablet gives a large enough image of the teeth for a clear comparison, and the camera with flash creates a clear, sharp image. Use of retractors holds the checks out of the way for a clearer view of the anterior/posterior plane.

After taking the impression, the doctor uses Max to take a photo of the patient’s teeth and face. This photo should document the patient’s midline, horizontal angle and the A/P plane. Once the photo is taken, the doctor sizes the photo to match the width of the patient’s actual centrals. This measurement is used to ensure a one-to-one ratio when using Max to mount the model in the lab.

The doctor may also want to record the patient’s first point of contact in Max as verification that both models are mounted accurately. These records are then easily emailed to the lab for use in fabrication and to the dentist for adding to the patient’s record.

In the lab, the photo and models are used to mount the models on most Denar, Hanau and Whip Mix articulators, using a unique LabStand and occlusal stand. The LabStand is designed to hold the tablet at the precise distance from the teeth to ensure a one-to-one ratio between the photo and the model. The occlusal stand rotates 20 degrees in all directions as well as moving up and down.

With Max showing the patient photo on the tablet, you are able to see through the tablet’s camera and see the model on the occlusal stand at the same time. The model is set at the Bonwill line, and the stand is adjusted to line up exactly with the photo on the tablet, just as you would a transparency. The image is then captured for comparison.

Next, view both photos as overlays, to ensure you received a good impression of the patient and that the models were mounted in the correct location on the articulator.

Good data in, including accurate impressions and digital photographic information of the patient, will help ensure good data out, with restorations that fit well and, especially in the anterior, match the patient’s smile line.
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Our broad range of experience and capabilities have made Cefla Europe’s No. 1 dental-chair manufacturer. As such, Cefla Dental Group is able to draw on synergies from design through manufacturing, employing the highest standards in every phase. This means our customers get cutting-edge products at world-competitive prices.

Our North American headquarters is based in Charlotte, N.C. From here, we provide outstanding customer service and technical support, along with warehousing of new products and a complete spare-parts inventory. We have a national network of certified technicians to assist our dental dealer partners in providing on-site training, service and repairs where necessary.

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- **NewTom**: A pioneer of cone-beam 3-D imaging in the dental market and continued global leader, NewTom continues to set new standards in the industry. NewTom products are engineered to provide exceptional image quality, accuracy and flexibility while minimizing patient radiation exposure.

- **Anthos**: Recently launched in North America, the Anthos line of operatory chair packages offer a level of technology, function and esthetics never before seen from a manufacturer in the U.S. market, according to Cefla.

- **Stern Weber**: Innovators in combining technology and ergonomics of the patient treatment center, Stern Weber continues to set the standard for dental units in patient and practitioner comfort. Stern Weber also offers a wide variety of products and accessories.

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By Cefla Dental Group Staff

In Chicago

To learn more about Cefla/NewTom, visit booth No. 4632. You can also visit the website at www.cefla.com/en/business-units/dental or call the U.S. headquarters at (800) 416-3078.

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Cefla Dental Group includes such brands as NewTom, Anthos, MyRay and Stern Weber. (Photo/Provided by Cefla Dental Group)
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Fixed hybrid dentures have been used to successfully restore fully edentulous patients for decades. Their durability, however, leaves room for improvement.

The BruxZir® Full-Arch Implant Prosthesis (Glidewell Laboratories; Newport Beach, Calif.) provides a restoration that is more durable in the long term, while sacrificing nothing when it comes to esthetics.

Case report

The patient is a 58-year-old male with no contraindications for implant treatment. The patient had a total of 11 BioHorizons® Internal Hex implants (BioHorizons; Birmingham, Ala.) placed, including six in the maxilla and five in the mandible (Figs. 1, 2). The implants integrated for more than six months, and the patient presented for restoration of his edentulous arches.

First, preliminary impressions of the implants were made. After removing the healing abutments, closed-tray impression copings were seated. The impressions were made in stock plastic trays, and the impression copings were placed back into the impressions before the case was sent off to the laboratory.

The laboratory poured casts from the initial impressions and fabricated bite blocks and occlusal rims for the centric jaw relationship (CJR) records. Each bite block contained two screw-retained temporary cylinders that allowed the wax rims to be screwed down, producing a very accurate CJR. The contoured rims were returned to the laboratory with the initial casts.

At the next appointment, the patient’s healing abutments were removed, and the multi-unit abutments were transferred to the patient’s mouth and torqued into place. Later, wax setups were tried in and evaluated for proper esthetics, phonetics, contours, occlusion and tooth arrangement.

The implant verification jig (IVJ), which precisely captures the depth and angulation of the implants in the final impression, was seated and tightened into place. After bonding the individual sections of the IVJ together, a final impression was made.

The lab produced a fixed provisional appliance using precise CAD/CAM technology. The provisional implant prosthesis afforded the patient a trial period to evaluate the proposed restoration for esthetics and function (Fig. 3).

The final restoration was fabricated using the CAD design that was confirmed during the provisional trial period. The final prostheses were delivered without complication, exhibiting excellent fit, occlusion and esthetics (Fig. 4). The patient was exceptionally pleased with the function offered by this fixed restoration, which he should be able to enjoy for a great number of years given the extraordinary durability of BruxZir Solid Zirconia.

Using BruxZir to restore the edentulous arches

By Michael McCracken, DDS, PhD, and Jonathan P. Ouellette, DMD

Here in Chicago

For more information on the BruxZir Full-Arch Implant Prosthesis, please stop by the Glidewell Laboratories booth, No. 4220.
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The surgical contra-angle handpiece with 45° angle head
The new WS-91 and WS-91 LG high-speed surgical contra-angle handpieces feature a 45° angle head. They allow completely new, considerably better access to hard-to-reach operating areas such as in cases of wisdom tooth extraction or apical resection.

Now available from your dental supplier or via wh.com/na
New at Chicago: ZERO-G Bio-Implant Cement

By TAUB Products Staff

TAUB Products is excited to continue its launch of ZERO-G Bio Implant Cement here at the 2015 Chicago Midwinter Meeting. This past December at the Greater New York Dental Meeting, TAUB Products showcased ZERO-G Bio Implant Cement, a first of its kind, along with FUSION Zr Resin Cements. The booth featured Mrs. North Carolina America 2014 and the TAUB Products-sponsored 2014 NASA GTS2 North East Series Champion: #156 BMW M3 Racecar.


ZERO-G Bio Implant Cement is a dual-cure implant cement and is recommended for intermediate to long-term cementation of implant-retained restorations. ZERO-G Bio Implant Cement works with all substrates and can also be used for traditional crown and bridge restorations.

According to TAUB Products, ZERO-G Bio Implant Cement provides excellent radio-opacity for good visualization after cementation. This helps to facilitate a simple cleanup and allows diagnostic examination upon follow-up.

The new implant cement is retentive to allow easy removal of excess cement. Its unique color has great contrast to gingival tissue, enhancing visualization. ZERO-G Bio Implant Cement is available as a kit (item No. 46-1000) that contains two 7.0-gram-filled syringes and 20 auto-mixing tips.
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*According to “Efficacy of ProMax Bitewings vs. Intraoral Bitewings.” For a copy of this study, please contact Planmeca USA.

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PLANMECA
For tight situations when extracting wisdom teeth, extend your surgical viewing angle

By W&H Staff

Surgical drive instruments face anatomical limits when extracting wisdom teeth: The cheek obstructs straight handpieces in the case of small mouths, or the distal molar makes burr access difficult for contra-angle handpieces.

In either case, the new surgical contra-angle handpieces from W&H offer a solution—even for wide apical tooth sectioning. Dental handpieces WS-91 and WS-91LG combine the advantages of surgical straight and contra-angle handpieces for the first time ever. The extended angle between the shank and burr axis allows good access to the tooth row both buccally and occlusally. Displaced teeth can be comfortably sectioned.

The dentist also has a significantly better view of the surgical site than with the instruments previously available.

Dr. Mario Kirste from Frankfurt/Oder had this to say: “If I turn the contra-angle handpiece head slightly, I can work particularly quickly and safely in the retromolar region. The instrument has the potential to reconcile the contrasting positions taken up by the users of straight and contra-angle handpieces.”

Power plus hygienic safety

The new contra-angle handpieces WS-91/WS-91LG are real powerhouses at the same time, W&H asserts. Their transmission ratio of 1:2.7 results in a speed of up to 135,000 revolutions per minute. The key factor, however, is their high power combined with a surgical motor.

The contra-angle handpieces achieve an effective power of more than 2 Ncm on the working part of the burrs, making them almost three times as powerful as standard dental contra-angle handpieces combined with an electric dental motor.

Biologically necessary and hygienically safe cooling is also taken care of: An external triple spray cools the rotating instrument with a sterile saline solution. As with all dental handpieces from W&H, the surface of the new contra-angle handpieces is scratch-resistant and easy to clean, according to W&H. The handpieces can be disassembled without tools.

Successful balance

Apical resection is another indication for the contra-angle handpieces WS-91/WS-91LG. The sophisticated geometry ensures excellent vision in cases involving maxillary molars and small mouths, according to W&H. In the WS-91LG, a mini LED+ also illuminates the operating area with daylight quality.

“The new contra-angle handpieces are a really successful balance. This achievement by W&H extends my viewing angle and my options in routine surgery,” Kirste said.
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Planmeca Sovereign
The Planmeca Sovereign is a combination of sophisticated engineering, innovative technology and award-winning design. It is the only dental unit on the market with both a motorized chair swivel and a motorized base for ease-of-use for any treatment need — such as CAD/CAM, implantology, laser treatment, prosthodontics or even anesthesia, all in the same room.

In addition, the length of the motorized backrest can be adjusted to optimally position patients of all sizes. Available only on the Planmeca Sovereign, this innovative feature guarantees the best possible comfort for the patient and optimal working ergonomics for the dental team.

Planmeca Sovereign Classic
The Planmeca Sovereign Classic was designed around the key concepts of comfort and usability. A slim, compact cuspidor makes it the perfect choice for any treatment room, while the user-centered design offers ease of use for both doctor and assistant. Ultraleather™ upholstery and ergonomic design also ensure patient comfort during procedures.

The unit is fully customizable, providing options for personalized settings from its user-friendly touchscreen. A six-position instrument console allows easy access to preferred instruments, while the Flexy™ holder for suction tubes and additional instruments supports the treatment needs of any practice.

Planmeca Compact i Touch
Planmeca Compact™ i Touch supports an ergonomic and smooth workflow, with simple and intuitive details that make your everyday work easy, comfortable and efficient — without compromise.

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With more than 40,000 satisfied users around the world, it is expertly designed to accommodate a wide variety of needs in dentistry.

Better care through innovation

By Planmeca Staff

The Planmeca Sovereign Classic was designed around the key concepts of comfort and usability. A slim, compact cuspidor makes it the perfect choice for any treatment room, while the user-centered design offers ease of use for both doctor and assistant. Ultraleather™ upholstery and ergonomic design also ensure patient comfort during procedures.

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Leading dental equipment manufacturer NSK Dental has announced that its recently launched iCare handpiece maintenance system is enjoying a very strong reception from dental practices.

The iCare system makes it possible for dental practices to perform handpiece maintenance with the simple touch of a few buttons. This state-of-the-art system allows the practice to give each type of handpiece its own cleaning program, which includes specifying the volume of lubrication oil to be injected to ensure consistent and cost-effective operation.

In addition, an advanced chuck-cleaning function makes it easy to effectively remove dirt and abrasive powder from the inside of the chuck to ensure smooth operation and prevent chuck-related problems. This maintains the optimal condition of handpieces and greatly extends their operating life.

A boon to office productivity, the iCare system was designed by NSK to handle up to four handpieces at once. The system offers a choice of two or three rotation ports for better lubricant coverage of gears for e-type electric attachments and slow-speed handpieces. This feature, which ensures consistent cleaning and lubrication, is not offered by most competitive systems.

The iCare system also uses liquid oil, which economically cleans up to 2,800 handpieces (700 cycles) per liter. Moreover, it has LED lights to alert the user when a door is open or when the oil supply or air pressure is low.

The iCare system has a stylish, compact body that can be installed anywhere a compressed air line is available. (The unit has a footprint of less than 9.5 by 11 inches and a height of less than 14 inches. It weighs less than 15 pounds.) The system carries a two-year warranty.

“As the leader in handpiece quality and innovation, we have a deep appreciation of how crucial handpieces are to the efficient operation of today’s dental practice,” said Rob Gochoel, director of sales and marketing for NSK Dental.

“We wanted to give dental practices a maintenance system that allows them to protect their investment in their handpieces as effectively, conveniently and affordably as possible, and the feedback we are receiving from our customers indicates that the iCare system does exactly that.”
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The dentist and the technician: A love story about breaking up with traditional methods

By Mickaela Olson, Valplast

It’s time to say goodbye to the old ways of making traditional physical impressions. While once deemed the way of the future, physical impressions have become a thing of the past.

In a recent presentation, dentistry experts Justin S. Marks, CDT, of Master-Touch Dental Laboratories and Apeksha Pole, DMD, outlined the advance in digital technology using digital impressions for removable partial dentures.

Marks and Pole said that not only does this new technology and method benefit laboratories and dentists, it makes the overall experience more enjoyable for the patient. The challenge is that the stresses of managing a business on a day-to-day basis make it easy for many dentistry professionals to overlook these new methods and materials.

But according to Marks and Pole, a willingness to learn and become knowledgeable about the technology leads to acknowledgment that some traditional and current methods of taking digital impressions have become obsolete in the wake of new digital methods.

According to Marks, the key to a successful future is an understanding of the past.

“We need to understand our foundation before we look to the future,” he said. “We need to look at how we can improve some of the imperfect processes that are already in place.”

Explaining that new technologies and workflows can progress only if current methods are understood and refined, Marks and Pole made the distinction between the traditional methods of taking impressions and the digital methods that are now being explored.

Pole explained the many variables that go into making an impression and how each step presents a new opportunity for error:

“All of these little things on the way can introduce or cause little errors that carry onto your final prosthesis,” she said.

These stages of error can be unpredictable and unreliable, which can lead to a poor impression and ultimately an improper fitting denture. Each step from tray selection to patient acceptance must be well thought out and precise.

However, when describing her use of the new CAD/CAM technology, she said, “I am 100 percent confident the bite I am taking at that time is the patient’s bite, and the bite the patient will be receiving.”

Marks, who has been using CAD/CAM for the past five years and has witnessed better efficiency in his laboratory workflow, said that while “CAD/CAM technology itself has been around for more than 30 years, it has progressed a long way since then.”

His laboratory has seen growth in business and an increase in its ability to take on more cases.

“We want to show you, as a clinician, technician and lab owner, how this can benefit you in your own business because digital is the way of the future,” he said.

Issues with partial dentures can begin with the very first impression that is taken. Taking a traditional physical impression can displace oral tissues and produce an inaccurate representation of the patient’s dental arch.

Pole said that: “3-D printed base plate try-in of the Valplast partial mimicked exactly what my final product was going to look like. This made it a lot easier for me to make any kind of adjustments at this point.”

Here in Chicago

For more information on Valplast, visit booth No. 439.

This ease and simplicity makes it easier for all parties involved to be fully aware of the steps required to get to the final product.

This process of being able to make adjustments before the denture is even made gives the dentist, lab and patient the flexibility to customize the denture during the diagnostic stages rather than wait until the denture has been processed.

During a try-in, it is important to acknowledge when the patient may be feeling uncomfortable and when to recommend different denture options.

As Marks makes clear, “If we know that, for example, this palatal design is not going to be acceptable at the try-in, we can make adjustments to it then. Maybe it’s a situation where a Valplast, or any flexible RPD, is just not going to work because (the patient) can’t deal with the tissue coverage. Maybe they need to switch to a metal RPD; we can do a different design.”

This technology allows for a great amount of improvement, not only for the clinician and technician but for patients as well. Patients who arrive at the dental office for a try-in appointment will find more comfort in knowing exactly what they are getting and the steps it takes to get there.

When we are knowledgeable about the work we do, our patients will be able to trust our product and us more.

CALASEPT END LINE

Wykle Research offers Calasept Endo products, which it distributes for Nordiska Dental of Sweden, the manufacturer of Calasept and Calasept Plus.

Calasept Irrigation Needles are high-quality, double-side-vented, luer-lock irrigation needles that optimize the cleansing of canals, creating a “swirl effect.” The needles are available in 27 g or 31 g, in packs of 40 needles.

Features include the following: bendability, a luer-lock hub, sterile and disposable, designed for ease in cleaning roots and made with high-quality stainless steel.

Calasept Irrigation Syringes are 3 ml luer-lock, single-use syringes. They are color-coded to eliminate risk when using multiple irrigation liquids. They are available in packs of 20 syringes, with 10 white and 10 green. Features include a high-quality, three-part syringe, color-coding and a luer lock.

These products complement Wykle’s Calaseptline, which includes Calasept and Calasept Plus calcium hydroxide paste for temporary filling of root canals, sold in packages of four syringes with 20 needles.

Calasept EDTA is 17 percent EDTA solution. Calasept CHX is 2 percent chlorhexidine solution for irrigation. Both solutions are packaged with a luer adaptor for easy filling of syringes.

For more information, contact Wykle Research at (800) 859-6641 or visit www.wykleresearch.com.

Above, Calasept Irrigation Syringes. Right, Calasept Irrigation Needles. (Photos/Provided by Wykle Research)
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DocPort i.o.
LED Intraoral Camera System
Showcasing CariVu: A new approach to caries detection

By DEXIS Staff

The new CariVu®, a compact, portable caries detection device, promises to create quite a buzz here at the 150th Chicago Midwinter Meeting. If you have yet to stop by the DEXIS booth, No. 1208, to see this new product, then you owe it to yourself to take a look today.

DEXIS CariVu uses unique, patented transillumination technology to provide the ability to easily detect a range of carious lesions (occlusal, interproximal, recurrent) and cracks. This new system employs near-infrared light, which, in images, turns the natural tooth transparent and the caries dark, similar to radiographs, thus making it a view that is familiar to clinicians.

Not only are CariVu images easy to read and understand, they are captured and stored with the patient's other images in the DEXIS software. Because all intraoral X-rays, camera and CariVu images for the select tooth appear side-by-side, the clinician can quickly compare them to make a diagnosis and decide on a course of treatment.

These images can also be shared with patients so they may better understand the need for preventive or restorative care.

The technology behind CariVu offers an advantage in diagnosis of caries over systems that rely on fluorescence reactions, which are typically denoted by colors or numeric values.

In laboratory testing, this new transillumination device showed the view of the lesions on the images correlated well with their actual physical conditions.

With CariVu, the dentist therefore gains a more accurate view of the actual carious lesion’s shape and size, not just an indication of the presence of decay.

Be sure to get your hands on CariVu in the DEXIS booth, No. 1208.
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Conversion from film to digital takes many forms. It’s not just the dental office that is moving from film to digital imaging. Flow Dental, long a leading manufacturer of dental film and film accessories, has also transformed its product portfolio to include unique products essential to every dental practice that’s gone digital.

“We determined that our relevancy in a digital world would hinge on our ability to provide dentists with accessories that improve sensor or PSP usage and augment procedure workflow,” said Bill Winters, president of Flow.

“Dentists have really responded to our digital products. They recognize the added value we put into each product. They don’t buy our products based on price; they buy based on the benefits to their practice and their patients.”

Take the PSP market. Today, one out of every eight phosphor plate users relies on Flow’s Safe’n’Sure line of PSP envelopes. Safe’n’Sure’s three product styles each offer elegant time-saving solutions to enhance throughput and productivity while helping to extend the life and usage of the phosphor plates.

A great example of this is Flow’s Safe’n’Sure OPT style. These PSP covers are designed for plates that include magnets — about 25 percent of the market.

Unlike any other product, Flow pre-loads the cardboard insert halfway into the PSP envelope. Not only does this eliminate a time-consuming step, but it also assures the plate can never be loaded incorrectly (as the magnet on the plate has to line up with the cut-out on the cardboard insert).

To enhance removal of the plate, the OPT has a unique butterfly seam. This allows the user to easily remove the plate, without having to touch it. This prolongs and preserves the longevity of the plates.

Flow’s DELUXE Safe’n’Sure line was recently featured in a review by Clinical Research Associates. More than 75 percent of dentists who reviewed Flow’s Deluxe Safe’n’Sure said they would recommend it to their peers.

In the sensor area, Flow also distinguishes itself. Take its new Snuggies adjustable sensor sleeve. Snuggies allows the user to cinch-tight the sleeve around the sensor, regardless of sensor size or thickness. This means the operator no longer has to twist the sleeve around the sensor cable in order to keep it in place. It’s little things like that which add to office productivity and reduce expensive sensor repairs or replacements.

Other sensor accessories include Sensible’s adjustable sensor positioner, which allows the user to move from an anterior to a posterior or even to a bitewing — position, all with the same bite block. The Sensible bite block can be adjusted to the midline of any sensor, whether horizontally or vertically placed.

The only sensor positioner that can do all this, according to the company.

Today, Flow is far from finished re-inventing itself. Its newest product is the Exposure line of articulating strips. “As a leader in diagnostic products, we felt extending our line into it right here in the United States,” Winters said. “Dentists will appreciate the added convenience of not having to search for forceps or get the ink all over their gloves.”

Flow recently celebrated 40 years in business. Its sister company, Wolf X-Ray, is celebrating more than 80 years of service to the medical imaging market.

“As a family-owned business,” Winters said, “much like the majority of dental offices we service, we are proud to be a valued provider of unique and elegant products. And the best is yet to come!”

Here in Chicago
For more information on Flow Dental's products, visit www.flowdental.com. Contact your local dealer or stop by booth No. 905.

Fig. 1: Flow’s Safe’n’Sure OPT style PSP covers are for plates that include magnets. Flow pre-loads the cardboard insert halfway into the PSP envelope. (Photos/Provided by Flow Dental)

Fig. 2a: The Sensible’s adjustable sensor positioner enables the user to move from an anterior to a posterior — even to a bitewing — position, all with the same bite block. The bite block can be adjusted to the midline of any sensor, whether horizontally or vertically placed.

Fig. 2b: The Sensible’s adjustable sensor positioner enables the user to move from an anterior to a posterior — even to a bitewing — position, all with the same bite block. The bite block can be adjusted to the midline of any sensor, whether horizontally or vertically placed.

Fig. 3: Flow Dental’s newest product is the Exposure line of articulating strips (with no forceps needed).
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Benco, Convergent partner; expand Solea’s reach

Convergent Dental, a privately held dental equipment and technology company, today announced it has partnered with Benco Dental, one of the largest privately owned, full-service distributors of dental supplies, dental equipment, dental consulting and equipment services in the United States.

Effective immediately, Benco Dental will offer Solea, the first FDA-approved, CO2 9.3 micron dental laser for hard- and soft-tissue ablation, to its 35,000 customers nationwide.

“We are thrilled to add an exciting new product to our portfolio with proven capabilities to greatly impact our customers’ bottom line and patient experience,” said Benco Dental Vice President of Marketing Paul Jackson.

An array of dental lasers has been on the market for the past 30 years, but Solea is the first to enable reliable anesthesia-free and blood-free procedures, according to Convergent.

“Benco Dental’s decision to select Solea for its product portfolio speaks volumes about Convergent Dental and this dental laser,” said Dr. Hugh Flax, a Solea user and long-time Benco Dental customer.

“Having replaced my erbium laser with Solea’s advanced CO2 technology, it is clear to me that Solea represents an entirely new paradigm in dentistry. Joining forces with one of the most trusted dental suppliers in North America is a tremendous union that will make it easier for more dentists to deliver an entirely new patient experience.”

Solea dentists save time from not injecting or waiting for patients to get numb, enabling four-quadrant dentistry and bloodless procedures that they would not have performed with traditional tools, according to Convergent.

The company asserts that dentists thus routinely perform six or more additional procedures per day as a result.

“We are honored to partner with Benco Dental, one of the most respected, professional and knowledgeable dental suppliers in the country,” said Convergent Dental CEO Michael Cataldo.

“Our corporate cultures are perfectly aligned, with the focus being squarely on delivering on our promises to our customers above all else. That priority is certain to drive ongoing success for Convergent, Benco Dental and the customers we have in common.”

Here in Chicago

For more information or to see the Solea, visit www.convergentdental.com or stop by the booth, No. 4237.
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By NTI-Kahla Staff

The tried and tested conical FiberMaster glass fiber posts are amended with a separate head.

For the first time, the head ensures secure fixation of temporary prostheses. Repeat endodontic treatment with simultaneous stabilization of the tooth is now possible. The head posts feature a two-tier design.

Because this post restoration is inserted two-thirds into the prepared tooth, the risk of breakage compared to simple glass fiber posts is significantly reduced.

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65 percent of the length of the two-tier head is adhered in the dentin. The axial and lateral masticatory force that occurs is thus completely transferred to the prepared tooth. The risk of breakage, particularly in posts without a head, is almost completely eliminated.

The head can also be used without a post. As such, it is now possible for the very first time to securely fix a temporary prosthesis before endodontic treatment has been concluded, even with heavily damaged teeth. The hole in the TopHead enables further endodontic treatment to be performed without losing the retention strength of the temporary prosthesis.
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Scan here for more information on Giomer Technology & watch the Acid Neutralization video.