Innovation everywhere

By Robert Selleck, today Staff

With many attendees celebrating the meeting’s informal theme, there were lots of blue jeans to be seen here in Vancouver on Thursday — the first full day of events at the Pacific Dental Conference. Perhaps the only thing in greater supply than denim was the innovation.

The early-in-the-year scheduling has long made the PDC a preferred venue for dental companies to reveal their latest products and services, and 2018 is no exception with numerous innovations on display in the Exhibit Hall.

In the Dentsply Sirona booth, No. 429, you can learn more about the company’s TPH Spectra ST universal composite restorative, which is based

More top speakers coming up today and Saturday

The range and scope of educational sessions and speakers continues today and Saturday with a full agenda of presentations and hands-on courses. Looking at the mix of speakers, among your many choices are:

• Rodrigo Sanches Cunha, DDS, PhD, FRCD(C), is a board certified endodontist in Winnipeg, and since 1995, he has maintained a private practice limited to endodontics. Cunha has lectured extensively worldwide and is a part-time faculty member at the University of Manitoba. He has published more than 60 papers in peer-reviewed journals
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on SphereTEC filler technology, a proprietary method of manufacturing microscaled, well-defined spherical superstructures, composed of submicron glass.

The company asserts that the breakthrough technology makes the material easier to place, shade-match, finish and polish—and it’s more resistant to staining and wear.

In booth No. 149, Lares Research’s exclusive Canadian distributor Dental Fix Rx, can show you the Fluoresce HD handpiece, which is described as being “the world’s first dual-wavelength handpiece system.”

It has a light at the head that switches between normal white LED light and Fluoresce HD 405 nm LED light, which causes caries to fluoresce red, restorative material to glow yellow and healthy tooth to show as light green.

In both No. 105 you can see the instrument described by one clinician as “a revolutionary paradigm shift in dynamic surgical navigation.” ClaroNav developed the navigation technology called “Trace and Place,” labeling it Navident 2.0. Dr. Mark Kwan used the device on the Live Dentistry Stage Thursday while performing “3D Navigation Live Implant Surgery,” with narration by Dr. Mark Lin.

In the ClaroNav booth earlier in the day, Kwon said that among the device’s biggest benefits is its low barrier to entry. “It is so, so, simple compared with other systems,” Kwon said. “You just take a CBCT scan, load it up and you’re good to go.”

That reduces exposure to the patient, and means a clinician could even work with a recent CBCT scan the patient might bring from another source to assess surgery options.

Kwon also noted that he’s able to perform a virtual surgery in advance as a practice session, so he knows exactly what he will be doing with the patient at the time of actual surgery.

That’s just a hint at the scope of innovative products and services on display in the PDC Exhibit Hall. Today is your final chance to keep exploring, with the hall set to close at 5:30 p.m.

Live dentistry continues today in Exhibit Hall

The two live dentistry sessions in the Exhibit Hall yesterday attracted the usual capacity crowds, with observers spilling out beyond the designated sitting area. The Live Dentistry Stage is sponsored by A-dec and Sinclair, and each demonstration also has co-sponsors.


In a second session yesterday, Mark Kwon, DMD, and Mark Lin, DDS, FRCD(C), presented “3D Digital Navigation Live Implant Surgery,” co-sponsored by Nobel Biocare Canada.

There are three more sessions scheduled for today.

At 8:30 a.m., Bobby Birdi, DMD, Dipl Perio, Dip Pros, FRCD(C), FACP, DABP, and Ron Zokol, DMD, present “Today’s Tooth In One Day: Digital Anterior Immediate Implant Placement,” co-sponsored by Nobel Biocare Canada.

At 11 a.m., Sonia Lezy, DDS, Dipl Perio, FCDS(BC), FRCD(C), presents “Digital Dentistry and the Small Implant Bridge. How, Why, Everywhere,” co-sponsored by BioHorizons Canada.

At 2 p.m., Jonathan Ng, DDS, MSc, Dip Pros., FRCD(C), presents “How Digital Dentistry Makes Life Better: Bridging Dentist and Lab Communication: Implant Surgery,” co-sponsored by Henry Schein.