3Shape technologies — Closing-in on complete digital dentistry

To improve and expand their services, both dentists and labs need to address dentistry as a whole. 3Shape provides digital methods for improving efficiency throughout all phases of dental treatment, starting from the intra-oral impression scanned at the dentist’s clinic and continuing all the way through to manufacturing.

Dental System 2012 offers many features specifically designed to enable labs to develop their business as service centres for dentists. As a central part of this strategy, 3Shape Dental System 2012 facilitates workflows relevant to all areas of dentistry.

3Shape’s TRIOS is a complete digital impression solution for dental clinics that enables dentists to capture the intra-oral situation directly, achieving huge benefits in relation to traditional analogue impression taking. 3Shape TRIOS includes intra-oral scanning, intelligent software, and communication with the lab. Unique features include spray-free scanning, complete motion and positioning freedom while scanning, instant impression validation, and smart scan-edit tools.

Digital workflows enabled by 3Shape’s solutions:

The dentist or the clinic’s secretary creates the digital order using a form that is customised according to the specific lab’s requirements. The dentist easily scans the patient’s teeth, validates the digital impression, and immediately sends the case to the lab while the patient is still in the chair.

Labs using Dental System can receive TRIOS digital impression scans or third-party intra-oral scans (Sirona CEREC, Cadent iTero) from the dentist’s clinic directly in their TRIOS Inbox and can then start the design process immediately.

With 3Shape’s new Model Builder, labs can use TRIOS scans directly to design lab models, including implant models, either in-house or locally. The digital models are fully prepared for optimised manufacturing on 3-D printers or milling machines.

Dental System’s Digital Temporaries feature enables labs to digitally design and produce temporaries—directly from the pre-preparation scan and without pouring a gypsum model.

Labs can prepare aesthetic Virtual Diagnostic Wax-ups to send to the clinic for dentist–patient preview before the patient’s teeth are even prepared.

3Shape Communicate enables easy lab–dentist collaboration during all steps of the case. Approved designs can be reused when designing the final crown, saving time and ensuring aesthetics.

3Shape’s CAMbridge software automatically prepares digital designs for manufacture, and Dental System supports almost all materials and manufacturing equipment.

Digital technologies are rapidly becoming the standard in dental clinics, labs and manufacturing centres, and now the most advanced systems support collaboration and workflows between them.

Contact

3Shape A/S
Holmens Kanal 7
1060 Copenhagen K
Denmark

www.3shape.com
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Having presented its new dental design software, CARES Visual 7.0, at the recent Chicago Dental Society Midwinter Meeting, Straumann has now begun the rollout of this new system to CAD/CAM customers in Europe and North America. Like all Straumann software, CARES Visual 7.0 is designed to enhance user friendliness and versatility, but what distinguishes it is that it offers customers the possibility of producing prosthetic elements through third-party milling, thereby opening the Straumann CAD/CAM system.

Using CARES Visual 7.0, customers can design prosthetic crowns, bridges, onlays, inlays, etc. by computer and then route the design data to a milling lab either at or outside Straumann. At Straumann, the workflow is validated and seamless, and one of the broadest ranges of materials and applications is offered. Importantly, prosthetic restorations delivered through this process are covered by the Straumann guarantee.

The decision to have the prosthetic restorations milled externally might be driven by special functional or material preferences that are not available through Straumann. Today, many dental labs have to invest in multiple CAD/CAM systems in order to serve a mixed customer base with differing requirements. This places considerable economic and administrative burdens on the labs, which could be reduced through a single open system.

Dr Sandro Matter, Executive Vice-President of Straumann’s Prosthetics Business Unit, commented: “Customers want state-of-the-art functional software that offers flexibility and full assurance of predictability and reliability. CARES Visual 7.0 meets these criteria and ensures Straumann quality. It means that labs can now invest in a CAD/CAM system without the fear of being locked in to a single manufacturer.”

CARES Visual 7.0 is available as an upgrade to customers with CARES Scan CS2 scanners and comes installed in all new Straumann CARES systems delivered as of 1 March 2012.

Creating the open dental software platform of the future

Digital technologies are becoming widespread in dentistry and cover a broad spectrum of applications—from general practice management, treatment planning, imaging, guided surgery, digital impression taking, right through to computer-aided prosthetic design and manufacture. As digitalisation grows, so too does the number of incompatible systems, making dental labs reluctant to invest in technology that might become obsolete or compromise flexibility. Software standardisation—the precondition for open systems—will go some way towards resolving this.

A year ago, Straumann and 3M ESPE—a pioneering leader in digital dentistry—joined forces with Dental Wings to create an open global standard software platform for use across a range of dental applications. The initiative is expected to offer enhanced flexibility, simplicity, and convenience for users, while saving time, costs and investment.

CARES Visual 7.0 has been developed on the open DWOS (Dental Wings Open Software) software platform, which—thanks to its scope, quality and functionality—is positioned to become the future standard software solution in dentistry.

About Straumann CARES

Straumann CARES Digital Solutions provide dental professionals with a complete, reliable and precise solution. From scanning the intra-oral situation to sophisticated, prosthetic-driven backward planning, the digitalisation of dental workflows is bringing about new and exciting possibilities for patients, surgeons and lab technicians. The Straumann CARES platform offers seamless connectivity to thousands of scanners in dental practices worldwide and provides Straumann customers with access to future leading-edge developments in digital dentistry.
I would like to subscribe to CAD/CAM (4 issues per year) for €44 including shipping and VAT for German customers, €46 including shipping and VAT for customers outside Germany, unless a written cancellation is sent within 14 days of the receipt of the trial subscription. The subscription will be renewed automatically every year until a written cancellation is sent to Dental Tribune International GmbH, Holbeinstr. 29, 04229 Leipzig, Germany, six weeks prior to the renewal date.

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CEREC Club Select: additional benefits for users

In the interests of longevity and reliability, dentists should regularly maintain and update their dental capital equipment. For some years now, CEREC Club has offered users the latest CEREC software upgrades and updates free of charge. As Sirona continues to develop its portfolio of dental CAD/CAM systems, the company has now decided to relaunch its Club membership package.

The new CEREC Club Select comprises an extensive range of services that have been precisely tailored to the requirements of CEREC AC users.

Firstly, users receive regular software upgrades and updates ensuring that their equipment remains fully up to date. Secondly, special maintenance kits and an extended spare parts warranty protect the dentist’s investment long-term. Additionally, CEREC Club Select members are entitled to take part in online tutorials on www.dentalusers.com free of charge over a six month period.

CEREC Club Select membership commences on installation of the CEREC AC (contracts can be signed within a period of 30 days thereafter) and runs for 36 months.

The contract covers one CEREC AC and up to two milling units installed either at the same time or subsequently. After the initial membership contract has expired, the user can opt for CEREC Club Select Plus membership for a further 36 months.

CEREC Club Select Plus comprises services that are geared to this specific stage in the product lifecycle—i.e. software upgrades and updates as well as new hardware components, in particular a free of charge upgrade PC for the CEREC AC. This ensures that the dentist can exploit the full potential of the software.

CEREC Club Select has been available in numerous countries since 1 April 2012. Authorized dealers can order membership packages via the Sirona webshop.

The benefits of CEREC Club Select membership at a glance:

- CEREC and/or inLab software upgrades and updates depending on milling unit type;
- In addition to the manufacturer’s warranty, free spare parts for one CEREC AC and up to two Sirona milling units for a period of two years;
- Three maintenance kits;
- Online tutorials for a period of six months.

The benefits of CEREC Club Select Plus membership at a glance:

- Free of charge upgrade PC for the CEREC AC acquisition unit;
- CEREC and/or inLab software upgrades and updates depending on milling unit type.

CEREC Club Select is not available in the United States and in Canada.

Contact

Sirona Dental Systems GmbH
Fabrikstraße 31
64625 Bensheim
Germany

contact@sirona.de
www.sirona.com

CAD/CAM