Welcome to the digital age!

“The world’s largest taxi firm, Uber, owns no cars. The world’s most popular media company, Facebook, creates no content. The world’s most valuable retailer, Alibaba, carries no stock. And the world’s largest accommodation provider, Airbnb, owns no property. Something big is going on.” These words have been said by Tom Goodwin, an executive at the French media group Havas in 2015 and has been doing the rounds since. Obviously he was right, “something is going on”, although making these observations, he meant the companies that control the interface between the consumer and the provider of the goods or services, I guess we can put them in a different context as well: the world is changing very quickly today, including the world of dentistry.

Analogue versus digital workflow. Can CAD/CAM replace skilled ceramists? Can we donate our smile to somebody else? Will digital impressions eliminate the conventional ones? What if the digital cloud crashes and loses our digital storage? We try to give you the answers to these and many more similar questions in CAD/CAM magazine.

In this edition, you will find articles on practice management, digital workflow, CAD/CAM assisted treatment and treatment planning. Dr Simon Chard from UK describes his experience with CEREC and implant restorations, while Drs Richard Zimmermann and Stefanie Seitz from the US explain principles and advantages of implant insertion through the DWOS Synergy workflow. Dr Torsten Seidenstricker and Dominique Vinci (Switzerland), in an amazingly illustrated article, present symbiosis of different procedures and materials on an example of zirconium dioxide and fluorapatite glass-ceramic. In the cone beam supplement, Dr David Burgess (UK) demonstrates how useful dynamic navigation can be, especially for flapless implant placement.

I hope you will find this issue interesting, enjoy it and get ready for an exciting New Year 2018, as there will surely be a lot of innovations to write about.

Magda Wojtkiewicz
Managing Editor