Tekscan launches new digital occlusal analysis system

Tekscan has announced the launch of T-Scan Novus, the next generation of its digital occlusal analysis system. T-Scan is used by clinicians and researchers who perform or study occlusal analysis in order to effectively measure the timing and force of teeth coming together in the mouth. A frame-by-frame movie of occluding teeth allows clinicians to identify problematic contacts that could damage dental work or contribute to pain, sensitivity, and periodontal issues or temporomandibular joint dysfunction. The new system features an ergonomically designed handpiece, sensors and sensor supports—bringing an all-new look and feel to digital occlusal analysis. A software update (Version 9.1) has been released in tandem with the new system.

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T-Scan is the only technology that shows the measured force and the timing of occlusal surfaces coming together. With T-Scan’s digital bite force data, clinicians can pinpoint occlusal interferences, quickly remove them, and treat patients with greater accuracy. T-Scan is also a great visual aid that helps patients better understand their occlusion and the treatments that may be necessary to balance bite forces.

The Novus Handpiece has upgrades to improve efficiency in a clinical setting, such as a handle that is easier to hold, chairside adjustment buttons, handle latch redesign, wall attachment and user-replaceable cord. The accompanying software comes with user-inspired improvements, such as HIPAA-compliance improvements to the patient list, sensitivity adjustment wizard, option to disregard artefacts from overjet/overbite from Class II malocclusions, auto-typing (categorisation) of multi-bite scans, more accurate ABCD (closure timing) lines, and improved implant loading alerts.

Dentists who want a modern digital occlusal analysis system will find the hardware and software ideal for comprehensive examinations, patient education, and case finishing in any dental application.

_A sleeker, faster and more convenient way to measure occlusion_

T-Scan Novus can be used in virtually every application in dental medicine requiring occlusal analysis. Dentists specialising in prosthetics may use T-Scan to help them preserve crowns and bridges, identify the cause of rocking in dentures, and ensure implant longevity. Cosmetic applications include comprehensive bite analysis for full-mouth reconstruction, identification of contact points with veneers, and maintaining a healthy occlusion throughout orthodontic treatment. Temporomandibular joint dysfunction specialists may use T-Scan to adjust orthotic appliances or identify occlusal imbalances that could be contributing to symptoms.

“If practising quality dentistry and occlusion is important to the dentist, T-Scan is an invaluable tool,” said dentist Dr Donn Mettens. “It is absolutely key for the longevity of crowns, restoration, and rehabilitation cases—but most spectacularly for the symptomatic patients. I’m just sorry I didn’t get it sooner. Because of the quality of dentistry we practise, we have so many grateful and appreciative patients. I would never give up T-Scan.”

While the clinical value of digital occlusal analysis benefits dentists and their staff in a variety of applications, integrating T-Scan technology is different for every practice. Some larger practices use T-Scan on every new patient for a baseline occlusal record, or in the hygiene re-care department. Others may choose...
to use it on specific cases, such as implant restoration or full-mouth rehabilitation. The recent improvements to the system with the launch of T-Scan Novus make integrating the technology to evaluate occlusion easier for practising clinicians. The handpiece can be hung in any operatory and moved between multiple operatories for easy access.

T-Scan Novus is not only a convenient tool to help in diagnosis and treatment, it is also a patient education and case finishing tool. “I am 82 years old and have suffered malocclusion most of my life,” said patient Charles McPartland from Philadelphia in the US. “I have lost several teeth due to this. In Florida, I had a T-Scan bite analysis and adjustment. I never felt so good afterward. I’m going to find a T-Scan dentist in Philadelphia, because I’m tired of losing good teeth due to traditional occlusal indicators.” Patients can visualise their occlusal disorders on-screen to help them understand the need for treatment. Dentists use the data to pinpoint bite issues and non-visible indicators that could be contributing to symptoms.

T-Scan Novus has been under development for some time and over 17 clinicians were part of the initial beta test. The new system was released in September, sparking interest among existing users and prospective customers alike.

“T-Scan Novus is the biggest release this product has seen in over a decade,” said Sarah Hutchinson, Project Manager for the Tekscan Dental Division. “The recent software upgrades bridge the gap between digital renderings and measured occlusal force, while the hardware has been redesigned to reflect the style and functionality of modern dental hardware you’d see in labs or operatories. T-Scan Novus looks as well as it performs and we couldn’t be more excited about this launch.”