By Dental Tribune International

COLOGNE, Germany: On Wednesday at IDS, the Straumann Group announced further investments and partnerships, and released a stream of new products.

The many new partnerships, investments, and collaborations include the following: French implant manufacturer Anthogyr, a provider of innovative implant and CAD/CAM solutions, German partner MEDENTIA, which now offers high-quality prostheses for value implant brands, Korean company Medit, a global provider of digital dentistry solutions, and ClearCorrect, a developer and producer of high-quality, easy-to-use clear aligners.

In the world of implants, Straumann released a fully tapered implant system, BLX. It is designed for immediate placement and is suitable for all treatment protocols. It optimises primary stability in all bone classes and simplifies restorative workflows. Together with BLX, an innovative drilling concept called Straumann VeloDrill has been launched—its main advantages being reduced heat generation, high drilling stability and time-savings.

The new, highly aesthetic Straumann SNOW ceramic implant, developed by its partner Z-Systems, is now available and offers the widest range of ceramic implant options, supported by digital workflows and biomaterial information.

Planned for release in 2020 is a premium zygomatic implant system for patients with severe maxillary atrophy, and training and education for dentists will be offered, according to Straumann.

New scanners include the Virtuo Vivo and a co-branded version of the latest 3Shape TRIOS 4 intra-oral scanner with fluorescence technology to identify surface caries and zetradation infrared scanning to detect interpolar caries. Straumann also plans to enter the preventative market.

Further details are available at www.straumann.com.

**VITA is the colour expert**

By OEMUS MEDIA

Markus Baumgartner, Product Manager of Technician Solution at VITA Zahnfabrik, discusses VITA YZ SOLUTIONS.

When VITA YZ zirconia stand out among all the other zirconia options on the market?

With VITA YZ SOLUTIONS, VITA is offering the system solution for precise, efficient and true-to-shade zirconia restorations. VITA YZ SOLUTIONS includes zirconia blanks in four degrees of translucency with matched system components for reliable shade reproduction. With VITA YZ SOLUTIONS, a broad spectrum of restorative concepts can be implemented. From the highly individual re-construction to the solid standard restoration, this system offers many aesthetic options. VITA YZ SOLUTIONS is the system for consistent, accurate, true-to-shade restorations of excellent quality. The system includes liquids for colouring, staining and glazing materials for individualisation, veneering ceramics, and firing units for sintering and staining firings.

What need did VITA identify to develop these colours? Thanks to the successful development and adjustment of the physical and mechanical properties, VITA relied on long-standing material knowledge and the knowledge of our development engineers. As a result, we probably have the greatest expertise on this zirconia manufactured by the company, whose shade guides are used fairly universally across the profession?

With VITA YZ SOLUTIONS, all kinds of restorations can be made from fully anatomical crowns up to 14 unit anterior and posterior bridges, fully and partially veneered single-tooth restorations and up to 14 unit bridge frameworks in the anterior and posterior regions, single-tooth restorations and up to 14 unit bridgés on directly screwed-on implant abutments in the anterior and posterior regions, primary telesopes, inlays, onlays, veneer, partial crowns and tablets.

What is the initial feedback on the product been? Since the market launch in 2002, customers have been reporting to us very good edge stability and excellent fit after sintering. For the new variants (VITA YZ XT and VITA YZ ST), customers are delighted with the excellent colour match for the VITA classical A1–D4 shade guide.

How important is the advantage of the VITA YZ zirconia allow laboratories and dentists to do that they couldn’t otherwise?

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Interview: “When you do innovation, you also have to take care of education.”

By Petar Mollov, DTMEA

Mectron S.P.A, based in Italy, has revolutionised the dental surgery world with the development of piezoelectric surgery equipment. At the IDS show in Cologne, Germany, the company presented a new generation of prophylaxis devices. Dental Tribune Middle East and Africa representative Petar Mollov interviewed Dr. Massimo Lemetti, CEO of Mectron S.P.A, about the new products launched at IDS and the company plans for the Middle East region.

First of all, Happy Birthday to Mectron and congratulations on this milestone, 40 years!

During your anniversary speech you highlighted the importance of technology an innovation to Mectron and how this has evolved over the years. How has this statement evolved and kept over the years represented by the products that Mectron offers?

Thank you for the birthday wishes. There were no big changes to what we do. Technology and innovation are the drivers of our activities. The goal in simple words is to exploit the existing technologies in order to facilitate the life of the doctors by proposing solutions to the problems they face in their daily activities and this is for the ultimate benefit of the patients. This has been the main driver of our activities in the past and the future, so no big changes to what and how we do. The big change is related to the way technology evolved, by moving from single visionary inventors towards the structured work of engineers grouped in teams.

You have just mentioned the R&D which is in the DNA of Mectron. How do you sustain and motivate the over 200 employees to wake up every morning with the thought of innovation? What is your spending on R&D and how does it compare to the dental industry average?

In general we are spending approximately 20% of our turnover in R&D on yearly basis, which is about 2 to 3 times the industry’s average. This is a good representation of how important R&D is for us. Motivation of the people, all people involved in the new technologies and in bringing new technologies to the market is something that is mostly coming from inside Mectron. R&D and innovation are rough and tough roads which means a lot of days, months, years of effort, of commitment, of dedication, of passion and only then comes the satisfaction of launching a new product. This satisfaction is lasting only for very few moments because then you have to start with a new project from the beginning. This is the destiny of the people committed to innovation but it is what we like and what we enjoy doing. This is what motivates everyone in Mectron.

Tell us a little bit about how Mectron was formed and the philosophy of its founders.

The history of Mectron is, I would say, the usual way a business is started but still very interesting. Normally, such companies start with an idea shared between friends. That’s what has happened to Mectron, there were young engineers, Fernando Bianchetti and Domenico Vercellotti who are two friends knowing each other since primary school days, spent in a tiny fishermen village located in the Ligurian Riviera. One day they were discussing the possibilities of what to do in their lives. They had an idea in doing something in the dental and medical business for benefiting the people. They started a small company the same village where they used to go to school. From there until now, the company has developed and grown day by day, continuously, until reaching what Mectron is today - 200 employees, spread in Italy, US and Germany which are the countries where we have our main offices. We became quite big considering from where we started. We are very thankful to all our clients, doctors, dealers, friends and all the contribution to our voyage.

For Mectron, the Middle East is an important market, and that’s why we have developed specific organizations for the Middle East. Our regional representative Hosamm Ghaly has been appointed to develop the Middle East area. Additionally, we are developing a lot of educational courses in order to promote our technologies and this shows our commitment to stay close to our clients. We are attending many regional events such as the Dental Facial Cosmetic Conference & Exhibition in Dubai which we will be participating in on 08 and 09 November this year.

Mectron is involved in a lot of educational programmes throughout the globe. What is your strategy when it comes to dental education in the short term?

Education is something that goes with Mectron’s vision and mission parallelly because when you do innovation, you also have to take care of education, so in a certain way education is going along with our philosophy. We have a lot of educational courses around the world, especially related to our new product lines.

Could you tell us a bit more about yourself and your journey in the medical and dental field?

I joined Mectron four years ago and it has been an amazing and exciting journey. It is an honor for me to be the Head of this organisation which is composed out of many passionate people.

Thank you very much for this informative and interesting interview.

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Dr Massimo Lemetti – CEO of Mectron S.P.A.
Ivoclar Vivadent presents new 3-D printing system for dental laboratories at IDS 2019

By Ivoclar Vivadent

COLOGNE, Germany: PrograPrint is a new 3-D printing system for use in dental technology. It is integrated into a validated workflow and comprises materials and equipment for printing, cleaning and postcuring. The printing system is a new addition to Ivoclar Vivadent’s digital portfolio and complements the PrograMill milling equipment excellently. It is being showcased at IDS 2019 for the first time.

The highly precise 3-D printer, PrograPrint PR5, is the heart of the system. The automatic material recognition and intuitive operation ensure a reliable process for printing objects. The specially developed homogeneous light processing technology facilitates an even light output. The results have a high level of precision.

The extremely user-friendly printer has been specially designed for dental requirements. For example, it can be used to print models and splints. A notable feature is the specifically developed cartridge system. The cartridges enable easy, contactless handling of the materials. They also protect the materials against polymerization caused by ambient light during storage. The printed objects are cleaned with the efficient PrograPrint Clean cleaning device. Postcuring is carried out with the universal PrograPrint Cure, which completes the production of the 3-D object.

The new 3-D printer provides a selection of light-cured materials for a wide range of applications. ProArt Print Wax burns out without any residue. This material is particularly suitable for the production of definitive restorations. A race exists between temporary restorations and definitive restorations. A race exists for high-precision models that feature excellent dimensional stability—for example, models with removable dies and implant models, as well as models for the fabrication of vacuum-formed splints.

ProArt Print Splint is a highly transparent material with very good physical properties for the precise production of drilling templates and occlusal splints. It can also be used to produce a try-in base for fixed and removable prostheses, in particular for Digital Denture.

Ivoclar Vivadent is now showcasing an innovative 3-D printing system for dental technicians: PrograPrint.

Interview: Planmeca hosts daily shows at IDS

By Dental Tribune International

At this year’s IDS, Planmeca is exhibiting a vast range of digital innovations and is hosting a series of shows in a spectacular enclosed 360° area, featuring a large, curved LED screen, to illustrate how its products can improve daily work at the clinic. Internationally renowned lecturers are giving detailed clinical presentations on how to realise the full potential of dental technology. Dental Tribune International had the opportunity to interview Dr Walter Renne, from the Medical University of South Carolina in the US, on the major topics of the shows, current trends in digital dentistry and the Planmeca Romexis software.

Dr Renne, what specific topics are the focus? The speakers are focusing on the power that the Romexis software has on patient care. The focus is on real-world clinical cases. This conceptual open software works synergistically with the platform of innovative Planmeca products, such as the Emerald scanner, Viso CBCT unit and Creo 5.0 printer to transform patient care. Everything, including surgical guides, smile design, milling and scanning, will be covered.

What are you focusing on in your presentations at IDS? I am specifically speaking on Romexis Smile Design. When combined with the Creo 5.0 printer, smile mock-ups can be designed, printed and transferred to the patient in a single appointment. This is thanks to the new Creo 5.0 printer being one of the fastest in the industry. I can easily scan a complete arch and print the model in under 10 minutes.

What do you consider some of the most current trends in digital dentistry right now? First, 3-D printing is a major hot topic right now, not just for surgical guides and models, but also for prostheses that are blunting the boundary between temporary restorations and definitive restorations. A race exists for speed, accuracy, ease of use and low cost.

Second, AI—to make our work on software easier, such as the software for the Emerald scanner, which uses AI to eliminate lips and cheeks automatically. Another major time-saver is the automatic model hollow and base for 3-D printing found in the Romexis Model Analyser module.

Last, virtual and augmented reality surgical tools Planmeca is leading the way with the first virtual reality implant planning and surgical guide software. The company also has a fully integrated augmented reality surgical navigation technology that is built into the light of the dental unit to track movements.

How do you use the Romexis software in your daily dental work? Romexis is the centre of everything 2-D and 3-D images, including radiographs, CBCT and intraoral scans, are all completely integrated into one centralised location. It powers nearly everything that I do in my practice and is critical to my success as a clinician.