Glidewell takes C.E. on the road

Full-day Dallas event sells out
By Robert Selleck, Managing Editor

Attendee response to the inaugural Glidewell Dental Symposium 2017, held in November in Dallas, has the company planning a 2018 follow-up.

“It exceeded my expectations. I’m very, very pleased with it,” said Glidewell Laboratories President and CEO Jim Glidewell in an interview with Chairside Live, the company’s online educational and informational video platform. Commenting on the event’s unique format, Glidewell said, “I think it’s going to be a big hit, and we’re going to see this beyond Dallas. We’re getting information out there and helping dentistry to be more responsive and more valued.”

The sold-out, single-day symposium brought together 11 opinion leaders from various sectors of dentistry, each delivering 30- to 40-minute presentations. Topics included esthetic dentistry, digital dentistry, dental implants, tissue regeneration, sleep-related dentistry and practice management — all with a focus on tools and techniques that are helping dental practices achieve clinical and business success. Attendees of the sold-out event were able to earn up to eight C.E. units.

When asked in the Chairside Live interview if more such events will be held, Glidewell said, “Absolutely. We think we can go to every major city in the United States, and this idea will work.”

In addition to the speakers, the event included an interactive exhibits area featuring the latest tools and resources Glidewell Dental has available for practices. Attendees were also able to take a virtual-reality tour of the main lab areas at the company’s 71,000-square-foot facility in Newport Beach, Calif. With a staff of 4,500, the company is the largest employer in Orange County, operating out of a total of 650,000 square feet of office space, Glidewell noted in opening remarks at the symposium.

Chad Duplantis, DDS, who is in private practice in Fort Worth and speaks internationally, presented “Digital Dentistry: The New Office Paradigm.” Duplantis covered the history of his increasingly digital practice. His set up incorporates the latest offerings from glidewell.io (In-Office Solution), which comprises a package of tools and support that enable practices to scan, design and even mill in house (with full support from the Glidewell lab) to provide patients with quicker service — not just with single crowns.

Hinman meeting will feature nearly 260 courses

The 106th annual Thomas P. Hinman Dental Meeting will be March 22–24 at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta.

Dr. Patrick Yancey III, general chairman for Hinman 2018, said, “We are excited about this year’s program and theme, which is ‘Experience Hinman: Invest in Your Future.’ It emphasizes the importance of continuing dental education for everyone, from millennials just starting out to seasoned professionals looking to revitalize their practices. We’ve created a quality continuing education program delivered by many new speakers as well as some of the profession’s favorites.

73 Interactive courses, 65 speakers
Hinman will feature nearly 260 courses, including 73 participation and interactive courses covering topics that dental professionals can apply immediately.

The meeting will feature more than 65 speakers — 20 new to Hinman — who will present the latest developments in the profession.

Renowned forensic pathologist Dr. Bennet Omalu will be the featured keynote speaker. His story is chronicled in the hit film “Concussion” (starring Will Smith). For meeting details, visit www.hinman.org or contact Sylvia Ratchford, executive director, at (404) 231-1665.

(Source: Hinman Dental Society)
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but with bridges, inlays, onlays, partials, aligners, ortho appliances and more. It’s all about "simplifying your workflow and making your office more efficient," Duplantis said, commenting on the process used to determine how and when to keep control in house or when to tap into additional expertise from the lab.

Tim Kosinski, DDS, MAGD, a general dentist in Bingham Farms, Mich., presented "Esthetic Implant Success." Kosinski, who is an adjunct clinical professor at the University of Detroit Mercy School of Dentistry, used a show of hands to determine that nearly half of the general dentists in the audience were placing implants. He quickly covered one of his recent cases involving a fractured tooth in a patient with very thin facial palatal bone. The case involved immediate implant placement with a Hahn Tapered Implant, graft material and a custom temporary abutment from Glidewell Dental Laboratories. "Visualize the case finished before you ever start," Kosinski said, when sharing his thought process from initial scanning through follow-up.

"Every single one of you should be doing sleep dentistry," advised Suzanne Haley, DMD, in presenting "Preventing Sleep Divorce." The sleep dentistry and general dentist who practices in St. Simons Island, Ga., emphasized that dentists only screen and treat (or refer) — leaving diagnosis to physicians. Noting that research shows that snoring and other sleep disorders have a bigger negative impact on lifespan than smoking, Haley said, "You can save a marriage. You can save a life. You can change a life." She explained in detail how she heavily relies on a number of Glidewell’s sleep-dentistry products.

Presenting "Quality Provisionals for Esthetic Success," Steven Barrett, DDS, shared an emotionally charged video capturing his patients’ reaction upon first seeing their smiles following his placement of BioTemps Provisionals. Barrett is partner and clinical director with Greenberg Dental and Orthodontics, which has more than 70 offices and 240 practitioners across Florida. He outlined in detail how he approaches various cases and works closely with Glidewell lab professionals. "My goal is for my patients to pick up a mirror and say they love their provisional," Barrett said.

Introduced as the "Father of Implant Dentistry," Jack Hahn, DDS, delivered the event’s closing keynote, "The Emergency Implant." Hahn, who maintains a private practice in Cincinnati, quickly and self-deprecatingly guided the audience through the earliest days of his 45 years of experience in placing dental implants. Today Hahn is perhaps best known for his involvement in the design of the Hahn Tapered Implant System. With a clinician’s eye, Hahn outlined in detail the latest thinking in evaluating and successfully performing immediate implant placements.

Other speakers included Anamaria Muresan, DMD, ME, CDT, on "New Techniques for Successful Veneers"; Carrie Webber on "Getting Your Patients to Say 'Yes' to the Big Cases"; Justin Chi, DDS, CDT, on "The Reengineered PFM"; Raymond Choi, DDS, on "Indications for Small-Diameter Implants"; Paresh Patel, DDS, on "Monolithic Zirconia from Single Crowns to the Full Arch" and Charles Schlesinger, DDS, on "Ridge Preservation Protocol for Success."

Many of the presenters teach continuing education course at the Glidewell International Technology Center, a 2,800-square-foot, state-of-the-art training, education and demonstration center that for years has provided comprehensive programs on all aspects of implant and restorative dentistry.

The Dallas event represented the first time the company has packaged a full symposium of such training outside of its Irvine base. The $125 preregistration tuition included breakfast, lunch and a closing cocktail event. You can monitor or sign up for notifications at glidewellsymposium.com to learn about a planned 2018 symposium.