BIRMINGHAM, UK: In partnership with clear aligner provider Align Technology, MiSmile has helped dentists in the UK to successfully integrate Invisalign tooth straightening in their practices for the last two years. At the Dentistry Show in Birmingham last month, it was announced that the network is expanding this growing business model to tooth whitening through a new partnership with oral health care specialist Philips.

By joining the new initiative, member practices will be able to double their treatment case load within a year, both companies said. Founded by Birmingham dentist Dr Sandeep Kumar, MiSmile currently consists of more than 50 practices across the UK that, combined, have finished over 10,000 Invisalign cases. The new whitening network will make use of Philips’s approved Zoom Whitening solution and offer a proven bespoke lead generation programme that directs qualified leads to the practice in an exclusive, ring-fenced geographical area.

Other benefits include practice-wide access to a dentistry-specific lead nurturing platform called DenGo, which, according to both companies, helps to nurture and convert these enquiries into cases and turn them into long-term patients. It will further provide on- and offline marketing tools to help a member practice promote Zoom Whitening to new and existing patients and consequently generate new revenue streams.

Network meetings, support, training and mentoring programmes help the practice principal and team on an ongoing basis, they added.

“I would like to help other practice principals apply the knowledge I have gained both with Invisalign and with Zoom to double their tooth whitening case volume,” said Kumar. “I am putting out a personal invitation to become one of the first to join the Zoom Whitening Network and benefit from the opportunities for future practice growth in an enticingly new way that is entirely proven.”

Philips further announced that it has started a new campaign exclusively aimed at dental hygienists with the introduction of a digital hub under the name Shine On. On the platform, among other things, hygienists will have access to video testimonials, industry news, educational resources and regular Shine On sweepstakes with giveaways. The launch in Birmingham was joined by leading hygienists, including Anna Mid- dleton, Mel Prebble, Juliette Reeves, Christina Chatfield and Sara Murray, who discussed shining examples of good dental hygiene practice during a joint panel on Friday afternoon.

Today also saw the official launch of Philips’s latest version of its flagship product in oral health care. Labelled the most intelligent toothbrush in the world, the new Sonicare DiamondClean Smart features smart sensor technology in both the toothbrush and the brush head with the purpose of helping patients to improve their brushing technique. The sensors track the brushing and communicate with a smart device app that provides real-time feedback and guidance to the user. Furthermore, the company’s interproximal cleaning device Sonicare AirFloss has received an upgrade and now features a new charge and fill docking station.

Philips “reveals everything” in Birmingham
Company partners with MiSmile network, launches new products and hygienist campaign at Dentistry Show

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Dentists receive new tool to combat enamel erosion

Unilever introduces REGENERATE serum in the UK

By DTI

LONDON, UK: Teeth in this day and age are constantly under attack. While sugar has been considered to do the most harm to our pearly whites, a new concern has recently emerged with the increasing consumption of soft drinks and acidic foods that are sold to millions in supermarkets and corner shops throughout the country every day.

Around 54 per cent of young adults in the UK are estimated to have significant tooth wear, according to a recent study conducted at King’s College London, for this and other reasons. If left untreated, erosion can lead not only to weakened enamel but also to other negative symptoms, like yellowing, higher transparency and sensitivity.

After three years of development, Unilever launched a new premium oral health line in May exclusively designed for dental professionals that is claimed not only to help ongoing enamel loss but also to reverse it. According to the company, the REGENERATE serum complements the toothpaste with the same name that is already available in high-street shops in the UK and other markets in Europe, the Middle East and South America. Used in combination, they form an effective clinical solution in the practice and at home to reverse the consequences of erosion, Unilever said.

The REGENERATE Professional Advanced Enamel Serum for the three-day application comes as a complete kit containing the serum, an activator gel and two soft mouth trays. Monthly refill packages without the trays are also available from the company. The system is exclusively available through CTS Dental Supplies in Redhill.

The first public showing was this three-day regimen once a month, the system was able to help recover 82 per cent of surface microhardness compared with standard fluoride toothpaste.

Brushing twice with the REGENERATE toothpaste additionally supports the rehardening of acid-affected enamel, the company said.

In addition to patients with highly acidic diets, the system is recommended for patients who have enamel through erosion while undergoing specific clinical procedures such as tooth whitening or who have medical conditions that cause reduced salivary flow, for example. Since erosion is difficult to detect, Unilever said it provides aids for users to diagnose enamel loss in the early stages. This includes the Basic Erosive Wear Examination Assist Guide in order to determine a patient’s risk score for erosive wear, along with a number of patient education materials.

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Techceram receives distribution rights for Singaporean 3-D printing tech

By DTI

BIRMINGHAM, UK/Singapore: 3-D printing is poised to become one of the fastest-growing fields in dentistry. West Yorkshire provider of CAD/CAM solutions Techceram has recently gained access to a larger share of the market through a partnership with Singaporean company Structo, which develops and builds 3-D printers for dental applications.

Under the agreement, which came into effect last month, Techceram will be allowed to distribute Structo’s full range of products to its UK customer base.

“Structo’s products provide a powerful combination of market-leading speed and accuracy, and we believe that our established presence in the UK will be a good platform for their further growth here,” he said.

Based in Shipley, near Leeds, Techceram currently supplies ceramic substructures and equipment for the industry, including milling machines, scanners and furnaces, to over 200 dental laboratories in the UK.

Carestream software available with full DEPPA integration

By DTI

BIRMINGHAM, UK: Dentists in the UK now have the option to start using the Denplan PreViser Patient Assessment (DEPPA) examinations right from the clinical screen in Carestream’s CS R4+ management software without logging in separately, the company told reporters at the Dentistry Show in Birmingham.

The new functionality is aimed at saving dentists time and making the management of patients easier and faster.

Introduced in 2013, DEPPA is an innovative patient assessment tool that, according to Denplan, provides an instantaneous online report of a patient’s oral health score, with a detailed assessment of his or her future risk of developing several dental diseases. It is currently available free to all Denplan Excel-certified dentists or for a £100 subscription fee to Denplan members. With the integration, the full DEPPA patient assessment form can now be launched in R4+’s clinical patient record and completed there in any order.

In addition to its software upgrade, Carestream presented new devices for dental imaging in Birmingham, including the multi-functional four-in-one imaging solution CS 8000SC 3D and the intra-oral scanner CS 3600. First launched in March at the International Dental Show in Cologne in Germany, the new scanner allows easier and faster capturing of digital impressions than ever before, the company said. Featuring an intelligent matching system and no fixed distance, it was designed to deliver accurate images in full high-definition 3-D. A side-oriented tip is intended to make lingual, buccal and distal scanning easier. Designed with an open architecture, files obtained with the device can be shared easily with the referral or dental laboratories.

The first public showing was this weekend at the Dental Technology Showcase in Birmingham, where visitors were able to experience Structo’s OrthoForm 3-D printer for orthodontics.

Structo offers control systems and software, in addition to its 3-D printing technology, for which it has formulated its own photopolymers. According to founder Huub van Esbroeck, the partnership with Techceram is the first step to further expanding the company’s reach in the European market. Structo having just launched its latest MSLA-equipped DentalForm printer, which can print at up to 800 microns accuracy at record speeds, he said he is confident that the company’s application-based approach to product development will significantly benefit the adoption of digital dentistry in the region. According to Structo, its proprietary MSLA (mask stereolithography) technology allows faster printing than with conventional SLA printers.

“We have identified Europe as a key market for Structo and I am looking forward to seeing how this partnership can improve our ground support for our customers,” he said.

Techceram 3-D Director Richard Buckle added that, in addition to increasing its product offering, the company’s reach in the European market has recently gained access to a larger share of the market through a partnership with Singaporean company Structo, which develops and builds 3-D printers for dental applications.