MICRO-MEGA: combining tradition & advanced technology

An interview with Jean-Marie Badoz, sales and marketing director of MICRO-MEGA

There are more than 1,000 manufacturers of products for dental purposes, but only a few of them have contributed to modern development with real innovations. One of them is MICRO-MEGA, founded in the beginning of the 20th century as a simple craft business manufacturing precision tools for the clock industry.

Please tell readers about the company and its history.

Jean-Marie Badoz: Located in Besançon, France, MICRO-MEGA was founded in 1905 by two workers toiling in a small shop. The company first specialized in the watch-making industry, and then managed to adapt its production to modern needs, particularly in the field of dentistry. In 1907, MICRO-MEGA manufactured its first nerve broaches, which brought the company worldwide recognition.

In 1935, MICRO-MEGA decided to diversify its production to include root canal shaping. This new awareness led to a more thorough root canal preparation, and thus to an improved root canal shaping. From the introduction of the Giromatic® and R-Endo® in 1938 and the LaForce Helitro® in 1950, which transmit acoustic waves the length of special endodontic instruments, MICRO-MEGA has continued to be at the cutting edge of canal enlargement using the micro-burshing technique to remove mineralized tissues.

Launched in 1989, the HERO 642® used continuously rotating [300 to 600 rpm] nickel-titanium instruments with different tapers to clean and shape root canals. After several years, we felt a need to take the HERO 642 further and improve its performance.

First, while preserving the principle of the instrument with a triple helix cutting edge, we made the pitch length of the blade and the cutting portions varying according to the taper. These modifications increased the flexibility of the instruments and made it possible to offer a six-instrument kit, the HERO Shaper®, whose name denotes a root canal shaping that is adapted to the biological and ergonomic imperatives.

This system promotes a thorough root canal cleaning, and offers apical finishing that is adapted to the anatomical and ecological criteria of the canal. It is a sequence of functions according to a cutting, clearance and cleaning cycle, thus allowing an active upward dentinal chips elimination.

In 2005, the company celebrated its 100th anniversary. Please discuss your products and the advantages they offer.

MICRO-MEGA designs, manufactures and sells products in the dental and medical fields. Its range of products includes endodontics, handpieces and hygiene devices.

The area of endodontics includes root canal instruments, which are small instruments [weight: +/-0.5 g] that are mass-produced and that enable one to clean and shape root canals.


Nickel-titanium, a derivative of orthodontic nitinol, first appeared in 1988 and began to be used in endodontics in the United States in 1992.

Our handpieces and contra-angles are precision instruments with multiple components — on average 50 components with a total weight of approximately 50 g — manufactured in small to medium production runs and used to trigger a rotary or vibration movement of burs and dental instruments.

For rotation, the speed reached by the various instruments varies from 1 to 350,000 rpm.

In the hygiene range: pre-disinfec-
tors developed since 1990 are larger than traditional MICRO-MEGA products [approximately 8 kg and 600 components]. X-Cid® cleans, pre-disinfects and lubricates handpieces and contra-angles according to the latest hygiene standards.

What are the company’s future goals?

Our mission is to be innovators in the endodontic field, setting the standards for general dental practitioners worldwide, while providing unmatched technical and scientific expertise to the dental market.

MICRO-MEGA’s technical expertise, in addition to the development and manufacturing of its own machines, has put it ahead of the competition.

In 2010, MICRO-MEGA is a traditional company with performance at its best, backed by a 100 years of experience, warranties, service and technical support.

Our will is to supply clinicians with instruments, but more importantly to provide them with high-performance operational methods that are optimized and give predictable clinical results.

Therefore, we will continue to offer easier and faster endo solutions coupled with enhancements in the fields of hygiene. With its merger with SciCan, a Canadian company specializing in infection control devices, the group is one of the 10 largest dental equipment manufacturers in the world of innovative products for the dental and medical markets.

Today I am proud to announce the name of our new group, Sanavis, and I am also proud to announce the creation of MICRO-MEGA USA, which you may contact toll free at (855) 563-6872.