Image of success

Materialise stays ahead of the game with innovative imaging technology

While all of these specialties currently use SimPlant for implant treatment planning, Materialise Dental is currently developing new SimPlant packages directed toward specific specialties. For instance, SimPlant Ortho will be available in the near future with others to follow.

How are you changing dentistry? How do you see the field changing over the next five or ten years?

It is becoming more apparent that CT scans and dental implants are the fastest growing products in the dental industry, as they are becoming more important in dentistry each day.

SimPlant supports that relationship by combining the CT scanner with three-dimensional implant treatment planning software into a user-friendly interface for your desktop computer.

SimPlant allows clinicians to interact with the axial, cross-sectional, and panoramic views, as well as a clean and clear three-dimensional representation of the patient’s anatomy for diagnostic evaluation of bone, teeth and nerves.

I understand you have a relatively new initiative aimed at introducing your products to grad students.

The SimPlant University Initiative was introduced in January 2007. Materialise Dental is involved with several universities around the globe and more and more are learning the value of introducing SimPlant in their educational curriculum.

The goal of the SimPlant University Initiative is to allow postgraduate resident programs at universities and other institutions the ability to access the complete SimPlant platform.

Tom Rogers, Materialise Dental Inc. general manager for North America, discusses the company and its products with Dental Tribune’s John Hoffman.

What’s in the works at Materialise?

In 2007, Materialise Dental introduced SimPlant Version 11 and will continue to introduce one major product upgrade per year.

This year a bone grafting module was developed to complement SimPlant Version 11. This module (purchased separately) allows you to simulate bone grafts in three-dimensional images and provides you with instant detailed graft measurements.

Any model thereafter that Materialise Dental produces will include the newly grafted area. This new feature will help save a considerable amount of time during planning as well as during surgery.

The advanced bone grafting module is best suited for implant practices where bone grafting plays a prominent role in proper implant placement, patients request full disclosure and visualization of the proposed procedure, and implementing time-saving steps is customary.

What are your growth/expansion strategies?

Materialise Dental’s U.S. division was developed to complement SimPlant Version 11. This module (purchased separately) allows you to simulate bone grafts in three-dimensional images and provides you with instant detailed graft measurements.

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