Komet USA’s F360 root-canal system simplifies treatment

By Komet USA Staff

The Komet® brand is internationally recognized for its precision-engineered rotary dental instruments. According to the company, the name has long been associated with attention to design and construction detail, high manufacturing standards and integrated instrument systems to meet the daily treatment requirements — and more complicated patient-care challenges — facing general and specialist practitioners. With a 90-plus-year history of melding tradition with innovation and superior products with responsive customer service and direct sales, the company is known not only for its comprehensive range of diamonds and burs but for its endodontic instruments and post-treatment restorative options. Komet has been in the endodontic-instrument business for years, producing, among other items, stainless-steel hand files, K-files and Hedstroem files, which continue their usefulness and popularity, as well as a selection of root-post systems to facilitate post-treatment restoration.

Speed, ease, economy, safety

Seeking to address the growing number of root-canal cases now treated in U.S. general-dental practices, Komet closely examined the challenges of speed, ease of use, economy and safety and tasked its R&D, design, engineering and manufacturing specialists with meeting these requirements. The need for endodontic services has expanded in line with demographic shifts, and, within the dental community, general practices now provide almost all types and levels of treatment. General dentists are referring less to specialists, and general dentists who previously focused exclusively on cosmetic dentistry or family dentistry, for instance, have moved from being generalists with a specialty to being true generalists.

Komet’s objective with the development of the F360™ files was to address the needs of approximately 90 percent of the endodontic cases general practitioners encounter among their patients and to appeal to the practice style of U.S. dentists. Toward that end, the Komet team began with the idea of minimizing the number of files required for endodontic treatment, seeking to offer some distinct advantages over other root-canal preparation systems.

Now constituting the heart of the Komet endodontic-instrument systems is one of Komet USA’s latest and most innovative product launches: the F360™ root-canal preparation system, a system Komet calls "undeni-
Family-owned Flow Dental adds to its digital imaging product line

By Flow Dental Staff

Conversion from film to digital takes many forms. It’s not just the dental office that is moving from film to digital imaging. Flow Dental, long a leading manufacturer of dental film and film accessories, has also transformed its product portfolio to include unique products essential to every dental practice that has gone digital.

“We determined that our relevancy in a digital world would hinge on our ability to provide dentists with accessories that improve sensor or PSP (phosphor storage plate) usage and augment procedure workflow,” said Bill Winters, president of Flow Dental. “Dentists have really responded to our digital products. They recognize the added value we put into each product. They don’t buy our products based on price, they buy based on the benefits to their practice and the increased productivity they see.”

Take the PSP market. Today, one out of every eight phosphor plate users relies on Flow’s Safe’n’Sure line of PSP envelope, Safe’n’Sure’s three product styles each offer elegant time-saving solutions to enhance throughput and productivity, while helping to extend the life and usage of the phosphor plates.

A great example of this is Flow’s Safe’n’Sure OPT style (Fig. 1). These PSP covers are designed for plates that include magnets, which account for about 35 percent of the market. Unlike any other product, Flow pre-loads the cardboard insert halfway into the PSP envelope. Not only does this remove a time-consuming step and assure the plate can never be loaded incorrectly, (because the magnet on the plate must line up with the cut-out on the cardboard insert), it also ensures the plate is correctly placed. It’s the only sensor positioner on the market that can accommodate magnets. Flow pre-loads the cardboard insert halfway into the PSP envelope, eliminating a time-consuming step and assuring the plate can never be loaded incorrectly. Photos/Provided by Flow Dental

Flow Dental is far from finished re-inventing itself. Its newest product is the Exposure line of articulating strips (Fig. 3). “As a leader in diagnostic products, we felt the need for forceps. They come with their own handles. “They’re easy to use and long enough to reach the back molars,” Winters said. “Dentists will appreciate the added convenience of not having to search for forceps or get the ink all over their gloved fingers.”

Flow recently celebrated 40 years in business. Its sister company, Wolf X-Ray, is celebrating more than 80 years of service to the medical imaging market. “As a family-owned business — much like the majority of dental offices we service — we are proud to be a valued provider of unique and elegant products, and the best is yet to come,” Winters said.

For more information on Flow’s products, visit www.flowdental.com or contact your local dealer.

special Endo Introductory Kit, which includes 12 F360 files in size 025, 12 F360 files in size 035, the Komet AK10 file for pre-enlargement of the canal, a pack of paper points and a pack of gutta-percha points.

About Komet USA

Celebrating its 91st year in the dental industry, Komet is a recognized worldwide leader in the production of highly specialized, precision dental rotary instruments.

Komet operates in the United States under the name Komet USA and sells directly to dental practitioners and dental laboratories. The company’s U.S. headquarters is in Rock Hill, S.C. For more information about Komet USA or the F360 endodontic file system, call (888) 566-3887 or visit www.komet-usa.com.

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sensibly simple,” a phrase that represents the advancement F360 files bring to endodontic treatment. Use of the files demands no change of technique, and these rotary-operated files require only one speed and one torque level for all the instruments. The F360 Files are constructed of NiTi, which has proved its worth in dentistry for years. But it’s Komet’s development of the S-shaped cross-section that is a true achievement in design technology, according to company representatives, who report that the design dramatically reduces the number of files required for preparation procedures. This change affects speed and simplicity — enabling faster, simpler root canal preparations.

The Komet F360 endodontic file system permits preparation of most root canals with a simplified, time-saving sequence requiring only two files. Highly flexible to minimize canal transportation, the files’ unique S-curve design and a thin instrument core provide cutting efficiency while respecting natural root-canal morphology. Only two files in sizes 025 and 035 are required for most root-canal preparations. Their 0.04 taper promotes optimal debridement of the canal, maintains file flexibility and thus reduces preparation errors and permits ideal shaping of the root canal for subsequent obturation with any method.

The F360 files are employed in a torque-limited motor and used in a picking motion up to a predetermined working length. The same torque (1.8 Ncm) and speed values (250-350 rpm) are used for all files, dentists need not adjust speed or torque upon changing files during the preparation sequence. In addition to sizes 025 and 035, the F360 files are offered in sizes 045 and 055 to meet additional clinical situations, such as wide roots, and all F360 files are available in three lengths (L1, L2 and L3) to address varying coronal requirements.

The prestereized, single-use files prevent cross-contamination, eliminate the need to clean, disinfect and sterilize the instruments — and reduce the risk of fracture due to cyclic fatigue. Available in a sterile blister pack of six files of a single size and length, the files are supplied with a user’s manual and step-by-step instructions. The Komet F360 root-canal preparation system also is available in a special Endo Introductory Kit, which includes 12 F360 files in size 025, 12 F360 files in size 035, the Komet AK10 file for pre-enlargement of the canal, a pack of paper points and a pack of gutta-percha points.

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