Better horizontal ridge expansion

Using advanced minimal-invasive instruments and techniques allows for concomitant implant placement and regenerative procedures

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This 54-year old patient regularly attends our practice and takes part in our quarterly preventative program. His anamnesis contains no special entries. Figure 1 shows that the patient has lost tooth 12 as a result of a previously unsuccessful root canal treatment, followed by an unsuccessful apicotomy.

The prosthetic work has been in situ for a long time and was performed alio loco. Secondary decay at the crown margins of tooth 11 created the need of prosthetic retreatment.

The different treatment options were explained in great detail to the patient, one of which was fixed restoration using implants. The patient decided on implantation in position 12, and was told that as a consequence of local infection, apicotomy and long-term tooth loss, the alveolar ridge has collapsed and guided bone regeneration would be needed to restore the optimum anatomical condition.

The existing porcelain fused to metal bridge (abutment teeth = 13 and 11, pontic = 12) was removed, decay eliminated and new adhesive core build-ups performed. Buccal infiltration anesthesia was given and the patient was offered a new metallic, composite, veneered bridge.

A full gingival flap was raised, allowing the extensions of the bone resorption to be identified. It was obvious that implant placement without bone augmentation could not be performed. The two treat-

to exit before stopping to get up close and personal with the items on display.

Thursday, Feb 26, the first day of the meeting, was filled with well-attended corporate forums from some of the biggest names in the business — BioHorizons, BIOMET 3i, Nobel Biocare, OssteoHealth, Piezosurgery, Strauman, Sybron Implant Solution and Zimmer Dental.

During the opening symposium, which featured music by a live three-piece jazz band while attendees took their seats, AO President Steven G. Lewis, DMD, started off a full afternoon of lively lectures that lasted until 5:15 p.m.