The aesthetic bar is constantly rising, and dentists are using zirconium abutments for their implant restorations. That's why KOMET USA has developed a new bur kit for dentists and laboratory technicians who work with this quality material.

Developed in conjunction with Dr. George Priest of Hilton Head, S.C., the ZAPD (Zirconium Abutment Preparation Diamond) Kit LD 0118 was designed to specifically prepare zirconium implant abutments. Because margins in some selected zirconium-crown abutments do not have enough incisal or occlusal clearance, a technician or dentist can now easily modify the abutments themselves with the burs provided in this easy-to-use kit. This is a far cry from sending the abutments back to the laboratory or accepting a compromised abutment.

The kit contains a series of five burs. There are two tapered burs (ZR850.314.016 medium grit and ZR8850.314.016 fine grit) for refining axial walls. Two other burs (ZR6881.314.016 and ZR6881.314.012) are wide and narrow coarse grit diamonds for establishing a chamfer margin that follows the soft-tissue scallop. The ZR6379.314.023 football-shaped diamond bur is used for palatal or lingual reduction for occlusal clearance. Please note that these burs should be used with water coolant, either on an implant lab holder or intraorally. By using these burs the lab tech or dentist can feel the impact by refining these abutments themselves, thus making the procedure more cost efficient. These burs are also useful for removing zirconium core crowns, such as Procera (Procera is a registered trademark of Nobel Biocare).

KOMET operates in the United States under the name KOMET USA, and sells direct to practitioners and dental laboratories. For more information about KOMET USA or ZAPD Kit LD 0118, call (888) 566-3887 or visit www.komet-usa.com.

New KOMET USA bur kits designed to work on zirconium abutments

Dolphin demonstrated the new Volume Stitching feature of its 3-D module at the annual meeting of the American Dental Association in San Antonio in October. Offering the ability to "stitch" together two separate volumetric datasets to construct a larger view, this new feature brings the full view of 3-D technology to a larger demographic of practitioners.

"Not all dental specialists have access to large field of view (FOV) cone beam CT devices," said Ken Gladstone, manager of imaging software products. "But, there are times these doctors want a larger view, for example both condyles or the entire arch."

The new Volume Stitching feature allows the practitioner to import two separate, smaller scans and "stitch" them together to create a single, larger FOV volume DICOM dataset. "Volume Stitching is the perfect tool for smaller field of view systems to generate larger and more useful volumes," he added.

Dolphin Imaging & Management Solutions provides high-quality imaging, diagnostic and case presentation software for dental specialty professionals worldwide. Dolphin products tightly integrate with digital X-ray units, CBCT systems, telephonic solutions and Web-enabled applications, and are compatible with the latest operating systems. Headquartered in Southern California, the company currently supports thousands of specialty practices worldwide, and has an active academic program whereby selected products are donated to selected educational programs. Presently, hundreds of dental schools and specialty departments are utilizing Dolphin Imaging & Management Solutions software on a daily basis. For more information, visit www.dolphininaging.com.