At its annual general meeting in March, Nobel Biocare endorsed all the proposals put forward by the board of directors, including the approval of a gross dividend. In addition, all board members who stood again were re-elected, the international provider of restorative and aesthetic dental solutions has reported.

Daniela Bosshardt-Hengartner, Raymund Breu, Edgar Fluri, Michel Orsinger, Juha Räisänen, Oern Stuge, Rolf Watter and Georg Watzek were re-elected as board members for a one-year term. Franz Maier was elected as a new member.

KPMG, Zurich, was confirmed as auditor for the current financial year.

Nobel Biocare announced that the next meeting will be held in March 2014.
DENTSPLY Implants is the union of two successful and innovative dental implant businesses: DENTSPLY Friadent and Astra Tech Dental.

DENTSPLY Implants offers a comprehensive line of implants, including ANKYLOS®, ASTRA TECH Implant System™ and XIVE®, digital technologies such as ATLANTIS™ patient-specific abutments, regenerative bone products and professional development programs.

We are dedicated to continuing the tradition of DENTSPLY International, the world leader in dentistry with 110 years of industry experience, by providing high quality and groundbreaking oral healthcare solutions that create value for dental professionals, and allows for predictable and lasting implant treatment outcomes, resulting in enhanced quality of life for patients.

We invite you to join us on our journey to redefine implant dentistry. For more information, visit www.dentsplyimplants.com.

Visit us at booth #509 at the ICOI Spring Symposium to learn more.

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CONGRÈS ANNUEL
DE L'ORDRE DES DENTISTES DU QUÉBEC
BIOMET 3i, 3M ESPE collaborate to create digital solutions that simplify restorations

BIOMET 3i has announced a new collaboration with 3M ESPE that utilizes the BIOMET 3i patented BellaTek® Encode® Impression System with the 3M™ True Definition Scanner to create customized abutments using intraoral impressions, resulting in simplified esthetic restorations.

Utilizing these combined technologies, clinicians are able to make a digital impression of a healing abutment with the use of the 3M True Definition Scanner, which will scan embedded codes on the occlusal surface of the abutment, the surrounding soft tissue and adjacent dentition. These codes provide the necessary information to design and mill the definitive abutment. The process is handled supragingivally by utilizing the BellaTek Encode Impression System, so no removal of the healing abutment is required to create the scan.

Greater patient satisfaction may also occur as intraoral scanning eliminates the need for impression-taking material, some patients find this is a more comfortable experience, according to the company. Patients should also recognize time savings as the process is shorter than the typical procedure.

“The new 3M True Definition Scanner is designed for accuracy, flexibility and affordability, the company says.

“We are pleased to offer the broadest range of digital solutions, which will lead to esthetic outcomes for patients,” said Bart Doedens, president of BIOMET 3i. “This new step forward in impression making offers a win-win experience for clinicians, laboratories and patients.”

“This new collaboration is a very important step to digitize implant treatment, and we are happy to add BIOMET 3i as a new trusted connection with the 3M True Definition Scanner,” said Dave Frezee, business director, 3M Digital Oral Care, 3M ESPE. “Dentists now have the option to use the 3M True Definition Scanner for the complete implant workflow.”

About BIOMET 3i

BIOMET 3i LLC is a leading manufacturer of dental implants, abutments and related products. Since its inception in 1987, BIOMET 3i has been on the forefront in developing, manufacturing and distributing oral reconstructive products, including dental implant components and bone- and tissue-regenerative materials. The company also provides educational programs and seminars for dental professionals around the world. BIOMET 3i is based in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., with operations throughout North America, Latin America, Europe and Asia-Pacific. For more information about BIOMET 3i, visit www.biomet3i.com or contact the company at (800) 342-5454; outside the United States, dial (561) 776-6700.

About 3M ESPE

3M ESPE manufactures and markets more than 2,000 products and services designed to help dental professionals improve patients’ oral health. 3M Health Care, one of 3M’s six major business segments, provides innovative products and services to help clinicians improve the practice and delivery of patient care in medical, oral care, drug delivery and health-information markets. For more information on the complete 3M ESPE line of dental products, visit www.3MESPE.com or call the 3M ESPE technical hotline at (800) 634-2249. Products are available for purchase through authorized 3M ESPE distributors. 3M and ESPE are trademarks of 3M or 3M Deutschland GmbH.
New Implant Direct online store with ‘all-in-1’ shopping

By Implant Direct staff

Implant Direct, the company that revolutionized the implant industry by creating the value-priced segment in 2006, introduces a new online store that will dramatically simplify how implants and auxiliary items are ordered.

Available at www.implantdirect.com, the new online store introduces visitors to the latest products, resources and events with an ever-changing homepage display (Fig. 1). Visual selection charts lead clinicians or office staff through the implant selection process, first by identifying the implant system (Fig. 2) and then the correct diameter and prosthetic platform (Fig. 3).

Once on the implant product page, the compatible components, abutments, instruments, biologics and literature are just a click away. There's no need to jump through different product categories or pages — with “all-in-1 shopping,” everything can be found all in one spot. The simply smarter system even identifies the related items.

In addition, Implant Direct’s new online store allows visitors to:

• watch related 3-D graphic videos without interrupting shopping
• easily switch between different product images or zoom-in for a close-up view
• compare the features and benefits between different products of interest
• move to different categories when desired via the global, top navigation bar
• find attachments, international products and education opportunities easily in new, dedicated sections
• look for products quickly with improved search capabilities and new advanced search option
• quickly preview cart contents
• keep track of potential future purchases with a wish list
• manage their account and view all recent activity easily from the account dashboard

This new online store, with advanced technological capabilities, represents the latest progression in the web-based business strategy Implant Direct was originally founded upon. The company has long strived to augment the service and support available to dental professionals from the customer service and field teams with online assistance, such as an extensive library of 3-D graphic videos detailing technical procedures and product features.

Implant Direct’s implant systems offer surgical and prosthetic compatibility with premium-priced systems as well as significant design improvements for enhanced clinical performance. Implant Direct offers a non-negotiable list price for each item in its broad product range. All-in-1 packaging includes components such as cover screw, healing collar, transfer and final or temporary abutment with the implant for added value.

About Implant Direct

Implant Direct is a joint venture between implantology pioneer Dr. Gerald Niznick and Sybron Dental Specialties (SDS). The venture combines SDS’ 100-year history of providing service, quality and innovation to dental professionals, the expansive expertise of its Fortune 500 parent company, Danaher Corporation and Niznick’s 33-year history of innovation in the implant industry, with more than 30 patents including the internal, conical connection in 1986 — a cornerstone of modern dental design.

Today, Implant Direct continues those traditions through its commitment to provide high-quality products at value-added prices with simplified surgical procedures and versatile prosthetic options. The company releases numerous new product lines and line extensions each year while also continually improving its existing product designs, manufacturing processes and online support.

Fig. 1: Implant Direct’s new online store at www.implantdirect.com. Photos/Provided by Implant Direct

Fig. 2: Implant System Selection. Shown here: Legacy System with Dr. Niznick’s original, internal conical connection interface.

Fig. 3: Implant Diameter Selection. Shown here: Legacy 3 implants packaged on a carrier that is transfer and final abutment.

Fig. 4: Implant Product Page with all-in-1 shopping.
Implant position in the esthetic zone

Establishing a treatment plan is paramount

By Siham Abai, DDS, MMedSc

Since the advent of modern root form osseointegrated implants in 1992, clinicians have strived for improvements in implant positioning in the esthetic zone to achieve predictable restorative and esthetic results.

Years of clinical experience in congruence with controlled clinical studies have helped establish parameters as a guide for these results. Establishing a treatment plan and clinical protocol prior to implant placement is paramount.

Treatment planning traditionally begins with comprehensive medical and dental evaluations, articulated diagnostic casts, radiographs, cone-beam computed tomography (CBCT) scans and a diagnostic wax-up. Patient demands must be taken into consideration prior to surgery, and pre-surgical mockups may be necessary to convey the information to the patient.

The advancement of CBCT technology has led dentistry into a new realm of dimensional accuracy in combination with the use of a surgical or guided stent, providing significant improvements in staging the ideal implant placement has led to more accurate clinical results.

The importance of the implant position can be manifested in the four dimensionally sensitive positioning criteria: mesiodistal, labiolingual and apico-coronal location, as well as implant angulation. The ultimate goal is not only to avoid sensitive structures, but to respect the established biological principles to achieve esthetic results.

Mesiodistal criteria

Correct implant position in a mesiodistal orientation allows the clinician to avoid damaging adjacent critical structures. A minimum distance of 1.5 mm between implant and existing dentition prevents damage to the adjacent teeth and provides proper osseointegration and gingival contours.3–5 Positioning of an implant has led to more accurate clinical results.

Distances of less than 3 mm between two adjacent implants leads to increased bone loss and can reduce the height of the inter-implant bone crest. A distance of more than 3 mm between two adjacent implants preserves the bone, giving a better chance of proper interproximal papillary height (Fig. 1a).

Labiolingual criteria

An implant placed too far labially can cause bone dehiscence and gingival recession while an implant placed too far lingually can cause prosthetic difficulties. A thickness of 1.8 mm of labial bone is critical in maintaining an implant soft-tissue profile (Fig. 2).

Labially oriented implants compromise the subgingival emergence profile development, creating long crowns and misalignment of the collar with respect to the adjacent teeth.4

Apico-coronal criteria

Peri-implant crestal bone stability plays a critical role in the presence of interdental papilla.2 Implants placed too shallow may reveal the metal collar of the implant through the gingiva. Countersinking implants below the level of the crestal bone may provide prosthetic advantages but can lead to crestal bone loss.

The ideal solution would be the placement of an implant equicrestal or subcrestal to the ridge. However, the existing microgap at the implant abutment junction leads to bone resorption because of peri-implant inflammation.8 It is suggested an implant collar be located 2 mm apical to the CEJ of an adjacent tooth if no gingival recession is present (Fig. 3).

Implant angulation

Implant angulation is particularly important in treatment planning for screw-retained restorations. Implants angled too far labially compromise the placement of the restorative screw while implants angled too far lingually can result in unhygienic and esthetic prosthetic design.

For every millimeter of lingual inclination, the implant should be placed an additional millimeter apically to create an optimal emergence profile.6 In general, implant angulation should mimic angulation of adjacent teeth (Fig. 4). Furthermore, maxillary anterior regions require a subtle palatal angulation to increase labial soft-tissue bulk.7

Inclusive Tooth Replacement Solution

The Inclusive Tooth Replacement Solution was developed by Glidewell Laboratories as a complete, prosthetically driven method of restoring missing dentition. The solution is composed of treatment planning, implant placement, patient-specific temporization, and the definitive restoration (Figs. 5a–5f).

When utilizing the comprehensive range of Inclusive Digital Treatment Planning services, the clinician has absolute and precise control of each step. The clinician has control of the four dimensions of implant placement in the esthetic zone, creating a consistently predictable result.

To read the full article, go to www.inclusivemagazine.com. References are available from the publisher.