The International Cone Beam Institute (ICBI) is an independent organization of cone-beam computerized tomography (CBCT) experts who provide the highest level of education, training and product information for 3-D technology to dental professionals worldwide at www.ExploreConeBeam.com.

As a vendor-neutral organization, this is an industry first — where a company is providing information to the dental professional, future imaging centers and the vendor on an international level.

General information such as the different cone-beam scanners available in the United States and international markets, as well as general information about available third-party software, is available to everyone without charge. ICBI provides in-depth and customized vendor analysis to help practitioners understand this comprehensive technology.

ICBI's educational faculty has the industry expertise to consult with dental professionals looking to incorporate CBCT into their practices, and to ensure that every question is answered during the decision-making process, including questions about medical billing and ROI (return on investment). For those who are already CBCT users, ICBI provides training to maximize the power of this technology and to help them achieve an expert level of confidence.

ICBI Web site members are able to review case studies and get advice from CBCT experts.

In addition, ICBI offers a connection to oral-maxillofacial radiologists who can provide reading services to aid in the interpretation of CBCT scans. ICBI also has a blog where users can exchange case studies, ideas and techniques about how to capture the highest quality images. ICBI members have access to special consulting services, online training and training seminars.

The International Congress of Oral Implantologists (ICOI), the world’s largest implant education organization, fully endorses the ICBI. Additional partners of ICBI include Dental Tribune International (www.dental-tribune.com) and Dental Tribune Study Club (www.DTStudyClub.com).

The ICBI wants every dental professional to become a CBCT expert. Upcoming seminars include Atlanta on Sept. 25–26, and Charlotte, S.C., on Oct. 9–10. For more information about these seminars, visit www.ExploreConeBeam.com.

beautiful and total metal-mouths and brace-faces,” blogger Lindsay Mannering recently wrote. “And they don’t care who knows it!” Mannering, who was stressed out about an upcoming visit to the dentist, posted a slideshow of famous people with braces on The Huffington Post.

The trend is not just for Americans, either. The British Society of Orthodontists is reporting a significant rise in the number of adults seeking orthodontic treatment.

“The British are supposedly famous for having ugly, snaggled teeth, which perhaps explains why people are seeking aesthetic improvements in greater numbers — we now spend £360m a year on cosmetic dentistry,” the British newspaper The Guardian wrote recently.

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