5M completes acquisition of Lingualcare Inc.

ST. PAUL, Minn. – 3M announced Nov. 2 that it has completed its acquisition of Lingualcare Inc., a Dallas-based orthodontic technology and services company offering the iBraces system, a customized, lingual orthodontic solution. Terms of the transaction were not disclosed.

Lingualcare brings the newest generation of lingual braces, along with sophisticated digital tools to make treatment easier for doctors and patients. Lingualcare nicely complements 3M's full line of orthodontic solutions and further broadens 3M Unitek’s aesthetic and digital orthodontic platforms.

The demand for effective and aesthetic orthodontic solutions is increasing steadily. Because lingual braces are bonded on the tongue side of the teeth, they are truly invisible, making them the most aesthetic orthodontic solution available. In addition, lingual braces are more effective at moving teeth than other invisible solutions such as clear aligners, which can be removed by the patient and therefore rely on patient compliance.

Medicus NY and Glow Worm, both Publicis Healthcare Communications Group companies, were recently retained by Cadent, the leading provider of 3-D digital solutions for the orthodontic and dental industries. Medicus NY and Glow Worm each have distinct areas of expertise that, when combined, deliver a synergistic communication plan to healthcare professionals and consumers.

Two key Cadent brands - iTero™ and OrthoCad iQ™ – are poised to change the face of restorative dentistry and orthodontics. The Cadent iTero digital impression system is a new digital scanning technology that will replace the conventional method of taking dental impressions. OrthoCAD iQ is a computer-guided 3-D technology that determines the optimal positions in which to place braces, reducing the amount of time needed to apply the braces, the number of follow-up visits needed and the length of time the braces must be worn. OrthoCAD DSM (digital study model) replaces the traditional plaster models with an Internet-based digital model system, eliminating the need for storage space and enhancing the treatment planning and patient counseling experience. OrthoCAD DSM is the world’s leading orthodontic digital impression system with more than 1 million cases to date.

Terry Gunning, Cadent’s CEO, said, “We look forward to working with Medicus and Glow Worm to further strengthen the Cadent brand as well as those of our flagship technology platforms, iTero and OrthoCAD. This new relationship, along with an ongoing successful public relations campaign, will become the foundation of a comprehensive communications strategy that will elevate awareness of our company and products to key professional and consumer target audiences.”

Partnership will bring changes

ORTHO TRIBUNE U.S. Edition

Milestones for Pickron

ATLANTA – Project Smile, a charitable giving program sponsored by local orthodontist Dr. Robert Pickron of Pickron Orthodontic Care, has reached a major milestone. In less than two years, the program has raised $100,000 for local charities.

Project Smile turns the frustration and expense of a child’s lost or broken retainer into a rewarding experience. Instead of paying Pickron Orthodontic Care for the cost of retaining or replacement, the patient writes a check to support one of five local charitable organizations in the Project Smile program. Pickron Orthodontic Care matches all contributions dollar-for-dollar.

Achieving a milestone of his own, Dr. Pickron is celebrating 40 years as a practicing orthodontist this year. His company, Pickron Orthodontic Care, is the largest privately owned orthodontic practice in the United States; it includes 24 offices throughout metro Atlanta.

Dr. Pickron became board certified in Georgia in 1975. He was honored recently having been twice voted as Gwinnett Magazine’s “Best Dental Practice” and Inside Gwinnett Magazine’s “Best Orthodontist.”

Contact Pickron Orthodontic Care by visiting www.pickron.com, or calling 770.645.4545.

SOURCE: Pickron Orthodontic Care

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AFP Imaging Corporation receives FDA clearance to market NewTom™ VG Cone Beam Computed Tomography Scanner

The latest version of the Imaging Sciences i-CAT® now boasts a sleek new redesign and enhanced features for faster and even more accurate treatment planning and surgical success

ELMSFORD, N.Y. – AFP Imaging Corporation announced on Oct. 4 that it received 510K clearance from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to market the company’s advanced NewTom™ VG Cone Beam Computed Tomography Scanner. This proprietary, dental imaging system provides the clinician with detailed 3-D, radiographic images of the teeth and jaws along with optimal patient comfort through flexible seating options. NewTom VG (“Vertical Generation”) patients can now sit, sit, or remain in their wheelchairs while being scanned. The unit’s smaller footprint makes it ideal for in-office examination procedures when space is limited in the operatory. The primary applications are for diagnosis and treatment planning for dental implants, orthodonture and oral surgery plus ear, nose and throat procedures.

The NextTom Cone Beam Computed Tomography Scanners are dedicated X-ray imaging devices that acquire the clinical image from a 360-degree, rotational X-ray sequence. The digitally reconstructed 3-D radiographic provides superior details of the dentomaxillofacial complex as well as for the field of maxillofacial surgery. The software can reconstruct any image from the examined anatomical volume, producing a display of three-dimensional images, from any point of view. It is estimated that the market for dental CBCT systems, worldwide, will be more than $600 million over the next few years.

NewTom VG makes use of the same technology and proprietary software as AFP Imaging’s NewTom(TM) 5G that provides a horizontal support table to accommodate the needs of the elderly, infirm or trauma patients, as well as small children. AFP Imaging is the only Cone Beam Computed Tomography (CBCT) scanning supplier to currently provide both vertical and horizontal configurations. The products are manufactured by Quantitative Radiology (QR) Verona, Italy, a wholly owned subsidiary of AFP Imaging. For more than 10 years, QR has been a global CBCT leader and is the company’s research, development and manufacturing source for the proprietary NewTom technology.

David Vozick, Chairman of AFP Imaging, said, “The dental profession increasingly recognizes the value of three-dimensional imaging over historic two-dimensional analog X-ray films or digital radiographs. The NewTom VG, as well as the NewTom 5G, provides more accurate images to facilitate patient evaluations, treatment planning and clinical efficiency. We believe that three-dimensional radiography is becoming the standard of care in dentistry and other professions for diagnosis and treatment of these complex cases.”

Source: AFP Imaging Corporation

The Next Generation i-CAT® Cone Beam 3-D scanner now available to dental professionals

The latest version of the Imaging Sciences i-CAT® boasts a sleek new redesign and enhanced features for faster and even more accurate treatment planning and surgical success

HAITHERFIELD, Pa. – Imaging Sciences International, the global leader in advanced dental and maxillofacial radiography products, announced the Next Generation i-CAT®, the leader in Cone Beam 3-D dental imaging, was made available for sale and installation in early October. The i-CAT® version offers the industry’s fastest scan times at 5, 8.5 and 26 seconds, with standard reconstruction taking less than 50 seconds, providing dentists with near-instant data for the best possible patient diagnosis, treatment and surgical predictability. Other brand-new features include a rotating, Amorphous Silicon Flat Panel Sensor for capturing both small and Extended Fields of View with superior accuracy, data reliability, and control over radiation dosage.

“Imaging Sciences International set the bar for Cone Beam 3-D imaging with the introduction of the i-CAT® in 2004,” said Ed Mandarola, President of Imaging Sciences. “Now, the Next Generation model has raised the bar for dental imaging and treatment planning. Forward-thinking dental practitioners have long relied on the i-CAT’s accurate, in-depth data, while patients appreciate the comfort and convenience of the in-office scans. The latest i-CAT® continues our excellence in developing safe and effective treatment planning tools and cements our leadership position within the industry.”

This latest i-CAT® version includes several enhanced features that further improve scanning and diagnostic capabilities:

• Shorter scan and reconstruction time. The Next Generation i-CAT® offers even shorter scan times, plus the fastest reconstruction time. Scan times now take 5, 8.5 and 26 seconds, with standard scan reconstruction taking less than 30 seconds. These processes impact workflow by speeding the time to diagnosis and treatment planning. Patients also don’t have to stay still for as long, thus improving patient stability, and resulting in the most accurate images.

• Extended Field of View. The large Field of View (17cm height by 25cm diameter) creates anatomically accurate and detailed cephalometric 3-D images of the entire skull. The result: a complete orthodontic work-up of frontal and lateral cephalometric, panoramic, superimenary, SMV, TM joint, and airway and spinal studies. The i-CAT® images also are compatible with most major orthodontic and implant planning software, and come with 3DVR™ Volume Rendering software for viewing and rotating data from all angles.

• Rotating flip-panel sensor to capture smaller Fields of View. The Amorphous Silicon Flat Panel sensor, proven to be the best available sensor technology in the industry, adapts to capture data in two views: portrait and landscape. It has the ability to Colli mate for a range of volumes (4-17cm height by 10-25cm diameter). Portrait view captures Extended Field of View data in 8.5 seconds, with less radiation to the patient. In comparison, landscape view offers full resolution and detail for smaller fields of view. This convenient feature gives dental professionals the flexibility to utilize the type of scan appropriate for their treatment. It also helps prevent unnecessary radiation exposure by offering a smaller field of view for post-procedure scans or scans of children to ensure ALARA (As Low As Reasonably Achievable) radiation doses, while still allowing the option of a detail-rich wide view when more information is needed.

• Manageable file sizes. Typical file sizes are decreased to about 50 megalisters per file, making them the smallest, most manageable file size of any vendor. This means the dentist can easily and quickly share the images with referred specialists, without worry about lengthy downloads and special viewing software.

• Sleek re-design. Always one of the smallest scanners available, the i-CAT® now boasts a clean design with smoother, rounded contours for aesthetic ergonomics. In addition, the sturdy and stable chair/head support mechanism reduces movement, and optimizes image quality, while keeping patients comfortable in the perfected seat design.

The easy-to-use i-CAT® produces more thorough three-dimensional views of all oral and maxillofacial structures. Patients remain seated in an “open environment scan,” which increases comfort, and captures the natural orientation of anatomy. Once the data is captured, it’s transferred to a computer within minutes, and displayed on an intuitive 3-D mapping tool that allows doctors and technicians to easily format and select desired “slices” for immediate viewing.

The footprint of the in-office i-CAT® is just 17 square feet, and creates the 3-D images at a reduced cost to dentists and patients.

Imaging Sciences is recognized internationally by leading dentists and radiologists as one of the most innovative companies in the world. Learn more about Imaging Sciences’ cutting-edge technologies at www.ImagingSciences.com.

Source: Imaging Sciences