“Striving for perfection” —
AAE holds 2014 Annual Session in Washington

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Endodontists from around the world and across the country gathered at the Gaylord National resort just outside Washington, D.C., for the 2014 AAE Annual Session. From lectures to hands-on workshops to formal and informal social gatherings, the meeting, held from April 30 to May 3, offered a wide range of opportunities for attendees.


The exhibit hall featured products and services from several hundred companies, as well as various educational opportunities.

A "Corporate Workshop and Lecture" series was presented on the show floor. Some of the highlights included “Surgical Applications of Bioceramics,” sponsored by Brasseler USA, presented by Dr Ali Nasseh; “The Rationale and Use of Electronic Apex Locators,” sponsored by J. Morita USA, presented by Dr L. Stephen Buchanan; and “Sound Science: Multisonic Ultracleaning,” sponsored by Sonendo Inc., presented by Dr. Mehrzad Khakpour.

A number of companies used the meeting as an occasion to launch new products.

Sonendo unveiled its new GentleWave System utilizing patented Multisonic Ultracleaning technology that is designed to quickly, easily and safely loosen and remove pulp tissue, debris, decay and bacteria within minutes. The system is designed to clean the entire canal system, automatically and simultaneously.

Fig. 1. Meeting participants work with apex locators during a hands-on workshop, "The Rationale and Use of Electronic Apex Locators," presented by Dr L. Stephen Buchanan.
Fig. 2. AAE President Gary Hartwell welcomes meeting attendees to the 2014 AAE Annual Session.
Fig. 3. Meeting attendees try new endodontic technology available from Sonendo Inc.
Fig. 4. Dr Manor Haas demonstrates the use of a surgical operating microscope at the Zeiss booth.
Bjarne Bergheim, president and CEO of Sonendo, has been directly involved in the development of the GentleWave since its early inception. “Very soon, endodontists performing root canal therapy will have the ability to provide an ultraclean environment for their patients in a more comprehensive, efficient and predictable way,” he said. “We remain focused on creating a new standard of care for the patient as well as improving the clinical quality and business performance of doctors performing root canal therapy.”

DENTSPLY Tulsa Dental Specialties launched ProTaper Gold rotary files, featuring what it calls “the same efficient, variable tapered shapes and predictable performance that clinicians have known and trusted from ProTaper Universal, with increased flexibility.”

According to DENTSPLY Tulsa, ProTaper Gold’s proprietary advanced metallurgy creates a difference clinicians can see and feel. ProTaper Gold files have the same geometry as ProTaper Universal, but with an increase in flexibility. This is especially important in the finishing files, which must navigate challenging curves in the apical region of the canal, the company says. The files also feature a shorter, 11-mm handle for improved accessibility to teeth.

Brasseler introduced its ESX Rotary File. Designed with several performance-enhancing patented features, ESX Rotary Files are designed for a powerful yet minimally invasive performance, maximizing the long-term success of the treated tooth, the company says.

J. Morita unveiled its Root ZX II OTR Module, a new, low-speed handpiece for its popular apex locator. According to the company, the new OTR Module safely and efficiently prepares canals while simultaneously taking measurements.

Several companies exhibited at the AAE meeting for the first time. Among them: Edge Endo, whose “biker chicks” and rock ‘n’ roll-themed booth had attendees looking twice; Avalon Biomed, with its new Grey MTA bioactive root and pulp treatment material; and Rapid City, S.D.-based Mounce Endo, offering its own MounceFiles, plus a full range of supplies from Mani, Aseptico, San Diego Swiss Ultrasonics and MetaBiomed.

The 2015 AAE meeting is scheduled for May 6 to 9 in Seattle.