

today

SHOW
PREVIEW

41st International Dental Show • Cologne • 25–29 March 2025



Interview

Mark Stephen Pace provides an outlook on IDS and highlights key aspects that visitors should focus on at this year's event.

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An overview of Cologne's cultural highlights, showcasing its landmarks and hidden treasures to help visitors make the most of their stay.

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Cologne calling

Dental world prepares for the leading dental business summit.



■ From 25 to 29 March, the International Dental Show (IDS) will hold its 41st edition, underscoring its position as the world's leading trade fair for dentistry and dental technology. Organised by the Gesellschaft zur Förderung der Dental-Industrie and staged by Koelnmesse, IDS serves as a vital hub for key participants in the dental industry. The event brings together a diverse range of participants, offering a unique platform for innovation, networking and knowledge exchange. It has consistently set the benchmark for the dental industry, earning international renown for its scope and significance.

More than just products

IDS continues to evolve beyond being a product showcase, positioning itself as an integrative network that addresses central industry challenges. Key themes this year will include the promotion of young talent, addressing of the shortage of skilled labour, implementation of clinical sustainability and integration of artificial intelligence into the dental industry. The trade fair will offer an expanded range of activities and formats to support networking, knowledge transfer and innovative collaboration. Notable additions to the event include the digital platform IDScconnect, which will provide an online extension of the fair through seminars, corporate presentations and learning sessions. This combination of physical and digital content ensures that IDS remains a forward-thinking event that adapts

to the changing needs of the dental community.

New opportunities for remote engagement

IDScconnect, which is available since March, provides attendees with opportunities to engage digitally before, during and after the event. This platform allows visitors to explore a variety of educational resources, network with peers and exhibitors, and prepare for their time at the fair. The online services will complement the in-person experience, offering a comprehensive approach to professional development and industry insights. The digital transformation of the event reflects IDS's commitment to combin-

ing analogue and digital formats to cater for a wide range of participant needs.

Easy access, mobility and comfort

In addition to the extensive exhibition space, which will span 180,000 m², IDS 2025 will offer a more flexible and user-friendly experience for visitors. An optimised hall layout with multiple entrances will streamline access, and personalised tickets will enhance visitor convenience. The tickets, which can be managed via the official IDS app or stored digitally in a smartphone wallet, offer added benefits, such as valid public transport access for the local VRS/

VRR network, as well as exclusive travel deals from the national rail network Deutsche Bahn and national airline Lufthansa. Hotel accommodation can also be booked through the event's online portal, providing a seamless experience for attendees. The ticketing system for IDS 2025 has been revamped to allow for greater flexibility. Visitors can purchase their tickets online at the ticket shop.

IDS 2025: A pivotal industry milestone

With its longstanding tradition and its significant role in shaping the future of the dental industry, IDS remains an essential event. The 2025 edition promises to be a comprehen-

sive platform for the global dental community, providing ample opportunities for business, innovation and professional development. The strong international presence, along with a robust focus on current industry trends and future challenges, makes IDS a must-attend event for anyone involved in the dental industry. Whether through its physical exhibition, digital tools or networking opportunities, IDS continues to be the central meeting point for dental professionals, manufacturers and innovators, setting the stage for the next era in dental technology and industry advancement.

More information about IDS can be found at www.ids-cologne.de. ◀



News from the European press meeting

Industry leaders gather in Cologne ahead of IDS 2025.

■ In January, over 50 representatives from the dental media and industry gathered at Koelnmesse for its European press meeting ahead of IDS 2025. The conference provided insights into the dental market, discussed upcoming trends and previewed highlights of this year's event.

Market insights and growth drivers

Market analyst Dr Bernd Rebmann, CEO of Rebmann Research, presented findings from the newest edition of *ATLAS DENTAL Europe*, a 250-page report prepared for the 41st IDS. Drawing on data from 500 sources, the report analyses 11 European and overseas markets, including the US, Brazil, Japan and Egypt.

Dr Rebmann outlined key global growth drivers in the dental industry, including demographic changes, heightened awareness of oral health, increasing demand for aesthetic treatments and the rise of dental support

“We are now in year one of the second century of IDS.”

Mark Stephen Pace, chairman of the Association of the German Dental Industry

organisations. He also outlined key trends that are shaping the dental industry in Europe. Dental practices are increasingly adopting digital technologies and focusing on minimally invasive, patient-centred care, driven by demographic shifts such as ageing populations and the greater need for dental care among older patients. Dental laboratories are benefiting from digital workflows that enhance efficiency, though competition from chair-side restorations is rising. Manufacturers are facing challenges regarding trade barriers and regulatory requirements, emphasising the need for integrated solutions and global expansion. All of these topics are relevant to the future of the industry and will play a significant role at the upcoming IDS.



Fig. 1: From left: Oliver Frese chief operating officer of Koelnmesse; Mark Stephen Pace, chairman of the Association of the German Dental Industry; Dr Freddie Sloth-Lisbjerg, president Council of European Dentists; and Dr Bernd Rebmann, CEO of Rebmann Research. - **Fig. 2:** Dr Freddie Sloth-Lisbjerg (centre) highlighted that the European dental sector is shifting towards larger practices, specialisation and teamwork, but workforce challenges must be addressed. - **Fig. 3:** In his speech, Mark Stephen Pace emphasised the importance of showcasing innovation, service and reliability at IDS to position the industry as a strong partner for global trade visitors. - **Fig. 4:** Dr Bernd Rebmann presented insights from *ATLAS DENTAL Europe*, highlighting global dental industry growth drivers. - **Fig. 5:** The press conference took place at Koelnmesse on 22 January. - **Fig. 6:** Journalists and key figures of the dental industry were eager to learn about market insights and emerging trends.

today

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today will appear in advance of the 41st International Dental Show in Cologne, which will take place 25–29 March 2025.

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Preview of IDS 2025

Oliver Frese, chief operating officer of IDS organiser Koelnmesse, confirmed that IDS 2025 is set to host approximately 2,000 exhibitors from 60 countries, 77% of whom are from abroad. Countries like South Korea, Italy, the US, China, Turkey, Spain, France and Switzerland will be among the most prominently represented. “The fair has grown significantly since its centenary in 2023, and registration numbers are already exceeding last year’s figures,” he said. IDS 2025 aims to surpass the success of the 2023 edition, which welcomed around 120,000 trade visitors from 122 countries. This year’s event will span seven halls and cover 180,000 m².

Mark Stephen Pace, chairman of the Association of the German Dental

Industry, which is involved in organising the event, expressed enthusiasm for the upcoming event. “This will be the first IDS after our 100th anniversary in 2023. We are now in year one of the second century of IDS. Despite changing conditions, we remain a constant in the industry,” he stated.

“IDS will once again be the indispensable global marketplace for the dental industry. As the most comprehensive showcase of innovations in dental medicine and technology, it presents the entire global dental market in an environment of fair competition among suppliers. We can already assume today that, in its role as a trendsetter and pacesetter, IDS will once again boost the global dental industry,” Pace concluded.

Innovations and opportunities

The press meeting highlighted cutting-edge innovations expected at IDS, particularly in diagnostics, digital imaging and CAD/CAM devices. Reflecting its robust market growth and increasing significance in the industry, the Asia-Pacific region is expected to be widely represented, and the number of exhibitors from the region is increasing. Although companies are keeping product details under wraps, attendees can be sure of seeing the best and the newest in dental technology at the show.

Tickets for IDS 2025 have been available since November 2024. To attract younger dental professionals, dental students and trainees will be given free entry on 29 March. ◀

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“IDS stands out as a guiding star”

VDDI's Mark Stephen Pace gives an outlook on the 41st IDS. By Christian Ehrensberger, Germany.

■ During the European press meeting, traditionally held in the January ahead of IDS, the significance of the event for the dental market was discussed. In this regard, a number of presenters spoke on the opportunities presented by the dental market and dental practice, and in this interview, Mark Stephen Pace, chairman of the Association of the German Dental Industry, comments on their views and shares some insights on what visitors should pay special attention to at this year's IDS.

Mr Pace, based on Dr Bernd Rebmann's presentation at the European press meeting, how do you assess the future of dentistry, and what conclusions can be drawn for market participants?

Dr Rebmann highlighted the vast global market for dental services and its tremendous growth potential. According to his findings, the market is expected to double over the next seven years—reaching over US\$800 billion (€769.9 billion*) by 2032.

In recent years, we've grown accustomed to navigating from one crisis to another without knowing what tomorrow may bring. Yet, the opportunities in the dental market remain immense. In this dynamic environment, IDS stands out as a guiding



star, offering direction and clarity. That's why, like many others, I'm eagerly looking forward to the show!

During the press conference, Dr Freddie Sloth-Lisbjerg, president of the Council of European Dentists, described the US as the global leader in innovation, China as the leader in production and Europe as the leader in regulation. What is your opinion on this?

It's an interesting observation. The EU medical device regulations have certainly affected the European dental industry. Less bureaucracy and more room for innovation would benefit us all. Fortunately, potential exemptions for niche and legacy products from certain conformity assessment processes offer hope. Despite regulatory headwinds, the European dental industry continues to demonstrate remarkable innovation.

Prof. Christoph Benz, president of the German Dental Association, stated that running a dental practice remains one of the best start-up opportunities. Do you agree?

Absolutely! By providing individualised, patient-centred care and exceptional service, dentists can position themselves for success. The same applies to dental technicians. Although competition in the dental laboratory business is intensifying, differentiation and specialisation present significant opportunities.

If you had one key piece of advice for young professionals, what would it be?

If you are a young dentist, a dental assistant in training or an apprentice dental technician considering starting your own practice or laboratory—or simply exploring your ca-

reer options—be sure to visit IDS on 29 March. Admission will be free of charge for dental students and trainees on that day.

What should visitors be sure not to miss at IDS 2025?

IDS offers a comprehensive showcase of everything needed for dental practices and laboratories and has a strong focus on digitalisation. For example, in caries diagnostics, integrated imaging technologies, such as radiography, fluorescence and transillumination, provide faster and more comprehensive assessments. With artificial intelligence-assisted radiographic analysis, dentists can identify early-stage caries more accurately. MRI is emerging as a valuable tool for detecting secondary and hidden caries.

In periodontal diagnostics, MRI technology also enables early detection of bone loss. Combined with intraoral scans, 3D radiography and CT imaging, MRI supports more-precise backward planning for implants.

In endodontics, digital assistance systems reduce the risk of file breakage. Sensorless motors react instantly, and continuous electronic length measurement during root canal preparation supports precise results.

In dental laboratory preparation, plug-and-play design software keeps costs manageable, enabling even beginners to fabricate complex restorations. Additive manufacturing expands prosthetic possibilities, facilitating intricate designs such as undercut and retentions. High-viscosity, ceramic-filled resin composites can now be processed using vacuum-sealed capsules. In addition to metals and plastics, 3D printing with zirconia is already a reality. Subperiosteal implants, for example, have been successfully produced using zirconia-based additive manufacturing. Cloud computing streamlines communication and case management between practices and laboratories, enabling flexible and efficient workflows. IDS visitors can expect to see all of these technologies on show.

Beyond innovations and new technologies, what is most important to you at IDS?

For me, IDS is above all about networking, engaging in professional and personal exchanges with like-minded individuals. Products may be interchangeable, but people are not. ◀

* Calculated on the OANDA platform for 22 January 2025.

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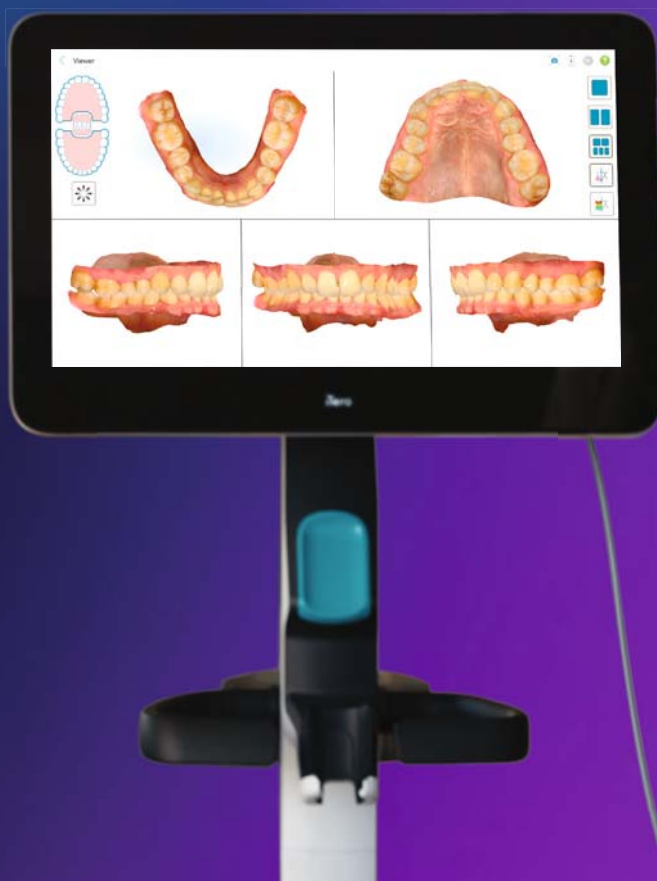
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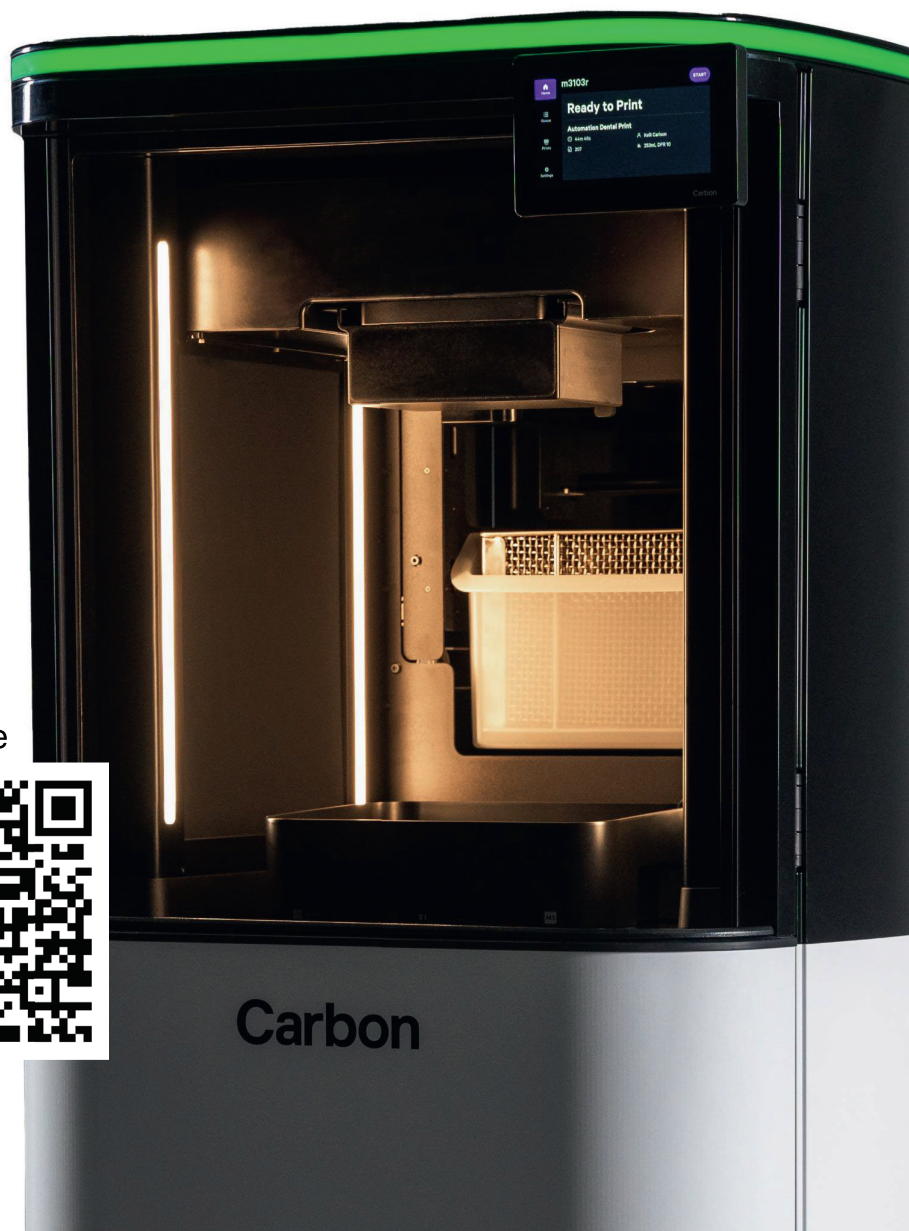


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EU health report outlines dental market challenges



■ A new report on the state of health-care in the EU has found that workforce shortages and an ageing population are contributing to a “shifting balance” between the demand and supply of health services on the continent. Published by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and European Commission, the report underscores significant inequities in dental care access across EU countries, shaped by factors such as income inequality and public insurance coverage. The findings call for a balanced focus on equitable funding, strategic dentist distribution and preventive care initiatives.

The report, *Health at a Glance: Europe 2024*, that examines the major challenges facing European health systems in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, found that the number of dentists varies widely across EU countries, ranging from 0.5 to 1.3 dentists per 1,000 inhabitants. Greece, Cyprus, Portugal, Bulgaria and Romania had the highest per capita numbers, although figures for Greece and Portugal may be inflated, as they include all licensed dentists (i.e. also those who have retired or emigrated, for example). Across the EU, dentist availability was found to have grown modestly, from 0.7 in 2010 to 0.8 in 2022, except in Denmark, where a decline was observed.

EU residents averaged 1.2 dental visits annually in 2022, the number of consultations varying significantly, from 0.3 in Romania to 3.3 in the Netherlands. The low utilisation in Romania, despite high dentist availability, reflects limited public funding and high out-of-pocket costs, pushing many residents to forgo oral care. Public funding accounts for just 7% of dental spending in Romania, compared with 65% in France and Germany.

Conversely, the Netherlands, despite dental care not being comprehensively covered for adults, achieved a high consultation rate owing to prevention-focused education programmes, such as the nationally acclaimed “Hou je mond gezond!” initiative, which fosters early awareness and routine care in children. Croatia was also observed to exemplify effective early oral health promotion, highlighting the role of systemic efforts in improving dental health outcomes.

Despite dental health being a critical component of overall well-being, the report found that 6% of individuals needing dental care in 2023 reported unmet needs, rising to over 12% among populations at risk of poverty. Furthermore, unmet needs for dental care were found to be greater than those for medical care, owing to dental fees being excluded or only partially covered by public health schemes. “In 2023, more than 8% of people in Greece, Latvia, Portugal and Denmark reported unmet needs for dental care for reasons related to the organisation and functioning of healthcare services, mainly for financial reasons,” the report authors wrote.

“Europe finds itself at a pivotal moment in the evolution of health systems across the continent,” the authors said, adding that the health landscape is undergoing rapid change. Ageing populations, declining birth rates and workforce shortages are straining European health and long-term care services. At the same time, technological advances, such as artificial intelligence and digital health tools, are offering promise but raising equity concerns. The report points out that climate change is exacerbating health risks and resulting in a more urgent need for resilient and sustainable health-care delivery. ◀

Global perspectives on oral health

Collaborative efforts to tackle a global challenge. By Iveta Ramonaite, Dental Tribune International.



Although oral health is increasingly recognised as a cornerstone of overall health, significant disparities in access to care and preventive measures persist. In response, global efforts to address these challenges have gained momentum, and organisations such as the World Health Organization (WHO), FDI World Dental Federation and the European Federation of Periodontology (EFP) are leading the charge. This article gives an overview of international initiatives and collaborative policies aimed at combating oral disease.

Oral disease affects nearly half of the world's population, and research indicates that the burden is disproportionately higher in low- and middle-income countries, where preventive dental services are often inaccessible. In Lebanon, for instance, this is exacerbated by a combination of financial constraints, political instability and lack of public awareness about the importance of regular dental visits and the role of oral

health in overall well-being. Moreover, conflicts and natural disasters have displaced a significant number of people, many of whom are refugees fleeing developing countries, and they face numerous health challenges, including untreated dental caries, periodontal disease, oral infections and trauma.

Turning the tide: Advocacy and policy

In recent years, significant progress has been made in elevating oral health as a global public health priority. Greater awareness of the systemic links between oral and general health, research into the economic burden of oral disease and educational campaigns promoting oral hygiene have all contributed to this progress. Innovations such as artificial intelligence, teledentistry, mobile clinics and minimally invasive treatments have further improved accessibility and care delivery, drawing increased attention to oral health.

A defining milestone was reached in 2021 when WHO member states adopted the resolution on oral health. Speaking to Dental Tribune International (DTI), Dr Benoit Varenne, a dental officer with WHO's oral health programme, commented: "The resolution emphasises that the prevention and control of oral disease should be firmly integrated into non-communicable disease programmes and universal health coverage initiatives." Building on this, WHO launched its *Global Strategy on Oral Health* in 2022 and its *Global Strategy and Action Plan on Oral Health 2023-2030*,

"We are at a critical stage in the global response to oral health."

FDI president Dr Greg Chadwick

which aligns closely with FDI's *Vision 2030*. These initiatives set ambitious goals for reducing oral disease, addressing oral health inequities and promoting prevention.

FDI President Dr Greg Chadwick highlighted the growing momentum around oral health in his remarks to DTI: "We are at a critical stage in the global response to oral health. Decades of advocacy efforts led by multiple stakeholders, including FDI, are paying off, and governments, with support from WHO, are paying unprecedented attention to oral disease."

Additionally, dental organisations continue to play a leading role in advancing best practices in periodontics and implant dentistry. For example, the EFP has developed S3-level clinical practice guidelines for treating periodontitis and peri-implant disease, and additional guidelines on gingival disease and mucogingival surgery are anticipated by 2026. Beyond clinical practice, the EFP has also influenced health policy through collaborations such as its work with global insights and advocacy platform Economist Impact. Their white paper *Time to put your money, where your mouth is: Addressing inequalities in oral health* advocates for increased investment in preventive oral health measures.

Challenges and the road ahead

Despite these advancements, significant challenges remain. Oral disease continues to impose a greater burden than many other common health conditions, and access to care remains uneven across countries and healthcare systems. Many nations face shortages of dental professionals, insufficient infrastructure and low public awareness of the importance of oral hygiene. Additionally, the high cost of dental treatment remains a significant barrier, particularly in underserved communities.

"Addressing disparities in access to oral healthcare across different countries and healthcare systems



FDI president Dr Greg Chadwick says that global efforts to improve oral health are gaining momentum.



For EFP president Prof. Moritz Kebschull, the most important priority is that global oral health strategies focus on reducing disparities in access to care and prioritising prevention.

laid a strong foundation for progress. Cooperation among governments, non-governmental organisations, academia and the private sector is crucial to tackling oral health challenges and fostering innovation. It can help promote oral health as an integral part of overall health and support research, education and public awareness.

To overcome the challenges ahead, it is essential to integrate oral health services into primary care, strengthen healthcare systems and

"Dental professionals must continue to advocate for comprehensive oral health education."

EFP president Prof. Moritz Kebschull

and promoting prevention as a primary anchor should be central to global oral health strategies," Prof. Moritz Kebschull, president of the EFP, shared in a conversation with DTI. He continued: "Dental professionals must continue to advocate for comprehensive oral health education in order to ensure that it becomes a core element of general health awareness."

Although the state of global oral health reflects persistent disparities, collaborative efforts by organisations such as WHO, FDI and the EFP have

promote public health interventions. Partnerships between governments, international organisations and civil society will be critical in reducing the global burden of oral disease and achieving universal oral health coverage by 2030. Additionally, professional events can contribute meaningfully. IDS 2025 will provide a valuable platform for knowledge exchange and collaboration, further advancing global oral health, as will upcoming events such as EuroPerio11 in May and the 2025 FDI World Dental Congress in September. ◀



DSOs increase their reach

Global growth, new technologies and evolving models expand the influence of dental support organisations. By Jeremy Booth, Dental Tribune International.

■ The dental support organisation (DSO) model has undergone significant transformation over the past few decades, reshaping the global dental care landscape. By consolidating single clinics into large-scale networks, DSOs have grown in prominence, offering economies of scale and increased access to new dental technologies. The evolution of DSOs has been shaped by regional differences in market dynamics, regulatory frameworks and patient needs, and dentists are making their own mark on practice consolidation by adapting merger strategies to their own needs. As they grow in size and purchasing power, DSOs continue to attract due attention.

Historical development

DSOs first emerged in the US during the late 1980s, driven by a growing demand for accessible, cost-effective dental care. Initially, they focused on supporting administrative functions, allowing dentists to concentrate on clinical care. As DSOs matured, they expanded to include clinical oversight, training, the integration of advanced technology and the combination of dental specialties.

Europe followed a different trajectory, many DSOs forming after 2000 in response to investor interest and changing patient expectations. The UK and Germany, for example, witnessed significant consolidation, led by private equity. In contrast, DSOs in Asia-Pacific have developed more recently and at varying rates, and key growth markets in the region include Australia and China.

Regional comparisons

The US is the largest and most mature DSO market, led by Heartland Dental, which has over 1,750 locations across 39 states. CEO Pat Bauer described the first half of 2024 as “a remarkable period of growth and innovation” for the company. Heartland Dental opened 55 cutting-edge clinics in the first half of 2024 alone. Factors such as a fragmented healthcare system and rising treatment costs have enabled DSOs like Heartland to thrive by offering cost-efficiency and greater access to care. Regulatory oversight focuses on state licensing boards, and DSOs must navigate a complex web of compliance requirements.

European DSOs are smaller than their US counterparts and operate under stricter regulatory environments, including being subject to tougher anti-trust laws and the bloc’s General Data Protection Regulation, which heavily influences data management, patient privacy and record-keeping. European patients value personalised oral care more than those in the US do; however, this cultural preference has not stemmed the growth of European DSOs. Over a period of 17 years, the UK’s mydentist has gone from three clinics in North West England to a UK-wide network of over 550 practices. Founded in 2015 after a legal change made it easier to network dental clinics, Ger-

many’s Zahneins now has 80 dental practices spread across the country’s western and southern states. Pan-European dental conglomerates have also emerged, such as the European Dental Group, which has amassed over 300 clinics in six European countries since 2007. Toby Anderson, CEO at European Dental Group, told Dental Tribune International that the DSO continues to attract and retain dentists and invest in the latest technologies. “Clinicians are attracted to our model, because we enable them to really focus on treating the patient and improving the quality of care,” Anderson said.

Consisting of established and developing dental markets, the Asia-Pacific region has a growing DSO pres-

ence. In developed dental markets, younger dentists face greater cost barriers to practice ownership than previous generations of clinicians did, and a focus on integrating artificial intelligence (AI) and digital workflows into daily operations is helping to attract new graduates to the DSO model. According to the American Dental Association (ADA), dentists with less than ten years of clinical experience are more likely to be affiliated with a DSO. In 2022, 13% of US dentists were affiliated with a dental group, up from 10.4% in 2019 and 8.8% in 2017. “Practice modality continues to change,” commented Dr Marko Vujicic, chief economist and vice president of the ADA Health Policy Insti-

tutes include increasing the value of individual clinics. He explained: “[Multiple] dental practices are aggregated and brought to market at the same time to maximise the scale of the earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortisation that is being bought.”

In Europe, DSOs are increasingly adopting a hybrid model, combining centralised administrative functions with a focus on local, personalised patient care. Emerging markets in the Asia-Pacific and Latin America regions have become key targets for expansion, as rising incomes and demand for quality dental care fuel growth. In these regions, DSOs are exploring innovative partnership models and collaborating with local

DSOs in the Europe, Middle East and Africa, North America and Asia-Pacific regions. Straumann CEO Guillaume Daniellot said that the company had “recognised the importance of distinguishing our service to this target group”.

In January, Dentsply Sirona responded to the growing digital needs of DSOs by expanding its DS Core software to include DS Core Enterprise, a cloud-based platform specifically for dental groups. Bruce Peatey, group vice president for the Americas at Dentsply Sirona, explained: “For a DSO, visibility of equipment status, workflow performance analytics and a scalable infrastructure are key factors when growing their business and network.”



ence. Regulatory frameworks vary widely, and highly regulated markets like Japan and South Korea are characterised by independently operated clinics. In other Asia-Pacific markets, DSOs are gaining a foothold, owing to a growing middle class and supportive government policies. Australia’s Abano Healthcare has a network of over 250 locations in Australasia, operating under the brands Lumino The Dentists, Maven Dental and 1300SMILES Dentists. In China, Ar-rail Group has grown to 123 locations, boosted by a campaign targeting small and medium-sized clinics in second-tier cities and promising the latest dental technologies.

In Latin America, Brazil and Mexico have accounted for the largest surge in DSO activity. DSOs here focus on affordability and access, often targeting underserved rural areas and operating under less stringent regulatory oversight. This year, Brazil’s Sorridentes reached the milestone of 500 clinics.

Developing new models offers greater autonomy

Recent trends in DSO-driven consolidation reflect changes in the dental workforce and a growing empha-

“Our updated data show higher rates of dentist affiliation with DSOs as well as less dentists in solo practice and more in groups,” he added.

In addition to technological resources, joining a DSO offers dentists reduced administrative burdens, allowing them to focus more on patient care and less on business management. However, clinicians are increasingly opting to set their own consolidation terms.

Being backed by private equity funds, DSOs offer clinicians greater financial flexibility than banks do, including through strategic transition models such as joint ventures or practice roll-ups. According to Kyle Francis of US-based dental mergers and acquisitions specialist Professional Transition Strategies, the concept of dental roll-ups has gained in popularity and created advantages for owner dentists. In an interview with Dental Tribune International, Francis commented that roll-ups appeal to clinicians seeking mentorship, work-life balance and operational support and wishing to avoid the financial risks of running a private practice. He said that the model does not require an overarching legal entity or management structure and that its advan-

providers and universities to enhance service offerings.

An increasing number of clinicians are opting to join a dental partnership organisation (DPO) instead of a DSO because this allows them to retain a higher level of clinical autonomy. Like DSOs, DPOs offer administrative support and increased buying power, and although both models appeal to the entrepreneurial spirit, the key differences lie in ownership and financial structuring. DPO members are typically co-owners of their clinics. Profits are shared between members and the DPO, often via tailored equity arrangements. Members aim to secure long-term equity growth, typically by continuing to invest in the DPO as the group gains new practices.

DSOs and the dental industry

Bringing economies of scale, DSOs are big business for dental manufacturers, and they are increasingly being offered customised support. In 2024, Straumann Group launched a DSO brand consisting of solutions and services that DSOs can customise and scale to their needs. The service is backed by dedicated support teams and aims to enhance the growth of existing and emerging

Challenges and opportunities

As DSOs continue to grow, they face several challenges. Regional variations in licensing, privacy regulations and cultural perceptions of dental care require tailored approaches. Additionally, public perception can vary. Some patients view DSOs as offering impersonal, corporate care.

However, the opportunities are vast. The evolution of DSOs highlights the adaptability of the model to different regulatory and cultural environments. Technological integration, such as AI-powered diagnostics and cloud-based management systems, enables DSOs to enhance service delivery and improve patient outcomes. Expansion into emerging markets, where access to dental care remains limited, provides avenues for growth.

Besides delivering oral care to millions of patients around the world, with their powerful private equity backing, DSOs may shape the dental industry in yet unforeseen ways. Private equity fund and DSO owner KKR recently gained a 12% share in dental distributor Henry Schein, as well as two seats on its board of directors. This is a clear demonstration of the increasing reach of dental conglomerates. ◀

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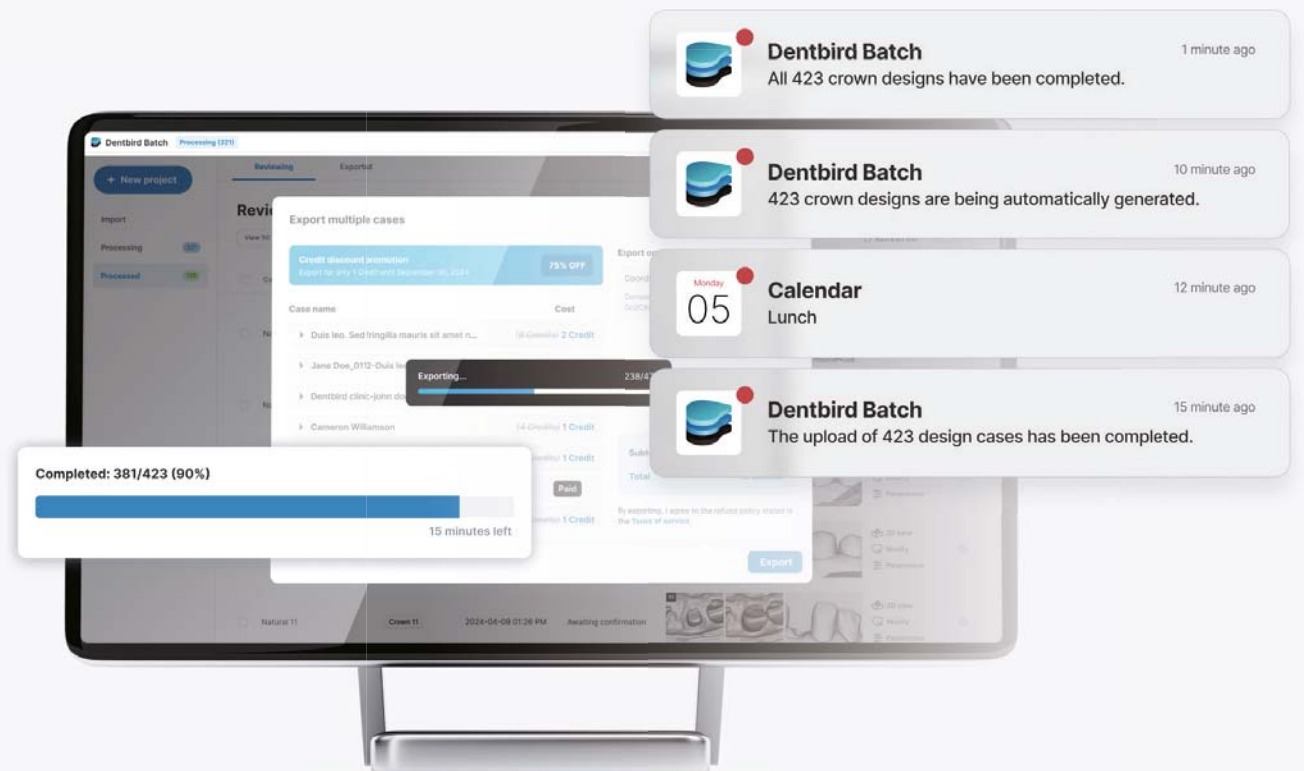
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Dentbird Batch

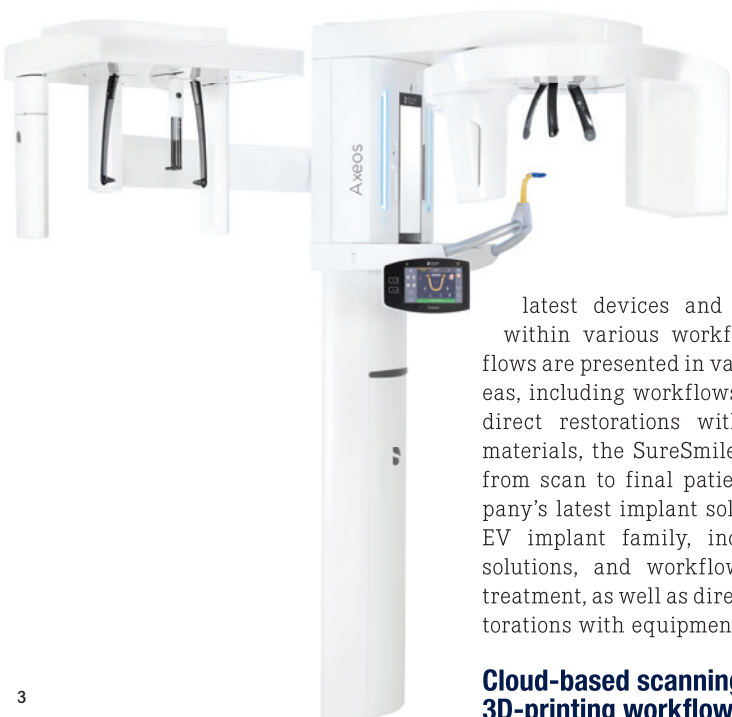
Lunch time? Overnight?

Dentbird won't stop



Changing the landscape of dentistry with connected innovations

Dentsply Sirona to showcase integrated digital solutions at IDS.



offering tools to enhance daily operations and enable efficient collaboration.

Across the booth, attendees will see how intelligently the

latest devices and solutions interact within various workflows. These workflows are presented in various treatment areas, including workflows for direct and indirect restorations with equipment and materials, the SureSmile aligner workflow from scan to final patient smile, the company's latest implant solutions such as the EV implant family, including prosthetic solutions, and workflows for endodontic treatment, as well as direct and indirect restorations with equipment and materials

Cloud-based scanning, CEREC and 3D-printing workflows

Intra-oral scanning is the starting point for numerous treatments, and attendees will be able to experience this first-hand using PrimeScan 2 (Fig. 1), the first cloud-native intra-oral scanning solution. In the extensive CAD/CAM area, visitors will be able to explore advancements in the CEREC and Primeprint (Fig. 2) workflows. The DS Core cloud platform will enhance Dentsply Sirona's manufacturing ecosystem by making it more flexible, efficient and user-friendly.

In addition to the CEREC workflow with DS Core and PrimeScan 2, attendees will be able

to observe live 3D-printing demonstrations. The Primeprint Solution area will highlight how quickly and reliably 3D-printed appliances and models can be produced in dental practices. Advanced restorative materials, including zirconia, composites and glass-ceramics, will also be on display, allowing attendees to learn more about their durability, aesthetics, strength and biocompatibility. These materials, in combination with digital workflows, enable highly personalised restorations.

Innovations in imaging and diagnostic systems with MRI for dentistry

In the area of imaging diagnostics, Dentsply Sirona will unveil MAGNETOM Free.Max Dental Edition, developed through a joint research project with Siemens Healthineers. This first-ever ddMRI device has been designed to enhance dentomaxillofacial diagnostics by providing soft-tissue contrast, complementing established imaging modalities. Early research has shown significant potential for radiation-free imaging in cases such as impacted third molars, root canal treatment, temporomandibular joint disorder, periodontal disease and orthodontic procedures.¹ While MAGNETOM Free.Max Dental Edition is still under development and not yet commercially available, a mock-up of the device will be displayed at the booth.

High-quality diagnostics are key to achieving excellent treatment outcomes. At IDS, Dentsply Sirona will present two advanced radiographic systems, Orthophos SL and Axeos (Fig. 3). Orthophos SL delivers exceptional 2D

image quality, made possible by its advanced sensor technology that directly captures X-ray signals without losing image sharpness, allowing dentists to see fine anatomical details more accurately for improved diagnosis and treatment planning, making it ideal for practices with diverse indications. Orthophos SL and Axeos have received the Red Dot and iF design awards respectively and are expected to impress existing users with their new features and appeal to new ones.

Commitment to sustainability

As part of its "BEYOND: Taking action for a brighter world" sustainability strategy, Dentsply Sirona is committed to reducing the environmental impact of its operations by minimising waste, conserving resources, and prioritising reuse and recycling. Reflecting this commitment, 90% of the company's booth at IDS (Fig. 4) will be constructed with materials reused from the 2023 exhibition, conserving valuable resources. Attendees will also have the opportunity to participate in an interactive experience focused on sustainable packaging where they can learn about Dentsply Sirona's initiatives and give their input. ◀

Editorial note: The Dentsply Sirona booth (K020/K051) will be located in Hall 11.2 of Koelnmesse.

Reference

¹ Greiser A, Christensen J, Fuglsig JM, Johannsen KM, Nixdorf DR, Burzan K, Lauer L, Krueger G, Hayes C, Kettless K, Ulrici J, Spin-Neto R. Dental-dedicated MRI, a novel approach for dentomaxillofacial diagnostic imaging: technical specifications and feasibility. *Dentomaxillofac Radiol.* 2024 Jan 11; 53(1):74-85. doi: 10.1093/dmfr/twad004.

■ Dentsply Sirona is renowned for pioneering innovations across all areas of dentistry and is continuously advancing the development of new treatments. At the upcoming IDS, the world's largest manufacturer of professional dental products and technologies will showcase advancements poised to shape the future of dentistry. Under the theme "Experience the power of connected dentistry", Dentsply Sirona will demonstrate connected solutions designed to support practice growth and streamline patient care.

A new era of connected dentistry is emerging, in which collaboration and advanced technologies such as cloud computing, CAD/CAM systems, innovative materials and dental-dedicated magnetic resonance imaging (ddMRI) are converging to enhance patient care. These advancements are broadening possibilities for practitioners, paving the way for more efficient, patient-centred practices. At IDS 2025, visitors will have the opportunity to experience all Dentsply Sirona workflows and get a glimpse of a future in which products become solutions that enable state-of-the-art treatment workflows through smart connectivity.

Connected dentistry through cloud technology and smart solutions

Cloud technology will be showcased as a cornerstone of connected dentistry, forming a fully integrated ecosystem that seamlessly connects devices, software and practitioners. Detailed information and advice about the DS Core cloud solution will be available at the Dentsply Sirona booth. This platform connects dental practices, laboratories and other partners,



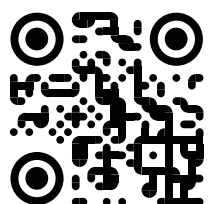


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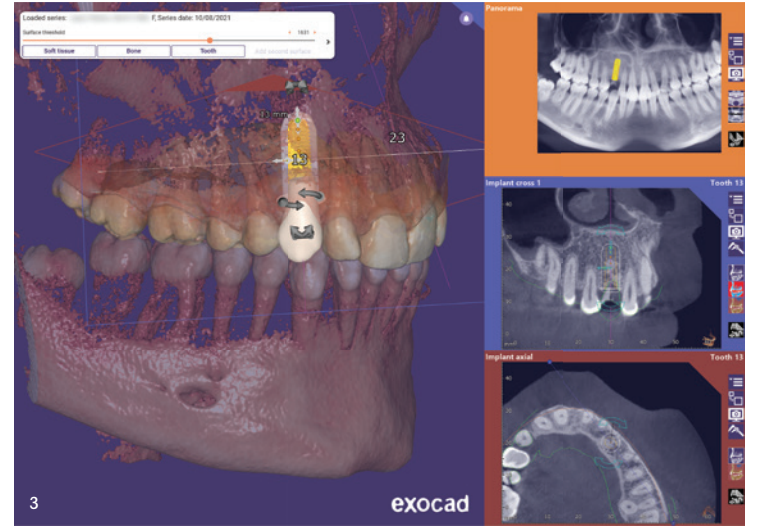
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“Come and see the future, and experience the next level of CAD design”

An interview with Novica Savic, chief commercial officer and managing director at exocad.



■ Exocad, an Align Technology company and one of the leading providers of dental CAD/CAM software, is set to showcase the next level of dental CAD design at this year's IDS. In this interview, conducted in advance of IDS, Novica Savic, chief commercial officer and managing director at exocad, discusses what lies behind this announcement and explains why IDS is a significant event for the company.

Mr Savic, exocad participates in numerous trade fairs globally throughout the year. What makes IDS particularly important for your company?

This trade fair has always been the technology and performance showcase of the global dental industry. It's

where the latest innovations are unveiled and visionary perspectives on the future of dentistry are presented. All this makes IDS the leading global trade fair for our industry.

What is exocad's main focus for this year's IDS?

The focus is on interdisciplinary treatment methods. At this IDS, we will demonstrate new approaches to how exocad software solutions can take minimally invasive dentistry to a whole new level. Together with several partner companies, we will present innovative concepts designed to inspire. All I can say is: “Come and see the future, and experience the next level of CAD design.”

Where will exocad's booth be located at IDS, and will it be based on an open or closed stand concept?

As in 2023, our stand will once again be in Hall 1.2, close to Align Technology. This proximity allows participants to experience the full range of Align Digital Platform solutions. Exocad will welcome visitors to an open and freely accessible stand. This approach has worked very well for years and reflects our openly designed products.

What will first catch visitors' attention at the exocad stand?

Visitors can look forward to our new testimonial campaign, which we will unveil at IDS. As usual, the focus will be on our software users

from the laboratory and dental sectors. Another highlight will be our arCADE stations, where visitors can try out our latest software releases on-site. We don't want to reveal too much now—come along and be surprised!

Will the exocad booth serve as a meeting point for the global exocad community?

Yes, absolutely. Alongside our renowned exocad software experts, some of our key developers will be present. This event provides them with an opportunity to meet users in person and receive direct feedback on the software. This is only possible during IDS and underscores the fair's importance to us.

Will visitors have the opportunity to test exocad software at the stand?

Yes, at IDS, we will provide this opportunity. Interested visitors can design in DentalCAD, exoplan and ChairsideCAD themselves and experience the software first-hand. Of course, there will also be numerous software demonstrations by exocad experts. Visitors can ask specific application questions and receive tips directly from the experts.

What new products will exocad unveil at IDS, and what can you tell us about them at this stage?

We will present the latest release cycle, named “Chemnitz”. This release

will have an important meaning. With exocad ART (advanced restorative treatment), for example, we are showing how the segments of restorative dentistry and aligner therapy can be brought together through integration with the Invisalign system. For laboratories, this means a considerable expansion of indications.

The second major topic will be new artificial intelligence (AI) functionalities for DentalCAD, for example new AI design for crowns.

When you think about the upcoming IDS, what excites you the most?

It's always exciting to present our new products to the public at IDS. We spend many months working towards this and are always eager to receive feedback from partner companies and users.

Do you have a personal ritual during IDS?

Yes, I have a morning ritual. I'm usually one of the first people at our stand, checking that everything is in order. After my tour of the stand, I enjoy a quiet cup of tea or coffee while flicking through the latest issue of *today @ IDS*. It's my moment to take a deep breath before diving into the day.

Editorial note: Visitors to the upcoming IDS can find out more about exocad and its products in Hall 1.2 at Booth A040/C041. ◀

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Fig. 1 Novica Savic is looking forward to showcasing cutting-edge CAD solutions and connecting with the dental community at IDS. – Fig. 2 DentalCAD combines productivity and flexibility, enabling the design of high-quality dental restorations. – Fig. 3 Exoplan's intuitive workflow guides users through the entire process—from implant planning to surgical guide design and manufacturing. – Fig. 4 The exocad team will welcome visitors to an open and freely accessible stand.



COME AND VISIT US!

Hall 1.2
Stand C40, D41,
D40



You can find more information about our new products not only at our stand at IDS 2025, but also online at: bit.ly/agIDS2025

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Microfit
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Perfect teamwork: 60 years of Orotol and suction systems

■ Dürr Dental's system solutions will be celebrating a major anniversary at the upcoming IDS. Last year, Dürr Dental marked a significant milestone: 60 years of dental suction systems. This invention had a transformative impact on dentistry in the 1960s, creating long-lasting improvements that practitioners and patients continue to benefit from today. However, it was another Dürr Dental innovation in 1965 that enabled the long-term use of dental suction systems: suction unit disinfection with Orotol.

While the potential of suction systems was evident from the outset, their introduction presented major challenges. Organic substances, such as blood and saliva, inevitably entered the system during suctioning, creating breeding grounds for bacteria and fungi. To address this, the inventors invested considerable effort in developing an effective cleaning and disinfection solution for suction systems. Company founder Walter Dürr and his friend Ludwig Pflug ultimately developed the ideal product: Orotol. This new product was the first disinfectant for suction systems, and Orotol plus (Fig. 1) remains the most widely used product in this field to this day.

The invention of Orotol was not only a key milestone that enabled the long-term use of dental suction systems—it also marked the beginning of Dürr Dental's hygiene business. For 60 years, the company has been com-

mitted to advancing solutions for infection prevention and dental practice hygiene, establishing itself as a leading supplier. Dürr Dental's system hygiene products are now available in more than 100 countries worldwide. Customers continue to trust the exceptional quality and reliability of Dürr Dental's hygiene solutions, which are still developed and manufactured exclusively in Germany.

To celebrate Orotol's 60th anniversary, visitors to the Dürr Dental booth (E008) in Hall 10.1 at IDS will be able to enjoy special activities, including an Orotol birthday party on 27 March. ◀



Müller-Omicron to introduce kristall PERFECT A70

■ Müller-Omicron, a German manufacturer of high-quality silicones for dental practices and laboratories, has announced a new highlight in its portfolio for the upcoming IDS—kristall PERFECT A70, a transparent A-silicone (vinyl polysiloxane, VPS) that ensures perfect visual control and light transmission through maximum transparency.

With its high precision, Shore hardness and tear resistance, kristall PERFECT A70 is used in dental practices as a bite registration material and silicone key for faster and easier posterior and anterior restorations with composites, as well as for the transfer of brackets from the model to the mouth. The laboratory version,

kristall PERFECT LAB, is used for fabricating temporary crowns or veneers. Both materials facilitate and shorten the fabrication process while ensuring optimal visual control and safe polymerisation through precise impressions.

During IDS in March, Müller-Omicron will offer demonstrations of its classic and scannable impression silicones and bite registration materials. Additionally, the company will present a complete line of disinfectants, focusing on Dentalrapid SD wipes, which are available in four different sizes (S, M, L and XL).

The Müller-Omicron booth (H090/ I091) will be located in Hall 4.2. More information about the company can be found at www.mueller-omicron.com. ◀



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Hall 10.1
F11 - F29
E08/E20

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Stronger together: 60 years ago, Dürr Dental invented not only the suction system, but also the solution for disinfecting and cleaning suction systems. This was the launch of our innovative system solutions in dental suction and the foundation for the best infection protection in day-to-day practice life.



Celebrate with us and win a team event!
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AI innovations for digital workflows: Imagoworks to unveil enhanced Dentbird Solutions

Imagoworks, a South Korean leader in artificial intelligence (AI) technologies in dentistry, will showcase its enhanced AI digital workflow solution, Dentbird Solutions, at the upcoming IDS under the theme “Less for more”. Now with expanded capabilities to include single crowns, inlays, onlays and bridges, Dentbird Solutions embodies the company’s commitment to streamlining digital workflows, increasing efficiency, and reducing time and cost burdens. Dental professionals from around the world will have the opportunity to witness how AI-driven automation is shaping the future of dentistry.

As the world’s first CAD solution based on an AI-as-a-service model, Dentbird Solutions is transforming dental laboratories and clinics. The suite, which includes Dentbird Crown (Fig. 1), Dentbird Batch (Fig. 2), Dentbird Modeler and Dentbird Studio, will feature its latest enhancements at IDS 2025. These updates include more precise crown designs, improved usability and expanded software interoperability.

Redefining AI in dental prosthetics

Dentbird Crown, a cloud-based web CAD solution, automates the design

of dental prosthetics using advanced AI technology. With just a few clicks, users can generate custom crown designs tailored to each patient’s dental structure. The software identifies abutments and completes the design process in just one to two minutes, allowing users to review and make any necessary adjustments. This user-friendly solution supports single crowns, bridges, and inlays as well as onlays, integrating seamlessly with Dentbird Milling for a smooth transition to fabrication using 3D printers or milling machines.

Scaling efficiency for dental laboratories

Dentbird Batch enables large-scale data uploads, allowing AI to automate crown designs for multiple patients simultaneously. Dental laboratories can process oral scan data for 50, 100 or more patients with a single click, significantly improving productivity. Designed to meet the demands of busy laboratories, Dentbird Batch ensures high accuracy and efficiency, supporting fully automated overnight operations without human intervention.

Seamless software integration

Dentbird Solutions leverages the power of the cloud for seamless inte-



gration with platforms such as Medit Link and SHINING 3D Dental Cloud.

With Dentbird Linker, AI design outputs can be directly transmitted to connected CAM and slicing software such as MillBox (CIMsystem), Go2Dental (Go2Cam), Asiga Composer (Asiga), PreForm (Formlabs) and CHITUBOX Dental (Chitu Systems). This eliminates redundancies and ensures a streamlined workflow from intra-oral scanning to final prosthetic fabrication.

AOX leading the US market

Imagoworks plans to use IDS 2025 to expand its footprint in the North American market through its

US subsidiary AOX, while enhancing its AI-powered prosthetics production services.

AOX, leveraging Imagoworks’ advanced AI technology, will focus on all-on-X and digital denture production services, driving the adoption of Dentbird Solutions. These services will include a comprehensive range of AI-driven prosthetics, such as dentures and full-arch rehabilitation prosthetics—including those for all-on-X cases—all designed and manufactured using Imagoworks’ proprietary AI solutions. This approach ensures fast, highly customised prosthetic solutions for dental professionals and patients alike.

Through AOX’s innovative and efficient prosthetic solutions, Imagoworks aims to strengthen its leadership in AI technology within the North American market, accelerate the digital transformation of the dental industry and set new global standards in dental care.

Imagoworks CEO Youngjun Kim stated: “AI has become integral to our daily lives. It’s time for dental clinics and laboratories to fully embrace AI-powered digital workflows, marking a new era in dentistry.”

Imagoworks will be present at IDS 2025 in Hall 4.2, Booth K010. Additional information about the solutions can be found at dentbird.com.

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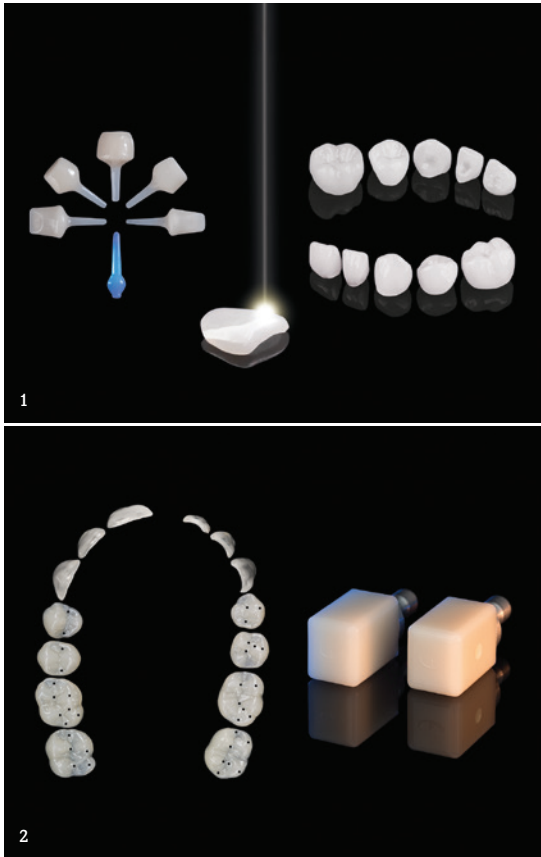


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Shaping the future of aesthetic and functional dentistry

Edelweiss dentistry is committed to building partnerships that make a real difference. As a trusted collaborator, the company is dedicated to developing innovative dental solutions that redefine modern dentistry. With



expertise in state-of-the-art systems, edelweiss dentistry provides practical and efficient solutions for clinicians while ensuring significant benefits for patients.

Edelweiss dentistry has pioneered the only bioceramic material that overcomes the traditional limitations of composite and conventional ceramic. By utilising a unique laser-sintered technology, this innovation has significantly reduced the shortfalls of conventional materials, thereby enhancing both aesthetics and function.

The company's extensive product portfolio includes ultrathin enamel shells for anterior and occlusal restorations, the innovative edelweiss POST & CORE system and the trusted edelweiss PEDIATRIC CROWNS. The latest addition to the product range are the PEDIATRIC VENEERS, a world first in the dental market (Fig. 1). Additionally, the CAD/CAM BLOCKS—T-BLOCK and C-BLOCK as well as the i-BLOCKS, which are implant blocks—feature the world's first bioceramic material with a tri-network structure, seamlessly combining pure glass ceramic, aluminum oxide and carbon technology. This ensures exceptional strength, resilience, and aesthetics for every restoration. (Fig. 2).

Edelweiss dentistry's solutions streamline workflows, enabling cost-effective and time-efficient restorations in just one appointment while maintaining high standards of care. The company's philosophy is rooted in accessibility, effectiveness and minimally invasive dentistry. Guided by biomimetics, biocompatibility and bio-aesthetics, each restoration is designed to preserve healthy tooth structure while achieving exceptional functional and aesthetic results.

Edelweiss dentistry will be present at Booth B040/C041 in Hall 11.3, showcasing its products at a live hands-on station. More information can be found at www.edelweissdentistry.com. ◀

Asiga to unveil innovations at IDS

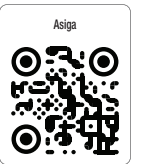


Asiga is preparing for IDS 2025 with a series of announcements aimed at improving workflows and enhancing ease of use for dental practices and laboratories. Known for its robust, precise, production-grade 3D printers, Asiga continues to lead the way with groundbreaking innovations, setting new standards in dentistry and 3D printing in particular.

With the industry's largest material database, visitors can expect live demonstrations of Asiga's latest advancements. Key highlights include a new state-of-the-art curing unit—Asiga Cure—clinically focused hardware and automated software tools designed to streamline operations. Additionally, Asiga will showcase a range of innovative dental materials, offering attendees a glimpse into the future of dental technology.

Live speakers will also feature at the booth, providing valuable insights into these cutting-edge solutions. This is a must-visit opportunity for dental professionals looking to stay ahead in the evolving world of 3D-printing technology.

For more details about Asiga and its products, visit www.asiga.com. During IDS 2025, attendees can find Asiga at Booth H040/J041 in Hall 3.1. ◀



D-bar—the evolution in Class II malocclusion treatment

Class II malocclusion constitutes a high percentage of orthodontically treated cases. Its prevalence is highly variable and is estimated to be between 39% and 93% in children and adolescents. Class II malocclusion may be associated with skeletal abnormalities in about 75% of patients, who usually present with characteristic mandibular retrognathism resulting from a shortened mandible and maxillary protrusion.

Class II malocclusion carries a greater risk of dental trauma, a more negative perception of facial and dental aesthetics, a negative impact on quality of life and self-esteem, a greater predisposition to periodontal disease and tooth wear, and a reduction of oropharyngeal space and greater incidence of sleep disorders. Current orthodontic treatment philosophies of Class II malocclusion have been oriented towards conservative treatment modalities to avoid extractions.

Molar distalisation, one approach to treating Class II malocclusion, is used to lengthen the dental arch by posterior movement of the buccal segment teeth to provide space in the maxillary arch. Thus, it is mainly indicated to treat moderate dental or skeletal protrusion of the maxillary arch, mild to moderate crowding and when patients refuse extraction. Molar distalisation can be accomplished using either extra-oral appliances or intra-oral appliances. The disadvantages of extra-oral devices are their unpleasant appearance and



dependence on patient compliance, making them the least acceptable choice for clinicians and patients. A wide variety of intra-oral distalizer appliances are available. However, the forces exerted by most of them result in undesired dental effects, such as the proclination of maxillary incisors, bite opening, molar tipping and loss of mandibular anterior anchorage.

D-bar is a directly bonded orthodontic appliance that provides a Class II treatment solution for pri-

mary, permanent or mixed dentition and improves the molar relationship by minimising canine over-extrusion. It has a highly aesthetic design and offers greater comfort and reduced treatment times. The clinical principle of Class II correction using D-bar is based on establishing a Class I relationship at the beginning of treatment when patient compliance is high and before initiating the correction of the position and alignment of individual teeth with fixed appliances or clear aligner therapy.

D-bar consists of a molar socket and a bar, supplied unassembled and bonded bilaterally to the maxillary canines and first molars. The canine pad, which carries a mesial hook for placement of intermaxillary elastics, is bonded to the anterior third of the clinical crown. It is possible to replace just the bar or change its size during therapy if the clinical conditions require it. This feature makes the D-bar flexible, reducing and simplifying the clinic's inventory. It can also be integrated into the digital workflow and

placed by indirect bonding; in fact, using two separate components makes it possible to incorporate the device into templates or transfer jigs. D-bar is available in 12 sizes differing by 1 mm increments, from size 16 to 27. Measurement identification is easy and fast owing to laser marking.

Advantages of using D-bar

Precision: The locking system has been designed with tight tolerances for greater treatment efficacy to minimise canine or inter-arch movements.

Effectiveness: The extremely mesial hook position increases the effectiveness of the device.

Time-saving: Correct bonding on the molar is easy, owing to the mesio-distal and occlusal-gingival positioning lines. Laser marking facilitates identifying the proper size.

Treatment time reduction: D-bar improves the molar relationship, making the orthodontic treatment faster.

Comfort: Its smooth and low-profile design improves patient comfort and compliance during treatment.

D-bar is available in individual packaging and sets. Single packaging contains two bars of the same size, two molar sockets and one ruler. The set includes 24 bars with two of each size, 24 molar sockets, a tweezer and 24 rulers.

During IDS, the SIA Orthodontic Manufacturer booth (B011) will be located in Hall 5.2. More information about the company can be found at www.siaorthodontics.com. ◀

* The articles in this category are provided by the manufacturers or distributors and do not reflect the opinion of the editorial team.

Resista: Italian precision in implantology



Resista is an Italian implant manufacturer established in 1946. Originally focused on producing abrasive discs and materials for processing and finishing prosthetic products, the company began offering dental implants in 2006. At IDS 2025, Resista will be showcasing its product range, which includes 16 distinct implant lines, featuring various geometries and both internal and external connections, all compatible with a single universal surgical kit. All of its products are manufactured entirely in Italy.

The company's research and development department continuously works to refine each product, aiming to provide clinicians with state-of-the-art solutions for both routine and advanced implantology. This meticulous attention to detail has contributed to a high implant survival rate of 97.8%, according to the company.

Moreover, Resista maintains competitive pricing and offers customised loyalty plans. It provides a broad portfolio of solutions, including digital options, and ensures reliable support, including remote assistance, to clinicians worldwide through its network of specialised consultants based domestically and internationally.

In 2015, the company introduced the UNI-Q-MUA implant line, repre-

senting a significant innovation in implantology. This one-piece implant system addresses challenges in immediate loading, simplifies surgical protocols and reduces prosthetic treatment time. UNI-Q-MUA is available in various diameters and lengths and comes straight or angulated at 17° or 32°. It features three surface treatments corresponding to the three biological interfaces of soft tissue, hard cortical bone and soft cancellous bone. One of these is a hybrid surface treatment that facilitates quick, safe and efficient immediate loading while minimising inflammatory infiltrates. The implant uses a standard-sized prosthetic screw, eliminating the limitations associated with small-diameter components in conventional multi-unit abutments.

Resista regularly organises clinical training courses in Italy and internationally, alongside product-specific courses for distributors. The Italian courses are held in various cities, offering comprehensive training combined with an opportunity to experience the cultural richness of the country.

More information can be found at www.en.resista.it. IDS visitors will have the opportunity to learn more at Booth T011 in Hall 10.2. ◀



Carbon: Shaping the future of dental innovation

Carbon will showcase its commitment to precision, automation and innovation at IDS 2025. As a global leader in digital manufacturing solutions, the company believes in empowering dental laboratories with technology that enhances efficiency, reduces complexity and delivers outstanding results for clinicians and patients.

Since the launch of the AO Suite in 2024, Carbon has transformed dental workflows with groundbreaking solutions. A key example is the AO Polishing Cassette, which has already achieved the successful digital polishing of over 90,000 printed splints. By enabling digital polishing during printing, the technology preserves intricate designs and reduces post-processing work. At IDS, Carbon is excited to unveil expanded applications and compatibility across a wider range of printers for the AO Polishing Cassette, underscoring its commitment to versatility and progress.

The AO Backpack is a standout innovation that has been widely adopted across North America. A further testament to Carbon's ability to meet industry demands and set new standards for efficiency, the AO Backpack features automated print turnover and part collection and enables continuous 14-hour printing cycles with minimal downtime. Dental professionals are warmly invited to see the solution in person at our booth.

In addition to technical innovations, Carbon will be introducing pricing structures designed to offer greater flexibility and make it even easier for laboratories of all sizes to



partner with the company. Visit Carbon's booth to experience the company's innovative approach to dental manufacturing firsthand.

For more information and to connect, visit Carbon at IDS (Hall 3.1, Booth L009) and online at www.carbon3d.com/industries/dental. ◀

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Align Technology to highlight latest dental innovations at IDS

■ At the upcoming IDS, Align Technology plans to present its latest digital and software technology innovations. The company is inviting forward-thinking general dental practitioners and laboratory owners, whether they are advanced users or just beginning to explore digital dentistry, to discover the most recently launched diagnostic, planning and treatment technologies.

Align's largest-to-date immersive booth will offer delegates a journey, offering an integrated showcase of the latest advancements in digital workflows and orthodontic solutions. Featured technologies include the Invisalign Smile Architect with Multiple Treatment Plans (MTP), Invisalign Outcome Simulator Pro, iTero Design Suite, and the iTero Lumina scanner, which collectively support fully digital restorative and orthodontic treatments. These combined technologies are essential tools for dental professionals adopting a fully digital workflow and integrated pathway to perform both restorative and orthodontic treatments. This integrated approach also fosters next-level patient treatment experiences and improved clinical outcomes.

Integrated digital solutions

Delegates can delve deeper into these innovations on-site, experiencing the future of dental technology in practical and interactive ways:

- Align Oral Health Suite (Fig. 1) enhances patient-driven interest and engagement by using digital scan images to facilitate doctor-patient discussions about treatment options. It enables an all-in-one chairside consultation that explains any oral health conditions and their associated causes.
- Invisalign Outcome Simulator Pro is a patient communication tool that uses intra-oral scans to generate in-face simulated videos and photographic outcomes, showing what a patient's teeth can look like after orthodontic or ortho-restorative treatment. The latest iteration, Invisalign Outcome Simulator Pro with MTP, offers two types of chairside simulations: Invisalign for cases involving orthodontic treatment only and Invisalign Smile Architect for ortho-restorative cases.
- iTero Design Suite (Fig. 2) provides clinicians with an intuitive way to enable chairside design and 3D printing of models, bite splints, and restorations. This helps increase practice

efficiencies and enhances the patient experience by shortening the time to treatment.

- Invisalign Smile Architect software with MTP allows clinicians to visually compare and modify orthodontic-only and ortho-restorative treatment plans side-by-side as part of their ClinCheck treatment planning software.

Cutting-edge scanner technology

Underpinning Align's offerings is its sophisticated range of intra-oral scanners, the latest of which is the iTero Lumina. This scanner offers a simple, intuitive user experience, building on the advanced capabilities of the iTero portfolio. The iTero Lumina features a 50% smaller scanning wand, a three-times wider field of capture for faster scanning compared to the iTero Element 5D system, Multi-Direct Capture technology for better data generation, and a larger capture distance of up to 25 mm for easier scanning of complex oral areas, including narrow and deep palates. Its superior scan quality and speed eliminate the need for bulky digital cameras.

"Our latest technological advances and cutting-edge software allow for highly effective treatment planning across all stages of the patient journey, including oral health assessment and teeth alignment before restorative treatment starts. The digital tools we are showcasing at IDS put more information at clinicians' fingertips than ever before. They not only enable clinicians to explain dental anomalies effectively in a way patients can see and understand but also demonstrate treatment outcomes in the most engaging and compelling manner," said Simon Beard, executive vice president and managing director for the EMEA region at Align Technology.

"We want to welcome IDS delegates to our interactive booth to discover how Align Technology can enhance their practice both clinically and from a business perspective. There is also the opportunity to attend thought-provoking presentations by Drs Michaela Sehnert, Luis Ilzarbe, and other leading global advocates of digital dentistry," Beard added. "Attendees will be able to test all the innovations for themselves because only by experiencing them will they truly appreciate that the future is in their hands," he concluded.

Align's booth will be located in Hall 1.2, Booth A050/C051. More information about the company can be found at www.aligntech.com. ◀

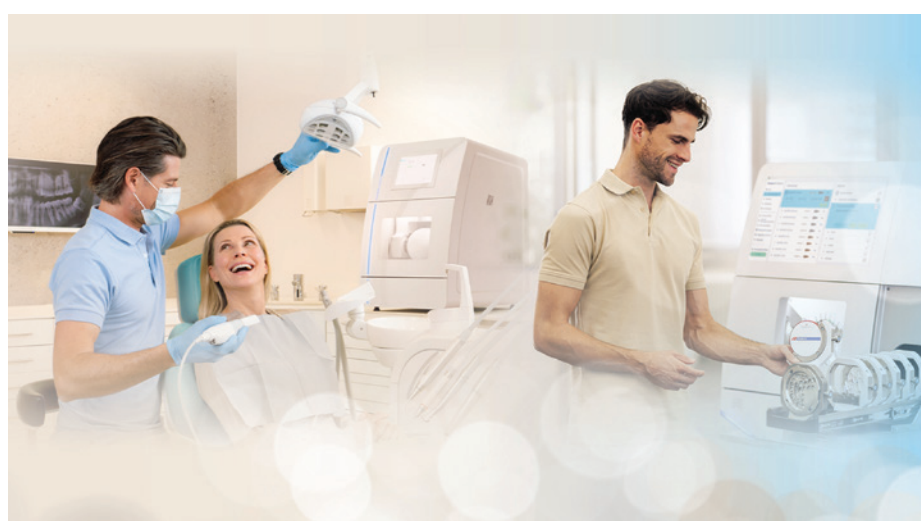


Fifteen innovations, one mission: Amann Girrbaach redefines digital dentistry

■ At IDS 2025, Amann Girrbaach, one of the leading innovators and preferred full-service providers in digital dental prosthetics, will unveil a diverse range of cutting-edge innovations spanning multiple product categories. At the company's stand, visitors will experience a completely new trade show format, featuring live demonstrations and a dedicated main stage area for engaging expert presentations.

Amann Girrbaach will showcase an extensive portfolio, including new products and established innovations. This will include the revolutionary Ceramill Matron milling machine, further enhancements in the Zolid Zirconia portfolio and the new Ceramill Approach, which enables automatic integration of intra-oral scanning data from leading devices into the Ceramill system. The portfolio will be complemented by numerous innovations that remain confidential until their unveiling at IDS.

"Over the past few months, we have worked intensively to advance and optimise our product portfolio across nearly all areas," explained Sebastian Wegscheider, director of marketing



and digital at Amann Girrbaach. He added: "By presenting 15 innovations, we are setting new standards in digital dental technology and dentistry. Our focus remains on delivering concrete benefits for practices and laboratories."

The new main stage area will be a highlight for dental professionals, where international experts from dental practices and laboratories will share their expertise through engaging presentations. Numerous hands-on sessions will

allow visitors to experience and witness firsthand the capabilities of Amann Girrbaach's solutions. Experts will be available to provide guidance and demonstrate how these technologies can be optimally integrated into digital workflows.

You bring it—we mill it

Amann Girrbaach's You bring it—we mill it campaign offers a uniquely practical approach: interested participants can submit case information prior to IDS and receive their individually milled work directly at the booth. Participants will have the opportunity to personally experience the precision and performance of the Amann Girrbaach system. Capacity for this exclusive offer is limited and early registration via the company website is recommended.

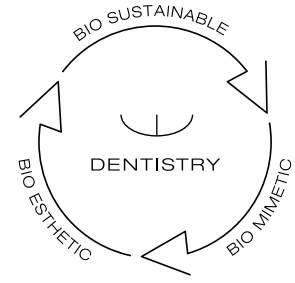
For those curious to learn more, Amann Girrbaach will be revealing additional details in the lead-up to the show on its website, www.amanngirrbaach.com/ids. During IDS, Amann Girrbaach can be found at Booth C040/D041 in Hall 1.2. ◀

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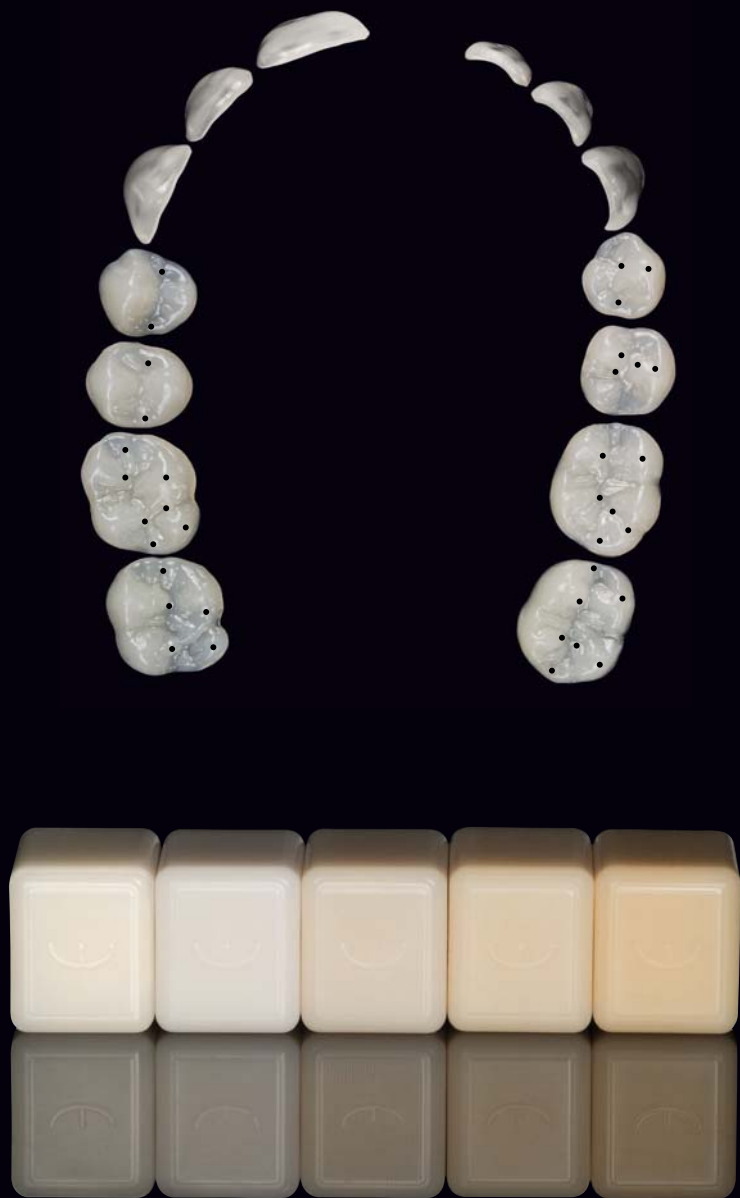
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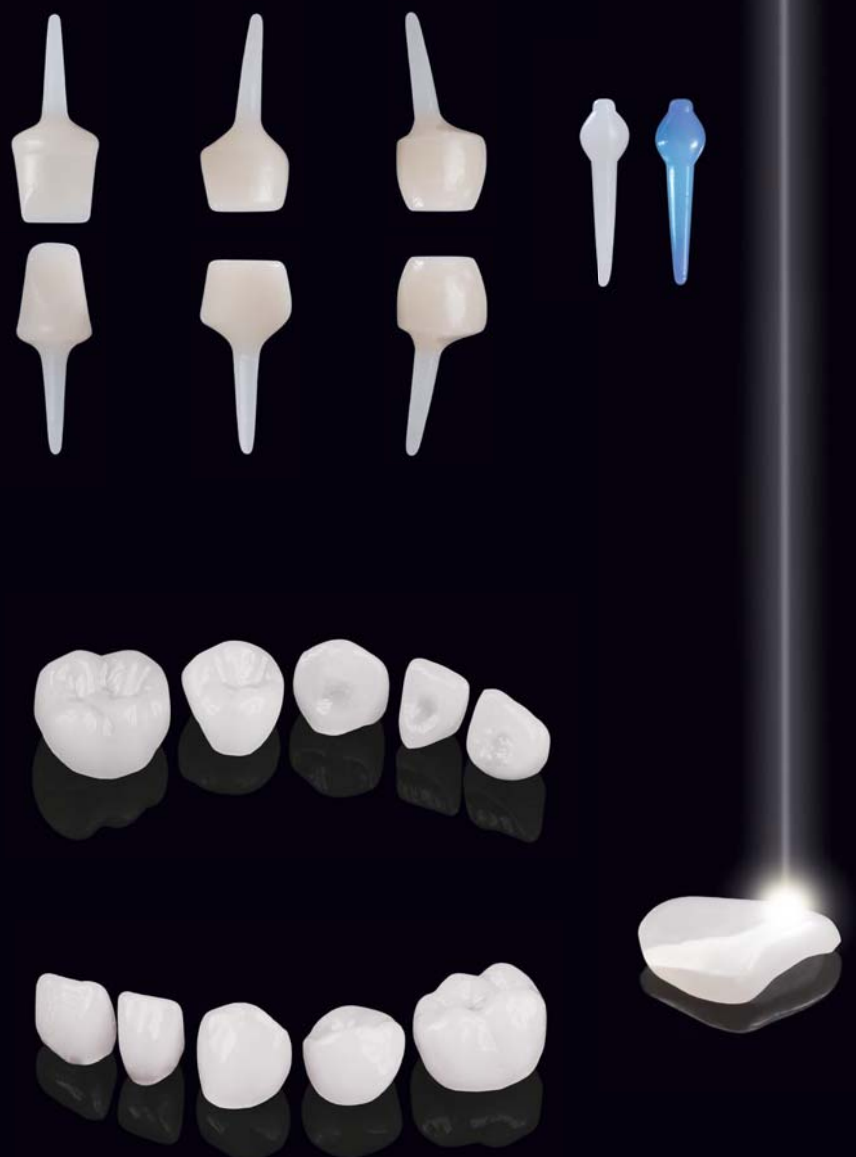


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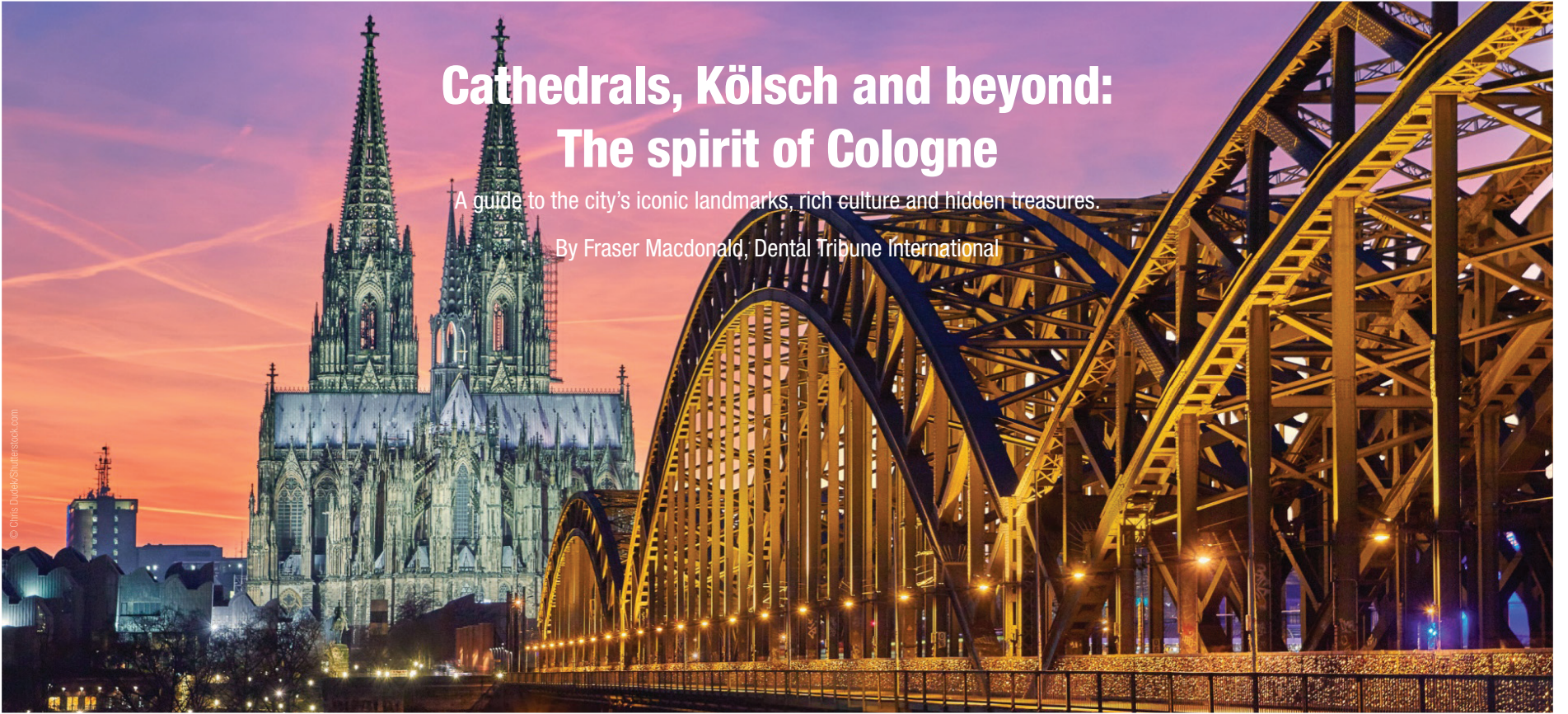
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Cathedrals, Kölsch and beyond: The spirit of Cologne

A guide to the city's iconic landmarks, rich culture and hidden treasures.

By Fraser Macdonald, Dental Tribune International



■ In many ways, contemporary Cologne can be said to be living out the multiculturalism of its ancient origins. Formed over 2,000 years ago out of an unlikely and not entirely figurative marriage between the Roman army and a tiny Germanic village, today Cologne is a dynamic and diverse cosmopolitan city wrapped around a lively core of unique local cultural traditions. This article explores a number of these to help you make the most of your time in Cologne and sample some of the sights, sounds and flavours that make this place famous.

Art and architecture

The focal point of the city—historical, cultural and photographic—is

without question the imposing Cologne Cathedral, located at the heart of the old town. The church took a staggering 632 years to build and, despite its archaic exterior, was only completed in 1880, a relative newcomer as far as Gothic churches are concerned. This sacred building is replete with treasures and precious artworks, the most important being the shrine of the Magi, which is believed to hold the remains of the three wise men of the Bible. The cathedral is by no means the only famous church in the city, however; across various parts of the old town stand 12 Romanesque churches, the majority of which are well over 1,000 years old. All are stunningly beautiful in their own right, and one of them, the basilica

of St. Ursula, even has a chamber with walls of bones!

Within the centre of the city is a wealth of other architectural jewels worth visiting. At the top of the list is the Cologne city hall (Kölner Rathaus), founded in the twelfth century and the oldest in Germany. Its exterior is adorned by the famous Platzjabbeck, a man's head carved from wood with his tongue mockingly sticking out. In 1913, the figure received a technological upgrade to make the tongue retract and extend every hour on the hour! From the medieval to the modern, across the river stands the iconic KölnTriangle. The skyscraper's observation deck, which costs a paltry €5 to access, affords panoramic views of Cologne, and from this lofty vista can be seen a couple of landmarks worth exploring on the ground.

First is the well-known Hohenzollern Bridge. While this bridge is the most heavily used railway bridge in Germany, it is not transport but romance that is foremost in the minds of those who visit it. The amorous character of the bridge is defined most poetically by the love locks that adorn the walkway, around 200,000 according to some estimates and with a collective weight of 4.5 tonnes! Besides being a beacon of love, the bridge usefully connects the two sides of the city centre and yields splendid views of the river itself.

From there, it is just a five-minute walk to the Museum Ludwig, a renowned centre of art appreciation that boasts an extensive collection, including the surrealism of Dalí, the pop art reproductions of Warhol and the cubist distortions of Picasso. Museums are certainly a forte of Cologne, there being no shortage of novelty and niche institutions covering all manner of themes. Visitors to IDS might be especially interested in the famous Chocolate Museum, situated on the banks of the Rhine. Here, visitors can not only learn about the history and production of the delicious confectionary but also sample it—many times over! If the quotidian is

your desire, then the Museum of Applied Arts explores the creation and use of everyday objects, ranging all the way from the Middle Ages to the present. For the more cerebrally inclined, the Kolumba museum presents itself as a museum of contemplation, where visitors and not glossy presentations create the exhibit's meaning. You are not told what you are looking at; rather to comprehend an exhibit, you need to analyse it and reflect on it.

The high life: Food, drink and music

Any discussion of either the nightlife or culinary sphere of Cologne necessarily begins with its eponymous style of beer, Kölsch. Served in unique, slim glasses, Kölsch is not simply a beer but a symbol of the city itself. To drink it is not only to enjoy a delicious beverage but to participate, as the locals do, in a cultural tradition at the heart of the city's identity. There is a plethora of great



Kölsch pubs spread across the centre of the city, but for those seeking an authentic, purist experience, the following haunts should satisfy. Lommerzheim (known locally as “Lommi”) is a legendary pub in the Deutz neighbourhood; the FRÜH am Dom, located near Cologne Cathedral, is one of the city’s most famous breweries; and Päßgen is one of the few remaining traditional brewhouses, delighting with its old-world charm.

Cologne also possesses its own delicious local cuisine. Himmel un Ääd (heaven and earth) is a mouth-watering combination of black pudding, fried onions, mashed potatoes and apple sauce. Derived from a Ger-

man national dish, the Rheinischer Sauerbraten (sour roast) is similarly succulent and made of marinated beef that is slow-cooked until tender and often served with potato dumplings and red cabbage. Another option to try is the Halver Hahn. While the name might suggest a meal involving chicken, this treat is actually a rye bread roll with a thick slice of Dutch cheese and pickles or onion. This is perfect as a quick snack when going about the city.

The city’s cuisine has rich Middle Eastern and North African ethnic influences too, and its falafel and kebab culture is highly regarded. Cologne’s food scene blends traditional and

modern interpretations of these dishes, making them some of the most popular street foods in the city. The Ehrenfeld neighbourhood is a hot spot for authentic Middle Eastern food, including some of the best falafel and doner kebab options, whereas Mülheim and Kalk are both areas with strong Turkish and Lebanese influences, as well as exquisite regional cuisine.

As far as music is concerned, Cologne will surely not disappoint even the most discerning of listeners. One of the most trendy parts of Cologne, and which naturally houses a wide range of great bars and cafes, is the Belgian Quarter, situated nearby the central part of the city. Here, you should certainly try Little Link, a well-liked and sophisticated cocktail bar also offering small bites. Within the old town, there is no shortage of great bars and clubs, and Papa Joe’s Jazzlokal is a must not only for jazz lovers, providing smooth music and mellow ambience in a cosy, intimate setting. For those whose appetite for dancing can only be quenched by something more energetic, the famous Gewölbe club, on the outskirts of the Belgian Quarter, keeps punters happy until the small hours.

**A dose of fresh air:
The nature side of Cologne**

If it is fresh air and natural beauty that you are craving after the heady atmosphere of IDS, then Cologne has a number of options. How about a trip to Cologne Zoo? Easily



accessible from the city centre, this stimulating space has more than 10,000 animals and boasts an aquarium and an elephant park, where the herd is a family group and lives without direct contact with caretakers. The zoo is open to visitors all year.

If you are more interested in plants, then the Flora and Botanical Garden is a sensory paradise. The botanical garden is home to approximately 12,000 plant species from all over the world and is nestled on around 5.5 hectares of green space. It features many themed gardens, including English landscape, Italian Renaissance and French Baroque. Visitors can also take a look at the alpine plantings, the iris garden or

the lily garden and then visit the greenhouses.

Any account of Cologne would be remiss were it not to make at least some mention of its defining geographic feature, namely the mighty Rhine. Probably the best way to experience the river is a boat cruise. There are many types of cruises available, from short forays around the city to longer excursions down the river. Cruises can be booked from the Köln-tourist ticket office, situated on the waterfront directly in front of the main train station in the old town. ◀

Editorial note: All details were current at the time of writing in late February.



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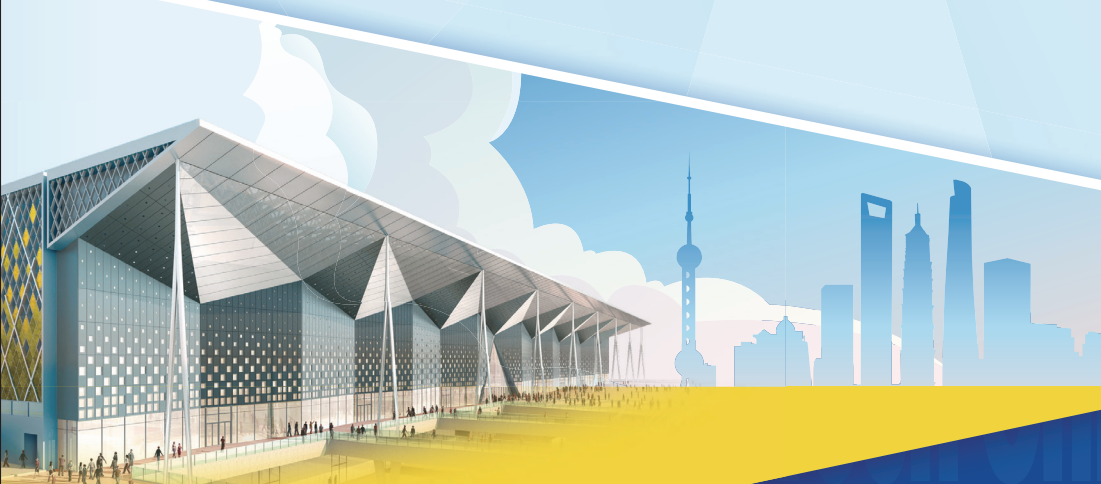
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