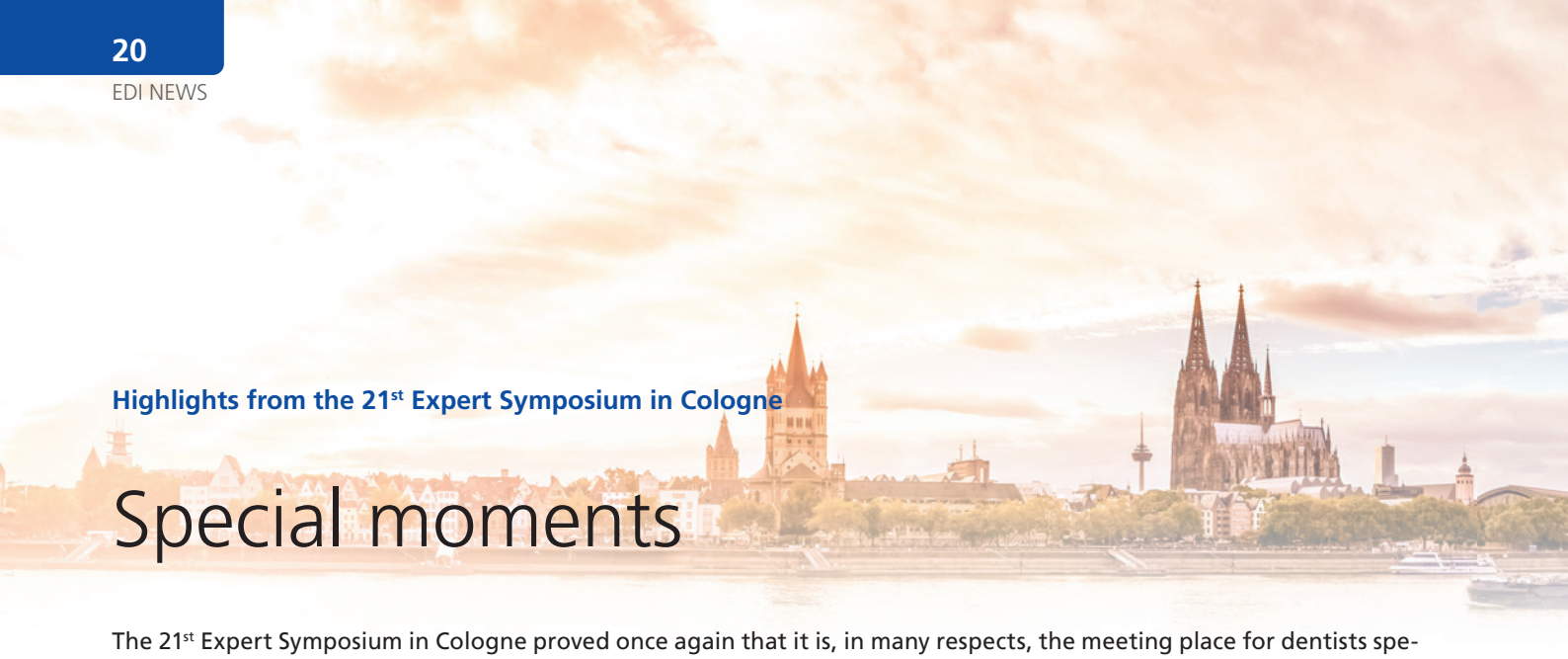


Highlights from the 21st Expert Symposium in Cologne

Special moments

The 21st Expert Symposium in Cologne proved once again that it is, in many respects, the meeting place for dentists specialising in implantology. Characterised by a mix of outstanding specialist presentations, collegial exchanges and workshops in which industry partners presented hands-on innovations in the field of digital workflows, the BDIZ EDI delivered a dazzling array of highlights through its selection of speakers, the lively discussions with participants, a strong international flavour thanks to the attendance of committee members from the European Consensus Conference on Implantology, and the supporting programme centred around the Cologne Carnival.

The rooms at Cologne's Pullman Hotel provided a professional yet warm setting with a spectacular view of Cologne Cathedral. During the breaks, a palpable energy emerged: colleagues discussed, laughed together and made new contacts. Many participants emphasised how valuable it was to exchange ideas on various levels—a sense of community that extended beyond the professional context.

The symposium—moderated by BDIZ EDI President Christian Berger—made a lasting impression, particularly against the backdrop of the Cologne Carnival. Continuing professional development and the carnival have been the successful formula of Prof. Dr Dr Joachim E. Zöller for over 20 years; on Sunday evening, he once again invited the participants to the Sunday session of Die Grosse von 1823 to the Gürzenich and welcomed them in his capacity as president of Cologne's oldest carnival society.

The BDIZ EDI would like to thank all those involved for this successful start to the training year: the speakers Markus Tröltzsch, Prof. Ralf Smeets, Ertan Erdogan, Gerhard Werling, Prof. Daniel Edelhoff, Tobias Graf, Frank Spitznagel and Prof. Peer Kämmerer; to the members of the European Consensus Conference from Europe and the Indian subcontinent; to the participants for their enthusiasm in the discussions; and to the industry partners for the highly interesting workshops: BEGO, Septodont/RapidShape, SprintRay, Visiomedical.

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Fig. 1: View of the cathedral from the event hotel. – **Fig. 2:** Workshops run by industry partners with Dr Dr Markus Tröltzsch. – **Fig. 3:** The European Committee of the BDIZ EDI. – **Fig. 4:** Speaker Prof. Dr Dr Ralf Smeets. – **Fig. 5:** Inside the workshop. There were four workshops with rotating attendance. – **Fig. 6:** Speaker Ertan Erdoğan. – **Fig. 7:** Speaker Dr Gerhard Werling. – **Fig. 8:** Celebrations at the Gürzenich during the Sunday session of the "Grosse von 1823". – **Fig. 9:** Speaker Prof. Dr Daniel Edelhoff. – **Fig. 10:** Speaker Priv.-Doz. Dr Tobias Graf. – **Fig. 11:** The auditorium fills up. – **Fig. 12:** Speaker Priv.-Doz. Dr Frank Spitznagel.