

Nobel Biocare introduces

New chief financial officer



Nobel Biocare has announced the appointment of a new chief financial officer. As of 1 February, Tullio Di Dio will succeed Oliver Walker, who, according to Nobel Biocare, is leaving to pursue his career interests outside the company.

Di Dio joins Nobel Biocare with 23 years of finance experience, including assignments at United Technologies, at Roche and during the past 12 years at Danaher.

Most recently, he served as Vice-President of Finance at Beckman Coulter Europe, Middle East and Africa. He played an important role in integrating Beckman Coulter into Danaher.

“I wish to welcome Tullio Di Dio, who will provide valuable experience as Nobel Biocare integrates into Danaher,” commented Richard Laube, CEO of Nobel Biocare. “At the same time, I wish Oliver Walker much success in his new endeavors and would like to thank him for his efforts and contributions in helping to turn Nobel Biocare around and make it a more predictable and performing business during his two and a half years of service. Our finance team has become a significantly more capable and effective organisation with his leadership.”

Dentist is

Best job of 2015

Every year, US News & World Report ranks the top 100 jobs. This year, the publisher announced that dentist and dental hygienist are again among the best jobs in the country, with dentist at No. 1. This high ranking is mainly attributable to a considerable predicted employment growth rate, a low unemployment rate and the agreeable work-life balance in the dental profession.



According to US News & World Report, seven of the top ten jobs are in the health care sector, with dentist claiming the No. 1 spot, followed by nurse practitioner at No. 2, physician at No. 3 and dental hygienist at No. 5.

The jobs were ranked based on projected openings, rate of growth, job prospects, unemployment rate and job satisfaction. The US Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts an employment growth rate of nearly 16 per cent between 2012 and 2022 for the dentist profession, with more than 23,000 new openings. The estimated unemploy-

ment rate is 0.9 per cent. Dentist is also among the 2015 top best-paying jobs, US News & World Report stated, only preceded by physicians, who top the list with an average of US\$188,440 earned in 2013. Dentists earned a median salary of US\$146,340 in 2013. The best-paid earned more than US\$187,999, while the lowest-paid earned less than US\$72,240. Overall, dentists earned more than most other dental professionals. In 2013, dental assistants received an average salary of US\$35,640 and dental hygienists earned about US\$71,530.

Launch of

Research Award 2014/2015

For the fourth time, the CAMLOG Foundation announces its renowned CAMLOG Foundation Research Award. The award is presented every two years at the company's International Congress and is open to all young, talented scientists/researchers and dedicated professionals from universities, hospitals and practices up to 40 years of age.



The expected scientific papers must be published in English in a recognised scientific journal. They should treat one of these topics in implant dentistry or related disciplines:

- Diagnostics and planning in implant dentistry
- Hard- and soft-tissue management in implant dentistry
- Sustainability of implant-supported prosthetics
- Physiological and pathophysiological aspects in implant dentistry
- Advances in digital procedures in implant dentistry.

The winner of the Research Prize 2014/2015 will be given the opportunity of presenting his/her work to a wider audience on the occasion of the International CAMLOG Congress 2016. Furthermore, the authors of the three best contributions will receive attractive cash prizes (EUR 10,000, EUR 6,000 and EUR 4,000 respectively). The entry conditions and the mandatory registration form can be downloaded from www.camlogfoundation.org/awards. Registration deadline is November 30, 2015.

Dental practice

Costs in Germany keep increasing



According to a report published by the Institute of German Dentists, the costs for dentists establishing their own practice in Germany have increased significantly – approximately €427,000 in 2013, which are 5 per cent more than in the previous year. Sixty-eight per cent of dentists chose to take over

an existing practice instead of establishing their own. The costs involved in take-over amounted to approximately €300,000.

“For medical care to continue at the current high level and to be comprehensive and offered close to the patient’s residence, we need enough dentists who take pleasure in their profession and practise it with commitment and are willing to take the risk of self-employment,” asserted Dr Wolfgang Eßer, head of the National Association of Statutory Health Insurance Dentists.

For Eßer, politics contribute to the uncertain future of young professionals in the country. According to him, there is no planning security owing to frequent government intervention. In addition, excessive administrative burdens take up time necessary for treatment. Furthermore, practices are placed under significant pressure caused by increasing competition and the economisation of health care.

Coated tissue scaffolds help the body

Grow new bone to repair injuries or congenital defects

MIT chemical engineers have devised a new implantable tissue scaffold coated with bone growth factors that are released slowly over a few weeks. When applied to bone injuries or defects, this coated scaffold induces the body to rapidly form new bone that looks and behaves just like the original tissue.

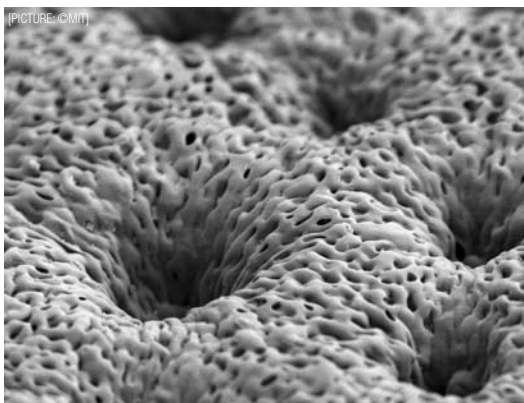
This type of coated scaffold could offer a dramatic improvement over the current standard for treating

bone injuries, which involves transplanting bone from another part of the patient’s body — a painful process that does not always supply enough bone. Patients with severe bone injuries, such as soldiers wounded in battle; people who suffer from congenital bone defects, such as craniomaxillofacial disorders; and patients in need of bone augmentation prior to insertion of dental implants could benefit from the new tissue scaffold, the researchers say.

“It’s been a truly challenging medical problem, and we have tried to provide one way to address that problem,” says Nisarg Shah, a recent PhD recipient and lead author of the paper, which appeared in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences in February.

Paula Hammond, the David H. Koch Professor in Engineering and a member of MIT’s Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research and Department of Chemical Engineering, is the paper’s senior author.

Source: MIT



Straumann announces cost-saving

Measures to mitigate currency impact

In February, Straumann announced that it has initiated a number of measures to mitigate the consequences of the recent sudden appreciation of the Swiss franc against the major currencies in which the Group does business—especially the Euro. The measures focus on cost reductions, including compensation adjustments, with the goals of avoiding job losses in Switzerland and maintaining profitability at an acceptable level.



Since 15 January 2015, the value of the Euro against the Swiss franc has tumbled from around CHF 1.20 to almost parity. Based on a general consensus, Straumann does not foresee a significant improvement for some time.

As 95% of the Group’s business is outside Switzerland (approx. 40% of its revenues are in Euros) and 45% of its costs (production and operating) are in Switzerland, Straumann was among the worst affected companies, with its share price sliding 28% in two weeks.

“Almost overnight, we were thrown back to where we were in 2012 in terms of revenue and profits. If our key strategic initiatives, restructuring and cost reductions over the past 18 months had not been effective, the new situation would have meant severe job losses. To maintain our current level of employment and to protect our competitiveness going forward, we are announcing cost reductions, including compensation adjustments in Switzerland”, commented Marco Gadola, CEO.

All these measures are precautionary and will be reviewed if the currency situation improves substantially.