

Laser on the **rise**



Prof. Dr. Norbert Gutknecht
Editor-in-Chief

Dear colleagues and fellow DGL members,

After years of stagnation, all signs point to a significant revival of the laser market. This became obvious during this year's DGL Congress, as visitor numbers have doubled compared to last year's event and scientific contributions covered a broad spectre of topics and various wavelengths. For instance, wavelengths of 450 nm were rediscovered, which 20 years ago featured argon lasers exclusively and today is represented by modern diode-laser technology. The field of CO₂ lasers (1,060 nm), which has been dominating the laser market in the previous years, was not only revived but it has "mutated": A new CO₂ wavelength of 9,300 nm was introduced, which is now applied in dentistry for the first time.

This development also had an effect on the diversity of companies present at the congress' dental exhibition, leading to an increased presence of visitors at the exhibition between lectures. A simultaneous interpretation of Friday's speeches made it possible for attendees of more than ten different nations to partake actively in the congress programme as speakers and passively in the auditorium.

My wish for next year is that this trend will continue, especially at the WFLD World Congress in Nagoya/Japan and on the 25th Anniversary Congress of the DGL.

The versatility of new wavelengths and wavelength combinations also forms the basis of my manifold good wishes for you, including luck and success, for 2016.

Looking forward to seeing you again in the new year,

With warm regards,

Prof. Dr. Norbert Gutknecht
Editor-in-Chief