

“Coming together
is a beginning;
keeping together
is progress;
working together
is success.”

(Henry Ford)



Dr Torsten Hartmann
Chief Editorial Manager

Dear readers,

These opening words—spoken by a great man—still carry great weight today and have indeed guided the DGZI through the past year as it sought to strengthen international, non-commercial cooperation and facilitated the exchange of implantological experience and knowledge. Taking a moment to reflect on many reports of national and international meetings in our magazine over the year, we see the professional discussions taking place, cooperations and numerous friendships established.

With its more than 3,300 members in Germany, the DGZI has become international without abandoning its local roots. It can be proud of numerous direct cooperations with implantological professional associations across the US, Europe, Asia, the Arabic region and the newest collaboration with the Japanese Implantology Association, the AIAI, totaling a network of over 11,000 implantologists around the world.

DGZI president Dr Friedhelm Heinemann's summary of "success across the board" at the conclusion of the International Dental Show (IDS) in Cologne in March 2007 accurately summed up the conference, where the DGZI presented itself with its own stand for the first time. "While it is important to make your presence felt," observed Dr. Heinemann, "it is only important when you truly have something to say and when your words are backed up by authentic, practical concepts applicable to members." Thanks to the concentrated efforts of management and the many active DGZI members, this idea was successfully turned into reality in recent years. "DGZI's successful trade fair presence was a direct result of this dedicated work," continued Dr. Heinemann.

First vice president Dr Vollmer opened the Arab-German DGZI congress in April by addressing the audience as "dear friends" and subsequently finding fitting words for the close, friendly cooperation with several professional associations in the Arab region. The 37th Annual International DGZI Conference in Düsseldorf in October was the most important event of the year and once again proved itself an outstanding success, boasting the attendance of 600 participants representing 16 different countries. Renowned national and international speakers addressed topics surrounding biological principles and technical implantological possibilities, and a large delegation from the partner association AIAI was able to attend.

In closing, I'd like to mention the 4th Annual Arab-German Implantology Meeting on March 7 and 8, 2008 in Dubai, where we'll again welcome a large number of participants and speakers from the world over—you definitely won't want to miss this conference in one of the world's most exciting cities.

And now, please enjoy this year's final issue of IMPLANTS.

In the name of the editorial board and the entire editorial staff, I wish you a wonderful rest of 2007 and a successful start to 2008!

With warm regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. Hartmann", written in a cursive style.

Dr Torsten Hartmann