Over 1,650 attend Ivoclar Vivadent aesthetic symposium in Vienna

By Georg Isibaner, OEGUS MEDIA AG, Germany

VIENNA, Austria: On 13 and 14 November, Ivoclar Vivadent hosted the Competence in Esthetic (CIE) symposium, an annual international event for dentists and dental technicians that focuses on dental aesthetic solutions, including digital smile design, CAD/CAM dentistry and implant therapies. Over 1,650 participants attended the symposium, where a considerable number of distinguished international speakers updated attendees on the latest developments in dental aesthetics. Attendees also had the opportunity to earn 16 continuing education credits.

According to the company, the symposium aimed to provide first-hand expert knowledge of every clinical and laboratory practice. The symposium programme was enhanced by various workshops and live demonstrations of Ivoclar Vivadent products.

Martina Jakob, Head of Marketing for Austria and Eastern Europe; Gernot Schuller, Managing Director for Austria and Eastern Europe, and Armin Ospelt, Head of Global Marketing, opened the symposium on Friday morning. Jakob particularly spoke about the recently opened International Center for Dental Education (ICDE) in Vienna, which offers state-of-the-art education facilities.

Ivoclar Vivadent’s perpetual success can, in particular, be attributed to their comprehensive product and service innovations, which meet actual demand. Therefore, it is not surprising that, even at a regional event such as the CIE that focuses on Austria and Eastern Europe, the company presented various new products. Among these product innovations were the IPS-style metal-ceramic material, which promises greater efficiency thanks to optimised shrinkage behaviour and aesthetics through brighter colours because of the integration of opacifying crystals. In addition, the IPS e.max CAD portfolio was also extended. Furthermore, the new MT blocks with medium translucency are suitable cases that require enhanced brightness and the IPS e.max blocks with low translucency are now also available in size A4. Their new range of stains and glazes, IPS Ivocolor is now also available for users of IPS ceramics and Weldland Zenoster. According to the manufacturer, dental technicians will only need one assortment for the individualised characterisation of laboratory-fabricated restorations. At a temperature of 1,600°C, the new zirconium oxide crown produces zirconium oxide crown frameworks in 75 minutes.

Another topic that was discussed at the symposium was “digital dentures”, which Ivoclar Vivadent presented in anticipation of this year’s International Show. The company demonstrated that significant progress has been made in this area. The increasing digitalisation of diagnostics, design and construction of dentures, as well as large automated databases for dental geometries have facilitated the manufacturing of aesthetically appealing CAD/CAM prostheses.

Faster scanning than ever with Planmeca FIT, now also with colour

By DTI

HELSINKI, Finland: The Planmeca FIT system for chairside CAD/CAM dentistry provides clinics with a completely digital workflow from start to finish. It seamlessly integrates intra-oral scanning, 3-D designing and on-site milling into one system. Scanning within Planmeca FIT is now faster than ever before, and colour scanning is featured for the first time.

The Planmeca FIT system is all about integrated efficiency. Consisting of the Planmeca PlanScan intra-oral scanner and PlanCAD Easy software and Planmeca PlanMill 40 milling unit, it allows clinics to produce perfectly fitting restorations in a single visit.

The system has made great strides lately in both scanning speed and accuracy—intra-oral scans can now be performed with unprecedented quickness. Colour scanning too has been newly introduced, enhancing diagnostics and making differentiation between soft and hard tissue easier. Colour scans also improve communication and increase case acceptance, as they are easier for patients to comprehend.

Planmeca FIT workflow steps are easily controlled through the Planmeca Romexis software platform, which offers a comprehensive overview on all workstations, and the software’s flexible licensing allows scanning, designing and milling treatments to take place simultaneously. In addition, images and data can be sent from clinics to dental laboratories and other external partners.

The Planmeca Romexis Clinic Management module provides remote real-time usage information on Planmeca PlanMill 40, enabling clinics to locate resources and monitor ongoing milling processes.

Planmeca FIT is a completely integrated approach to high-quality dental care. It helps clinics utilise their resources to the full and treat more patients in less time. Instead of two appointments, patients can be treated in one visit—with temporary crowns or physical dental models.
“We developed Invisalign G6 specifically to provide treatment to the Asia Pacific market”

An interview with John Morton, R&D Director Align Technology

At the International Orthodontic Conference in London, Align Technology showcased the latest generation of its Invisalign system, which now offers clinicians a solution for first premolar extractions. Dental Tribune sat down with the company’s R&D director, John Morton, to discuss the philosophy behind the product and how it can benefit orthodontics.

Dental Tribune: Malocclusion requiring the extraction of a first premolar affects only 20 per cent of patients in Europe and an even lower percentage of patients in North America. Why was Invisalign G6 developed with this specific orthodontic condition in mind?

John Morton: Looking at all the different types of malocclusions that exist, treatment by premolar extraction can be difficult and considered the gold standard for evaluating an orthodontic appliance. Premolar extractions may be less prevalent in the Western hemisphere than in the Asia Pacific region, where 50 per cent of cases are treated with first premolar extraction with maximum anchorage. We developed Invisalign G6 specifically to provide treatment to the Asia Pacific market.

When we launched the Invisalign system in China in 2011, we knew we needed this type of treatment. It took four years to develop, balancing the movement of the canines and the anterior and posterior of the arch. Part of the goal of this project was to make clear in the minds of orthodontists that Invisalign aligners are a true orthodontic appliance capable of well-controlled movements required for extractions, space closure and not just a piece of plastic.

Invisalign clear aligners have extended the user base significantly with each generation of innovation. How important is feedback from clinicians in the development process?

John Morton: It is very important, but there is a difference between us as a company and orthodontists in general. Orthodontists solve their treatment problems per patient in the chair on an individual basis. We have to do this on a large scale. Some clinicians, like Dr. David Couchat from France, who spoke today, are treating patients with substantially atypical malocclusion. They are very difficult cases to treat. These doctors give us fantastic insights into treatment.

In your presentation, you emphasised the way in which technology has changed the development process.

John Morton: We now have highly advanced sensors to measure the force systems produced by Invisalign aligners. As I said in my presentation, the design process used to be quite long, but technology has miniaturised the sensors significantly. With this type of technology, we can measure every force and movement on every tooth, and we are able to build shapes and attachments that doctors have not dreamed of. Moreover, we can do it all in the virtual world, fabricate in the laboratory and have our measurements within an hour to see if the design is better or worse than previously used.

We can try many different things in the computer programmes and learn from our mistakes without ever touching a patient. Ten years ago, we would have to put each design through a clinical trial for six months or so, only to find that it is the wrong design and have to start over. Today, the design process is down to hours instead of years.

With the latest generation, does the Invisalign system or clear aligners offer a complete solution for orthodontists?

John Morton: The Invisalign system is a complete orthodontic appliance today, yet there is always room for further development. We can certainly design new materials, new parts or different ways of treating patients. There are all sorts of improvement we can do. The appliance is unlimited, as has been shown by our expert clinicians. There is some resistance still because building experience and confidence takes time and effort. Our task as a company is to provide more education and support to doctors and to give them the opportunity to become confident in using Invisalign aligners.

Thank you very much for the interview.