Vintage Halo featured in seminar

Shofu’s Vintage Halo porcelain was recently featured in a seminar at the UCLA Master Dental Ceramicist Program.

Taught by renowned dental technician Klaus Muterthies, the two-day seminar was an opportunity to see the legendary master ceramist at work.

The 15 technicians who participated in the program were taught Muterthies’ famous four season restorations using Shofu porcelain. Muterthies, founder of the Art Oral Design Group, cited Shofu’s Vintage Halo porcelain’s easy handling abilities and the true opalescence properties of Shofu’s ceramic.

Participants used Vintage Halo porcelain, which, in addition to its natural esthetics, offers extremely low shrinkage, precise color match, high compressive strength and excellent stability of margin edges.

A versatile material, Vintage Halo is ideal for everything from simple two- to three-powder build-ups to complex multi-powder restorations.

New cameras from Nikon and Canon

Canon and Nikon are introducing new “upper entry level” digital SLR cameras: the Nikon D5000 and the Canon Rebel T1i.

The Nikon D5000 slots in between the entry level D60 and the D90, and splits the difference in features. The D5000 matches the D90’s 12.3 megapixel resolution and includes the same 720P HD video clip mode.

New to the Nikon D5000 is the vari-angle LCD monitor that allows you to shoot from various angles. This is the first Nikon SLR model to feature an adjustable LCD screen. Even if you never use Live View, the vari-angle screen allows you to protect the LCD screen.

The LCD screen size is 2.7 inches and, like the D60 (2.5 inches), has 250,000 pixels of screen resolution. In comparison, the D90’s screen does not move, but is 3 inches and has 920,000 pixels.

Canon’s newest Rebel series camera is called the T1i. The Rebel T1i gains the 15 megapixel resolution and the higher resolution screen from the Canon 50D while also adding in 1080P HD video clip capability (first seen in the 5D Mark II).

The size and weight of the Rebel T1i is identical to the Rebel XSi. Visit the PhotoMed Web site to view a chart that shows the upgrades to the Rebel line over time, as well as more information about the Nikon D5000.

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IPS e.max lithium disilicate crowns

IPS e.max® from Keller is the next generation of crown and bridge material. It offers great strength, esthetics and fit for a lower price.

IPS e.max lithium disilicate is a monolithic glass ceramic.

This means it is fabricated from a single block of material.

Unlike traditional PFMs and many other ceramic restorations, e.max does not have a coping with a thin veneer of porcelain. It is made entirely of pressed lithium disilicate.

If it's all-ceramic esthetics you're looking for, different ingot opacities and characterization techniques make it possible to rival the esthetics of Empress.

e.max's versatility of design can deliver both bridges and crowns. It is available for three-unit bridges to the second premolar. e.max is also available as an inlay/onlay.

IPS e.max is a good value in an economy where every dollar counts: crowns are $109 while veneers are $129.

Keller is a market leader in providing solutions to the growing demands in dentistry.

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The new Triotray by Triodent, makers of the V3 Ring, is a rigid and accurate posterior impression tray. Its sturdy metal construction and unique side tabs produce consistently successful impressions where other, more flexible, dual-arch trays fail.

Triotray eliminates the frustration and embarrassment caused by poorly fitting crowns that are the result of distorted impressions.

Triotray removes that moment of doubt when you fit a crown, and saves time and money spent on adjustments and extra appointments.

The Triotray comes in left and right shapes, with the lingual tabs more vertically oriented than the others.

This prevents the tongue from displacing impression material from the lingual margins of mandibular crown preparations. With the tongue in a passive position beside the lingual arm, it cannot push up on the tray, a common cause of distortion.

Adjustable side tabs

All the side tabs are adjustable using your fingers or pliers, so it is easy to customize the tray to fit a wide range of mouth shapes and sizes, even if the patient has a shallow palate, wide buccal plate or mandibular tori.

The tray's thinness and strength in the retro-molar area allows the patient to close easily and comfortably in centric occlusion (maximum intercuspal position).

Using the tray is simple. Just place the tray in the mouth and ask the patient to close. Move the tray slightly to make sure it is free from any impingements and adjust the tabs if necessary.

Tabs lock-in impression material

Once the tray is tried-in and adjusted, a generous amount of impression material is applied to the tray.

As the patient closes, the material flows between the side tabs, locking when it sets, thus avoiding the need for adhesive in all but a few putty and wash cases.

If the tabs are fully trapped within the impression material, the impression cannot distort and the lab can pour check dies without worry.

An occasional reaction to the Triotray side tabs is that they look uncomfortable, but the tabs are actually shorter than the rims of conventional trays and, because they are adjustable, there is no reason for patient discomfort, Triodont clinicians say.

The Triotray, a single-use product, is sold in packs of 24 —12 left and 12 right — retailing at $62.

For more information, call (800) 811-3949 or go to www.triodent.com.

You can also learn more about this product by watching a First Impressions video product review, which is available at www.DTSStudyClub.com.

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