AAE15 is held in Seattle

By Fred Michmershuizen, Managing Editor

AAE15, the annual meeting of the American Association of Endodontists, took place May 6-9 in Seattle. The event, billed by the association as “the most comprehensive endodontic education summit, vendor exhibition and networking opportunity in the world,” was held in the heart of downtown, at the Washington State Convention Center.

Michio Kaku, PhD, offered the keynote address. Consistent with the meeting’s future-looking theme, Kaku, author of “The Future of the Mind,” shared his vision for the future of science and technology.

In his opening remarks, AAE President Robert S. Roda told attendees, “If we’re going to shape the future, we need an organization that can study, that can learn and that can act.” Roda recapped the accomplishments of the association during his term, including the hiring of new Executive Director Peter S. Weber and environmental-scanning and quality improvement projects that are helping the AAE prepare for the future of the specialty.

The meeting offered more than 100 educational sessions in a variety of tracks, including “Future Directions on Non-surgical Root Canal Treatment,” “Surgical Endodontics – What Lies Ahead” and “Where Will Biology and Technology Take Endodontics.” Attendees also had the opportunity to partake in hands-on workshops featuring leading experts in microsurgery, cone-beam computed technology and resorption.

AAE15 included the largest endodontic exhibit hall in the world, with nearly 100 vendors offering the latest in endodontic equipment, materials and supplies.

Essential Dental Systems (EDS) showcased its new endodontic system, Tango-Endo. It’s named that way because with Tango-Endo, it only takes two instruments, according to EDS. The instruments have a unique, patented flat along the entire length, designed for faster engagement with less resistance, and increased flexibility without sacrificing strength.

CJM Engineering, a first-time exhibitor at AAE, presented its Munce Discovery Burs, which are designed to deal with calcified canals, uncover hidden canals, and to trough the isthmus and cement-line dissection around posts. According to the company, the long, narrow yet stiff shafts are designed to provide an excellent view corridor and ensure
positive control, with the familiar tactile feedback of round burs. The carbide tips enable post-core out and broken or cross-threaded implant screw drill-out.

Dr. C. John Munce, inventor of Munce Discovery Burs, was on hand at the meeting with his wife, Marianne. Roydent Dental Products offered its wide-ranging armamentarium, including its 2Seal easymiX Root Canal Sealer, an easy-to-use, auto-mix epoxy resin sealer, which was recently re-launched in newly branded packaging. “2Seal easymiX is a safe and ideal way for doctors to achieve one-handed dispensing and precise placement in the canal. It is also extremely radiopaque and biocompatible,” said Nancy Connor, sales and marketing manager.
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Dr. Joseph Maggio presents ‘A New Paradigm in Endodontic Therapy: Gentle-Wave,’ a corporate workshop presented on the exhibit hall floor. Photo/Provided by Sonendo.

Connor also told Endo Tribune about a Roydent-supported webinar, “Improving Access and Obturation for More Predictable Endodontic Outcomes,” with Dr. Joseph Chikvashvili. The course, available at vivalearning.com, is designed for practitioners seeking new ways to practice endo predictably and more frequently. Special focus is placed on gaining access and obturation for predictable outcomes.

Global Surgical Corp. showcased its new A-Series microscope. Designed by dentists for dentists, the new A-Series microscope features the intuitive AXIS Control System. Offering a greater range of motion from a single point of reference, the A-Series is easier to maneuver than any other brand, according to the company. Features include the brightest LED light source available and a new optional multi-focal lens. The MFL provides an enhanced range of fine focus adjustment.

Once gross focus is achieved, the fine focus can be adjusted up to 150 mm without moving the microscope head. There is no need to adjust the binoculars or move the scope, keeping you “in the zone” while maintaining a healthy ergonomic position, the company said.

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<td>C-FILES</td>
<td>Non-Cutting tip</td>
<td>Designed for initial access and breaking through calcification.</td>
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<td>K-FILES</td>
<td>Cutting tip</td>
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<td>Non-Cutting tip</td>
<td>Triangular blade for increased flexibility. Designed for full instrumentation.</td>
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<td>NITI FILES</td>
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what the company calls “unprecedented” root canal cleaning and disinfection when compared to conventional NiTi files and irrigation. Sonendo’s GentleWave system features a proprietary technology, known as Multisonic Ultracleaning, which has been tested clinically in hundreds of cases and is shown to clean the entire root canal system regardless of complexity. Sonendo’s GentleWave technology results in the removal of bacteria, biofilm and smear layer in a single visit, which also helps reduce the need for retreatment, according to the company.

In addition to the in-booth presentations, Sonendo sponsored a number of educational presentations. Dr. Joseph Maggio offered “A New Paradigm in Endodontic Therapy: GentleWave,” a corporate workshop presented on the exhibit hall floor. In the lecture halls, Dr. Karine Charara presented “Safety of the Novel GentleWave System Evaluated in a Simulated Apical Environment.” Dr. Brandi L. Molina presented “Histological Evaluation of Root Canal Debridement of the GentleWave System in Root Canal Systems of Human Molars,” and Bettina Basrani of the University of Toronto presented “NSRCT – Irrigation: Past, Present, Future?”

On Friday morning, Sonendo held its second 5K Charity Run/Walk, co-sponsored by AAE. Proceeds benefited Fisher House, a home away from home for families of hospitalized active-duty military personnel and veterans. To get participants pumped up for the early morning run, Rachel L. Engler, MS, CRNA, a lieutenant commander in the Navy Nurse Corp Reserve, led a warm-up.

In her first remarks as the new president of AAE, Dr. Terryl A. Propper said she hopes to increase engagement and involvement in the association by the next generation of endodontists.

“I want to inspire a process that will yield effective change for our members and our specialty,” Propper said. The 2016 AAE meeting will be held April 6–9 in San Francisco.

(Sources: AAE, Global Surgical Corp, Sonendo, Essential Dental Systems, CJM Engineering, Roydent Dental Products)
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