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#INSPIRATION ISSUE

"Who or what inspires you in your work?" This is the question LMT posed to you, and you answered, eager to highlight the aspects of our profession, the people and the experiences that inspire and enrich your careers and make you proud to be a dental technician. This special issue is a celebration of all that is unique and wonderful about our community.

Coverage begins on page 6

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#INSPIRATION ISSUE

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Publisher's Page

Remembering an Inspirational Bright Light

Welcome to LMT's Inspiration Issue, a celebration of all that is special about our community and the work you do. Much of the content is based on submissions from readers eager to share stories about their mentors, family members, co-workers and dentist-clients as well as the inherent satisfaction of helping patients and restoring their smiles.

In keeping with our coverage, I'd like to dedicate this page to one inspirational person in particular: Steve Killian, Founder, Spectrum Killian Dental Lab Alliance (SKDLA), Irvine, CA, who passed away last month. Steve was a long-time friend of LMT, openly sharing his wisdom and experiences in the pages of our magazine, on our speaker's podium and during one-on-one conversations.

He was dedicated to helping our community, serving in various capacities for the NADL, and believed strongly in the value of dental technology education, raising money for scholarships, grants and on-line learning programs as a board member of The Foundation for Dental Laboratory Technology.

Steve was an avid athlete and LMT was proud to sponsor him

in the Foundation's Race for the Future every year.

Prior to SKDLA, Steve owned Killian Dental Ceramics, Inc. with his brother Greg for 35 years and, throughout his career,

he took his role as a mentor seriously, believing strongly in the power of positive reinforcement. "As a manager, it's my job to encourage; I have to make sure our employees share our vision and encourage them to meet our mutual goals. I try to acknowledge when people do things right and help them see their potential, even when they can't see it for themselves," he wrote in *How I Discovered the Power of Affirmation*, in the February 2018 issue of LMT.

Humble, honest and genuinely kind, Steve was always willing to praise others. In fact, his submission is part of this *Inspiration Issue*. He nominated Laura Sheppard, CDT, TE, for her impressive documentation of her laboratory's SOPs which inspired him to take on this "daunting yet important project" for SKDLA (see page 12).

The last time I saw him was when Judy and I visited SKDLA last August where we learned



Steve Killian participating in the Race for the Future, August 2017.

more about its formation; he was so excited about the merger and the next chapter of his career. The visit exemplified his ongoing enthusiasm for the profession, his co-workers and all that he wanted to accomplish.

Steve was a true gentleman and a bright light in our community. His friendship, encouragement and thoughtfulness will forever be missed by everyone here at LMT.



Kelly





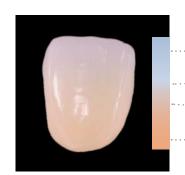
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FINSPIRATION ISSUE

Dental Technology: An Inherently Inspirational Industry

"Who or what inspires you in your work?" This is the question LMT posed to you, and you answered, eager to highlight the aspects of our profession, the people and the experiences that inspire and enrich your careers and make you proud to be a dental technician. | Kim Molinaro, Managing Editor

Technicians transform what's broken, worn and unesthetic into something beautiful and functional; in essence, dental technicians help make patients happy and whole again. Having the ability to restore the patient's smile is what drives so many members of our community and is at the very heart of their career satisfaction.

Echoing the sentiments of many LMT readers, Sherelyn Kahn, Sherry Kahn Lab, Farmington Hills, MI, says, "My work makes a huge difference in a patient's appearance and impacts their lives in so many ways. They often experience better self-esteem, leading to emotional, financial and social successes. There cannot be a more rewarding job."

Here are some of the other inherently inspirational aspects of our field highlighted by our readers:

Incredible Camaraderie.

Despite being competitors, the camaraderie in our close-knit community is strong: lab owners share business strategies, swap technical tips and foster friendships through industry events, trade shows and online groups.

One of the newest—*Ladies* of the Mill founded in 2019 by Lab Owners Jillian Swafford and Christina Heaslip—is unifying and empowering women in the industry through its Facebook page and now annual Summit and is 558 members strong. "This group has been such an inspiration to me on what can be accomplished, and how satisfying and rewarding our industry can be," says Randi James, President/Co-Owner, Renstrom Dental Studio, Vadnais Heights, MN. "The camaraderie it has created has helped so many labs grow and flourish and break down the naturally competitive

barriers that exist. Ladies of the Mill gives women a comfortable place to reach beyond our comfort zones and helps build confidence in our professional and personal lives."

Respectful Relationships. As the technician-dentist relationship has evolved over the years, there's an appreciation for the technician's role as an educator and valuable member of the dental team. For lab owners who have found like-minded dentistclients, the relationship they share is one of mutual respect. "We've been working with our biggest client for 18 years and our partnership is so rewarding," says Carol Pilmer, Co-Owner, R-Dent Ceramics, Solana Beach, CA. "He's cooperative, kind, respectful and complimentary... as is his entire staff. Even though we're getting close to retirement, he and his team keep us motivated to keep on going!"

Abundant Opportunity. The entrepreneurial spirit in our community is strong and our field allows many technicians to realize their dream of business ownership. Case in point: Clay Ponder, who opened his own one-person denture lab, SCP Dental in Mobile, AL, last year. "It's been a really scary but amazing journey and today I have a successful business with several good accounts who really care about their patients," says Ponder. "I want to tell others that achieving your dreams is possible. I came from a checkered past plagued by health issues and poor lifestyle choices...all the way to owning my own business, my own home and having a

happy family. If I could do this, anyone can."

Giving Back. Many members of our community graciously donate their time and skills to patients who need it the most: those who do not have access to or cannot afford adequate dental care. "Our lab's charitable work and witnessing firsthand how our talents can help change a life is so inspirational. We offer free

Having the ability to restore the patient's smile is what drives so many members of our community and is at the very heart of their career satisfaction.

case work or donations of our time or finances, and the gratitude we've received from these patients is immeasurable," says Cindy Kelly, Owner, 5280creations, Thornton, CO, who works with several non-profits including Dental LifeLine Network and Colorado Mission of Mercy and also serves as a Board Member of Kids in Need of Dentistry and the group's Chair Elect.

Ongoing Innovation. Some readers are inspired by digital advancements in our field and find the technology to be exhilarating. "I'm driven by the cutting-edge technology

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Dr. John Della Croce and his son, Richard, in the 1960s

Dan Elfring (right) of Pickle Prosthodontics with his friend Tom Love at a recent LMT LAB DAY Chicago.



Aleman Dental Lab's Michael Guzman (right) with his father, Carlos.



Continued

possible RPDs to our customers," says Andy Timblin, CAD/CAM Production Supervisor, Bertram Dental Lab, Menasha, WI, who has helped transition the lab's production from analog to digital. "Testing and implementing new digital technology—like new support software and our five SLM Printers—and figuring out the best way to implement them into our production is very rewarding and inspires me to keep innovating."

Magnificent Mentoring. In a constantly changing technical field, we're fortunate our community is ripe with talented educators who continually step up to share their passion, experience and knowledge. One prime example: last November, Arian Deutsch, CDT, DTG, Owner of Deutsch Dental Arts, invited six up-and-coming technicians to his new Arizona facility for a free weekend of high-end removables education. His goal? To give back and inspire the next generation of technicians. (For the full story, see Renowned Technician Inspires New Talent with 'Covert Course' on page 18.)

And, for the mentors themselves, offering their time and talent comes with its own reward. "I'm inspired by sharing my technical knowledge and seeing that I'm making others around me better," says Anthony Calonico, CDT, Technical Manager, Ottawa Dental Lab, Ottawa, IL. "I strive to be a positive influence and helping to shape our team members gives me energy; being a positive force that helps others succeed is a win-win for everyone."

INSPIRATIONAL PEOPLE

The enthusiastic mentors, teachers and role models in our community leave a positive and lasting impression on their recipients. Many readers celebrate the key people who have helped shape their outlooks, skills and careers for the better. For example:

Dr. John Della Croce: My Father, My Driving Force.

"My father was a dentist from the mid-1950s until the early '80s. As a young kid, he had me

making platinum foil matrices and rough firing Steely's Aluminous porcelain; later I moved on to cast bite rims and setups according to the old Dentsply mold charts. With my father's encouragement and the goal of working as his in-house technician, I went to New York City College of Technology to study dental laboratory technology. While I was earning my degree, however, my father was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease and forced into retirement. I was crushed; not only for personal reasons but because I planned to spend my career working sideby-side with him.

"But I soldiered on, working in several labs and opening my own lab in 1993. In 2006, I was hired as the sole technician for our local V.A. hospital. I believe I was made for this job; I have the honor of helping veterans be able to function and smile, to implement digital dentures and help train dental residents. As I head into the autumn of my career, I could never have asked for a better job or chosen a better career and it's all thanks to my dad." ~ Richard Della Croce, Station 693 Dental Lab Manager, Wilkes Barre VAMC Dental Clinic, Dental Lab, Wilkes Barre, PA

Dan Elfring, Master CDT, TE: An Unmatched Mentor.

"Anyone who has been fortunate enough to meet Dan Elfringthe in-house technician at Pickle Prosthodontics, Colorado Springs, CO—has been inspired by him. Dan is a Master CDT who is always striving to create beautiful masterpieces in each case he fabricates. He has mentored countless people in dental technology, communication and life skills and inspired them to become the best all-around technicians they can be. He is continually learning, educating and sharing his passion for our industry and is one of the kindest, most caring and genuine individuals you will have the pleasure to meet." $\sim Tom$ Love, Director of Education/ Implantology, Apex Lab Group, Lompoc, CA

Michael Guzman: Passionate Persistence. "My son, Michael, joined my lab in 2020, two years after we opened. He

Continues



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From I. to r.:
Dr. Chase Larsen
of Inspired
Dentistry; the
happy patient;
and Damien
Moreno,
Founder/
President of Epic
Dental Studios.

Janice "Charlie" LaSalle, a shining role model at 5280Creations, Thornton, CO.



Finer Detail Dental Lab's Erin Marks (left) and Tonya Moody.

Continued

started as a floater doing bite blocks and custom trays and, since then, has become passionate about the industry and learning all he can about the business, mastering waxing, pouring and even implants. Interested in 3D printing, he began researching the technology and, on his recommendation, we purchased a 3Shape scanner and EnvisionOne printer.

Today, he manages our design and printing department and has proven to be a proficient problem solver when it comes to challenging cases; he simply won't give up and his tenacity is inspiring. I've always wanted to be surrounded by my children and when Michael showed interest in the lab, it was a dream come true. I'm hoping that, one day, he will carry on our family business." ~ Carlos Guzman, Owner, Aleman Dental Lab, Escondido, CA

Steve Ko: My Father, My Role Model. "My father was trained as a ceramist in South Korea, then immigrated to the U.S. in 1985. Even as an immigrant with English as his second language, he was able to set up his own successful lab, DTI Dental Laboratory, Santa Fe Springs, CA, which he operated

for 15 years. He inspired me to become a technician and, last year, I opened my own lab, River Young Dental Laboratory, Gardena, CA, where my father is the Senior Technician. In addition to soaking in his technical knowledge over the years, my father has taught me the lessons of perseverance, integrity and overcoming obstacles." ~ David Ko, Owner, River Young Dental Laboratory, Gardena, CA

Dr. Chase Larsen: A Caring Clinician. "Our amazing client, Dr. Chase Larsen, Chase Inspired Dentistry, Draper, UT, periodically donates free smile makeovers; his work reminds me of the endless number of lives we help change for the better. He recently asked our laboratory to partner with him to donate our time to four members of our local community who have experienced a family hardship. This patient, Mark—who traveled over 600 miles twice a week to and from his child's medical treatment—wanted to get rid of his diastema. We fabricated 10 single-unit crowns using IPS e.max Press MT and our proprietary Encore multi-layered cut-back technique with IPS e.max Ceram/Impulse porcelain. Several of our technicians were able to sit chairside during prepping and seating; it was so cool! We got to see Mark look in the mirror for the first time with awe." ~ Corban Cooper, Project Manager, Epic Dental Studios, American Fork, UT. (Editor's note: For a video of the story, visit https://lmtmag.com/ articles/1271911.)

Janice "Charlie" LaSalle: **Industry Veteran and Role** Model. "Walk into 5280creations and you'll hear Charlie's infectious laugh. Charlie has over 45 years of dental experience. She started her career as a dental assistant, then ultimately found her passion in the laboratory industry and owned her own lab for 20 years. She found 5280creations about five years ago after closing her lab because she wanted to slow down. She calls herself the lab 'dinosaur' but she can work circles around anyone; we have to tell her to go home! When she's not in the lab, Charlie is playing golf, fishing or hunting. We don't see her slowing down anytime soon, and her

passion for dental technology and life!—is inspiring to our entire team." ~ Kevin and Cindy Kelly, Owners, 5280creations, Thornton, CO

Dr. Robert Lee: Creator of Dentistry's Health Model.

"In 2000, I discovered the work of Dr. Robert Lee, a biologistturned-dentist who studied hundreds of older patients with healthy teeth and determined that the ideal dental model for optimal health is based on three keys: stable condylar position, correct coupling of upper and lower anterior teeth, and biologically natural tooth form. His research became the foundation of rejuvenation dentistry, an approach based on a model of health that considers not only a patient's teeth but the entire masticatory system and maintains that problems—such as TMJ pain, chronic headaches or damage to teeth—occur when these components aren't working in biological harmony.

'When I finally understood that it's not just about teeth but about the whole patient, my world changed. I committed myself to studying the human masticatory system, teaming up with like-minded dentists and teaching others about this concept. Sadly, Dr. Lee passed away before I had the chance to meet him but, thanks to him, I've taken a different path that helps me make a bigger impact in our clients' and patients' lives." ~ Daniel O'Rourke, Owner, Dentistry's Optimal Model Dental, Belgrade, MT

Erin Marks: A Patient Trainer.

"Erin hired me last September; I had zero dental experience but she saw the potential in me that I had yet to see in myself. She has been training me from the ground up: bite rims, wax rims, flippers, mounting, investing, fixing fractured dentures, and polishing bite splints and even a denture! I get so down on myself when I make a mistake but she always comes back with her own stories to remind me everything is a learning experience. I admire Erin's enthusiasm, dedication and patience. She's such an inspiration and the knowledge she's passing on will help me grow." ~ Tonya Moody, Technician, Finer Detail Dental Lab, Midland, MI

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EINSPIRATION ISSUE

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Bennett Napier, MS, CAE: A **Selfless Advocate.** "Bennett Napier, Executive Director of the NADL and NBC, is a selfless individual who looks out for our industry in every way possible. The NADL would not be where it is today without the inspirational leadership of Bennett and his entire team. He gives back to our community and has become a dear friend to many of us. He inspires others to serve and give back and his guidance and passion encourage us to make our organizations sound and stable for years to come. Rock on, Bennett!" ~ Tom Love, Director of Education/Implantology, Apex Lab Group, Lompoc, CA

Yolanda Polansky: Talented Ceramist, Patient Trainer.

"I've been a technician for the

past 20 years and, for the last three years, I've been mentored by Yolanda Polansky, Technical Manager at Niche Dental Studio in Voorhees, NJ. Yolanda is very talented: she earned her dental lab degree from Valle De Tena in Zaragoza, Spain, then worked in several dental labs to grow her skills in all facets of dental technology. She's training me on porcelain layering and even though she's swamped with work, she is always so patient, taking time to explain the technical aspects of my work, letting me observe her buildups and drawing shade maps for me to follow. She watches me work and gives me tips on how to place each porcelain to improve the color and depth of each crown and even lets me take videos of her techniques so I can rewatch them. I've never had a boss who

is so caring and supportive. She inspires me every day with her creativity and exemplifies a strong woman in the workplace." ~ Terri Lewe, Dental Technician, Niche Dental Studio, Voorhees, NJ

Laura Sheppard, CDT: Trainer Extraordinaire. "Several years ago, I toured DSG Davis Dental Laboratory, now NDX Davis in Wyoming, MI, where I saw the impressive documentation of the lab's SOPs by the amazingly sharp and energetic Laura Sheppard, CDT, TE, who's a specialist in training, education and quality systems like DAMAS and the FDA's GMPs. It was a massive body of work consisting of several hard-bound books that filled an entire bookcase!

"Over the past year, I've been working on documenting our

lab's master quality and education system containing our core quality values and all of our SOPs. It's a massive, daunting project—but an important one—and although I could never achieve Laura's skill level, just knowing what she accomplished inspires me every day to keep on going and to get it right. When I get stuck or overwhelmed, it always helps to ask myself, 'what would Laura do?'. She would persevere, push on and complete the task without hesitation. Thanks, Laura, you are my inspiration!" ~Stephen Killian, CDT, Co-Founder, Spectrum Killian Dental Lab Alliance, Irvine, CA. (Editor's Note: Before his sudden death in May, Steve shared this submission with LMT. See page 4 for a tribute to him from LMT Editor Kelly Carr.) **W**



Laura Sheppard, the Fixed Technical Manager at NDX D.H. Baker Dental Laboratory in Traverse City, MI.





Bennett Napier, MS, CAE, Executive Director of the NADL and NBC.

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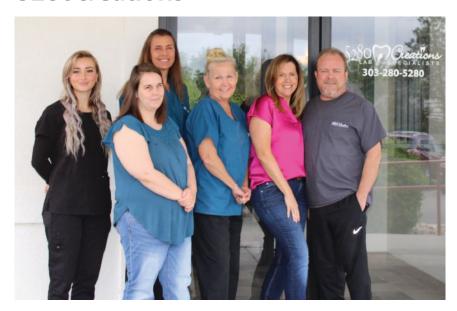
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Teamwork Makes the Dream Work

What's one huge source of inspiration in our community? Working with a talented and dedicated team of technicians! Here, readers give a shoutout to their teammates, the ones who collaborate on cases, share their challenges, and lift them up each and every day.

5280creations



"As all technicians know, lab life is not easy; it can be very stressful and require long days. Finding what moves you and keeps you coming back to the lab is important for your success and your health. One of my main sources of inspiration is my team. We pull together and we get through the tough days and the tough cases. Everyone works collaboratively to complete the work, troubleshoot and treatment plan. I love hearing the laughter and witnessing the camaraderie in our lab."

~ Cindy Kelly, Owner, 5280creations, Thornton, CO (second from right)

Inspiring the Next Generation



"Teaching and inspiring the next generation of technicians inspires *me* and it's so important to pass on our skills. Dental technology is a wonderful career that not only mixes art, science, technology but also running a business and, with an aging technician population, these students will soon need to fill that void. However, most importantly, my role is simply to remind them that we help people. As I tell my students: 'remember the *why*, not just the *how*!" ~ *Erin Souther Popov (front and center), RG, CDT, TE, Program Director, Durham Technical Community College, Durham, NC.*

Image Gallery



"My team and the culture we have created together inspire me to continue to grow my business after 43 years. Laboratory work requires knowledge of the function and esthetics of the mouth to recreate what patients need. Our team works together and we take the time necessary to learn skills to emulate what nature has produced. Teamwork makes the dream work!"

~ Lonni Thompson, CDT, President/Founder, Image Gallery, Dublin, OH (second from right)

Digital Dental Leaders



"I'm inspired by our team of technicians, customer service staff and managers that work together with a common philosophy that service to others is the pathway to true significance in life. We make it clear in our Employee Guidebook that God is foundational to our company and to glorify him means to honor our employees and our clients as well. Seeing our company grow from five to 45 employees in the past six years proves to me that this worldview has impact."

~Ron Stephens, Supervisor/Consultant, Digital Dental Leaders, Menifee, CA (fourth row down, fifth from left)

Continues





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"I'm grateful for the opportunity to work with the dedicated, talented and passionate team members at NDX Thayer who want to grow both personally and professionally. I'm motivated by their thirst for knowledge and collaborative nature, and it's extremely gratifying to be a part of this team's ongoing success."

~ Robert Gitman, General Manager, NDX Thayer, Mechanicsburg, PA (not pictured)

NDX Albensi



"We have had many challenges but our team always rises to the occasion and finds a solution. Our staff collaborates and figures out a way to make things better than they were before. Collaboration is the foundation of our future success."

~ Sharon Martin, General Manager, NDX Albensi, Irwin, PA (back row, far right)

Bertram Dental Lab



"I'm inspired by the passion and desire for high quality I see in our Owners, Joe and Tim Bertram. When I see them working overtime to make sure each RPD gets the attention it needs, their work ethic motivates me to do the same. In addition, my CAD/CAM Production team has worked so hard during these very busy times to meet every deadline. They offer to work overtime or weekends and this has cultivated a family-like atmosphere in our department. We build off each other's success and pitch in where needed and, as a result, each technician feels supported, valued and appreciated."

~Andy Timblin, CAD/CAM Production Supervisor, Bertram Dental Lab, Menasha, WI (back row, far right)

Artistic Dental Laboratory, Inc.

"I strive to grow this company so I can create growth opportunities for my employees who make what we do possible. Every employee is needed and the work he does is critical to our success. Seeing the commitment each has to our laboratory is all the inspiration I need to make sure I'm driving the company in the right direction. Thank you to everyone who is *the* Artistic Dental Laboratory."

~Dan Ulaszek, CDT, VP Operations, Artistic Dental Laboratory, Inc., Bolingbrook, IL



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Renowned Technician Inspires New Talent with 'Covert Course'

By Maribeth Marsico, Senior Editor

When Arian Deutsch, CDT,

DTG, and his wife, Muriel, were planning Deutsch Dental Arts' move into a new facility in Sun City West, AZ, their prime focus was on education. "I had been traveling a lot to present courses and we thought, there's just going to be a bigger need for education in the future, so let's invest in that here," says Deutsch, a prominent technician and educator.

So they did, renovating their new space—with a custom-made training bench from CATO Odontotecnica in Italy as the focal point—and planning their first course for attendees from around the globe in April 2020. But, of course, you know what happened: it was cancelled due to the onset of COVID-19 and, like so many of us, they had to switch gears.

"During the pandemic, we had time to refine what we wanted to do and realized we really wanted to make the first course special," says Deutsch. After much brainstorming, they decided to hold an invitation-only weekend that wouldn't be advertised—dubbing it a "covert course"—and offered it free to six up-and-coming technicians whose cases (and passion) they had been following on social media.

"We're pretty passionate about what we do here and it's exciting to see young technicians who feel the same way. So I reached out, said I was impressed by their work and desire to excel and invited them to Arizona that November, asking them only to pay travel expenses," says Deutsch, who didn't know any of the technicians personally.

After some initial bewilderment—one technician jokingly asked if he was running a dental technician trafficking ring—the six participants took him up on his offer and spent two days at his lab, learning about high-end denture fabrication, implant restorations, digital design, telescopic implants cases and photography.

But this was no ordinary

Continues

We're pretty passionate about what we do here and it's exciting to see young technicians who feel the same way.

~ Arian Deutsch, CDT, DTG



Arian and Muriel Deutsch (front row, kneeling) handpicked the Covert Course participants, including (middle row, l. to r) Shanon Torstenbo, CDT, and Jenelle Tabaković; (back row, l. to r.) Clay Ponder, Ryan Lindsay, Jasmin Tabaković and Dr. Justin Dillner.

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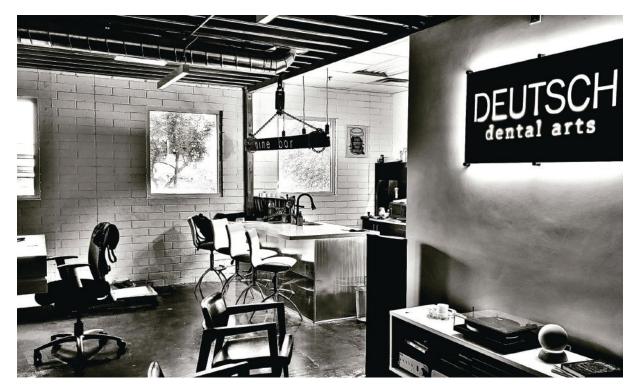


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Left: Deutsch Dental Arts' new facility is a former medical building; Arian and his wife, Muriel, wanted total control so they handled the renovations themselves. The result: a comfortable, unique space with an industrial feel. It also features a full espresso bar, including a BC Coffee Roaster (top photo), which was used to roast a special "Covert Roast" Blend (inset) for the weekend.

course: this was an immersive experience that started weeks before with a private Facebook group and messages firing back and forth and a zoom session to go over the impressions and clinical record of a fully edentulous patient Deutsch had sent each of them (he is also a denturist). There was also some advance homework, which was to fabricate a full wax try-in for the patient—using the denture teeth donated by Primotec USA—and bring it to the course.

"I surprised them at the course by having the patient join us so they were able to consult with him, see their try-ins in the mouth and even get some great photography of their work in place," says Deutsch, who offered feedback on the try-ins during the course as well as on a one-on-one basis in the weeks that followed.

The course also covered overdenture solutions from a basic Locator-type denture to All-on-X and telescopic cases, which are Deutsch's specialty. Participants practiced hand-milling CAD/CAM-milled abutments to treat the surface; electroforming gold units; assembling telescopic cases; and characterizing their wax try-ins with acrylics before injecting, finishing and polishing the final cases. Further enriching the experience were special guests Dr. Darin Dichter of Spear Education and denturist Mark Samuel Chan, DD.

"We also chatted a lot in between, about things like running a business and how to be profitable doing high-end work," says Deutsch. "We wanted to give these young technicians everything we possibly could and we really covered a lot of ground. Everyone just clicked and we formed some solid friendships in that short time. It was everything I had hoped it would be."



Course participants at work at the lab's training bench, which is designed to accommodate seven technicians and has hidden enclosures for suction, handpieces and compressed air at each station. (For the course, Renfert supplied the Vario E wax pots seen here.)



Deutsch (right) covers the 3D printing portion of the course in the lab's loft area.

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UPCERA

Welcome to A New Generation







After 75 Years at the Bench, Technician Still Going Strong

While many technicians have life-long careers in dental technology, Karl Wagner, Owner of Wagner Dental Lab in Danbury, CT, may eclipse them all: he's been at the bench for 75 years and has no plans to retire anytime soon. | Kim Mollinaro, Managing Editor

In 1947, 14-year-old Karl Wagner began working as a technician at a laboratory in Hungary; he's still at the bench full time, 75 years later.

"In those days it was different, most people didn't continue on to high school but went to work to help support their families," says Wagner, who was hired at his neighbor's lab when he finished eighth grade. "I got lucky; since I was a painter and liked working with my hands, I really enjoyed the work."

Wagner was trained on the job in all aspects of dental technology and stayed at the lab until 1956 when he emigrated to the U.S. to escape the violence of the Hungarian Revolution. While he didn't yet speak English, he had nearly a decade of experience under his belt and found a job right away at Brenner Dental Lab, a small full-service lab, in Danbury, CT—and he's never left.

When the owner retired in 1979, Wagner bought the lab, changed the name to Wagner Dental Lab, kept the one other

technician—Philip Correia, who still works for him today—and eventually hired one more employee. At its peak, the full-service laboratory had about 30 dentist-clients.

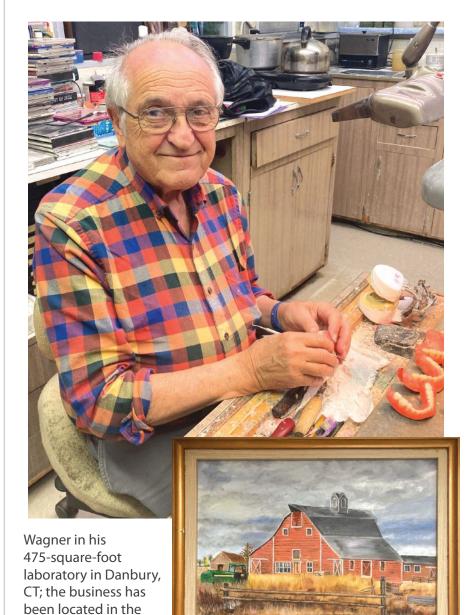
The biggest advance Wagner has seen in his career: PFMs. "In the 1980s, I used to make veneer crowns which were actually acrylic on gold and they wore out after so many years," he says. "With the development of porcelain and vacuum furnaces, things changed. Crowns came out beautiful, especially when manufacturers started to improve the esthetics and make the porcelains easier to handle."

Facing the proliferation of digital technology, about three years ago, Wagner decided to stop fabricating C&B restorations. "I've probably fabricated tens of thousands of crowns and bridges in my career, but milling machines changed everything and I wasn't interested in getting on board or competing with digital technology," he says. "Now we focus solely on removables and continue to use

traditional techniques."

Wagner will be 89 in July and isn't slowing down anytime soon. He still works five days a week, seven hours a day and enjoys fabricating dentures from start to finish. In addition, the local hospital's dental/teaching clinic is his top client, so he fabricates all of its removable cases, handles the clinic's daily pickups and deliveries and helps train five new dentists each year.

So what's Wagner's secret to a long and rewarding career? "I don't like to be bored and you'll never find me sitting around doing nothing; I have to keep busy," says Wagner, noting he's taken dozens of training courses over the years and even plans to attend LMT LAB DAY East in Tarrytown, NY, this coming October. "After all these years, I still love improving peoples' smiles."



same building since
1963. An avid painter
(he estimates doing
over 100 paintings in his lifetime), he has pieces of his art hanging

throughout the lab, including this one (inset) that he recently completed.



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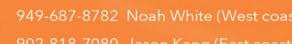
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INSPIRING INTERIORS

In this ongoing series, LMT highlights laboratories with beautiful designs and unique features that please the eye, help streamline workflow and boost communication. This month, we take a look inside Orthodent Laboratory, a 55-person lab in Buffalo, NY, and Illumination Dental Arts, a three-person, in-house lab in Rapid City, SD.

ODL Upgrades to Striking, Modern Facility in Unique Urban Complex

By Kim Molinaro, Managing Editor

In 2020, Orthodent Laboratory

(ODL) was located in a newly redone, 15,000-square-foot building near downtown Buffalo, NY. The space featured exposed brick, huge windows and tons of indoor greenery. There was just one big problem: it was on the top two floors of a four-story building—a location that was seriously impinging its desire to grow.

"We wanted to purchase new orthodontic equipment—like automated thermoformers—but getting heavy machinery up to those upper floors was almost impossible," says Tom Wright, Co-Owner of the 55-person lab. So, when a larger, two-story space owned by the same developer opened up just across the street, they decided to jump on it.

The move gave the lab the opportunity to reconfigure its layout to make production processes more efficient. For example, Lean-manufacturing principles were used to arrange a more linear workflow to reduce walking and transportation around the lab and, rather than most technicians making appliances from start to finish, it now has separate stations dedicated to individual steps of the fabrication process.

"The stations allow us to constantly cross-train our staff; as they become proficient in one station, they move on to the next," says Wright. "As a result of our new layout and processes, we've eliminated downtime, become more efficient and doubled our output."

Twice the elbow room also allows ODL to take a proactive approach to its growth. "We can now bring more people on board, expand our customer service hours and offer more products while still leaving enough room for everyone to safely spread out," says Wright.

Another exciting upgrade: The lab is now part of a larger, 80,000-square-foot complex that includes other businesses; apartments; two restaurant/bars, a kombucherie and cidery; a quarter acre of outdoor space; and even a resort-style swimming pool.

The striking new space—and its unique urban complex—features an industrial/modern vibe; take a look:



ODL's 30,000-square-foot laboratory is located in the right-hand section of this complex in a historic building, a stone's throw from downtown Buffalo. Built in 1907, the building had been largely renovated in 2018. Still, over the course of seven months, ODL made several changes, including tearing down walls to create a more open layout and adding plenty of electrical, plumbing and HVAC upgrades.



A city oasis: Located just across the street from the laboratory, all ODL staff members and their families can access the complex's pool and outdoor lounge areas at no charge by simply showing their ODL key FOB; other community members pay \$25 per visit.



Continues

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EINSPIRATION ISSUE

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The lab's main 15,000-square-foot production area features 25-foot ceilings, original iron beams and steel lattice supports, clerestory windows to let in natural light, epoxyed concrete floors, Lista benches and a wooden ceiling restored to the style of the original building. The lab commissioned a local artist to paint huge, colorful murals on the walls; his work is also featured elsewhere in the complex.



A striking focal point in the lab: this living wall filled with dozens of green, leafy plants and the ODL logo in the center. A local company comes in every two weeks to care for and continually replace the plants according to the season. The garage door to the right of the sign leads to the lab's shipping and receiving area and one of the lab's two loading docks which makes it easy to receive large equipment deliveries.

WEB EXTRA:

For a video tour of the lab, visit LMTmag.com/ODLtour

Does YOUR laboratory have an inspiring interior?

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Email Kim Molinaro at Kim@LMTmag.com.



One of 12 administrative offices located on the second floor illustrates the marriage of modern and rustic industrial: contemporary white furniture and a hanging divider complement the original exposed brickwork and warm wood floors.



The lab receives 80% of its work digitally and it currently has eight CAD design stations and four Carbon printers; it prints models, bite guides, splints and articulators for its own internal production needs. This 5,000-square-foot area is also the future home of the lab's digital clear aligner department. "We hand-fabricate aligners but want to go in a very automated direction with this product, so we're currently procuring equipment for automated alignment manufacture as well as getting larger Carbon printers," says Wright.



The lab offers two lunch/breakrooms, one on each floor. The ground-floor room features a full working kitchen, hanging planter built by an employee's husband and doors to the complex's shared green space. "Our staff loves the direct access to the center courtyard and people eat outside every day," says Wright.

South Dakota Lab Features Natural Beauty of the Black Hills

By Amanda Voyez, Editorial Assistant

Lab owners Aaron and Jennifer Garner had spent the last seven years working as an in-house lab for Aaron's brother's dental practice, Orchard Meadows Family Dental. And while they loved working chairside with patients, they didn't love the small, cramped space in which they functioned. Since Aaron's brother, Dr. Mark Garner, was also looking to grow his practice, they decided to go all in and build a new home for both the practice and the three-person lab from the ground up.

After purchasing a 1.5-acre lot in Rapid City, SD, they began working with an architect and contractor to design the state-of-the-art, 11,000-square-foot dental office with an adjacent 1,800-square-foot laboratory. "Our former lab

had been squeezed into two small rooms on the second floor of the practice and we were ready for a bright, airy, open space that allowed us to easily move between the different parts of the lab," says Aaron.

It took about one year for design and construction, and then Aaron and Jennifer, along with their digital designer and nephew, Noah, took over the interior design to create their dream lab, doing most of the work themselves and incorporating elements of the unique beauty of the nearby Black Hills.

For instance, to mimic the look of the state's unique rock formations, they stained the concrete floor with three different colors—blue, orange and red—to create the desired pattern then sealed it with a

clear coat for durability. They also created floating benches by buying butcher block countertops, cutting them to size and attaching them to the walls, and designed unique backdrops by covering some of the walls with wood panels. "The panels are made from trees cut down during the pine beetle epidemic which creates some really beautiful coloring in the wood," says Jennifer, noting that by handling most of the labor themselves, they only spent about \$7,000 on materials.

Illumination Dental Arts moved into the new space in 2019 and the added elbow room gave them the opportunity to invest in digital equipment for the first time. They selected all Amann Girrbach equipment—including the Amann Girrbach Ceramill Motion 2 mill,

Map 600 scanner and Nextdent 5100 3D printer along with exocad software—and the company provided on-site training at the lab. Today, the lab has expanded its services to include in-house zirconia crowns, implants and even digital dentures.

Since the move, the dental practice has grown from one dentist with 10 employees to three dentists with a staff of 30, and the laboratory is busier than ever; it also continues to handle anterior cosmetic work for other local dentists. "Since May of 2020, almost every month has been busier than the last," says Jennifer. "This new facility and our expansion has been so great for us."

Check out the results of the beautifully custom-built lab here:



Located just 20 minutes from the famed Mt. Rushmore, Illumination Dental Arts is the in-house laboratory for Orchard Meadows Family Dental. The building's colors and stone façade mimic the nearby Black Hills of South Dakota.



The bright, open space highlights the stained concrete floors that mimic South Dakota's unique rock formations. Against the back wall is Jennifer's work area and the door that leads into the dental practice; on the right-hand side are the finishing and CAD/CAM areas. The Garners hung floating benches to create ample storage space underneath and, to lend an art studio vibe, they displayed some of Aaron's paintings, including a six-foot-tall canvas of a Bristlecone Pine tree.



Since patients often come into to the lab for shade taking or consultations, the Garners created a comfortable waiting area—affectionately called the "napping station"—complete with a leather couch and TV. Aaron's L-shaped workbench is located on the far wall.



3D Printers

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Asiga Printers

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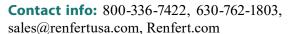
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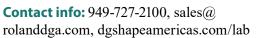
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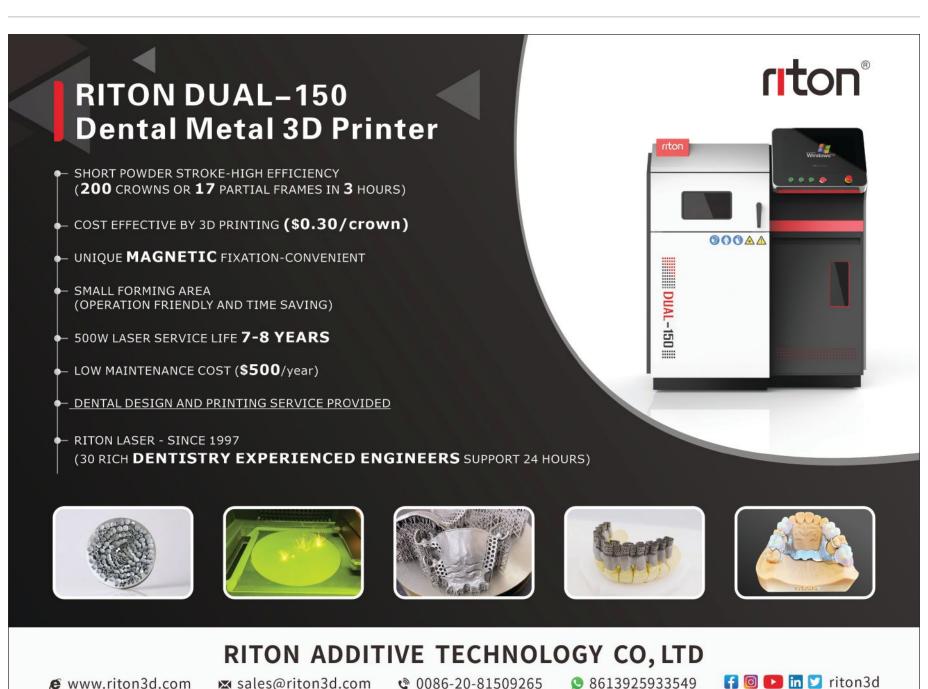
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The SOL LCD Dental 3D Printer, distributed by ROLAND DGA, offers a sleek, compact design and innovative LCD technology. Equipped with 49-micron pixel precision, it provides a smooth surface finish with fast, accurate printing (4.5cm/hour) over its entire build plate. It can print models, provisional crowns and bridges and more, and includes AI software with over 100 pre-calibrated resin profiles and instant updates.







AccuFab-L4D

Available from SHINING 3D, AccuFab-L4D features a large, 192x120-mm printing platform; 4K resolution; and a small, lightweight and compact body. Accu-Ware printing software helps users navigate easily through the whole digital manufacturing process; the software enables one-click support generation and one-click printing, empowering even novices to confidently start 3D printing in-house.

Contact info: 415-259-4787, sales@shining3d.com, shining3ddental.com



HeyGears UltraCraft A2D 4K + HiVE

HEYGEARS' UltraCraft A2D 4K industrial-grade 3D printer combined with the HiVE (High Volume Enabler) module enables 24/7 automated production of a wide range of applications including digital dentures and nightguards. The A2D 4K offers high precision and features a large build volume and interconnectivity with HeyGears Cloud services including Ultra-Net and Streamflow automated pre-processing. The HiVE module includes automatic part removal and automatic material refill, allowing for 16 hours of unmonitored operation.

Contact info: 318-353-4295, sales@heygears.com, heygears. com



NextDent® 5100

3D SYSTEMS' NextDent 5100 facilitates high-speed 3D printing, enabling labs, clinics and production centers to produce dentures, crowns and bridges, models, surgical guides, orthodontic splints and trays with precision and efficiency. The printer is compatible with industry-standard intraoral scanning and software solutions. The end-to-end digital workflow includes easy-to-use 3D Sprint™ software for automated part placement and other 3D Systems components including the LC-3DMixer for optimal material stirring and the LC-3DPrint Box for UV post-curing.

Contact info: 888-598-1438, customersupport@3dsystems.com, 3dsystems.com/dental



THE MOST ANTICIPATED ESTHETIC **ZIRCONIA HAS ARRIVED**





I've been working on this new BruxZir® formulation for a while. It's finally available for purchase by labs for the first time. The new **BruxZir Esthetic Milling Blanks** offer unmatched brand recognition among dentists and beautiful, long-lasting results for virtually any type of restoration, anywhere in the mouth."



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*Free milling blank(s) must be less than or equal to lowest-price milling blank in the order. No limit on free blanks. Expires 07/31/22.

MKT-013145_2 GD-2830653-040422

Glidewell

SOL 3D Printer

Available from PRIMOTEC, SOL professional-grade 3D printer features a large build format and fast printing speed. It produces smooth, very accurate, high-resolution models and biocompatible prints. The open-material platform enables a multitude of applications including models, splints, surgical guides, dentures and temps.

Contact info: 203-682-6429, info@primotecusa.com, primotecusa.com

SOL

cara Print 4.0 pro 3D Printer

KULZER's cara Print 4.0 pro 3D printer offers a fast, economical method of producing appliances in-house and provides a cost-effective alternative to milling for certain applications, while still meeting accuracy standards. Compared to its predecessor, cara Print 4.0 pro offers a bigger building platform for greater productivity, 385nm LEDs for extra stability in terms of color and properties, and a new technology that delivers smooth surfaces without visible layers.

Contact info: 800-431-1785, customerservice. na@kulzer-dental.com, KulzerUS.com



Formlabs and 3D Systems Printers

IMAGINE USA helps to empower your lab with scalable solutions and a simple workflow to meet your unique needs. The company offers Formlabs and 3D Systems 3D printers, extensive product knowledge and expertise.

Contact info: 888-635-4999, sales@imagineusa.com, imagineusa.com



Pro 95S and 55S 3D Printers

SPRINTRAY's user-friendly Pro 95S and 55S 3D printers include the company's Rayware cloud software and cloud design service with no monthly fee. The Pro 95S is ideal for surgical guides, denture bases, occlusal guards and more; it can print up to 20 arches vertically at once and an average of nine flat models in 20 minutes. The 55S offers crisp margins in high-end restorative applications and is ideal for implant dentures, indirect banding trays and more. SprintRay offers a local representative for support.

Contact Info: Sprintray.com



CORITEC AM100 Metal 3D Printer

The CORITEC AM100 metal 3D printer from IMES-ICORE GMBH is a fast and affordable printer that can produce up to 250 units per processing cycle in less than three minutes per unit. The CORITEC AMpure unpacking station with an innovative cartridge system enables minimal handling with minimum powder contact, low manufacturing costs and a fast return on investment thanks to the ability to reuse sieved powder.



The combination of the CORiTEC AM100 printer and CORiTEC mills provides the ideal hybrid system for modelling, re-milling and finishing of high-quality restorations and is part of a workflow that ensures precise and easy handling.

Contact info: 667-289-8460, dental@imes-icore.de, imes-icore.com



Riton D-150

From GUANGZHOU RITON ADDITIVE TECHNOLOGY CO., the Riton D-150 DMLS/SLM printer can process 220 metal crowns in four-and-a-half hours. It features a single fiber laser with a wavelength of 1.064µm, a melting speed of 14,000mm/s and a melting area of φ 150mm. The company has 25 years of design and research experience in the laser industry and has service centers to offer after-sale customer support.

Contact info: 208-150-9265, sales@rxton.com, rxton.com



Origin One Dental & J5 DentalJet

Available from ETI DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY, the Origin One Dental and J5 DentalJet from Stratasys allow you to streamline your processes and increase production. The Origin One Dental is a manufacturing-grade DLP 3D Printer, powered by cutting-edge P3 technology with the ability to print parts fast at a low cost and with accuracy. The J5 DentaJet 3D Printer is a compact, powerful tool for labs, designed to reduce costs, maximize efficiency and create realistic-looking parts with precision, accuracy and minimal handling.

Contact info: 714-238-1490, sales@etidigitaltechnology.com, etidigitaltechnology.com





ProMaker LD20 Dental Series

Available from 3D BIOCAD, the ProMaker LD20 Dental Series features high-resolution MOV-INGLight® technology that allows for highly accurate control of the geometry of parts produced at a 42μm (0.0016 inches) resolution and a high-speed, double-moving projector configuration. With a 11.8" x 17.5" x 7.9" build plate, the printer increases productivity by creating as many as 55 full-arch models in an hour.

Contact info: 425-227-4333. sales@3dbiocad.com, 3dbiocad. com



Stratasys Origin One 3D Printer

STRATASYS has five dedicated dental printers to address your needs. The newest model is the Stratasys Origin One Dental, an open platform printer that offers flow production with specific materials from the Stratasys network of strategic partners including BASF and Keystone Dental. Coupled with P3 technology, the certified materials available on the Origin One Dental offer excellent print speed without sacrificing strength, accuracy or surface finish.

Contact Info: 800-801-6491, info.us@stratasys.com, stratasys. com/dental



HIGHER ACCURACY PROFITABII

From entry-level to high-volume manufacturing, Whip Mix VeriEKO and Asiga 3D printers deliver.



The VeriEKO LCD

- 3X the speed of other LCD printers
- Exceptional accuracy (95+% LED light uniformity)
- Economical



The Asiga MAX

- Proven open-source workhorse
- Extremely fast, accurate, and consistent
- Affordable



The Asiga Pro4K

- Large-platform DLP printer that you own
- Largest build plate: 8.54 x 4.80 x 7.87 in
- Consistent, accurate layers with Smart-Positioning-System Technology

WORLD-CLASS PRINTERS COMBINED WITH INDUSTRY-LEADING SUPPORT.



VarseoSmile

Crown Plus



VeriSplint



VeriTray



VeriModel



VeriGuide



Dentca



KevSplint

Whip Mix high-quality print resins complete the team and are ideal for every dental printing application.

Visit whipmix.com or call 502.637.1451 to learn more about how Whip Mix printers and resins can streamline your 3D printing workflow.



DENTAL TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS

labday WEST

Spirits High at LMT LAB DAY West

Eager to get back to business, over 1,400 lab owners, managers, technicians and dentists hailed from 34 states and a record 17 countries to join us for LMT LAB DAY West on May 20-21 in Garden Grove, CA.

Two spacious exhibit halls were bustling with 119 companies offering product launches, hands-on demos, raffles and giveaways, beer tastings and more. The show also featured two full days of education, with 94 educational seminars presented by more than 75 key opinion leaders on a wide range of topics, from 3D printing to zirconia.

Attendees and exhibitors alike relished the opportunity to be face to face again, networking with industry contacts and catching up with friends. Expressing appreciation for the show, Joseph Lee, technician and current Vice President of R&D at Upcera, said, "LMT and the LAB DAY shows are what keeps the industry so close-knit; thank you for bringing the community together."

Thank you to all the attendees and exhibitors who made LAB DAY West such a success! Join us next year back at the Hyatt Regency Orange County on May 12-13, 2023.

Magic Touch Announces Partnerships, Software Enhancements

Magic Touch Software made several announcements, including two new time-saving partnerships. First, it has incorporated its software into Zimbis' touch-screen inventory cabinets. The technician simply uses the touch screen to select the parts he wants to use; the software prompts the correct drawer to open and records the transaction in the Magic Touch software to keep inventory records up to date. The company has also integrated orthodontic software from CADflow. "The software uses AI to remove the brackets so

you can start designing without the dentist having to bring back the patient for another scan," said Amir Bagheri, Business Development.

In addition, the company's software is now integrated with the USPS and its new Route Manager Geo Delivery app offers delivery route optimization for up to 20 destinations. Its redesigned Technician Bench now includes more features, including a timer to track the fabrication process, facial recognition and paperless work tickets. Visit magictouch-software.com.

Three Lucky Attendees Win Sterngold Baskets

Sterngold raffled off three baskets chock full of company products including SternVantage® Varnish and SternTek® BasePlate Material. Mohammed Ghannoum (center), S & S Lab, West Covina, CA, won the CDT basket worth \$250; pictured with him are Sterngold's Andy Kyber (left) and Gene Peterson, CDT. The winner of the Lab Owner basket worth \$300 is Anzhela Grigoryan, Los Angeles, CA, and the winner of the Denturist basket worth \$100 is Slavic



Zalyashko, Evergreen Denture Center, Vancouver, WA.

Renfert Launches 3D Filament Printer and Other Equipment

Renfert's SIMPLEX 3D filament printer for orthodontic models features a plug-and-print concept and slicer software that has presets for ortho use to ensure consistent, reproducible results. "When developing this printer, we put a lot of emphasis on functionality. This included making sure that the printer could be easily integrated into the laboratory and office environments while also allowing for a high level of utilization. It's compact with maximum flexibility; this is SIMPLEX!" said Joanna Deligiani, Product Manager and Dental Technician at Renfert.

The company also launched three other new products:

• The updated Easy View+ Dental Visual Communicator has four times the zoom-out capabilities as the original, allowing for a more expanded view, better visualization, and editing and sharing of images captured on screen. It has three magnification levels and, when using the RenfertConnect app, any pictures taken on screen are easily saved and available to



share from the app. Its counterpart, the Easy View 3D+ comes with the 3D Renfert Monitor and shares the same capabilities in a 3D viewing platform.

• Two new steamers—the POWER Steamer 1 and 2—feature a durable heating system; continuous, effective cleaning; and smart operation.

The POWER Steamer 1 has a manually filled water tank and the POWER Steamer 2 offers automatic water filling due to its main water connection and integrated pump.

Visit renfert.com/usa-en.

WEB EXTRA: For more photos from the show, visit LMTmag.com/LDW22photos

Aurident Awards \$100 Amazon Gift Cards



LMT CEO Judy Fishman (far left) draws the two winning entries in Aurident's LAB DAY West raffle. Armen Arzoomanian, Owner, Crown Masters Dental Lab, Burbank, CA, and John Alexander, Owner, Alexander Dental Designs, Grand Terrace, CA, each received a \$100 Amazon gift card. Looking on are Aurident's team members (from I. to r.): Candee Flores, Brandee Buhre, Kim Murphy, Leonard Hoffman, Gerardo Akli and Sungsoo Choi.

Preat Raffles off Traeger Grill and Smoker



Preat added to the excitement of LAB DAY West with its raffle for a Traeger Pro Grill and Smoker valued around \$900. Pictured with the Preat crew is the winner, Joe Fey, President and Co-Owner of Maverick Dental, Monroeville, PA (front row, third from right).

Argen Launches Argen Resins, Expands ArgenIS, Adds to Equipment Offerings

At the show, Argen announced its newest product, Argen Resins, which are validated for most 3D printers. Argen MODEL is available in beige and light grey; Argen FLEX is a clear resin used to print nightguards, mouthguards, snoring appliances, splints and repositioners; Argen GUIDE is transparent for surgical guides; and Argen TRAY is purple for custom impression trays. All resins come in a 1-kg size bottle with a three-year shelf life.

The company recently expanded its ArgenIS line: ArgenIS Ti Bases now include engaging and non-engaging options in multiple gingival heights with textured surfaces for strong adhesion to the restoration. They come with straight and angled screw channel options and a new platform: Megagen AnyRidge®. ArgenIS Multi-Unit Abutments now come with the addition of straight and angled options in multiple gingival heights ranging from 0.3mm to 3.6mm. Multi-Unit Ti Bases are available in RP and WP sizes and in 6- and 8-mm chimney heights. Also now available: transfer copings, color-coded analogs, expanded connections and Nobel Conical 5.5.

Argen also made several additions to its equipment offerings, including:

• vhf's SE and KE+ 5-axis mills. Designed for dry and wet operation, the SE processes a wide range of materials from zirconia to cobalt chrome and



its eight-position blank changer allows nonstop milling. The KE+ dry milling machine is ideal for a wide variety of indications and materials (blanks up to 40 mm), allows blank clamping without tools and can be loaded easily and quickly.

- Ackuretta SOL 3D Printer is the first in a lineup of 3D printers the company plans to offer. It features a small footprint, UV curing unit, dual-tank ultrasonic cleaning unit and two-year warranty. Argen's new resins are validated on the SOL.
- The compact KDF Zircom Speed and Zircom Plus zirconia sintering furnaces feature molybdenum disilicide heating elements for clean, consistent results; 100 programs with 20 steps; and an SD Card that allows users to edit and backup programs. Using the Zircom Speed, a full tray of ArgenZ HT+ or ArgenZ HT+ Multilayer units can be sintered in less than 90 minutes without sacrificing strength and translucency.

For details, visit argen.com.



Don't Miss Our Next Show: LMT LAB DAY East on October 1!

The largest dental laboratory event in the Northeast is now back in New York at the Westchester Marriott, Tarrytown! See page 42 or visit LABDAYEast.com for complete show details.

labday west

Additional Printers, Mills, Materials and More Launched at the Show!

3D Printers & Materials

Desktop Health showcased its new resin products in the Flexcera line, the Model X and Model Z. Model X's 50-micron build layer allows for exceptionally detailed crowns with removable dies, bridges, implant cases, and diagnostic and orthodontic models; it's available in white, beige and gray. Ideal for orthodontic, diagnostic and crown and bridge models, Model Z is a low viscosity material offering a smooth surface resolution, easy clean up and excellent fit and finish. Visit dental.desktophealth.com.

From **Formlabs**, the new Fuse 1 is an SLS printer that provides industrial-scale aligner model production and is capable of printing up to 126 models per print cycle. Instead of using liquid resin, the Fuse 1 uses production-ready nylon powder, which eliminates the need to wash and cure during post

processing and is also fully recyclable. New prints can be set up with up to 70% recycled nylon powder for an average production cost of \$2 per model. The Fuse 1 is compatible with the free Formlabs PreForm print preparation software used to upload files, arrange models, estimate print times and monitor jobs. Visit formlabs. com/3d-printers/fuse-1/.

SprintRay showcased its user-friendly Pro 95S and 55S 3D printers, both providing Rayware cloud software and cloud design service with no monthly fee. The Pro 95S is ideal for surgical guides, denture bases, occlusal guards and more; it can print up to 20 arches vertically at once and an average of nine flat models in 20 minutes. The 55S printer offers crisp margins in high-end restorative applications, ideal for implant dentures, indirect banding trays and more. Both printers are compatible with the SprintRay ProWash and Procure 2, that fully wash and cure items in as little as 13 minutes combined, allowing most indications to be printed, washed and cured in less than an hour. SprintRay offers a local representative for product support. Visit sprintray.com.

Straumann® highlighted its new, user-friendly P50+ 3D printer for high-volume labs looking to benefit from automation. Featuring Force Feedback technology, which minimizes layer separation; Automatic Separation Module and Automatic Material Refill to enable material and time savings and walk-away printing; and Intelligent Connectivity, a software function that allows it to exchange information with the Straumann P wash and P cure. The printer also offers flexible customization; validated workflows helps achieve a higher output of printed parts. Visit straumann.com.

Milling Machines & Materials

DentalMax's new 1100 Multi offers opal translucency that's more similar to natural dentition than the company's existing 1100 Multi and can be used for all indications with chroma. It features 1,100MPa, 45-42% translucency from incisal to cervical, seven disc sizes ranging from 12mm to 25mm, and 16 shades. Visit dentalmax.co.kr.

Digital Dental introduced its new TITAN Abutment Mill, an upgrade to the DM-4 Abutment Mill. The TITAN features a 12-unit abutment fixture with an average finishing time of 20 minutes per abutment. In partnership with Biodenta, Digital Dental offers a turnkey solution that allows users to gain FDA clearance as subcontractors under Digital Dental's 510(k) so they can fabricate custom abutments in-house. "Our third-party FDA in-lab consulting takes all of the guesswork and ambiguity

out of the process," says Connor Maguire, Sales Specialist. The cost of the TITAN mill and FDA Consulting is \$59,995; several financing options are available. Visit digitaldental.com.

Kuraray America officially launched KATANATM Zirconia YML, an all-in-one disc solution that offers high translucency and high strength and covers the entire indication spectrum, from anterior monolithic crowns to long-span full-arch monolithic bridges. "The material features four layers: a highly translucent enamel layer; body layer 1, which provides a seamless transition from the enamel layer; and body layers 2 and 3, which provide strength and vivid color while reducing whitening," said Manabu Suzuki, Director of Dental Division, Kuraray America Inc. YML comes in three thicknesses: 14-, 18- and 22-mm. Visit katanalabdirect.com or zahndental.com.

Smart Dentistry's Canon MD-500 Dental Milling Machine hit the market for the first time at LAB DAY West. It has a high rigidity holder chuck system for high gripping force, which reduces fluctuation due to rotation and enables high-precision milling. The 5-axis mill features an auto tool changer, is capable of milling thin margin lines and accommodates various sizes of zirconia discs and blocks. Visit smartdentistrysolutions.us.

XTCERA displayed its new X-Mill 500Plus for high-precision milling (up to two microns) of zirconia, wax, PMMA, PEEK and soft metal. With Hyperdent CAM software, it features an open holder for maximum material use, 90° vertical processing and a large angle milling strategy. Elegantly designed, the mill also offers numerous intelligent monitoring features, open cabinet door reminding and a highly sealed working cabinet. Visit en.xtcera.com/.

ETI Raffles Several Prizes, Expands Product Offerings

ETI Digital Technology's Valerie Poon (left) and Elizabeth Hill took a break from their bustling booth to raffle off several prizes: a set of Apple AirPods went to Mizuho "Mimi" Haneda, Digital Nature, Santa Fe Springs, CA, and Imagyn Munoz, Backer Dental Laboratory, Bakersfield, CA; Aidite's Biomic Aesthetic Kit



was awarded to Alba Comacho, Vi Creation Dental Lab, Downey, CA; and a \$200 Amazon gift card went to Ronald Liwag, RL Denture Lab, Buena Park, CA. At the show, the company also announced it's now distributing several new products, including Keystone's KeyPrint materials, Stratasys' Origin® One and J5 DentaJet printers, Ackuretta's SOL printer, Medit's i700 Wireless IOS and Aidite's Biomic™ Stain/ Glaze. Visit etidigitaltechnology.com. ■



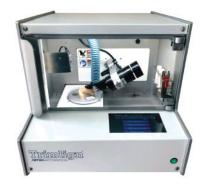
Kuraray America officially launched KATANA™ Zirconia YML



Smart Dentistry's Canon MD-500 Dental Milling Machine



Stain Tray from Harvest Dental



Ortho-Automation's new Trimlign aligner trimmer

Education & Services

Alien Milling Technology unveiled Anti-Gravity, a portal on its website that simplifies the process of uploading STL files. It allows you to drag and drop files into the portal and implement smart-codes based on preferences; Anti-Gravity interprets the material, shade and the number of units for each case uploaded, saving you an average of one minute per case. Visit alienmilling.com.

Align Technology introduced its new program 'caLABrate', an iTero certification course for labs. The two-day, in-person course teaches tools to strengthen the lab's customer experience, from doctor training to lab workflow integration and pathways. It covers iTero full-mouth scanning applications, customer onboarding and the ease of use of exocad software as it integrates with iTero. "We take labs through every part of scanning from basics to advanced restorative. This enables them to troubleshoot difficult scans and educate their dental teams, keeping their lab and their doctors moving forward digitally; throughout this course our labs essentially become iTero experts," said Renee Harris, Senior iTero Trainer for NA labs. Visit itero.com.

Due to customer demand,

Mobile Dental Supply now travels to over 110 cities in Southern
California—including Victorville, Hesperia and Vista—and
will soon expand to Northern
California and Arizona. The
company's mobile supply warehouse carries a wide range of
CAD/CAM, laboratory and

operatory products, including its own MDS brand. Visit mobiledentalsupply.com.

Quest Dental USA Corp. previewed its Q-Aligner clear aligner services currently available in the Philippines; the service will be available to the U.S. market next year. Here's how it works: the lab or dentist submits the impression to the Quest Dental Laboratory which consists of a Japanese-trained dentist and technician. The team designs the aligners using its Q Aligner software, sends the design for review via email, modifies the design if necessary, fabricates the trays and delivers them to the client. Visit quest-qaligner.

Rosen Tray announced its new online education program, Teeth in Six Hours—The Rosen Tray by Rany Ghobrial, CDT, that covers how to digitally design and print a custom tray to take physical impressions after full-arch surgeries. "The protocol ensures the patient's vertical dimension, bite and smile/mid lines so there's no needed adjustments," said Dan Rosen, DMD. The company also showcased The Rosen Screw, by Rosen, for new, full-arch restorations with a direct connection to multi-unit abutments. No TI base is needed and it works on all materials. Visit rosentray.com and rosenscrew.com.

Consumables & Accessories

3DBioCAD introduced two new stain kits, the Easy On Universal Stain Full Kit and the Easy On Universal Gum Stain Full Kit. Both kits feature a wide range of

colors for fabricating both anterior and posterior restorations. Visit 3dbiocad.com.

Harvest Dental's new Stain Tray "communicates an exclusive design language featuring unibody precision machined out of aluminum, coupled with a soft, smooth white opaque ALO2 mixing insert with 25 mixing wells," said Sasha Der Avanessian, CEO. Smartphone glass encases the lid to serve as a convenient whiteboard; a marker is included. The tray measures 7.75" x 5.5". Visit harvestdental.com.

ZrO² Powertools' new PowerTools Box consists of three milling tools with three different cutting edges. "They feature a special diamond coating that offers users a long tool life," said Michael Menner, CEO. Visit zro² com

Posca Dental Supply presented its Posca Shake and Pour Concentrated Colloid that eliminates the need for measuring; to use, simply fill the bottle with water, shake and then pour into the colloid unit. "This is an easy-to-use, all-purpose colloid guaranteed to give you 20 or more meltdowns," said Noelle Posca, Director of Operations. It's available in one- or two-and-a half-gallon sizes and in three shades. Visit poscadentalsupply.com or call 714-941-2072.

Equipment

Imagine USA demonstrated the FREEDOM X5 model scanner with patented camera-moving technology. With a built-in, five-megapixel camera, the scan quality is ideal for narrow and deep cases like inlays. The AI-based data processing technol-

ogy reduces scan data processing speed by more than 30% compared to the previous scanner model, and noise is reduced by more than 80% due to precise motion control technology. "This system is compact, fast and produces outstanding scan quality," said Felix Chung, CEO. "We're proud to offer the FREEDOM X5 to augment an already broad range of scanning technology we have in our portfolio." Visit imagineusa.com.

Ortho-Automation introduced Trimlign, a compact CNC tabletop aligner trimmer. "For labs and clinics focused on growth, Trimlign provides the machine and software to improve profitability, scalability, quality, employee safety and satisfaction by producing quality aligners with smooth edges using hightech automation," said Andy Cordell, CEO. The unit trims up to 480 aligners in eight hours, creates straight or scalloped cuts (as well as elastics cutouts or other special features) and even automatically creates labels for the aligner bags and patient kits. Visit ortho-automation.com.

Implants

Dental Direkt announced its German-made DD Solid Connect® implant components will be available in the North American market soon; they're compatible with 17 different implant systems, including Astra Tech®, Branemark®, Camlog®, Certain® and more. "We expect the 510(k) from FDA within the next several weeks," said Jana Tzschachmann, International Sales. Visit dentaldirekt.de. ■

exocad supports NADL Disaster Relief Fund



From I. to r.: exocad President Larry Bodony and CEO Tillmann Steinbrecher present the NADL's Chief Staff Executive Bennett Napier with a 10,000-euro donation to the NADL's Disaster Relief Fund at the Chicago MidWinter Meeting in February. A portion of the donation came from proceeds made from T-shirts exocad sold at the IDS 2022.

Established by the NADL in 2005 after Hurricane Katrina, the fund has provided emergency assistance to hundreds of dental laboratory professionals who have been impacted due to damage stemming from hurricanes, tornadoes, wildfires and floods. "The impact of natural disasters touches everyone. We're glad we can help support people in the dental lab industry who are facing hardships," says Steinbrecher.

For more information, visit exocad.com or nadl.org/disaster.

Frontier Dental Superholdings Partners with Dental Lab Aesthetics

Frontier Dental Superholdings (FDS) made an investment in Port Washington, NY-based Dental Lab Aesthetics (DLA), a full service laboratory founded in 1990 by Jason Kim, who joins Frontier's Board of Directors.

"DLA has established itself as one of the premier cosmetic dental labs in the U.S. through its pristine reputation of providing high-quality products and being able to manage the most complex cases. We could not be more excited to welcome DLA to the platform and look forward to the partnership with [DLA's] Jason Kim, Marcello Allegra, Calvin Mun and Tom Muscarello," says Brent West, President of FDS.

Dentsply Sirona Launches DS Core Cloud-Based Platform

As part of its collaboration with Google Cloud, Dentsply Sirona has launched DS Core, a secure, open platform that streamlines the digital workflow by allowing dentists to store all the patient's files—including digital models, IO scans, X-rays, pdfs and videos-and share them with colleagues and partners, including laboratories. "We are also working on a lab user interface that will allow labs to have the same storage and sharing functions," said Cord Staehler, Chief Technology Officer at Dentsply Sirona.

Dentsply Sirona also introduced two services available through DS Core for DS Primeprint users:

- DS Core Create, a design file service offering 15-minute feedback on the scan quality and sixhour turnaround time on the final design.
- DS Core Care is a new equipment service and support solution that includes yearly preventive maintenance, technical phone support hotline, three years of original spare parts and a 24/7 customer support portal.

Visit dentsplysirona.com.

Panthera Invites You to its 10th Anniversary, Mastercup Winner Event

On September 10, Panthera Dental is hosting an evening to celebrate its 10th year in business at its new 40,000-square-foot facility in Quebec. In addition to cocktails, entertainment and a company tour, guests will learn the winners of the 2022 Panthera Mastercup competition; representatives from Mastercup sponsors VITA, Amann Girrbach and Cendres+Métaux will present the prizes, valued at \$70,000.

"In addition to celebrating this 'réussite commune'—joint success—with us, this is the perfect opportunity to discover our head-quarters, visit our 4.0 factory and meet the people behind the panther," says Beatrice Robichaud, Co-Founder and Vice President of Marketing and Customer Experience at Panthera Dental.

Space is limited; to reserve your spot, visit pantheradental. com/10th.

In Memory: Vince Tauro, MDT

LMT is saddened to report the passing of Vince Tauro, a vibrant, lively 55-year veteran of the industry. He began his career as a waxer/ caster and taught himself ceramics, working at several commercial and in-house labs and later owning his own labs, including Landmark Dental Lab, North Great River Ceramic Studio and Chromascan. He also worked for Degussa, Dentsply and Wieland and consulted for B&D Dental Technologies and PM Technologies, where he worked until his passing, training labs in the Las Vegas area.

Passionate about education, he received his MDT from NYU in 1990 and lectured at the Magna Institute, Harvard University, Boston University, Tufts and other leading university dental programs. He also conducted hands-on clinics at trade shows and labs across the country, developed several ceramic



techniques, and had been involved with CAD/CAM technology since it first entered our field.

"Vince was very knowledgeable and personable and always had a strong opinion," says Steve Campbell, Managing Director, B&D. "He was highly regarded by all of us in the industry and will be very much missed."

GC's 100th Anniversary Celebrations Continue

GC Corp. is hosting celebratory events around the world this year in honor of its 100th anniversary. At the latest one held in May at The Signature Room at the 95th in Chicago and hosted by GC America, over 250 attendees gathered



for cocktails, dinner and to hear speeches from (pictured from I. to. r): Scott Bradshaw, Vice President of Sales and Marketing at GC America; Makoto Nakao, Chairman of the Board for GC International AG; Dr. Kiyotaka Nakao, President and CEO of GC Corp./GC International AG; and Torsten Gilles, President and COO of GC America.

Dr. Nakao closed out the night with a traditional Japanese Hand Clapping Ceremony. "It is a great pleasure indeed to see you all after such a long time," he said. "Team GC will certainly keep moving forward towards the next major milestone: our 200-year anniversary!"

Movers & Shakers

Roland DG Corp. has appointed Roland DGA President and CEO Andrew Oransky to its Board of Directors. He also serves as Managing Executive Officer of Global Sales and Marketing for Roland DG

Sierra Dental promotes **Nick Alonge** to Vice President of Global Sales and Support. He has more than 20 years of experience in the dental laboratory field and has been specializing in CAD/CAM since 2007.

Sterngold Dental adds **Chad Reynolds** to its team as National Sales Manager. He has over 15 years of sales experience including positions at Zimmer Biomet; Lima Orthopedics; and Integrated Media Services, publisher of Dental Product Shopper.

Dana Donofrio has been promoted to Vice President of Strategy Milling; she joined the company seven years ago as Operations Manager. She has a background in computer science and is committed to providing excellent customer service and handling the inspection process and production management.

Zimbis, a Div. of CUBEX, LLC and a provider of inventory and medication management technology to the dental health market, appoints **Michael Reina** to Vice

President, Dental Laboratory Sales. Reina previously held sales leadership roles at Astra Tech, Dentsply Implants and Zahn.



Alonge





Donofrio

Oransky





Reina

Reynolds

Roland DGA Corp. Opens New Atlanta Imagination Center

On May 3, Roland DGA held a grand opening for its new Imagination Center in Atlanta, GA. Roland DGA Vice President of Sales Amado Lara welcomed attendees to the event which included an official ribbon-cutting ceremony and guided tours of the facility, plus a DJ, food and drinks. The new 5,600-square-foot facility houses many of Roland DGA's newest and best-selling products and serves as a hub for both in-person and virtual training and events.

"We are thrilled about the opening of our new Atlanta Imagination Center, and we were pleased that

of the company's products, including its mills (inset).

so many people could join us to mark the occasion and celebrate with us," says Roland DGA President and CEO Andrew Oransky, noting that the company also has locations in Boston and Toronto as well as the California headquarters. "These regional offices—alongside our network of world-class resellers, roadshow program and strong online presence—ensure our customers and partners can engage with us and see Roland DGA products in any way that suits them best."

For details, visit rolanddga.com/company/contact.



PRISM Powered by Panthera is Now Available

Preat is now using Panthera Dental for manufacturing its PRISM Powered by Panthera implant bars; the bars will still be designed at Preat's PRISM implant design center.

"The arrangement between our companies brings together two names customers know and trust," says Chris Bormes, President, Preat Corp. "Preat's team will continue to design functional and esthetic pieces for manufacture by Panthera, ensuring customers receive the high-quality components and frictionless ordering experience they've come to expect from us."

"The Panthera Dental team is pleased to be working with Preat on this strategic new opportunity," adds Gabriel Robichaud, CEO of Panthera Dental. "We are bringing together the best of both our worlds with our commitment to rapidly creating flexible, adaptable products for customers."

For more information, visit pantheradental.com or preat.com.

Alien Milling to Offer DESS Products

Alien Milling's custom titanium abutments and zirconia hybrid abutments with DESS parts are now available. You can also purchase DESS implant components including scan bodies, premilled abutments and titanium bases at Alienmilling.com.

Correction

In LMT's May issue, we inadvertently stated the winners of Candulor's KunstZahnWerk competition would be announced at the IDS 2023. The winners will be announced March 15, 2023 in Cologne, but not at the IDS.

Upcoming Industry Events

July 22-23: Ladies of the Mill: Together We Rise, at Sheraton Grand Hotel in Nashville, TN. Sponsored by Ladies of the Mill. Visit ladiesofthemill.com.

July 29-30: 36th Annual Fun 'n' Sun Weekend at Sheraton Downtown, New Orleans, LA. Sponsored by the Dental Technicians Society (Louisiana and Mississippi Dental Laboratory Associations). Please visit dentaltechnicianssociety.org.

August 8-13: Deutsch Removable Bridge (DRB®) Certification Course in Sun City West, AZ. Sponsored by Deutsch Dental Arts. Visit deutschlab.com/courses.

August 18-19: MiYO with James Choi (for technicians only). Sponsored by Global Dental Gallery in Denver, CO. Visit globaldentalgallery.com.

August 26-27: The Secret of Perfect Color Matching with Mitsutaka Fukushima. Sponsored by Global Dental Gallery in Denver, CO. Visit globaldentalgallery.com.

August 27: FDLT Education Day in Chicago, IL. Sponsored by the Foundation for Dental Laboratory Technology (FDLT). Visit dentallabfoundation.org/education-day.

Sept. 15-16 & Sept. 17-18: Micro Layering with Mariano Maurizi. Sponsored by Global Dental Gallery in Denver, CO. Visit globaldental-gallery.com.

October 1: LMT LAB DAY East at the Westchester Marriott in Tarrytown, NY. See page 42 or LABDAY East.com for more details; registration opens August 4.

October 3-4: exocad Insights 2022 in Palma de Mallorca, Spain. Sponsored by exocad. Visit exocad.com/insights 2022.

October 14-15: OADL Annual Conference at the Sheraton Portland Airport Hotel in Portland, OR. Sponsored by the Oregon Association of Dental Laboratories. Visit oregondentallabs.org/.

October 22: TruAbutment Symposium at the Anaheim Marriott. Visit truabutmentsymposium.com.

January 9-14, 2023: Deutsch Removable Bridge (DRB®) Certification Course in Sun City West, AZ. Sponsored by Deutsch Dental Arts. Visit deutschlab.com/courses.

Editor's Note: For complete event details, visit LMTmag.com/events.

The Largest Dental Laboratory Event in the Northeast is Back in New York!



Saturday, October 1

Educational Seminars: 9:30am-4:30pm Exhibit Hall: 9:00am-4:00pm

NEW LOCATION! Westchester Marriott, 670 White Plains Rd., Tarrytown, NY

Visit LABDAYEast.com: Registration opens August 4

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Ceramill Motion 2 DRY Upgrade

AMANN GIRRBACH has upgraded the Ceramill Motion 2 DRY with innovative grinding/milling strategies and a new, open C-Clamp blank holder. It can also be upgraded with a wet processing module and features the company's intelligent machine concept with powerful super-high-frequency spindle. Visit info.amanngirrbach.com/en/ceramill-motion-2.



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inLab Software 22.0

inLab Software 22.0 from DENTSPLY SIRONA features a harmonized user interface; seamless transition to other DS software products; additional design options, including gingiva designs; and extended connectivity to CEREC Primemill. It integrates with the company's new Digital Genios and Digital Portrait



tooth libraries and supports the design and manufacturing of a CEREC Guide 3 surgical guide as well as the implant-supported restoration design for DS PrimeTaper implant system. Visit dentsplysirona.com.

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the August issue. For details, visit LMTmag.com/classifieds or email amanda@LMTmag.com.

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Chairside Experience Inspires Technician to Go to Dental School

By Kelly Fessel Carr, Associate Publisher/Editor

Like many technicians, Steven Yoon Shin started working in his father's lab, Columbia Milling Center and its sister company, Macro Dental Lab, during high school. After a hiatus for college and an engineering job, he returned to the lab in 2018 to handle sales and marketing. "My title is Manager but really, it's evolved into Jack of All Trades as I learned more about the technical side of the business," says Shin.

Three months in, he was delivering an implant-supported overdenture to a local doctor and helping to check the retention when he realized the powerful impact dentistry has on the patient's wellbeing. "I saw the way a new smile could change patients' lives and make them so happy and that's when I knew I wanted to become a dentist," says Shin.

He just completed his second year at the University of Maryland School of Dentistry in Baltimore and is on track to graduate in 2024. LMT talked to Shin to learn more about his experiences so far:

LMT: What have been the most challenging aspects of dental school?

Shin: I graduated college in 2014 so it took a while to get back into the groove of studying, sitting in class and taking exams; plus, I'm working part-time at the lab while going to school, so my life is really busy.

When the pandemic hit, 90% of our classes went online; we could view them real time or watch recordings. We still had 10% of our work in the preclinical lab, but face time with professors and the ability to study with other students were severely limited. It certainly changed the overall educational experience but, since most of our coursework during the first and second year is didactic lectures and book learning, I think it was much harder for the third- and fourth-year students who were in the clinical phase of their training.

LMT: What has been the most rewarding experience?



Steve Shin practices handpiece skills at the University of Maryland School of Dentistry in Baltimore.



I saw the way a new smile could change patients' lives and make them so happy and that's when I knew I wanted to become a dentist. ~ Steve Shin

Shin: In year one, we were working on a typodont learning to treat caries and the first time I had a drill in my hand, I realized I'd be doing this for real as a career. Now that I'm two years in, it's reassuring that I love the clinical environment and dentistry doesn't feel like work; it feels natural.

LMT: What has surprised you the most about dental school so far?

Shin: The camaraderie. It's a grueling and tough program but everyone shares a 'we'll get through it together' attitude. All of the professors, upperclassmen and my peers are incredibly helpful and supportive.

Also, there's not a lot of digital equipment. In the preclinical lab, we have a really old CEREC machine. The clinic has iTero and Medit scanners, but most of the impressions are taken using PVS. I realize that the technology is behind the times, but I think this goes unnoticed by most other students

LMT: Has being a technician given you a leg up on other students?

Shin: One hundred percent, especially in the prosthodontic courses. Because of my lab background, I have perspective and understand the 'why' behind many of the skills we're learning. For example, why an impression might need to be retaken and the importance of a good margin on the prep. I try to help my classmates if they're having trouble pouring impressions or polishing a crown.

LMT: What advice do you have for other technicians interested in going to dental school?

Shin: I highly recommend it! Don't worry about your age; it's more about at what point you are in life, the desire to help patients and your goal.

LMT: What is your long-term career goal?

Shin: I'll know better next year once I'm in clinic treating patients, but I think I'd like to further my education and become a prosthodontist. I'd like to have a private practice so I can use my dad's milling center; that would be fun! **(MT**

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