FIDI closes Annual World Dental Congress in Singapore
World Dental Federation appoints new president and invites to Brazil

Dental Tribune Asia Pacific
does well in readers’ poll

Dentsply in Asia find Dental Tribune Asia Pacific to be up-to-date and applicable to their practice, a readers’ poll conducted at the FDI World Dental Congress in Singapore has revealed. More than 85 per cent of those interviewed said that they would recommend the newspaper to a colleague. Topics readers were most interested in were science & research (24 per cent), followed by world news (21 per cent) and news from Asia (20 per cent).

According to the poll, readers would like to read more about restorative dentistry and practice management, as well as paediatrics and special needs dentistry.

Dental Tribune Asia Pacific was one of the first local editions published by the Dental Tribune International (DPI) media group. The first edition appeared in April 2002. Currently, the newspaper reaches over 30,000 dental professionals in 25 countries, including Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong, the Philippines and Australia, to name a few.

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Extra

The latest news from FDI head office

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FDI closes Annual World Dental Congress in Singapore
World Dental Federation appoints new president and invites to Brazil

Daniel Zimmermann
DPI

SINGAPORE/LEIPZIG, Germany: Singapore has a long and successful relationship with the dental profession. The city-state hosts the oldest running dental school in Asia; the first implants were placed here by Dr Henry Lee almost 20 years ago. Nowadays, the island boosts a workforce of over 1,000 dentists that are educated internationally and make use of state-of-the-art equipment.

Large international manufacturers, such as 3M ESPE and Straumann, have taken advantage of Singapore’s position as a trading hub and serve most of their customers in the Asia Pacific region from here. With IDEM Singapore, the city also hosts a dental trade show every two years that attracts dental professionals not only from Singapore, but also from other countries in Southeast Asia.

It was no surprise that the FDI World Dental Federation, which represents the interests of dentists globally, decided to organise yet another one of their Annual World Dental Congresses (AWDC) in Singapore. An AWDC was held here in 1990 and the FDI has been cooperating with the Singapore Dental Association (SDA) in organising IDEM Singapore’s scientific programme for almost four years.

This year’s congress was held in conjunction with Singapore’s Oral Health Month, an annual campaign that aims to improve oral health by offering free dental screenings to every Singaporean. According to the latest Adult Oral Health Survey conducted island-wide in 2003, almost half (46 per cent) of the respondents indicated that they visit the dentist at least once a year; the average mean DMFT was 8.1 and about 10 per cent of the respondents were caries free. An SDA spokesperson said that more than 200 private dentists would be participating in the screenings that would take place on weekends over the course of September.

Post-press editor Dr Burton Conrod and officials from the FDI, SDA and Colgate-Palmolive watching the oral health screenings of schoolchildren in Singapore. (DTI/Photo courtesy of the FDI World Dental Federation)

Laser dentistry gets boost in India

The local government of Gujarat, a federal state in Western India, has announced a new initiative to incorporate laser dentistry into the dental curriculum of all governmental dental colleges. The move comes after a clinical guide for oral laser applications was released at the 5th National Conference on Oral Laser Applications held in Ahmedabad earlier this month.

According to Gujarat Health Minister Jaynarayan Vyas, the project will be supported by the International Society for Oral Laser Applications, an affiliate organisation of the International Federation for Dental Lasers.

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