Participants will learn:

- How to understand high tech diagnostic aids and digital impression/CAD systems
- To use digital and 3D radiography and associated implant and treatment planning
- To make intelligent purchase decisions

Among other topics, the aesthetic potential of modern CAD/CAM materials, as well as digital impression taking and guided implantology were discussed. Furthermore, two presentations demonstrated for the first time how modern digital technology can be applied to orthodontics. The event also featured a number of workshops, where attendees gained hands-on experience of the latest technologies in fields like computer-aided implantsology. The benefits of the new technology for dental laboratories were presented during a parallel session on the second day of the conference, which, according to the organiser, was attended by over 50 technicians from the region.

A spin-off of the successful congress series held by CAPP in Dubai in the United Arab Emirates annually since 2006, the event was supported by over 50 industry players from around the globe. During the show more than 55 brands were presented by leading manufacturers in the field, according to the organiser. It said that plans are already underway for the next show to be held in October next year, with dates and times to be announced in the upcoming weeks.

CAPP’s ninth Dubai edition is scheduled for May 2014. The organisation added that it will also host the Dental Technicians Forum at the upcoming International Dental Exhibition & Meeting in Singapore.
Study finds crucial role of dental therapists in child protection

DUNEDIN, New Zealand: A new study conducted by researchers in New Zealand has highlighted that dental workers may hold a key role in reporting child maltreatment. As the majority of injuries occur in the head and neck area, therapists, who are the most common type of health professional to see children up to the age of 14 in New Zealand, are in the best position to report physical abuse.

The study, which was conducted at the University of Otago, involved 320 registered dental therapists from New Zealand, who completed a questionnaire in which they were asked how frequently they had suspected and reported child maltreatment over the past year.

The researchers found that 55 had each suspected up to 10 cases of physical abuse, while 87 had suspected up to 10 cases of child neglect. Moreover, 101 participants had suspected up to 10 cases of dental neglect.

According to Dhara Tilvawala, the final-year Bachelor of Dentistry student at the university who led the study, the therapists primarily reported bruises and physical signs of abuse to the head and neck area, including cigarette burns, and children who seemed overly fearful when the clinician tried to examine their mouths. Tilvawala said that 50 to 70 per cent of injuries occurred in the head and neck area.

Fears of reporting someone mistakenly, unfamiliarity with the signs of child abuse and fear of violence to themselves from caregivers were among the barriers to reporting. The greatest barrier, however, was that dental therapists were unsure of where to report suspected cases. According to Tilvawala, 60 per cent said that they would report directly to the Child, Youth and Family service, while others preferred to turn to an official or to discuss the matter with a colleague. Only a few said that they would report the matter to the police, she said.