Schein Dental expands into Asia
Dental equipment provider also buys US ortho and lab biz

According to figures from the US Commercial Service in Bangkok, the heavily import-driven dental market in Thailand was estimated to be worth more than US$120 million in 2008.

Worldwide, Henry Schein operates in 26 markets with a focus on North America and Western Europe. Last year, the company reported record sales of US$8.5 billion through its medical, dental and veterinary businesses.

Run by the Charnsethikul family since 1976, Accord currently distributes dental products, including well-known brands from global manufacturers like Shofu, Planmeca and the GC Corporation, to over 5,000 customers in Thailand. Through the acquisition, the family will still retain 25 per cent of its former business, while Henry Schein will hold the remaining 75 per cent, both companies said last week.

Henry Schein maintains other business operations in the Asia Pacific region through affiliates and subsidiaries in Australia (Henry Schein Halas) and New Zealand (Henry Schein Shalfoon). Since last year, the company has also distributed its dental portfolio through Aniās Biomedical to customers in Hong Kong and the People’s Republic of China.

**DTI signs new partners in Vietnam and South Korea, sees visit by FDI executive**

DTI president and CEO Torsten Oemus said.

Both organisations have been collaborators since 2005, when Dental Tribune was appointed official media partner for the FDI’s Annual World Dental Congress in Montreal in Canada. Since then, the German-based dental media company has published the FDI’s official daily congress newspaper, World Dental Daily, at its congresses in Doha, Stockholm and Singapore, among others.

This year marks the eighth time that international partners of the Dental Tribune International network have gathered for the annual licence partner meeting since the group was founded in 2002. It saw the launch of new projects in markets like South Korea, Australia and the Middle East. DTI’s global operations have grown significantly in the last decade and now include media businesses in 50 countries around the world. Besides a large portfolio of general and specialised dental publications, the group also offers dental education through its sister company DTI Study Club in various markets.

The next meeting is to be held during IDS Cologne in March 2015.

**CAD/CAM systems market in Japan to gain momentum**

Despite its recent economic troubles, Japan is currently the largest market for dental CAD/CAM technology from abroad, the field is largely dominated by European and US manufacturers, such as Sirona, Nobel Biocare and 3M ESPE.

A few domestic companies have launched their own systems in recent years, such as Kuraray Noritake Dental’s KATANA system, which is now distributed worldwide.

Millennium Research Group predicts that the global market for dental CAD/CAM will exceed US$540 million by 2016, to constitute over one tenth of the overall market for dental equipment.

With over 60 per cent, chairside systems like intra-oral scanners will have the largest share in this segment, the company said.

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**BANGKOK, Thailand:** In a recent acquisition spree, Henry Schein has bought a major share in dental products provider Accord from Bangkok. While financial details of the deal were not disclosed, the Thai company is expected to add US$15 million in sales to Schein’s global dental business and expand its position in the growing Asian dental markets.

In addition to its purchase of Accord, which is now distributed in Australia and China as its first priority, Chairman and CEO Stanley M. Bergman said in a statement that the latest acquisition of Accord will not only give his company the opportunity to establish its presence in the fifth largest dental market in Asia, but also serve as a springboard for further expansion into South-East Asia.

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DTI Research partner meeting in June was held for the eighth time. (DTI/Photo Daniel Zimmermann, DTI)
Surgical trade between Pakistan and Malaysia increased by agreement

Dental Tribune Asia Pacific

SIALKOT, Pakistan & KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia: New sources have reported that dental and surgical instruments provider Care & Cure Surgico from Sialkot in northern Pakistan has recently closed a multimillion-dollar distribution deal with AM Medicare, a supplier of medical and dental products from Kuala Lumpur. Under the agreement, the Malaysian company will market and distribute Care & Cure’s instruments under the new name AM Surgical in the South-East Asian country for the next two years, the reports said.

Founded only two years ago, AM Medicare is currently one of Malaysia’s largest distributors of medical and dental implants. It also sells surgical instruments and hospital equipment and furniture. Care & Cure Surgico currently manufactures and distributes a wide range of instruments for use in medical and dental surgery worldwide, including scalpels, scissors, probes and forceps.

The deal between the two companies, valued at PKR9 million (US$2.8 million), is considered a major achievement for the Pakistani surgical supplies industry, developed under British rule, that already exports a large quantity of its equipment to developed markets like the US, Japan, Germany and France. According to the former Federal Bureau of Statistics in Islamabad, total exports of surgical equipment accounted for US$280 million in 2011.

Until now, Malaysia has not been a major buyer of medical or dental surgical equipment from Pakistan. Even though the country exported goods worth US$250 million last year to Malaysia, these were mainly in the form of agricultural goods like rice, cotton, fiber and fruit.

Total bilateral trade has increased significantly between both countries since a free-trade agreement was signed in 2008.

New ortho planning tool for Romexis

HELSINKI, Finland: The Finnish manufacturer Planmeca has added a new Cephalometric Analysis module to its Romexis software that is intended to bring benefits to orthodontic planning and treatment by providing flexible and easy-to-use features for creating cephalometric analyses and composing superimpositions of 2-D cephalometric images, facial photos and images of the dental arch.

According to the company, the Planmeca Romexis Cephalometric module renders routine analyses fast and easy. An analysis can be performed in minutes and the results are displayed and shared effortlessly, they said. During a treatment process, superimposing patient images from different time points can be also used for follow-up purposes.

The novel concept also offers possibilities for customising the analysis and software properties in order to meet different professional needs and requirements.

Launched in dental markets in Planmeca Romexis is a comprehensive software used by medical and dental professionals for acquiring, viewing and processing 2-D and 3-D images.