Dubai, UAE: Dubai gathered, for the fourth time, the world experts of Dental - Facial Cosmetic on 09th - 10th November 2012, an international conference, open to all aspects and specialists working in the field of Aesthetic Dentistry and Implantology. With the excellent ambiance and cozy atmosphere the conference again provided warm exceptional networking opportunities while connecting the leaders in the field of Aesthetic Dentistry & Implantology – practitioners, researchers and industry players.

Emirates Dental Society, Saudi Dental Society and CAPP for the 4th time achieved a great record of attendance and continued the reputation as the industry’s leading international conference in the field of Aesthetic Dentistry and Implantology. Jumeirah Beach Hotel hosted 886 participants – Dentists, Dental Technicians, Dental Industry and Dental professionals in the very elegant atmosphere. Bringing together industrial leaders and professional practitioners, the conference not only delivered extensive scientific knowledge from across the globe but gave way for an excellent opportunity to present the latest advancements and developments within the Dental Facial Cosmetics practice.

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30 EVENTS DENTAL TRIBUNE Middle East & Africa Edition | Jan-Feb 2013

4th DFCIC hosts 886 dental participants at Jumeirah Beach Hotel in Dubai

Other Industry Players – Dubai Medical
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Equipment, Al Thanaya Pharmaceuticals, Dentegris, High Technology Lab, Mdent, Intensive, Qualident. In total 42 companies represented 9 countries at the exhibition – United Arab Emirates, Germany, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, USA, Greece, Italy, South Africa and The Netherlands.

The Conference; Prolific world known International speakers joined forces to present the full two day Scientific Program to the highly numbered and hungry for knowledge, dental delegates at the astonishing Jumeirah Beach Hotel in Dubai. Under the Chairmanship of the experienced and charismatic Dr. Munir Silwadi, all sessions of the program were presented smoothly with sharp discussions and beneficial feedback to take dentistry forward.

Dental Technicians Parallel Session; The introduction of the new Dental Technicians Parallel Session last year has seen a vast improvement in the interest to improve the skills of the technicians at our conferences. We all recognize the importance the Dental Technician plays in the Dental Team and it is important to provide these technicians with the necessary up to date, training with cutting-edge technology evolving so quickly, the need for more and improved Lab training is essential.

Scientific Conference; The Scientific Program attracted 736 dental delegates and 150 Representatives from the industry all in all from 27 different countries such as: Algeria; Austria; Bahrain; Belgium; Bulgaria; Egypt; Germany; Greece; India; Iran; Iraq; Jordan; Kenya; Kuwait; Lebanon; Libya; Pakistan; Palestine; Poland; Qatar; Romania; Saudi Arabia; Sudan; Switzerland; Syria; Turkey and UAE. Delegates listened to the latest opinions, trends, and insights from industry thought leaders, shared experiences with colleagues, made new contacts and tightened existing relationships whilst exchanging ideas and knowledge on the latest trends and developments of Aesthetic Cosmetic Dentistry and Implantology. Dentists from different specialties joined our event. General Practitioners, Dental Assistants, Dental Technicians, Prosthodontists, Orthodontists, Implantologist, MPS Endodontists, Periodontists, Conservative Dentists and Cosmetic Dentists – all enjoyed the high level of the scientific program while having the opportunity to meet the top industrial players in this field during the two day event in Dubai.
International Team of Implantology Middle East Congress, Abu Dhabi, 07-08 December 2012

by Dental Tribune Middle East & Africa

Abu Dhabi, UAE: The Second ITI Middle East Congress in Abu Dhabi successfully took place from the 7th-8th December 2012 bringing together International Dental Experts and authors in Implant Dentistry to the capital of UAE. The congress was organized by the International Team for Implantology – ITI – with the assistance of Ambulatory Healthcare Services, a SEHA HealthSystem Facility.

More than 450 participants attended the congress, which took place in the Beach Rotana Hotel. “A major proportion of the audience came from Arab countries, but we were happy to see participants from all over the world. We were also very pleased to welcome many non-ITI Members and give them the opportunity to get to know the ITI and its philosophy a little better during the congress”, said Ninette Banday, Education Delegate of the ITI Section Middle East which has close to 250 Fellows and Members.

The event combined excellence and expertise in the field of Implant Dentistry and served as a forum to explore New Technologies, Innovations and New Materials, helping the participants to make smart decisions on why, when and how to use them. The Scientific Program included an impressive lineup of speakers such as Professor Dr. Hans-Peter Weber from Tufts University, USA, Professor Dr. Urs Bragger from University of Bern, Switzerland and Professor Dr. Mauricio Araujo from State University of Rio Grand do Sul, Brazil. Each discussed different challenging situations in today’s Implant Dentistry scene, along with the honorable speakers from the Middle East Region.

Dr. Ninette Banday further explained in her opening remarks: “Implant Dentistry is probably the most interesting and dynamic disciplines in modern dental science. It has evolved from a trial and error field to an evidence based predictable treatment modality. Today the use of dental implants has become the standard of care in many clinical situations. A vast body of evidence proves implant therapy to be a safe and efficient treatment option.”

The conference further proved to be a vibrant platform for the participants to share ideas, explore the potential of new advancements in technology and foster closer ties.

Dr. George Gebran, the ITI Middle East sector Chair, mentioned, “Having started out in 1980 as an interdisciplinary group of 12 men with a vision for the future of implant dentistry, the ITI has grown into a leading scientific authority in the field”. At the end of 2012, over 13,500 Fellows and Members have become part of the dynamic and continuously growing network that is the ITI today. ITI offers participation in local Study Clubs, a Treatment Guide every year in one of 9 different languages, an online portal (ITInet) as well as reduced entry fees to national and international ITI educational events. The Chairman spoke further, “I am convinced that we will pass the next milestone of 15,000 Fellows and Members in the first quarter of 2013. Due to the numerous benefits offered by ITI to their members, ITI will become the largest International Academic network in Implant Dentistry”.

Funding research projects by allocating research grants, ITI is the largest non-governmental funding organization in this field having invested more than 40 million CHF to date. ITI further grants scholarships to young clinicians and has a network of specialists and friends while providing evidence-based education in implant dentistry.

The ITI Middle East Section was created in November 2009 by a small group of 6 fellows from Lebanon, UAE and Saudi Arabia. After 3 years the section grew tremendously and reached more than 230 Fellows and Members. Study Clubs are now running in Lebanon, UAE, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Jordan, Qatar and Pakistan. ITI courses are ready to cater the need of education in the Middle East region.

Dr. Nidal Saab, the ITI Study Club Coordinator of the Middle East Section, organized 20 Study Clubs in the region of which 7 were in UAE and were accredited by HAAD in Category 1. The Study Clubs serve as a platform where dentists bring in their cases for discussion to adopt the best practices for the community.

Dental Tribune Middle East & Africa will be making a full event coverage in the Dental Tribune - January/February 2013 print publication, distributed to the entire Middle East & Africa region as well as all the major dental events throughout the year.
Technology Advancement in Dentistry: Conference and Exhibition in Bahrain

By Dr. Abbas Al Fardan, Chairman of Technology Advancement in Dentistry: Conference and Exhibition

Under the patronage of HE Mr. Sadeq Al-Shehabi, Minister of Health of Bahrain, an international dental convention was held in Bahrain from the 5th-7th November 2012, titled “Technology Advancement in Dentistry”. The convention was composed of six workshops, ten keynote presentations and several international exhibitions.

The Conference was chaired by Dr. Abbas Al Fardan, Senior Consultant Orthodontist and an International Dental Speaker. Dr. Al-Fardan & the organizers believe that a successful dental practitioner should use sound principles of Dental Sciences along with the correct application and utilization of State of the Art Technology aimed to provide tender care and perfect outcome for all patients, coming from this belief, the theme (Technology Advancement in Dentistry) was adopted. The conference had a positive impact in the community and was covered extensively in the media. More than 200 dentists and dental professionals from Bahrain and GCC countries attended the conference and there were 30 exhibitors from local and international dental companies and agencies.

The Conference covered major topics that touch the daily practice of Dentists and Dental hygienists covering Orthodontics, Restorative Dentistry, Dental Implantology, Aesthetic Dentistry, Periodontics, Oral application of Laser, Endodontic and Dental Care and Prevention.

In his opening speech HE Minister of Health of Bahrain showed his delight to be part of the conference “the Ministry of Health’s executives and dental staff have a great pleasure to be part of this important scientific event taking place for the first time in the Kingdom of Bahrain; Technology Advancement in Dentistry Conference.” He additionally elaborated “I believe that the theme of this conference; advancement in dental technology, is of great importance to every practicing dental professional and I hope they grab this opportunity to develop their knowledge about latest developments in this field and make use of this new information in their everyday practice”.

The Workshops

1. The use of Digital Photography in Dental Practice (Theory & Hands on) by PJ Byrne, Immediate Ex Dean, Dental Faculty, Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland.
2. Oral Laser Applications by Prof. Andreas Moritz (President of International Society of Oral Laser Application- SOLA) and Dr. Markus Laky, Senior Lecturer of Oral Laser from Vienna –Austria.
3. Smile Design, Dental Veneers & Thineers, and Complete mouth rehabilitation, by Dr. Ratnadeep Patil, CEO Smile Care Institute, Program Director of New York University College of Dentistry Programs in both India & Indonesia.
4. Contemporary Endodontics by Prof. Ashraf Faad, Professor and Chairman, Department of Endodontics, Prosthodontics and Operative Dentistry at the University of Maryland, Baltimore, Maryland - and Ex. Director, American Board of Endodontics -USA.
5. The winning formula, Damon System and Ortho Bone Screws in treating all orthodontic cases, by Dr. Chris Chang; an international speaker in Orthodontics from Taiwan and author of the first electronic Encyclopedia in Orthodontics & Implantology (Apple based format).
6. Periodontics & implantology and detailed accounts on computer aided implantology (Nobel Biocare System) by PJ Byrne, Immediate Ex Dean, Dental Faculty, Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland.

The conference were privileged also to have the Dean, College of Dentistry- University of Damam – Saudi Arabia; Dr. Fahad Al-Harbi as well as Dr. Bader Al-Jendan, Head of Maxillo-Facial Surgery Department of same university as keynote speaker where they delivered two fantastic presentations about technology advancement in dentistry, implantology and maxilla-facial surgery. Technology advancement was so clear in the exhibition where latest laser machines, computer aided implantology, CAD/CAM use in dentistry and dental laboratory, latest self ligation brackets were all present. Finally, the first apple based encyclopedia of orthodontics and implantology, authored by Dr. Chris Chang, was launched in this conference for the first time in the Middle East. All in all, it was a high tech event with Arabian Gulf flavor which gives it a special taste. This will even definitely grow bigger in the coming years.
The conference was preceded by two pre-conferences. The first, entitled the "Skeletal Anchorage System" (SAS), was given by Professor Junji Sugawara who is the founder of the system. In contrast to the widely used mini-screws, the SAS makes use of titanium miniplates which are temporarily fixed to the zygomatic buttress and/or the zygomatic arch. Since there is no movement associated with the plates they can traverse the oral muco- sa without causing any irritation. The fact that the anchorage arms are remote from the path of tooth movement gives the SAS an unbeatable advantage over other skeletal anchorage systems. The required surgical intervention is as minimal as marginally traumatic and there are no contra-indications than would be the case for any minimally invasive surgical procedure carried out under local anesthesia.

The second pre-congress course entitled "Everything every aligner novice should know - an overview of 12 years of experience" was given by Professor Rainer-Réginald Miethe. The course dealt with the "State of orthodontic-orthopedic interface" which was delivered by Professor Robert Boyd. In his lecture Dr. Boyd highlighted the close relationship between Orthodontics and Periodontics and discussed the differing needs of patients being treated with traditional fixed braces versus contemporary invisible removable appliances. In all situations plaque control is of the essence to ensure a caries and gingivitis-free environment. As an experienced clinician as well as a researcher Dr. Boyd gave many valuable tips for selecting toothpastes, dental floss and mouth rinses. In closing Dr. Boyd showed examples of how restorative procedures can enhance orthodontic treatment outcomes.

On the subject of decortication Professor Donald Ferguson delivered a lecture entitled "Decontamination facilitated orthodontic treatment" during which he explained how even severe malocclusions could be corrected in a surprisingly short time span. The procedure involves raising a surgical periodontal flap and making dot or slit shaped cuts into the alveolus, followed by augmentation grafting with dry-frozen or allogenic bone material. The injury of the alveolar bone will alter its metabolism and initiate a regionally accelerated response whereby less mineralized bone will allow much faster yet physiologic tooth movement. Of great benefit is the finding that tooth movement is not only more rapid, but also more stable due to the dual effects of more comprehensive tissue turnover and increase in alveolar cortical bone thickness.

In the course of his lecture "How do we control root resorption? Can we avoid it?" Professor Ali Darendeliler took his audience on a 'virtual flight' through root canals and into resorption craters. This was done by combining technology from scanners and a flight simulator. For many years Dr. Darendeliler and his team of colleagues have systematically investigated the main problem of root surface cementum resorption in two and even three dimensions, with different appliance systems (fixed/re- movable) and different forces (light/heavy; intermittent/continuous). As expected, continuous forces caused the most severe root resorption, but even these were found to engender a certain degree of repair, as Dr. Darendeliler’s long-term observations indicate. He also pointed out that genetic background plays a role, which gives hope to the possibility of identifying individuals who are at an increased risk of root resorption. Though one would expect the topic of relapse to be of little or no interest to orthodontic practitioners based upon their declination of its existence, the audience listened attentively to Dr. Simon Littlewood’s presentation on “Retention and relapse in orthodontics”. He pointed out that the existing retention protocols have been handed down from one orthodontic generation to the next without any sound basis. What science evidence there is in fact indicates that retention does not differ when a removable retainer (plate/split-aligner type) is worn constantly or only during sleep. Care must be taken to ensure that fixed retainers are completely passive when bonded into position. In summing up, Dr. Littlewood gave his answer to the frequently asked question "how long do I have to wear my retainer for?" - His answer was "as long as you want to have straight teeth..." The participants were shown impressive examples of lingual appliance therapy in Dr. Thomas Drechsler’s lecture entitled “Invisible first – lingual appliances for complex and combined treatments”. Contemporary lingual braces are individually customized i.e. cast in gold from a wax pattern, thus minimizing interference with oral tissues and function. Even the most difficult challenging cases (combined orthodontic-orthognathic surgery therapy, partially edentulous patients) were shown to be successfully treated with lingual appliances. Of interest was that Dr. Drechsler sometimes combines treatment with lingual braces and Invisalign on opposing arches in the same patient.

Professor Dieter Drescher gave the last presentation of the first day on "State of the art mini-implants for next generation orthodontics". His lecture dealt with the 'Benefit System' of introral anchorage: a system comprised of various fabricated components which can be inserted with ease. What distinguishes this from other anchorage systems is the location of the screw in the anterior portion of the palate. This site ensures plentiful amounts of dense bone and does not interfere with tooth movements. Professor Drescher highlighted when early orthodontic intervention in a particular individual situation that determines the in-flow of each of these questions for which treatment with the Invisalign System results in at least as good, if not even better than that with fixed appliances. Professor Miethe emphasized that as the practitioner’s experience with the system grows coupled with an increased willingness of the part of the patient to accept the possibly even invisible appliances – the scope of manageable malocclusions grows.

Dr. Saud Al Anezi spoke about "Interceptive orthodontics: an overview" in which he highlighted when early orthodontic intervention is desirable, and what it should consist of. He stressed the importance of general practitioners referring young patients in a timely manner for specialty orthodontic care. He supported his talk with multiple examples of situations where severe malocclusions were prevented by timely interceptive therapy.

Dr. David Morris in his lecture "Surgical orthodontics – looking at the bigger picture" warned the audience of the dramat-
ic changes to a patient’s facial contours and function brought about by what is essentially an elective procedure. This can virtually instantaneous changes may challenge the patient’s ability to adapt to his or her new face. Since precise prediction of the outcome is not possible, both surgeon and orthodontist need to ascertain the patient’s expectations thoroughly, along with an assessment of the psychological status.

In her quality presentation titled “Auto-transplantation: an interdisciplinary approach”, Dr. Tumadher Al Musfir took an in depth look at material on the subject gathered over many years at the University of Leeds. Since all options for replacing a missing anterior tooth (or one with a poor prognosis) have their drawbacks, autotransplantation of a tooth which would otherwise be extracted can be a valid option, when carefully carried out. This pre-condition includes selection of the transplant, optimal stage of root development, and minimizing trauma to the periodontal ligament during extraction and implantation into the alveolus, followed by splinting and recall.

The last presenter of the day was Dr. Thomas Lietz speaking on the topic “Facts, fiction and unknown things about mini-implants”. He pointed out that even after thirty years of mini-screw usage, much of what is known about their behavior is still fiction rather than fact. There is no consensus yet on design features such as length, diameter, thread design, and neck and head dimensions, which explains the multitude of screws on the market. Neither does consensus exist on aspects such as optimal sites, mode of insertion, loading mode, and the reasons behind success or failure. Overall, this lecture gave the audience material for thought, and made them question the claims made by manufacturers and presenters.

The first post-conference course was held on January 7, 2013, and was given by Professor Donald Ferguson. He spoke on “Rapid orthodontics from A to Z”. Where-as his conference lecture gave an overview of this revolutionary technique, the course went into much greater detail. He included in its scope the very recent concepts of extraradial and intra-radial photomodulation and shockwave therapy which have shown promising initial results. All of the methods mentioned have one characteristic in common: they do not stimulate tissue turn-over in the periodontal ligament as much as they cause an osteopenia. The resultant increased bone remodeling has a positive impact upon treatment stability.

The second post-conference course was run simultaneously, and was on “Success with the tomas system – more than just a mini-screw”, delivered by Dr. Thomas Lietz. He set out to explain how to optimize success with mini-screws and to illustrate the contribution that the tomas pin system can make in this regard. Success starts with defining treatment goals and carrying through with selecting the optimal insertion site based upon anatomical as well as biomechanical factors. The tomas mini-screw is part of a larger range of auxiliary components which assist in solving even the most complex cases. In the “hands-on” part of this course participants had the opportunity to work with tomas pins. Risks and complications of mini-screw use were also discussed.

Overall, the 1st Qatar International Orthodontics Conference was a resounding success with nothing but positive feedback from the more than 350 participants. The same affirming comments were received from the exhibitors, with over fourteen companies represented. Spurned by a wave of support and encouragement, the organizing committee intends to arrange similar conferences in the future on a biannual basis. The interested public will be kept informed in due time.

The Inauguration of the Fujairah International Dental Conference

by Dr. Nabeel Humood Alsabeeha, Dental Tribune Middle East & Africa Editorial Board

The Fujairah Medical District in collaboration with the Fujairah Dental Center opened its first Fujairah International Dental Conference. The event was held at the Concorde Hotel, in the heart of the city of Fujairah, and spanned over 3 days from the 15th to the 17th of November 2012. Speakers from Sweden, United Kingdom, Australia, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Jordan and the United Arab Emirates presented valuable papers in the various fields of dentistry including Oral surgery, Endodontics, Prosthodontics, Implantology and Orthodontics. Aside from the oral presentations, there were three workshops, a poster competition, and a trade exhibition that were held which attracted a huge number of participants. The number of registered participants was a little over 500, surpassing the initial estimations of 300. The event was attended by Dr. Aisha Sultan Alsuwaidi, Director of Dental Services at the Ministry of Health and President of the Dental Society of the Emirates Medical Association who commended the members of the organizing committee for their impressive work.