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Atlantis™ - advanced CAD/CAM technology for abutments improves clinical results in dental implant treatment

The latest CAD/CAM technology for patient-specific abutments is now gaining ground on the European dental market. The Swedish medical device company Astra Tech AB, a subsidiary of AstraZeneca, is introducing the Atlantis™ solution for all major implant systems.

The Atlantis solution is already market leader in the US and is now rapidly growing in Europe. Atlantis increases productivity and cost-efficiency in the dental laboratory.

“With Atlantis, the lab can deliver high-quality, customized abutments with less time and effort. It can also be used for routine cases to ensure perfect fit without any re-doing work” says Mr. J. de San José González, owner of the González Zahntechnik in Weinheim, Germany.

With the advanced patented Atlantis VAD™ (Virtual Abutment Design) software, the abutments are uniquely designed from the final tooth shape. The need for chairside modification is eliminated as each abutment is made to be anatomically correct and specific to the space it will fit.

Dr Markus Schlee has used Atlantis abutments at his clinic in Forchheim, Germany, since September 2008.

“Atlantis contributes to improving the quality of the treatment result,” says Dr Schlee. “The main advantage is that it provides a better esthetic outcome than traditional abutments. It is also easier to work with the lab as there are fewer mistakes in the process. Another outstanding feature is that the Atlantis solution works with titanium, gold-shaded titanium and zirconia materials.”

In the fall 2008, Astra Tech started production of the patient-specific abutments at its headquarters in Mölndal, Sweden, for the European market. After a successful European introduction Astra Tech will invest in additional production capacity and employ more staff to be able to meet the rapidly increasing demand. Astra Tech is also expanding the Atlantis production in the US, in a new state-of-the art facility in Waltham, Massachusetts.

“The next step will be to make the Atlantis abutments compatible with even more implant systems”, says Dr Björn Delin, Business Unit Director at Astra Tech Dental. “We have also started cooperating with 3M ESPE for digital scanning with the Lava™ Scan ST System. With this new scanning option, laboratories using the Lava Scan ST System can place orders without having to send a model to Astra Tech.”

The expansion of the Atlantis solution and services are part of the overall development strategy for Astra Tech Dental.

The Astra Tech Implant System™ is one of the most well documented implant systems in the world and results from long-term studies show outstanding treatment outcomes. The mean marginal bone reduction is only 0.3 millimetres over five years while the current norm for implant treatment success allows a marginal bone level loss of 1.5 millimetres.

Maintenance of the marginal bone level is a prerequisite for long-term esthetic results and a successful function of the implant. The Astra Tech results indicate that the current norm should be revised.

“The low bone loss ratio is the main reason why I work with Astra Tech implants. It is the best dental implant system right now. If I would put an implant in my mouth it would be Astra Tech,” says Dr Schlee.

For further information, please contact:

Dr Björn Delin, Business Unit Director, Dental, Astra Tech AB, phone: +46 705 76 72 60

Kerstin Wettby, Head of Market Communication, Dental, Astra Tech AB,
phone: +46 705 16 32 02

About Astra Tech

Astra Tech AB, a subsidiary of the AstraZeneca group, develops, manufactures, markets dental implants and advanced disposable products for use within healthcare. The company develops products that enhance treatment results, simplify work for healthcare professionals and help cut healthcare costs.

Astra Tech's headquarters and production facilities are located in Mölndal, Sweden. The company is represented globally by 16 subsidiaries and selected local partners. Astra Tech has a total of 2,100 employees worldwide. The company puts 5 percent of its revenues annually into research..

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