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AO session in Seattle

Meeting aims to show clinicians how to make 'implants last a lifetime'

By Sierra Rendon, Managing Editor

Attendees wait to enter the exhibit hall of the Academy of Osseointegration's 2014 Annual Meeting, held March 6–8 in Seattle.
Photo/Sierra Rendon, Managing Editor

The Academy of Osseointegration welcomed thousands of clinicians and support staff to its 29th annual meeting in Seattle from March 6-8.

The theme of the meeting, "Real Problems, Real Solutions," was created to help all dental implant practitioners — whether specialists or general dentists, and whether they are actively placing implants and/or restoring dental implants or just getting started in implants.

"We wanted to be very careful in this meeting and not have what would be a 'failure festival,' but actually have a very insightful look at what happens in the real practice and to real clinicians with real problems, and to have the leaders in our field help us with: No. 1, how you might avoid them; No. 2, how you manage them; and No. 3, what the future might look like," said Dr. Lyndon Cooper, while introducing the opening symposium.

"I hope that all of our presentations will give each of you something to take back to your practice and inspire you to continue to take good care of the people even when their prosthesis have grown old and tired or the implants have become problematic."

The opening symposium, titled "Strategies to Address Implant Retreatment – Dealing with the 25-Year-Old Implant," included presentations that addressed the unique circumstances surrounding retreating implants decades after initial placement, said AO President Stephen Wheeler, DDS.

Topics included crestal bone loss around titanium implants, peri-implantitis, the nature of complications and failures related specifically to mature implants.

The symposium was kicked off with a presentation by prosthodontist Jonathan Ferencz, DDS, and periodontist Burton Langer, DMD, who have collaborated on implants for more than 20 years.

Their session, "Implants in the Esthetic Zone: Techniques and Perspectives After 20 Years of Collaboration," focused on time-proven techniques for both the surgical and prosthodontic aspects of implant treatment in the esthetic zone, which have been the key elements of the duo's success. In addition to numerous clinical tips and tricks, the session featured a discussion of the relevance of prevailing treatment concepts, such as immediate loading and platform switching.

This group of AO attendees took part in both the AO International Symposium, focusing on Japan, and the AO President's Reception, held at Seattle's Museum of Flight.
Photo/Provided by the Academy of Osseointegration

Another big highlight of the meeting was the President's Reception, which was held at Seattle's Museum of Flight, one of the largest air and space museums in the world. The event was held exclusively for AO attendees and guests. Guests enjoyed touring the many galleries of the museum as they sampled from food stations throughout the center.

For guests with an adventurous streak, flight simulators were operational for attendees to test out their flying skills.

This year's AO meeting also featured the first-ever International Symposium dedicated to one country. The symposium focused exclusively on Japan.

"This is a wonderful opportunity, and

▸ See AO, page B2

Academy of Osseointegration

More information

To learn more about the Academy of Osseointegration's 29th Annual Meeting, check out the April edition of Implant Tribune for a special report from AO officials.

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we are honored to participate and exchange ideas internationally," said Yataro Komiyama, DDS, PhD, session moderator. "In keeping with the overarching 'Real Problems, Real Solutions' theme ... the International Symposium covers not only new ideas and applications in implant dentistry but also addresses issues related to long-term clinical experience."

Finally, the AO held up its unofficial tradition of saving some of the best sessions for last.

"Traditionally at clinical meetings, many attendees tend to leave before the last day's programming is over, but we purposely schedule strong sessions for our closing symposium — and it works because people stick around so they can hear our internationally known speakers talk about high-interest topics," Wheeler said.

Dr. Lyndon Cooper, scientific program chairman, introduces the topic, 'Strategies to Address Implant Retreatment: Dealing with the 25-Year-Old Implant' at the AO's opening session in Seattle.

Photo/Sierra Rendon, Managing Editor

This year's closing symposium, "Our Better Future," focused on current and advancing technologies in managing teeth and implants, including advances in biotechnology, technology such as digital dentistry and materials selection and prosthetic design.

(Source: The Academy of Osseointegration contributed to this report.)

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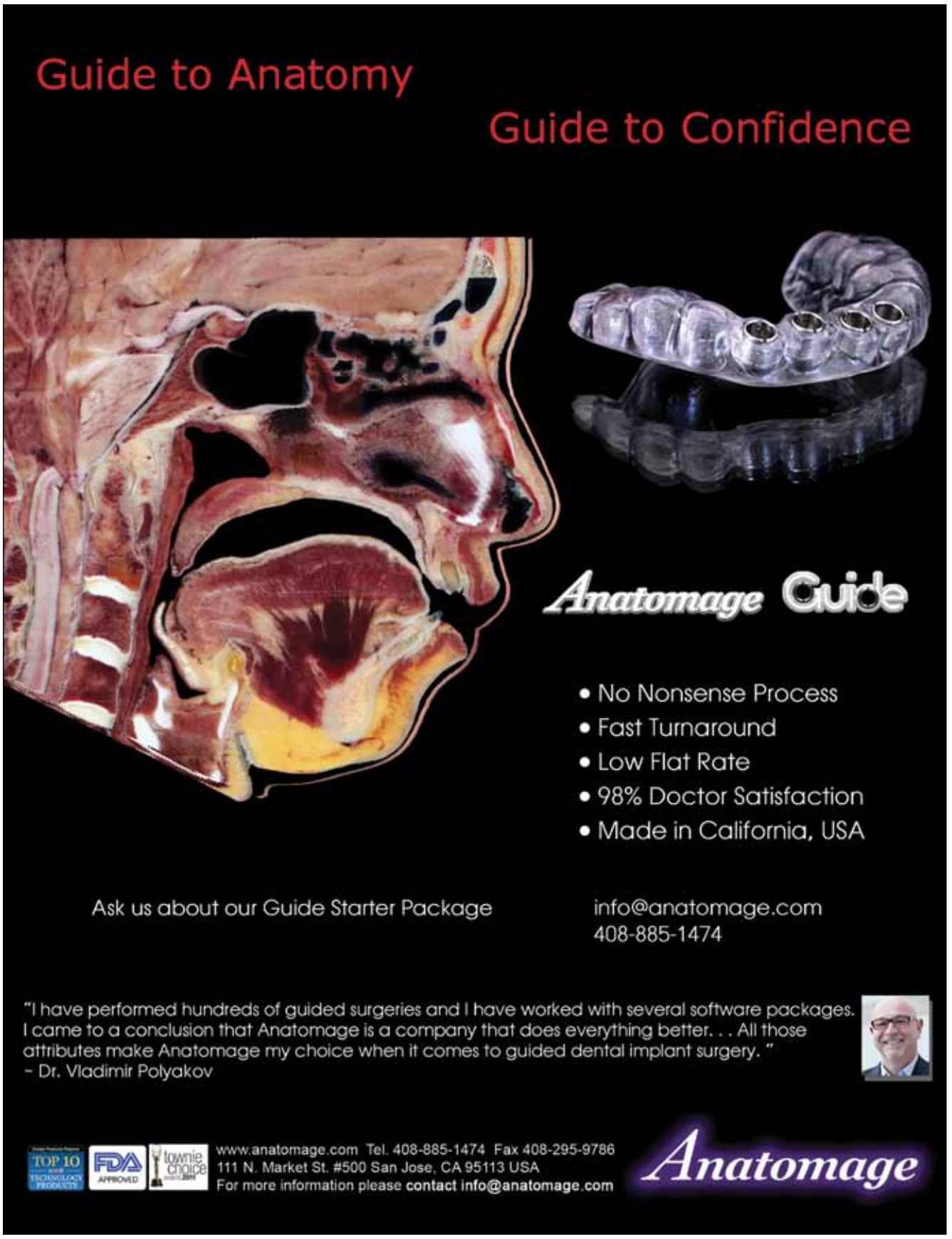

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Reality Check Savings	$107	$109	$95	$132	$103	N/A	N/A	$135	$161

Scenes from the AO

Matt Miller of Meisinger helps a clinician at the company's booth.

Dr. Joe Schmidt speaks about the ASTRA TECH Implant System EV at a crowded DENSTPLY Implants booth at the AO annual meeting in Seattle.

Christopher Sanchez, vice president of sales for Ossotanium, shows off the company's products to an attendee.

Implant Direct staff stay busy helping attendees at the company's booth at the AO.

W&H introduced the new WS-91 LG, its first 45-degree surgical handpiece made for a surgical motor, at the AO Annual Meeting.

Impladent President Maurice Valen, center, works with AO attendees at the meeting.

The ladies at Springstone Patient Financing stand ready to answer any questions from AO attendees.

Neodent, a leading implant company in Latin America, recently announced that its dental implant system is now available to U.S. dental professionals and their patients. The company's official launch event took place at the AO.

Photos by Sierra Rendon, Managing Editor

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Neodent hosts official U.S. launch at AO Annual Meeting

Leading Latin American implant company offers high-quality, cost-effective alternatives to top brand implants and abutments

Neodent, one of Latin America's leading dental implant company, announced this month that its dental implant system is now available to U.S. dental professionals and their patients.

The company's official launch event took place at the Academy of Osseointegration's 29th Annual Meeting in Seattle, held March 6–8. Its range of products will be available through direct sales representatives in various U.S. cities and the company's new U.S. base/service center in Andover, Mass.

Neodent specializes in the design, development and manufacture of dental implants and related prosthetic components. For more than 20 years, it has built a reputation for delivering excellence and innovation and is both well-prepared and uniquely suited for the U.S. market, according to the company.

During the past 10 years, the company has expanded rapidly in Latin America and Southern Europe and is the market leader in Brazil, the world's largest market in number of implants sold. This success has been achieved through a philosophy of making tested and cutting-edge implant solutions more affordable to a broader population, the company asserts.

The U.S. expansion will be led by Anthony J. Susino, who for the past eight years has been with Straumann and most recently held the position of vice president and head of strategic projects in North America.

Dr. Geninho Thomé, co-founder and CEO of Neodent, noted: "Our proven system has earned the trust of more than 30,000 clinicians, and we have sold more than 5 million implants worldwide. We believe our proven, versatile and complete system will make an immediate impact in promoting implant dentistry as the standard of care in North America."

Founded in 1993 as JJGC Indústria e Comércio de Materiais Dentários S/A, Neodent was the first Brazilian company in the implant sector to receive certification from the Ministry of Health.

After rapid expansion, the company opened its own premises in Curitiba in 1998, where its headquarters and a state-of-the-art manufacturing facility are located. Neodent employs more than 900 employees, operates more than 10 branches in Brazil and works with a wide network of distributors positioning the company as a market leader in the LATAM region.

Neodent also has subsidiaries in Portugal and Mexico and distributors in other geographies targeting the non-premium segment in these markets.

It places considerable importance on education and training with the aim of ensuring quality treatment standards and patient care. It does this through the ILAPEO (The Latin American Institute of Dental Research and Education), one of the largest dedicated implant training centers in the world, offering courses to thousands of participants from all over the world each year, the company reports.

For more information, email *info@neodentusa.com*, call (855) 412-8883 or visit *www.neodentusa.com*.

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