D&S Dental Lab is pleased to add two exciting new crown options to our all-ceramic lineup, ZR Plus and Ultimate. The ZR Plus crown is a much more esthetic, high-translucency version of the original ZR Crown. D&S unveiled the ZR Crown (monolithic Zirconia) in the spring of 2010, and in the past two years it has become a very popular restoration due to its strength, lifetime warranty against fracture, minimal prep requirement, and low cost. The ZR remains a great option at $99 for posterior indications, or indications with limited clearance. However, the ZR Plus supplies similar strength, while also providing the most translucent monolithic Zirconia crown on the market. In addition, a unique, patented staining system results in much more accurate shade matches to the Vita Classical A1-D4 shades (including bleach shades), as well as direct conversion for the most popular Vita 3D shades. Finally, our new staining system results in near 100% stain penetration through the Zirconia material (both ZR & ZR Plus), which eliminates the appearance of “white spots” when adjustments are necessary. Similar to ZR, the ZR Plus requires only .5mm of clearance, and it comes with a 15-year warranty against fracture. The cost of the ZR Plus is $139/unit.

In addition to ZR Plus, our laboratory is very pleased to introduce the Ultimate Crown. Ultimate is a new, monolithic, nano-ceramic crown. It is indicated for single unit crowns, inlays and onlays, and veneers. Ultimate is comparable in strength and esthetics to a milled Lithium-Disilicate restoration; however, the material is much more resilient and very easy to work with.
Product Spotlight

CROWN TATTOOS

The next time a patient wants to add a little color to their crown, consider a “Crown Tattoo” from D&S. These “tattoos” can be added to any crown at an additional fee, which varies depending on the detail and amount of work involved.

For more information on our Crown Tattoos, call our Waunakee laboratory at 1-800-236-3859.

2012 MISSION OF MERCY REVIEW

Thanks to the generosity of over 1,800 volunteers, suppliers, donors, and organizers, the 2012 Mission of Mercy was a tremendous success in Madison. This was the 4th M.O.M. hosted in Wisconsin by the WDA and the WDA Foundation, and it was by far the largest to date.

The goal of Mission of Mercy events held around the country is to bring dental care to local residents who otherwise would be unable to receive treatment. It’s safe to say this year’s Wisconsin M.O.M. exceeded all expectations by providing approximately $1.75 million in care and 3,595 patient visits.

On the lab side, the amount and quality of work done by the talented technicians who came from labs around the state was incredible. Over two days, the volunteer technicians produced 153 treatment partials (fabricated from start to finish), 6 repairs, 8 relines, and 6 adjustments or additions. The majority of the materials used were also donated by three very generous companies, Dentsply, Ivoclar, and Zahn Dental Supply. Our laboratory was privileged to be the lead lab for this year’s event, and it was a tremendously rewarding experience.

Planning for next year’s M.O.M. in Lake Geneva on June 28 and 29 is already underway. Mark your calendars now and plan to get involved in support of a great cause.
D&S’ DAVID JOHNSON, CDT ATTENDS ASTRA WORLD CONGRESS

In May, David Johnson, CDT, travelled from D&S Dental Laboratory in Waunakee, to Gothenburg, Sweden, to attend Astra Tech’s third annual World Congress. Nearly 2,500 doctors, surgeons, technicians, and other dental industry professionals from many countries gathered in Gothenburg over a four-day period to listen to over 70 experts from all over the world discuss implant dentistry in all its various forms. The theme of this year’s event was “creating the future by going back to the roots,” which seemed very appropriate considering that Dr. Branemark discovered the principle of Osseointegration 60 years earlier just down the road from the convention center where the World Congress was held.

The theme was embraced by many of the speakers, including Dr. Jan Lindle, who in the opening session elaborated on the concept of the theme by stating that “backward planning”—considering what the patient’s needs are and envisioning the finished prostheses before any surgery—was actually “forward thinking.” We at D&S agree. There was much talk in general of being able to understand and care for the patient’s needs, and treatment planning in general. For example, one speaker displayed a cross section image of an implant, placed in bone, complete with a crown atop an abutment. He remarked that the surgeon is normally responsible for what is happening in the bone and the restorative doctor for the clinical crown, but who is in control of the area that connects the two? The tissues and emergence?

A lot of the dialog between the lab and our clients regarding anterior implant cases, for instance, is not whether an implant has become integrated, what length of implant to place, or what shade of crown or occlusion it should have. Rather, the dialog typically involves how the abutment should emerge from the tissue, how much the restoration should blanch, making sure the abutment does not blanch too much, or ways to avoid or close “Black Triangles.” Unfortunately the utterance of these last two topics usually means that the optimum time to address these considerations has passed by both the doctor and technician. Temporization and treatment of the implant site, along with providing the laboratory with information of the tissue’s shape and desired end result, can alleviate a lot of the guesswork.
Ultimate is very easy to adjust (it just needs to be polished after adjusting), and it has the tremendous advantage that the doctor can add to the restoration chair side using light cured restorative material. Due to the resiliency of Ultimate, it is recommended for use as an implant supported restoration. The prep for an Ultimate Crown should be similar to Lithium-Disilicate with smooth, tapered walls, and no sharp angles or lines. A minimum of 1mm of reduction at the margin and 1.5mm at the occlusal surface is required. However, as long as sufficient clearance is provided, Ultimate does come with a 10-Year warranty, and the cost is only $119/unit!

ZR Plus and Ultimate represent the next step in the evolution of monolithic, fixed restoration options. While we are just now able to make these crowns readily available, our laboratory has been working with both materials for quite some time, and we have seen the positive results and feedback they’ve received. In addition, because they are monolithic in nature, with no veneering material added, these restorations can be manufactured at competitive prices and returned to your office in less time. As with all of our non-metal restorations, these two crowns are CAD designed and custom milled at our Waunakee laboratory for precision fit.

It was pleasing to see these concepts emphasized so much at a scientific event hosted by a single company. There was also a great deal of information about the benefits of Astra Tech implants and Atlantis patient specific abutments, including the science behind the benefits. With the constant changes in dental products and procedures, we must remain focused on the importance of providing the patient with the best possible care to suit their needs. One way a technician can meet their patients’ needs is by learning new and better techniques to use at the bench, and by gaining information on what is happening chair side and in surgery. Astra Tech’s World Congress was a great resource in that adventure.