President’s Message:

by Tony Sarrapuchiello – IFD President

Reflecting over the past year, the IFD continues to work for Denturists worldwide. With the assistance of our regional Vice Presidents and the perseverance of the country representatives, we are progressing to promote the advancement of the profession globally. Through various initiatives the IFD is providing information to empower Denturists to obtain recognition.

Through our dynamic website, efficient communication and administration of our Secretariat, the IFD distributes information. We provide a strong and vibrant Newsletter via our Editorial Board, which continues to be a source of inspiration for all. Our editorial team requires the assistance and input from all Denturists to improve communication from all member countries and to increase the exposure of the Newsletter to a wider audience.

On the website you will find our IFD Policy Statement: Benchmark Identity of Denturists in terms of Education, Scope of Practice and defining Relationships within the Oral Health Care Team. This is a document of major significance, and will be updated continuously. By presenting this Policy Statement, we are already gaining professional recognition in some dominions in Europe. We are very pleased that Belgium is now attaining recognition status and is added to the regions where denturists can make a substantial contribution to public oral health!

Our Education Committee embarked on a new initiative in cooperation with the Curriculum Advisory Committee of Canada to set criteria for international accreditation. This is a very exciting development showing much promise.

At the Washington meeting, the IFD was positioning the organization to generate sponsorship income to fulfill our mission. We highly appreciate those who worked tirelessly to obtain success in this task. The IFD received support from three major sponsors: VITA, Ivoclar Vivadent and Candulor. They are our white knights! I would like to thank all three these sponsors for their investment in our objectives; to promote and establish a category of Denturist throughout the world, to provide a strong source of inspiration and to a wider audience.

We highly appreciate those who worked tirelessly to obtain success in this task. The IFD received support from three major sponsors: VITA, Ivoclar Vivadent and Candulor. They are our white knights! I would like to thank all three these sponsors for their investment in our objectives; to promote and establish a category of Denturist throughout the world, to provide a strong source of inspiration and to a wider audience.

On behalf of all members of the IFD, I would like to express our gratitude to the Swiss Denturist Association for their hospitality and for hosting our Board meeting recently. At the same time I wish to extend a huge welcome to all to attend the 10th World Symposium on Denturism 2017 in Canada later this year. We have reason to believe it will be the best ever.

We wish you the very best for 2017.

Tony Sarrapuchiello DD – IFD President
EDITORIAL: Looking to the future, from our roots

by Duffy Malherbe - Editor

When the IFD Board gathered in Switzerland a few months ago, a full circle was completed back to our roots, by celebrating the 60th anniversary since the launch of the IFD in Zurich, during 1956. It is indeed a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the vision and the ambition of our pioneer founders. Their aim was to improve their services to the denture wearing public and to support fellow denture-makers in achieving professional standing as direct service providers. The IFD was formed to assist member countries in overcoming monopolies and learning from the combined experience of others, to advance the practice of Denturism. That vision remains topical today!

Currently we can look back at more than 40 jurisdictions internationally with legislated regulation and some 25 educational institutions from where students can qualify with professional Denturist qualifications. The IFD has established a baseline competency guide that sets minimum standards for training of Denturists. To underpin the importance of quality education, we have embarked on a process to establish guidelines to set standards for international accreditation of our educational programs.

Last year the IFD established the first generation of a living Policy Statement to guide the benchmark identity of Denturists in terms of Education, Scope of Practice and redefining liaisons within the Oral Health Team. This document is available on our website and will be updated from time to time to reflect the essence and trends within the profession. In the European Union for example, by presenting our IFD Policy Statement, practitioners gain to be recognized professionally. Indeed, during the AGM we celebrated when the news broke that the Belgium Minister of Health announced at a press conference that legislated status will be granted for Denturists. Every new jurisdiction added on the world map of recognition, benefits the oral health of patients and is a victory for all Denturists!

With the support of our stakeholders and the public we serve, Denturists are stating that we are taking our place with dignity, beside other internationally recognized and respected Oral Health professionals.

To experience the common purpose and camaraderie amongst the dedicated AGM delegates from diverse locations, remains an enriching experience that lifts the spirit. One of the excursions the delegates could participate in, was a boat trip across Lake Lucerne and taking the world’s steepest cogwheel railway at 48%, up to the top of Mount Pilatus. From a vista at 7000 feet above sea level, with its spectacular views of the majestic surrounding Alps and the lakes far below; it really felt like being on top of the world. There we had the pleasure of enjoying lunch at the Queen Victoria Restaurant, decorated for royalty, in the Pilatus-Kulm Hotel.

One couldn’t help but notice the IFD reservation card next to the menu, depicting the panoramic view from the mountain. What a profound symbolic vision: The International Federation of Denturists were booked, our presence reserved with legal right, on top of the world. From that vantage point at a royal table, the opportunity presented to make the prophetic gesture; to declare legal ground for Denturism over the nations and proclaim globalized recognition. We claim it morally and call it to manifest in the natural realm!

We have a vision, not merely a dream any longer, but a tangible expectancy, of globalized Denturism! Sometime in the future, Denturists will have the freedom of opportunity to relocate to any place in the world and be welcomed to practice our appreciated calling. The IFD continues to grow from strength to strength and with the assistance of our sponsors, achieve our objectives. To practitioners it means keeping their focus on the noble goals of good oral health and general health, by restoring our patients’ self-esteem, human dignity and the ability to eat, talk and smile with confidence!
Our Annual General Meeting was held at Lucerne in Switzerland during the last week of September 2016. We spent a wonderful week of both working and visiting this remarkable tourist destination with its charming riverside restaurants. Besides indulging in decadent Swiss chocolates, we managed to make significant progress regarding the objectives of the International Federation of Denturists.

The first day was devoted to a training session in respect of which we were proud to be the sponsor, provided by VITA, at their nearby facility in Germany. Our delegation was received with the highest esteem. We were given a welcoming word by Vita's MD, followed by a training session about their products, digital denture production and a typical German lunch at their cafeteria.

Then we went on a tour of their very modern manufacturing plant and gained valuable insight into mould production, composite teeth production and the robotic tooth production plant. Later the afternoon we went on a guided tour of a famous German brewery, located in the Black Forest area. After a hearty dinner with local German cuisine, the bus took us back to our hotel.

The following evening, the SZPV, aka the Denturist Association of Switzerland, hosted us in a welcoming event, sporting a quality local orchestra. At this occasion the Sterkenburger Medallion was presented to Urban Christen Mendez in recognition of his loyal services to the Federation. We honour his contribution and thank him for his hard work towards global denturism progress.

On the Wednesday and Thursday, we conducted our Annual General Meeting in a magnificent boardroom. Mr Andre Baur, President of the Denturist Association of Switzerland expressed his pleasure to receive us in their country. He gave an overview of their progress and wished us well with our advocacy work, to reach our objectives. During our meeting, we discussed and contemplated numerous topical issues and received the annual reports from member countries. We had a constructive meeting and are pleased to confirm that our country representatives are doing excellent work. We discussed the topic and criteria required for international accreditation of denturist training programs. This has been a matter of great interest for many years and I believe we will eventually succeed. Although we still have much work to do, the process is now established on a sound basis.
On the Wednesday evening, we received the call of victory for Denturism acceptance in Belgium. The profession will now be recognised and Denturists can indeed be very proud. We celebrate with our Belgian colleagues, for finally achieving the breakthrough for professional recognition after their struggle of 41 years. Thank you for your dedication and congratulations to Matthias Luypaert, Jean-Pierre Bacquaert, Marcel Kortleven, Raphael Henderix and the UBDD. It is such a timely reward to eventually succeed and is a victory for Denturists globally.

After concluding another successful AGM, delegates had the option of an exclusive day excursion to Mount Pilatus. First we embarked on a romantic boat trip hugging the shores of picturesque Lake Lucerne, enjoying tasty snacks and wonderful companionship, catching up with old friends and building new relationships. Then we took a unique cogwheel train up the rock face to the mountain's summit, exceptional for its breath-taking beauty and spectacular panoramic views of the Alps. After another wonderful lunch we descended via a smooth aerial cableway over steep chasms and then transferred to smaller gondolas over the treetops.

Our Annual General Meeting in Switzerland proved to be enriching both with regards to the valuable work done and the memorable leisure events! Many thanks, to Urban Christen Mendez and the SZPV, who organized such a wonderful occasion for us! We will cherish the memories. We trust and have reason to be confident that the experience next year in Canada, during the 10th World Symposium on Denturism 2017 will be as enjoyable and rewarding. Many thanks in advance, to the Denturist Association of Québec for the huge task they are performing, with regards to organizing the arrangements for the World Symposium next year. See you there!
During the welcoming function, on the evening prior to the IFD Annual General Meeting in Lucerne, Switzerland, Urban Christen-Mendez was given recognition for his outstanding contribution to the Denturist profession and as a prominent member of the Education Committee of the IFD. He was ordained into the prestigious Brotherhood of Sterkenburgers, in the presence of numerous colleagues from the SZPV and international delegates attending the AGM. During his induction speech, IFD President Tony Sarrapuchiello, hailed Urban as an exceptional member of the Federation, who sincerely carries out his duties as a member and as our Sponsor's representative, with the utmost honour and respect.

Urban has contributed much to the profession. He works for national recognition of the profession in all cantons, to serve the people of Switzerland. He is an active member of SZPV (Schweizerischer Zahnprothetiker Verband) in the position Delegate for International Affairs, and long-time serving representative for Switzerland to the IFD. Urban is also an active member of the Education Committee of the IFD. As a member of the European Committee of the IFD, he works with the European Commission to further the cause of Denturism throughout the EU. What he is achieving is admirable, but he has also been of fundamental assistance to the IFD, by negotiating sponsorships that will allow our organisation to fulfil our worldwide mission. Any international mission, even as noble as ours, would be daunting and difficult to achieve without sufficient financial support.

Urban is well-qualified and holds the following credentials:

- **Denturism Diploma** from George Brown College, Toronto, Canada.
- **Diploma in Clinical Dental Technology** from the Faculty of General Dental Practice, Royal College of Surgeons, England, UK.
- **Certificate in Dental Radiography** from the School of Chemistry and Physics, at Keele University in Great Britain.
- **Certified Dental Technician** in Switzerland.
- **Diploma in Economy and Business Management** from the Swiss Institute of Business Management.
- Formerly Swiss Dental Technician Diploma Examiner (Full Denture, Gerber Concept).
- **Head Trainer** for VITA - Instructor for complete Dentures.

Urban’s outstanding contribution to the profession is much appreciated! He has earned the gratitude and respect of the International Federation of Denturists for his many years of dedication and we anticipate his continued devotion for many more years. We recognize you, Urban Christen-Mendez, and honour you as a member of the Brotherhood of Sterkenburgers!

---

**Urban Christen-Mendez (Switzerland) congratulated by fellow Sterkenburgers: Michael Vout (Canada), Eric Englebrecht (Netherlands), Tony Sarrapuchiello (IFD President) and Paul Levasseur (USA).**
Member countries of the IFD include: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Malta, Mauritius, New Zealand, Poland, Republic of Ireland, Spain, Slovak Republic, South Africa, St. Kitts and Nevis, Switzerland, The Netherlands, United Kingdom and United States. Many of these countries have well-established legislated recognition with normalized denturism practice, others are still in transit. Member countries of the IFD are geographically grouped to report through the jurisdiction of 3 regional areas: Europe, AustralAsiaAfrica and Northern America. The following news has been compiled to provide a fresh overview of the efforts to establish and maintain the profession globally, wherever there is a need for denture services.

• Europe
  ○ Belgium:
The Royal Decree 78 of 1967 that regulated healthcare professionals, makes way after 50 years for a new integrated legal framework that will end the divisions within Belgium healthcare, with a specific focus on quality assurance. The Minister of Social Affairs and Public Health, Dr. Maggie De Block, announced that the reformed legislation has a focused interdisciplinary approach through competent health care providers and will be tailored to meet patients’ needs. After extensive consultation involving all stakeholders, a new dispensation is evolving to meet the demographic requirements with the intention of providing patients with the best possible quality of health care at the lowest possible price, regardless of where and when they are needed. The Minister recognizes three basic conditions for quality health care; that health care providers on site must be competent, patient care should be organized in a multidisciplinary integrated manner, and the patient must be actively involved in the treatment planning. On the 28th September 2016 the Minister announced the introduction of 10 new paramedical categories, including Denturism. On 20 January 2017 the UBDD (Unie van Belgische gediplomeerde Denturisten) had a very positive interview with the Commission of Paramedical professions, despite the prior negative propaganda by the Dental Association. After a long and arduous battle that has been waged for 41 years, Denturism will now officially be recognised by the Belgium Government as an autonomous profession in the dental field, along with Dentists and Dental Hygienists/Assistants. This is the most significant event in the history of the UBDD, with major implications for the profession as a whole. This anti-monopolistic breakthrough is indeed good news for Oral Health Care, to normalise denture provision for Belgium denture wearers. It may have a ripple effect that could spark other Denturism reforms within the EU, especially for those seeking recognition status.

The Treaty of Rome provides for the freedom of movement of workers within member countries of the EU. Clear occupational and competency profiles are compiled for each profession, creating a dynamic scope of practice and exposing the richness and versatility of the services, which will include education of the “health literacy” of the patient. An extensive control mechanism is introduced, to prevent health care providers from exceeding their competencies. All healthcare professionals have their own expertise and should cooperate with each other and refer patients when required, to assure the best possible patient care, through a streamlined multidisciplinary team. During the next few years the legal framework for the practice of health care will be reviewed totally and reformed to anchor the quality of health care for the future. These changes will dramatically impact the life of the 146 qualified Denturists. There are two private schools for Denturists. In future the training will become a University course. The Belgium Denturist Association or in Flemish the UBDD, functions under the management of Claude Croonen (President) and Vice-president Raphael Henderix, Secretary Matthias Luypaert, Treasurer Jean-Pierre Bacquart and councillors Herman Van Hoorde, Marcel Kortleven, Olivier Ramelot and Claude Georges. The IFD representative is Matthias Luypaert.

○ Denmark:
Denmark is the only country in the world where dentists never succeeded in monopolizing the provision of dentures. Denturism has been established legally in Denmark since 1843 when the Danish Supreme Court ruled that “the production and fitting of dentures was not included in the domain of dentists”. A Danish dental technician successfully defended an illegal practice suit against him and was allowed to continue to practice under a special judicial proclamation. Organized Dentistry has tried numerous times to fight the profession, without success. In 1913, a parliamentary commission declared that dentists could not have a monopoly on Prosthetics, because the public would then have to pay more for their dentures.
The profession is well established and regulated by the Clinical Dental Technicians Act of 1979. After 4 years vocational training at the Copenhagen Technical College, a dental technician can qualify to become a denture clinician by doing an additional 2 year course at the Royal Dental University at Aarhus. During the recent IFD meeting in Lucerne, Danish representative, Dr. Helga Largren, presented the Clinical Dental Technician degree program at the Aarhus University in Denmark. The curriculum contains clinical and practical sessions, demonstrations and theoretical lessons in small groups, as well as combined lectures for all oral health students. Academic regulations specify the training, which contains 10% biological and medical subjects, 85% clinical disciplines and 5% behavioral sciences.

- **Finland**
No Finnish dentist suffered financially due to the introduction of Denturism, according to studies at the time by Prof Risto Tuominen, a leading academic from Helsinki University. Dentists only lost 2.4% turnover due to the new category being deployed, but were more than sufficiently rewarded for - by the patients referred to them by denturists. After 50 years of appreciated practice and integration in society, they are widely accepted and referrals to and from dentists is common procedure. Finland is a sparsely populated country with a freezing climate and experiences a shortage of dentists. Other Scandinavian countries such as Sweden, as well as Iceland and Greenland face similar challenges. The Erikoishammasteknikiholaitos ry (EHTL), the registered Union of Denturists in Finland, was established in 1979. It has 320 members. The Union provides its members with practical assistance, education and professional advice. They are concerned about training too many denturists, but acknowledges that many denturists will be reaching retirement age soon. The EHTL is led by Ilkka Garaisi and Deputy President Tapani Korkeala. The curriculum for the Denturism course at Helsinki University is being overhauled and the clinical course for 2017 at Kuopio University will be in Finnish and English, to accommodate foreign students, especially from Baltic countries. An amendment to the 1964 Act is being prepared with the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, to expand the scope of practice of Denturists to include the provision of partial dentures independently.

- **Malta**
The Malta Dental Technology Association (MDTA) is affiliated to both IFD and the European Federation of Dental Technicians (FEPPD). It has two influential representatives, one serving as FEPPD Secretary General, the other as European Committee and Accreditation Committee member of the IFD. The MDTA continues to lead in various EU initiatives, including the Medical Devices Directorate and the EU directive on professional qualifications related to partial access, within the scope of practice for Denturists. Several positional papers were submitted to the EU Commission in response to consultation calls, regarding general, single market policies and cross border movement of health services, with the aim of improving the interests for Denturists. MDTA similarly chaired important meetings in Brussels to create awareness, at EU level of the Commission, involving the partial access issues addressed within the EU Directives of Medical Devices and Professional Qualifications. For the past few years the MDTA has been involved in a drawn-out legal battle for recognition of Clinical Dental Technicians. The preceding Judge has upheld 4 of the 5 claims submitted by the MDTA. On one of these claims, the Honourable Judge insisted on a preliminary ruling by the European Court of Justice, before final judgement by the Maltese Courts. On the 2nd of March 2017, MDTA and its Legal Advisor, will be attending an oral hearing in Luxembourg, in rebuttal to submissions made by Denturists’ adversaries. The MDTA is hopeful to conclude the court case successfully this year. They have reached this stage of high level litigation with the appreciated support and assistance from the IFD. A positive conclusion will not only be a huge breakthrough for Malta, but could establish a legal precedent for the rest of all EU Member States.

- **Switzerland**
Legislation in this alpine country differs from one canton to another and sometimes causes confusion about what is allowed by denturists. In Zurich, where the training is provided, non-invasive practices by denturists are performed on full, partial and all removable dentures. Swiss dentists’ training for full and partial dentures is completed in a meagre 18 hours, compared to 550 hours for the denturist course, yet the Dental Association are trying to justify that dentists check and sign-off denturist’s work, in order to claim from health insurance. The good news from Switzerland is that the 2 denturist organizations have agreed in principle to join and will unite later this year. Hosting the IFD meeting last year in Lucerne, energized the local practitioners and they are enthusiastic to get their
house in order. The priorities for the near future are to attain national acceptance for the profession in all cantons, standardize their scope of practice and normalize claiming procedures from health insurance. The proposed new training program could easily accommodate neighboring German students and possibly assist the reinstatement of the profession in Germany.

- AustralAsiaAfrica
  - Australia
  
  Dental prosthetists has been regulated in Australia since the introduction of the 1958 Tasmanian Dental Act, followed by all six states and two territories, which took 36 years for national adoption.

  Unification of all states’ and territories’ associations into one national body was finalised in July 2016 to consolidate the profession for the 1200 Dental Prosthetists across the country; and to encourage excellence in the provision of denture services to all Australians. Reflecting on the many years of hard work to achieve this, ADPA President, John Rompotis, paid tribute to the countless people who strove to bring together dental prosthetists around Australia. John said: “The wider Australian dental prosthetist community has come so far, and we are now an integral part of the dental team.” Fragmented regional oral health regulations have been updated by a national law under jurisdiction of the Australian Dental Council. All clinician categories within the dental team (dentists, dental prosthetists, dental therapists, oral hygienists) are recognised as dental practitioners, each category performing their own expert subset of dentistry, all sharing the same Code of Ethics and all committed to the practice of patient-centered dentistry.

  John noted the focuses of the newly-unified Australian Dental Prosthetists Association (ADPA), which include advocacy, member engagement, education and governance. “Being a single organization allows us to strategically analyze and action our advocacy across quite a complex series of government organizations,” John observed. “For example, we have in Australia a federal or national government, and then eight states and territories, all of whom operate differently in some areas, and yet have commonality in others. Even at state level, there are regional health districts which contract their services out and so we can focus our attention across the regional, state and national levels, and bring together a big picture approach which takes into consideration each issue holistically. It also means we are able to leverage our work within the wider dental profession, including enhancing our efforts with the associations which represent dentists and dental hygienists.”

  “We are increasingly using social media, YouTube updates, and targeted e-news, underpinned by a year’s plan of events around the country so that members can link into their association the way they prefer. This also relates to how we run our education events, and recognizing that some people like the face-to-face interaction, while others are happy with online training. It is about understanding our members, making the time to listen to them, and putting them at the heart of their association.”

- South Africa
  
  Parliamentary Archives show evidence of pleas for recognition of a class of direct denture-makers before Select Committees of Parliament (1923 & 1924). Legislated recognition became a reinstated goal since 1984, for those dental technicians aspiring to clinical ambitions. Motivational reports were submitted to the Competitions Board (1989) and the Minister of Health (1990 & 1998). Several workshops were conducted by the South African Dental Technology Council (SADTC) in an attempt to involve all stakeholders. This process went through various progressions. The Society for Clinical Dental Technology (SCDT) was launched in 1998 as a professional body, to steer the introduction of a class of Clinical Dental Technologist (CDT) in South Africa. A crude definition for CDT was introduced in the 1997 Dental Technicians Amendment Act, but could not be realized for various reasons.

  The history of suppression of supplementary OH categories by Organized Dentistry prevented the introduction of Denturism, inhibited the potential of existing categories and dictated who may serve the oral health (OH) needs of South African society. Despite the deployment of OH specialists, GP dentists, dental technicians, oral hygienists, chairside assistants and dental therapists, the OH needs of the multitudes are not adequately met. Natural resources provide the country with middle-income status, but huge disparities remain between rich and poor. A small minority of the population effectively subsidizes the multitudes through taxation. The dentist/patient ratio is inadequate for the total populace. Many rural societies can’t sustain private dental practice. Due to more pressing priorities, the State has virtually no budget for denture provision. Especially the vulnerable, the poor and the aged needs assistance.

  The excellent level of education of both dentists and dental technicians in South Africa, contrasts with the inferior standard of dentures often observed. In the Western Cape Province, the practice of extraction of healthy teeth under the guise of the “Cape Flats Smile”-culture, together with the unsavoury denture supply by untrained, unregulated backdoor-quacks, adds to the dilemma. The growing popularity of street-dentistry, trading in questionable materials, contributes to the spreading of infectious diseases. For some 30 years the SA Dental Association refused to be drawn into a transparent debate with stakeholders about instituting Denturism locally, but the SCDT continued to voice their motivation to the SADTC and via the local Dental Technology Journal, international publications and social media. There are about 70 expatriated South Africans in exile, who emigrated to pursue a career in Denturism, as their calling. They are already qualified and experienced. They are working overseas and cannot return to serve the unmet needs of local communities, because the training and deployment of the category is labelled as illegal, due to the dentists’ monopoly.

  During 2014 the statutory regulator of Dental Technology, the SADTC, held another CDT workshop as part of their legislation review program. Three international presentations highlighted international benchmarking and the local need for the category.

  Subsequently the SADTC took a principle decision to accommodate the regulation and additional training DTs would require, to be re-registered as CDTs (as specialized dental technicians), within the ambit of the proposed legislative amendments.
In November 2015 an international associate, Mr. Ismail Larney, clinician-lecturer at the Sydney TAFE, presented a position paper about the advantages of Denturism, to the Oral Health Stakeholders Consultative Committee (OHSCC) of the Department of Health. He drew a parallel between the inadequate services by dentists/dental technicians in Australia prior to introducing the category, with the current frustration still prevailing in South Africa.

In November 2016 Mr. Duffy Malherbe from the SCDT presented another motivation to the OHSCC, for the introduction of a category of Clinical Dental Technologist. He reflected furthermore on the struggle to get the matter on the Agenda and the dire unmet needs of the people, especially in rural communities and amongst the vulnerable.

On the 9th of December 2016 the proposed South African Dental Technology Professions Bill was published by the SADTC in the Government Gazette, for comment by stakeholders before the 15th of April 2017. Provision is made in the Bill for registration and regulation of CDT as a new supplementary OH profession in South Africa.

It seems the long overdue debate is now inevitable, to normalize denture services. The SCDT will provide feedback of the next chapter, as it unfolds.

Other jurisdictions:
In the next edition of our Newsletter, we will provide updates about the activities from other countries; including the Northern American countries of Canada and the USA, the European countries of Ireland, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, as well as New Zealand. We are also attempting to obtain current feedback from the initiatives to gain recognition in Germany, France and Mauritius.

IDS Top News: Innovative Lab Solutions by VITA Zahndfabrik

At the IDS 2017 in Cologne, VITA Zahndfabrik will present new process-safe and efficient lab solutions for highly esthetic results.

Ready for practice: digital denture 2.0

The first fully digital system VITA VIONIC® SOLUTIONS makes digital full dentures practicable and economical. The crucial difference comes from the VITA VIONIC® tooth library with its set-up intelligence. It enables 1,500 functional scenarios for the three leading CAD solutions: 3Shape, Exocad and Dental Wings. Thus enables digitally fabricated full dentures in excellent quality. The material concept of VITA VIONIC® is available for the Ceramill® Motion 2 (Amann Girrbach) as well as for other CAM system partners. With digital precision and no intermediate manual steps the VITA VIONIC® SOLUTION stands for modern denture fabrication. After basal computer-aided grinding, the denture teeth VITAPAN EXCEL® and VITAPAN® LINGOFORM fit in the VITA VIONIC® BASE easily. Together with the special bonder VITA VIONIC® BOND, they can be glued into the PMMA base quickly, precisely and reliably.

IFD Sponsors:
What a tooth!

VITAPAN EXCELL® is the designated follower of the legendary VITAPAN® denture tooth. Following natural examples, the highly esthetic tooth enables a practicable and efficient laboratory use for all prosthetic disciplines. Created as an absolute all-rounder, esthetic concepts of natural morphology and surface texture for brilliant play of shade and light are consistently met. Due to its three-dimensional anatomical architecture in multiple layers and its well-balanced shade gradient from neck to incisal area, the tooth appears very dynamic. The expanded palatal ridge makes an optimized modeling of the papilla possible. Perfect tooth axes and angles support an easy and harmonious set-up. The proven composite material VITA MRP (Micro filler Reinforced Polymer) provides safe workability and outstanding abrasion stability.

Layer composite just like ceramics

With VITA VM® LC flow a complete composite veneering system from dentin core to incisal area will become available; the full shade spectrum of VITA VM LC® BASE DENTINE materials will be launched as flow-materials from the IDS on. All framework materials can therefore be individualized with the same layering concepts, as used with VITA VM ceramics, as all the different shades and effect materials are available. Moreover, the handling properties from the dentin core onwards are similar to the ceramic layering procedure, dental technicians are used to. Thanks to its flowable consistency, the composite can be either applied directly with the syringe, or layered with a brush from a mixing plate. Its thixotropic nature guarantees stability and allows for layering, without intermediate polymerization.

Would you like more details?
Visit us at the IDS 2017 in Cologne, from 21-25 March at our booth D-010 in exhibition hall 10.1.
We look forward to welcoming you!
10th World Symposium on Denturism 2017
In health and innovation mode

SEMINARS • TRADE SHOW • GALA
September 27 to 30, 2017 • Hotel Mortagne Boucherville • Quebec, Canada

Some sponsors have already confirmed their participation

DIAMOND

Dentsply Sirona

GOLD

Implant Direct
livoclar vivadent
Lussier Dale Parizeau

SILVER

Patterson Dental/Penteaire
Panthena
VITA
Zimmer Biomet

THE 2017 DENTURIST MEETING NOT TO BE MISSED!

Upcoming program and registration!
www.adq-qc.com/symposium2017

Presented by:
Association des Denturologistes du Quebec
In partnership with:
IFD

In collaboration with:
Centre d’etudes et de formation en denturologie

IFD Sponsors:

VITA
ivoclar vivadent
Candulor
The date has been set, the hotel booked, the theme established. The 10th edition of the World Symposium on Denturism will be held here in Quebec! From the 27th September through to the 30th of September 2017, more than 400 denturists, dentists, dental technicians and representatives of commercial partners from Canada, the USA, Australia, the UK, Africa and Europe will converge on the Hotel Mortagne in Boucherville, Quebec.

As host, the Denturist Association of Québec (ADQ) is already busy orchestrating this event in a healthy and innovative manner, a task it is performing together with the International Federation of Denturists and in collaboration with the Denturist Association of Canada and the Centre québécois de formation en denturologie. This is the perfect opportunity to hear internationally renowned speakers, meet over 50 exhibitors at the trade show and network with colleagues from around the world. All close to home (or almost for some)!

SPONSORS AND EXHIBITORS

It’s time to negotiate your visibility as a sponsor* and to reserve your space as an exhibitor. More than 400 visitors are expected, so take this opportunity to promote your products and services with denturist professionals. We will implement the policy of first come, first served. Do not delay, reservation spots are going fast!

*Only for ADQ partners. To be considered a partner of the Association, you must have signed an annual partnership agreement for 2017. Discover the benefits of becoming a partner of ADQ and observe the rates for 2017.
Historic Origin of the IFD:

To understand where one is heading, it is important to appreciate and respect ones history! At the 60th commemoration of the birth of our organization, it is appropriate to recall our humble beginnings and honor the founders of the movement. Although Denturism, in one form or another, has been in existence since the beginning of civilization, it is a relatively new profession in its current form in the modern era. Since its origin, modern Dentistry has grown and diversified into many branches and specialties globally. The progression has resulted in the Denturism-discipline, comprised of modern-day professional Denturist practitioners, specialized in the field of removable oral prostheses. Dentistry itself is an occupation that has emerged as an independent practice from Medicine, even though the practice of some subsets of Dentistry may indeed be as old as humanity itself. During the first half of the 19th century the modern dental profession was legally established through legislation. With it came the school-trained era and an orchestrated effort to monopolize every aspect of services related to the oral health sciences. By monopolizing the provision of dentures for themselves, Organized Dentistry made the practice of Denturism a felony and as a result providers of dentures by non-dentists, was unjustly repressed. Any practicing denture-maker who did not have the school training to qualify as a Dentist, was prosecuted for a "crime". Greater numbers and economic power of Dentists made for an unequal contest to lobby for justice.

In 1956 three Dental Technicians met in Zurich, to discuss a mutual professional passion, which led to the formation of a body for international collaboration. They were:
- Rolf Pfenninger from Zurich in Switzerland,
- Hannes Steibler from Vienna in Austria, and
- Stephan Grabert from Gelsenkirchen in Germany.

They shared the same conviction about the unacceptable level of denture satisfaction of denture wearers, due to the communication barrier between the consumer and the person making the denture, with the Dentist in between, doing the clinical measurement procedures. Crucial information that was needed to make an aesthetical denture for the patient was commonly omitted on the prescription from the go-between clinician, including the gender, age, or personality of the patient and lip support required. A "custom-made" denture, made in isolation from the consumer, invariably led to an unsatisfactory appliance and dissatisfaction with both professions. There was an established dream to better serve the needs of denture wearers, which would address the limitations created by the communication barrier with consumers; dominated by the inefficiency of a fragmented go-between system. They were motivated by a vision of direct services, representing hope and justice, to improve service-efficiency for the patient and personal work-satisfaction through excellence! Despite the daunting reality of inevitable opposition by organized Dentistry and the difficulty of revoking the monopoly through local parliaments in individual countries, they realised the advantage that could be gained from mutual teamwork. A vision of international co-operation between groups of "denture-makers" who shared this passion of an expanded scope of practice, to satisfy the needs and requirements of their patients and to work together towards reaching legalized status as denture clinicians, was declared. Subsequently the Internationale Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Zahnprothetiker (IAZ) was formed. In English it was called the International Federation of Denturists (IFD) and in French, the Federation Internationale des Denturologistes (FID). The official designation of the movement was the IAZ/IFD/FID. The headquarters of the Federation is the office of the Secretariat and the official languages were German, English and French.

At the 1993 Congress held in Denmark, it was decided for practical purposes to change the official working language to English and amalgamate all three titles by adopting the English title of International Federation of Denturists (IFD). Initially the European countries were rather active to establish the Federation and to gain legal status for the new category. A number of countries in Europe and Scandinavia established legislated recognition for the category in those early years. However, as recognition status was established throughout Canada and Australia, and parts of the USA, the initiative-momentum became truly international.

Denturists are trusted professionals with whom patients have personal relationships and whose integrity, competence and loyalty is assured. Across the world, despite differences in language, legislation and custom, Denturists/ Dental Prosthetists/ Clinical Dental Technicians/ Denturologists/ Tandprothetici have imposed upon themselves substantially the same standards. The emphasis is placed on protecting public interests. Denturists are proud to belong to provincial, national and international associations. They are proud of being professionals united with other professionals, as they continue to maintain high standards in their patient-centred services. Denturism is as much at home in highly industrialized countries as in "third world" or deprived communities, due to the freedom of choice, improved efficiency, savings and the level of denture satisfaction it creates for denture wearers.