

Press release, May 30, 2008

Astra Tech and 3M ESPE Announce Partnership to Bring Atlantis Patient-Specific Implant Abutments Directly to Lava Milling and Design Customers

Molndal May 30, 2008 3M ESPE and Astra Tech AB, a leader and innovator in the dental implant industry, announce a global partnership to provide Astra Tech's Atlantis patient-specific abutments to 3M ESPE Lava customers. The two companies have developed an interface which will enable the Lava Scan ST Design System to communicate directly with Astra Tech's Atlantis technology.

This new development will enable Lava Scan ST users to transfer digital scan information of the patient's oral geometry to Astra Tech's Atlantis design and manufacturing facilities worldwide. This eliminates the need to, and lowers the cost of, shipping physical models. In addition, this connectivity reduces the overall turn around time for the abutment; a key benefit to the customer.

The partnership with 3M ESPE is a strategic milestone which will further strengthen Astra Tech's leading position within the area of digital implant dentistry, says Peter Selley, CEO of Sweden based Astra Tech Group. In our ongoing efforts to increase the reliability and simplicity of our therapy solutions, adopting the 3M ESPE digital scan technology further enhances our ability to provide the best patient-specific solution for implant restorations.

This is an important step in 3M ESPE's strategy to enable end-to-end digital workflow for our customers, says Wayne Roen, director of digital restorative dentistry, 3M ESPE.

We're delighted to be working with Astra Tech. Atlantis high-quality, implant abutments are a natural complement to the excellent marginal fit, strength and esthetics of Lava zirconia restorations.

Astra Tech and 3M ESPE have jointly developed the capability. The companies anticipate the commercial launch in the United States later in 2008 with other markets to follow. The companies also anticipate future collaboration to create additional digital workflow solutions that further enhance the efficiency of dental laboratory customers and enable product innovation.

For more information: Visit Astra Tech www.astratechdental.com or call Björn Delin,
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For free press images, visit www.astratechdental.com

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.

In 2007, Astra Tech acquired the US company Atlantis Components, Inc. The acquisition gave Astra Tech access to the latest CAD/CAM technology for individually fabricated abutments based on each patient's individual needs.

Astra Tech's headquarters and production facilities are located in Mölndal, near Gothenburg, Sweden. The company operates globally through 16 subsidiaries and selected local partners. In North America, it is represented by Astra Tech Inc., 890 Winter Street, Waltham, MA 02451. Phone: 781-890-6800.

About 3M ESPE

3M ESPE manufactures and markets more than 2,000 products and services designed to help dental professionals improve their patients' oral health care. 3M Health Care, one of 3M's six major business segments, provides world-class innovative products and services to help health care professionals improve the practice and delivery of patient care in medical, oral care, drug delivery and health information markets. For more information on the complete 3M ESPE line of dental products visit the 3M ESPE Web site at www.3MESPE.com or call the 3M ESPE Technical Hotline at 1-800-634-2249. Products are available for purchase through authorized 3M ESPE distributors.

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