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EXCLUSIVE

Dental Products Report is one of the primary media partners for the PRIDE INSTITUTE'S "BEST OF CLASS" TECHNOLOGY FAIR. We'll provide coverage on the honorees throughout the year.

VOICE

CLASS IS IN SESSION, PART IV

A look at four of the 16 winners recognized by The Pride Institute as "Best of Class" in 2011.

Compiled by STAN GOFF

Acknowledging the dynamic decision making that comes from bringing great minds and great dentists together, once again this year's honorees were selected by a distinguished panel of dental professionals. Beginning in July—and wrapping up with this issue—we have highlighted four of the 16 honorees in each issue. You'll find both general information about what the product brings

to the table as well as feedback from one of the panelists on what helps the product stand out in its competitive set. Interviews, education and hands-on demonstrations at the "Best of Class" Technology Fair at this year's ADA Annual Session in Las Vegas this month will allow you to experience each product on your own and decide if it's good for your practice.

KERR CORP.'S SONICFILL

SonicFill is described as the only easy-to-use, sonic-activated, bulk fill composite system for posterior restorations that requires no additional capping layer. Proprietary sonic activation enables a rapid flow of composite into the cavity for effortless placement and optimal adaptation.

It's that fast, easy and effective—greatly reducing procedure time.

Now you can go from placement to a polished restoration in less than 3 minutes on cavities up to 5 mm in depth. SonicFill Advantages include: effortless placement; optimal adaptation; easy contouring without stickiness; no need for 2 mm incremental layering; no final capping layer required; and 20 second full depth of cure.



The Panelist's Perspective:

Dr. Parag Kachalia

Q: How did you first find out about this product?

A: I was actually fortunate enough to be the principle investigator on a pilot clinical study we ran at the University of the Pacific, Arthur A. Dugoni, School of Dentistry. Like most I was very skeptical of the device because it seemed too good to be true. I had a hard time wrapping my brain around the substantial change in composite restorations. Historically, I have been a strong believer in incrementally layering of composite to minimize shrinkage stress and sensitivity and the thought of bulk filling a restoration went against everything that I do as well as teach my students to do. SonicFill is truly a game changer and a new paradigm in dentistry.

Q: Describe the situations in which you've seen the product in use.

A: I have personally used it on a number of Class I and II restorations in my own practice and at the university our students placed 48 restorations on actual patients with less than 5 minutes of training. When we examined these patients at 3- and 6-months after restoration placement there was no difference compared to traditional composite application. Patients didn't report any sensitivity issues and the margins were in great shape.

Q: In light of the product's performance in these situations, what, in your opinion, sets it apart in the industry?

A: There really isn't another product SonicFill can be compared to. The handpiece is able to take a highly filled composite, apply energy via sonic vibration, and cause a phase shift in the material. This phase shift allows the proprietary composite to flow into the depths of our restorations and then incrementally regain body, so that the material can be contoured and anatomical form can be sculpted. As long as the depth is less than 5 mm one increment can be placed and the restoration can be cured. An additional benefit on SonicFill is the chameleon like effect of composite itself. The composite is able to pick-up the adjacent tooth color and blend into the patient's dentition.

Q: If you had to summarize why a dentist should purchase this product or switch to this product, what three reasons would you highlight?

A: 1. Highly predictable placement of posterior composites; 2. Efficiency in process; 3. Ease of use, being that it has a very low learning curve.

