FDI closes Annual World Dental Congress in Singapore
World Dental Federation appoints new president and invites to Brazil

Daniel Zimmermann

SINGAPORE/LEIPZIG, Germany: Singapore has a long and successful relationship with the dental profession. The city-state hosts the oldest running dental school in Asia; the first implants were placed here by Dr Henry Lee almost 20 years ago. Nowadays, the island boosts a workforce of over 1,000 dentists that are educated internationally and make use of state-of-the-art equipment.

Large international manufacturers, such as 3M ESPE and Straumann, have taken advantage of Singapore’s position as a trading hub and serve most of their customers in the Asia Pacific region from here. With IDEM Singapore, the city also hosts a dental trade show every two years that attracts dental professionals not only from Singapore, but also from other countries in Southeast Asia.

It was no surprise that the FDI World Dental Federation, which represents the interests of dentists globally, decided to organise yet another one of their Annual World Dental Congresses (AWDC) in Singapore. An AWDC was held here in 1990 and the FDI has been cooperating with the Singapore Dental Association (SDA) in organising IDEM Singapore’s scientific programme for almost four years.

This year’s congress was held in conjunction with Singapore’s Oral Health Month, an annual campaign that aims to improve oral health by offering free dental screenings to every Singaporean. According to the latest Adult Oral Health Survey conducted island-wide in 2003, almost half (46 per cent) of the respondents indicated that they visit the dentist at least once a year; the average mean DMFT was 8.1 and about 10 per cent of the respondents were caries free. An SDA spokesperson said that more than 200 private dentists would be participating in the screenings that would take place on weekends over the course of September.

Dental Tribune Asia Pacific was one of the first local editions published by the Dental Tribune International (DTI) media group. The first edition appeared in April 2002. Currently, the newspaper reaches over 30,000 dental professionals in 25 countries, including Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong, the Philippines and Australia, to name a few.

Extra

DT Asia Pacific does well in readers’ poll

Dentists in Asia find Dental Tribune Asia Pacific to be up-to-date and applicable to their practice, a readers’ poll conducted at the FDI World Dental Congress in Singapore has revealed. More than 85 per cent of those interviewed said that they would recommend the newspaper to a colleague. Topics readers were most interested in were science & research (24 per cent), followed by world news (21 per cent) and news from Asia (20 per cent).

According to the poll, readers would like to read more about restorative dentistry and practice management, as well as paediatrics and special needs dentistry.

The local government of Gujarat, a federal state in Western India, has announced a new initiative to incorporate laser dentistry into the dental curriculum of all governmental dental colleges. The move comes after a clinical guide for oral laser applications was released at the 5th National Conference on Oral Laser Applications held in Ahmedabad earlier this month.

According to Gujarat Health Minister Jaynarayan Vyas, the project will be supported by the International Society for Oral Laser Applications, an affiliate organisation of the International Congress of Oral Laser Applications in Vienna (Austria). If the initiative succeeds, government authorities expect to appoint dental laser specialists in each of the state’s districts soon.

Chinese say no to swine flu pandemic

China has recently begun a national swine flu vaccination campaign, as Beijing authorities gave shots to thousands of students planning to take part in National Day celebrations on 1 October. The Health Ministry hopes to vaccinate 65 million people by year’s end.

DVI dentistry in Australia on rise

More poor Australians are reporting do-it-yourself dentistry because of lengthy queues for public dental services. According to a survey by the National Health and Hospital Reform Commission, half a million people in the country are currently on public dental waiting lists.

Laser dentistry gets boost in India

The local government of Gujarat, a federal state in Western India, has announced a new initiative to incorporate laser dentistry into the dental curriculum of all governmental dental colleges. The move comes after a clinical guide for oral laser applications was released at the 5th National Conference on Oral Laser Applications held in Ahmedabad earlier this month.

According to Gujarat Health Minister Jaynarayan Vyas, the project will be supported by the International Society for Oral Laser Applications, an affiliate organisation of the International Congress of Oral Laser Applications in Vienna (Austria). If the initiative succeeds, government authorities expect to appoint dental laser specialists in each of the state’s districts soon.

Distinguished by innovation

We shape the future of dentistry with our innovative products and systems. They distinguish us – in the field of restorations, all-communications and aesthetic prosthetic solutions. A wealth of experience, great commitment and innovative ideas help us to always find the optimum solution for high-quality products that allow you to make people smile.

www.ivoclarvivadent.com

Ivoclar Vivadent AG
Bendererstr. 2 | FL-9494 Schaan | Principality of Liechtenstein
Tel. +423 / 225 35 05 | Fax +423 / 225 35 63

Bendererstr. 2 | FL-9494 Schaan | Principality of Liechtenstein
Tel. +423 / 225 35 05 | Fax +423 / 225 35 63