Best practice:
Proven, lasting restoration concepts from practices and the laboratory
Now let's learn more about the successful concepts of our colleagues!

- **Non-invasive microveneers made of hybrid ceramic**
  A team of dentists from Taiwan explain how they correct a diastema noninvasively and fully digitally with the hybrid ceramic VITA ENAMIC.  
  > Page 14

- **Intelligent layering concept for true-to-life results**
  Dental technician Marcio Breda shows how he systematically reproduces natural light dynamics through the intelligent use of various ceramic materials.  
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Editorial

Proven, lasting restoration concepts from dental practices and laboratories

Best practice means adopting and using treatment and restoration concepts already successfully established by colleagues. In this edition of DENTAL VISIONIST, practitioners and technicians from Europe, Asia and Latin America will present you with a number of their best practice examples.

For example, a Taiwanese team of dentists will show how you can correct a diastema with hybrid ceramic, fully digitally and non-invasively. Furthermore, a German team of practitioners and technicians explain why they use “prosthetic composite solutions” for parafunctions and manifested bruxism. And a dentist from Russia explains how he was able to achieve the desired result for his patient step by step using digital smile design and an analog mock-up.

These examples from everyday work in practices and laboratories are intended to show you proven, inspired concepts and help you provide your patients with lasting restorations.

DENTAL VISIONIST wishes you an enjoyable read

Felicitas Ledig
Chief Editor

Prosthetic composite solution of ZrO₂ and hybrid ceramic
How composite bridges can minimize the risk of fractures or chipping.
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Endocrown restoration made of proven feldspar ceramic
Defect-oriented restoration of tooth 34 with a VITABLOCS endocrown
> Page 22

Individually layered veneer restoration
Cosmetic reconstruction with individually layered veneers made of VITA VMK Master
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Digital tooth shade determination is significantly more precise than visual determination

Uptil now, tooth shade in dentistry has mainly been determined by visually comparing a shade tab with the natural tooth. However, visual shade determination is influenced by numerous factors, such as the subjective shade perception of the observer, the lighting conditions and the surface structure of the teeth. With digital shade measuring devices, potential sources of error can be eliminated. One study shows that tooth shade can be more reliably determined with the digital spectrophotometer VITA Easyslide (VITA Zahnfabrik, Bad Säckingen, Germany), than with visual tooth shade determination using a shade guide. Dentist PD Dr. Karl Martin Lehmann (Johannes Gutenberg University, Policlinic for Dental Prosthetics and Material Science, Director: Univ.-Prof. H. Scheller, Mainz, Germany) reports on the study results in an interview and provides suggestions for everyday issues in dental practices and laboratories.

**DV:** What was your goal in investigating both procedures for shade determination?

**Dr. Karl Lehmann:** The goal of the study was to determine how reliably and reproducibly male and female study participants can determine tooth shades using visual and digital processes. To do this, 100 subjects determined the shades of standardized VITA classical A1-D4 tooth shade tabs in various sessions under ideal lighting conditions, both visually and digitally.

**DV:** How exactly did you proceed with this investigation?

**Dr. Karl Lehmann:** In the first step of this investigation, the subjects had to visually determine the tooth shades of 16 previously anonymized VITA classical A1-D4 shade tabs using the VITA classical A1-D4 shade guide and, in a second step, perform the procedure again digitally with the VITA Easyslide spectrophotometer. Each participant had a maximum of eight seconds to determine the tooth shade. A total of 3200 visual and digital shade determinations were made.

**DV:** What differences were you able to determine between the digital and visual methods?

**Dr. Karl Lehmann:** In the digital procedure with the spectrophotometer VITA Easyslide, the correct tooth shade was determined in nearly 100 percent of the measurements. This showed a significantly greater precision for the digital procedure than for the visual method. When using the shade guide, the subjects determined the correct tooth shade in only about 72 percent of the shade determinations. The gender-specific analysis showed that female subjects recognized the shade of the
teeth in the visual shade determination more often than male participants. In contrast, there was no significant difference in the digital shade determination.

**DV:** What recommendations can be derived from these results for dentists and technicians?

**Dr. Karl Lehmann:** Due to the high precision of the digital method, the tooth shade determination should be as digital as possible, ideally complemented by photos of the intraoral situation of the respective patient, which can provide further information on shape design and surface structures. Detailed information enables the dental laboratory to produce a high-precision, true-to-life shade reproduction. With such tooth shade and image information, additional time and expense due to subsequent shade corrections or even completely new productions, can be avoided.

**DV:** What should dentists and dental technicians watch out for with digital shade determination?

**Dr. Karl Lehmann:** In principle, operating the VITA Easyshade is self-explanatory and very simple. You should just make sure that the measurement is carried out before the start of treatment and that the measuring tip rests perfectly flat on the tooth surface. Thanks to the use of standardized LED white light, neither the influence of the lighting conditions, nor the surrounding colors has to be considered.


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**Figure 1** The results graph shows a shade match of > 98 percent (all subjects) for digital shade determination. On the other hand, with visual shade determination, a shade match of only > 70 percent was achieved (all subjects).

**Table:**

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Clinical damage analysis of dental materials for better long-term success

In the past ten years, dentists and dental technicians have experienced a multitude of innovations, and they are now confronted with an enormous diversity of materials and variants. This brings an ever increasing complexity to everyday work in dental practice and laboratory life, since very different manufacturers’ specifications for processing must be observed for many materials or material variants. This increasing complexity can also increase the risk of error in the technical and clinical application. In the following interview, dental technician and dental technologist Kathleen Kaufman reports on how she can detect common causes of chipping or fracture using clinical fractography analysis. The goal is to develop recommendations for error prevention to enable long-term clinical success.
**DV:** What is the procedure for clinical damage analysis and what procedures are used?

**Kathleen Kaufman:** In damage analysis, defective restorations are examined by means of different methods in order to determine the cause of failure. Frequently, a scanning electron microscope (SEM) is used for this purpose. With this microscope, for example, we can analyze fracture surfaces of fractured restorations with up to 100,000x magnification. At this magnification, conclusions about the cause of the material failure can be derived from the type and structure of the fracture surface. On the basis of these findings, concrete recommendations for safe processing can then be created.

**DV:** How can fracture or chipping risks already be minimized during the planning and design of restorations?

**Kathleen Kaufman:** Material failure or chipping can actually have its origin in the planning or design phase. In the SEM analysis of veneered zirconia restorations, it has been shown, for example, that ceramic spalling is often due to a lack of framework support for the veneer. Here, it is advisable to design the framework as anatomically as possible so that uniform coverage can always be achieved during veneering. Falling short of minimum wall thicknesses, insufficiently large connector cross-sections, and incorrectly dimensioned connectors are further parameters that increase the risk of fracture.

**DV:** What findings does damage analysis offer for the safe and material-appropriate processing of zirconia?

**Kathleen Kaufman:** The fracture of zirconia substructures is often caused by point-form machining with worn diamond grinding wheels or with the separating wheel. When performing damage analysis with SEM, it can be seen that crack propagation often originates from these sites, which leads to material failure. In general, frameworks should always be finished before sintering and never on the connector itself. In addition, take care to maintain a low speed and a low contact pressure to prevent overheating. Finally, the framework should be designed so that it has no sharp corners and edges, as this can lead to tensions in the veneering ceramic.

**DV:** What potential risk factors could you identify in the clinical use of ceramic materials in dental practices?

**Kathleen Kaufman:** During the try-in, the restoration is often ground again. Here, it is imperative to polish, or, better, to re-glaze the processed surfaces. Investigations show that micro-cracks are often introduced into the material by manual processing with diamond-coated instruments. The chewing load and moisture in the oral cavity can lead to further crack growth, up to partial or complete restoration failure.

**DV:** What potential sources of failure did you discover in your glass ceramic firing studies?

**Kathleen Kaufman:** For glass-ceramic restorations, it has been shown that strict adherence to the manufacturer’s specifications for crystallization is important in order to avoid defects. For example, if a restoration is crystallized directly on a ceramic pin, the firing pin may adhere to the crown. If the crown is removed from the firing pin and support after firing, this can cause micro-cracks. By using firing paste or platinum pins, however, such material damage can be avoided.

**DV:** What is the procedure for clinical damage analysis and what procedures are used?
The unique hybrid ceramic with a dual ceramic-polymer network structure

Ceramic network 86% by weight
Polymer network 14% by weight

VITA ENAMIC hybrid ceramic
Implant-supported polychrome crown reconstruction of hybrid ceramic

Restorations and implants are exposed to especially high loads. After extraction and implantation, the patient lacks the elastic fiber apparatus of the natural dental bed. As a result, chewing forces are not absorbed, but transmitted directly to the restoration, the implant, the bone and the opposing dentition. The hybrid ceramic VITA ENAMIC (VITA Zahnfabrik, Bad Säckingen, Germany) provides a dual network structure of ceramic (86 wt%) and polymer (14 wt%). This results in a dentin-like elasticity and the ability to absorb chewing forces. Due to its high vertical dimension, the polychrome blank VITA ENAMIC multiColor in the EMC-16 geometry enables the production of one-piece, monolithic abutment crowns, even with atrophied bone. In the following article, dentist Professor Dr. Alexander Hassel (Mannheim, Germany) demonstrates how he provides a patient with this type of restoration.

1. Initial situation

A 53-year-old female patient came to the dental office because of bite problems. Radiologically and clinically, a root fracture was diagnosed on endodontically treated tooth 26. The tooth was then extracted in a bone-preserving manner. Since the patient rejected a removable denture and an invasive bridge preparation on teeth 25 and 27, it was decided to close the gap with an implanted restoration. An earlier periodontitis was treated in the patient, and the treatment result was stabilized with a close prophylaxis. In region 26, the jawbone was atrophied, which is why the VITA ENAMIC multiColor polychrome hybrid ceramic blank in EMC-16 geometry was selected for the patient’s CAD/CAM-supported restoration.
The milling unit N4 (vhf camfacture, Ammerbuch, Germany) was used to grind out the abutment crown wet. The individual abutment was sandblasted prior to adhesive bonding and conditioned with a metal primer. The adhesive surfaces and the screw channel of the abutment crown were etched with hydrofluoric acid and then silanized. The cement gap and the abutment crown were finalized and polished under an air block after the composite cement had hardened. The prosthetic implant restoration was then screwed in intraorally, and the approximal contacts and occlusion were checked. After the insertion of Teflon tape, the screw channel could be adhesively closed with filling composite.

2. Implantation and impression

An OsseoSpeed EV implant (Dentsply Sirona, Mannheim, Germany) was inserted in region 26, and an open impression could be taken after a healing period of three months. For taking an impression with Impregum (3M, Seefeld, Germany), a VITA disposable impression tray was perforated specifically in the area of the implant. On this basis, a master model was produced and digitized in the laboratory scanner inEos X5 (Dentsply Sirona, Bensheim, Germany). The crown could now be designed with the exocad software (exocad, Darmstadt, Germany). An abutment crown with integrated screw channel was designed to match the individual abutment and the screw channel diameter.

3. Fabrication of an abutment crown

The milling unit N4 (vhf camfacture, Ammerbuch, Germany) was used to grind out the abutment crown wet. The individual abutment was sandblasted prior to adhesive bonding and conditioned with a metal primer. The adhesive surfaces and the screw channel of the abutment crown were etched with hydrofluoric acid and then silanized. The cement gap and the abutment crown were finalized and polished under an air block after the composite cement had hardened. The prosthetic implant restoration was then screwed in intraorally, and the approximal contacts and occlusion were checked. After the insertion of Teflon tape, the screw channel could be adhesively closed with filling composite.
4. Time-efficient, esthetic result

Thanks to the high vertical dimension of the VITA ENAMIC multiColor EMC-16 blank and the excellent CAM processing properties of hybrid ceramics, an esthetic abutment crown was efficiently fabricated with CAD/CAM support despite the presence of bone atrophy in region 26. A monolithic restoration can significantly reduce the risk of chipping. Furthermore, laboratory tests show that the dual network structure of hybrid ceramics allows them to stop an initial crack formation that could potentially occur. This suggests good long-term clinical stability. The external bonding prevents cement residues in the sulcus and prevents peri-implantitis. At the follow-up after one week, the patient was enthusiastic about the natural chewing sensation and the lifelike appearance of the hybrid ceramic restoration. The inspection revealed an inflammation-free, esthetically shaped gingiva and a natural play of shade and light for the polychrome hybrid ceramic crown.

Report 07/19
Prosthetic composite solution of ZrO₂ and hybrid ceramic for a high chewing load

In the case of parafunctions, manifested bruxism and implant-supported dentures, prosthetic restorations are exposed to particularly high loads. Due to the enormous chewing forces, the risk of fractures or chipping increases in such cases. Prosthetic composite solutions can minimize these risks. In their case study, master dental technician Hans Jürgen Lange and dentist Dr. Michael Weyhrauch profile the restoration of a patient using composite bridges. This restoration concept is based on a high-strength zirconia framework structure and an elastic hybrid ceramic veneering structure.

1. The assessment

A 52-year-old woman suffered from temporo-mandibular joint pain and showed clear signs of bruxism on the tooth substance. Despite successful splint therapy, a new all-ceramic bridge restoration was fractured from 43 and 44 to 47 in the fourth quadrant. Even a long-term temporary restoration made of PMMA could not withstand the increased chewing forces for long. The dentist and dental technician discussed the case and decided to provide the patient with composite bridges made of VITA YZ T zirconia and VITA ENAMIC multi-Color hybrid ceramic (both VITA Zahnfabrik, Bad Säckingen, Germany).

2. The composite concept

With flexural strengths of around 1200 MPa, zirconia has proven to be extremely effective as a high-strength framework material. However, under extreme chewing force, fractures or chipping can occur, especially in the area of veneering, since all-ceramics have a high brittleness. Elastic materials with chewing force-absorbing properties like the hybrid ceramic VITA ENAMIC, are an interesting material alternative to consider here. In a composite bridge, the high strength of a zirconia framework structure is intelligently combined with the elasticity of a hybrid ceramic veneering structure. The hybrid ceramic VITA ENAMIC is based on a structure-sintered glass ceramic matrix (86% by weight), which is then
 Impressions of the bridge abutments were taken analogously to make the composite bridge. Based on this, a master model was made and digitized with the inEos X5 laboratory scanner (Dentsply Sirona, Bensheim, Germany). On the virtual model, a fully anatomical bridge was first designed using the exocad software (exocad, Darmstadt, Germany), which was then anatomically reduced at the press of a button. The framework was milled, reworked, sintered and scanned again to construct six monolithic veneering structures on top and then also produced with CAD/CAM support using the inLab MC XL System (Dentsply Sirona, Bensheim, Germany).

3. Digital workflow

The hybrid-ceramic veneer structures were infiltrated with a polymer (14% by weight). Due to this unique dual ceramic-polymer network structure, the material has a dentin-like elasticity, which can be expected to have a positive effect on restorations with a high chewing force load.

4. Finalization and integration

The completely bonded bridge construction on the model from the occlusal and lumen side.

The final integrated composite bridge from the occlusal side.

The bridge construction is functionally and esthetically very well integrated.
VITA ENAMIC
hybrid ceramic

Traditional
ceramic

0.2 mm
0.3 mm

0.4 – 0.6 mm
0.5 – 0.7 mm
Non-invasive microveneer restoration made of the hybrid ceramic VITA ENAMIC

Producing noninvasive microveneers using CAD/CAM systems has been a major challenge so far, due to the brittleness of ceramic dental materials. The very small wall thicknesses and thinly tapering edge areas of such restorations often showed significant ceramic chipping or fractures after CAM production. The dental team of Dr. Michael Tsao and Dr. Hsuan Chen systematically examined a variety of ceramic material samples in numerous test runs. They selected the hybrid ceramic VITA ENAMIC (VITA Zahnfabrik, Bad Säckingen, Germany) for their restoration. Based on their clinical experience, this material still allows a very good marginal integrity even with wall thicknesses of 0.2 mm. In this report, the practitioners show the noninvasive, model-free and fully digital restoration of a diastema.

1. Assessment and planning

A 29-year-old male patient presented in the practice because he was dissatisfied with his diastema between teeth 11 and 21. Orthodontic therapy was rejected by the patient. He wanted a time-efficient solution with the greatest possible preservation of the natural tooth substance. The usual production of microveneers on refractory stumps was too lengthy for him. Therefore, the practitioners and patient decided to implement the gap closure in the digital workflow using VITA ENAMIC hybrid ceramics in a single session.
After meticulous cleaning of the restoration area, the tooth shade was determined with the VITA Toothguide 3D-MASTER (VITA Zahnfabrik, Bad Säckingen, Germany) on the two central incisors in the upper jaw. The tooth shade 1M2 was determined and the corresponding blank selected. After retraction threads were laid, the intraoral scan was performed with CEREC Omnicam (Dentsply Sirona, Bensheim, Germany). Because of the high enamel translucency of the tooth in the approximal region, scanning powder was applied to facilitate intraoral scanning. Sirona Connect transferred the data record to the inLab software. There, the razor-thin microveneers were digitally constructed.

For CAM production with the CEREC MC XL System (Dentsply Sirona, Bensheim, Germany), the VITA ENAMIC blanks were fixed in the grinding unit and the corresponding grinding job was carried out. The grinding result showed razor-thin microveneers with absolutely precise edge areas. Thanks to its dual ceramic-polymer network structure, the hybrid ceramic has a significantly higher elasticity and less brittleness than traditional ceramic CAD/CAM materials. This enables high-precision reconstructions with simultaneously low wall thicknesses. Finally, the graceful restorations were carefully separated from the attachment with a fine diamond, finalized and tried-in.
RESULT

The patient was very satisfied with the highly esthetic result in only one session.

VITA ENAMIC has a stable, highly networked ceramic matrix. The ceramic portion of the material is 86 percent (wt%). As a result, the hybrid ceramic can be preconditioned using hydrofluoric acid and silane, according to the traditional, all-ceramic protocol. CAD/CAM composites, on the other hand, are sandblasted because they have a polymer matrix in which ceramic fillers are embedded. Sandblasting, however, can lead to damage of the material structure and thin edge areas in reconstructions with low wall thicknesses. In the present case, the microveneers were pretreated with the safer protocol. The enamel was conditioned with phosphoric acid and adhesive. Afterwards, the veneers were fixed with a composite cement. After removal of the composite residues and polishing with the VITA ENAMIC Polishing Set, a highly esthetic result was achieved efficiently and noninvasively after only one session.

Report 07/19
Monolithic, time-efficient front tooth restoration with the best light dynamics

Often, patients desire time-efficient CAD/CAM restorations that simultaneously feature a natural play of shade and light. This requires materials that are suitable for both monolithic, time-saving CAM-based production and characterized by excellent light dynamics. VITABLOCS TriLuxe forte feldspar ceramic (VITA Zahnfabrik, Bad Säckingen, Germany) is such a material. The third VITABLOCS generation has an integrated, finely nuanced shade and translucency gradient and can be efficiently and precisely processed, thanks to its finely structured ceramic. Using the design software, the restoration can be placed in the virtual blank so that the play of shade and light can be controlled individually for each patient. Dr. Julio Gomez Paris (Rosario, Santa Fe, Argentina) uses the example of a total reconstruction with veneers to show how he was able to efficiently create a restoration with this polychrome material.
A 72-year-old woman came to the practice because she was not satisfied with the esthetic appearance of her teeth. The clinical inspection revealed severely abraded and erosively damaged anterior teeth with exposed root areas. The patient wanted to have the lost hard tooth substance reconstructed while rehabilitating the esthetic zone with veneers. The desired situation was simulated on the computer using patient photos and discussed with the patient. For efficient, natural dental esthetics, VITABLOCS Tri-Luxe forte was chosen as the material.
After local anesthesia, a mock-up guided gingivectomy and controlled preparation were performed. The preparations were scanned and the data record transferred to the inLab CAD software (Dentsply Sirona, Bensheim, Germany). There, the maxillofacial veneers were first designed for the patient based on the mock-up scan and fabricated using the inLab MC X5 grinding unit (Dentsply Sirona, Bensheim, Germany). After finishing with a fine diamond and a rubber polisher, the characterization and the glaze followed with the VITA AKZENT Plus stain system.
4. Final result: total reconstruction

After a successful try-in, the veneers were conditioned with hydrofluoric acid and silane. The preparations were etched with phosphoric acid, and the universal adhesive Scotchbond Universal was applied. Adhesive attachment was carried out with RelyX Veneer (both 3M, Seefeld, Germany). The restoration of the lower jaw incisors was done in the same manner. The patient was very satisfied with the efficient and highly esthetic result. To relieve the stomatognathic system and to protect the restoration, a front canine-guided splint was additionally made for the night. At a follow-up after one and a half years, absolutely stable conditions were found.

Report 07/19
A full crown preparation of deeply damaged teeth often results in the loss of large parts of the tooth walls, and, as a result, leads to further weakening of the tooth substance, as well as loss of retention. For the greatest possible preservation of natural tooth substance, a defect-oriented procedure using endocrowns is therefore recommended. In this case documentation, the VITABLOCS Mark II feldspar ceramic (VITA Zahnfabrik, Bad Säckingen, Germany) was processed for the time-saving and economic production of such a crown. The world’s first CAD/CAM material has proven itself millions of times since its first clinical use over 30 years ago. Clinical studies show a survival rate of 99.6% for endocrown Restorations made of feldspar ceramic, after an observation period of seven years. Dr. Oxana Naidyonova explains her process below.
A 48-year-old female patient came to the practice because tooth 34 was fractured and had previously been classified as not worth preserving by another practitioner. The clinical inspection showed an extensive disto-oral defect. The gingival tissue had overgrown into the cavity. X-rays showed an insufficient root canal filling. Since a full-crown preparation would have resulted in a loss of the vestibular and mesial wall portions of the tooth, the practitioner opted for an endocrown made of VITABLOCS Mark II. Tooth 34 was constructed with composite after a gingivectomy with laser, and a revision treatment was carried out.

1. Assessment and pretreatment

Before the preparation, the tooth shade 2M2 was determined using the VITA Toothguide 3D-MASTER (VITA Zahnfabrik, Bad Säckingen, Germany), and the appropriate blank was selected. A glass fiber pin was adhesively introduced for additional retention of the subsequent composite structure. During the preparation, the walls were merely shortened and a groove was created in the defect area. Sharp edges in the cavity were consistently rounded off. Prior to the intraoral scan, the proximal caries on tooth 34 could be mesially and minimally invasively treated with composite, thanks to its good accessibility.
Fig. 2 Status following revision, pin setting and build-up filling.

Fig. 3 Care was taken during the preparation not to leave any sharp edges in the cavity.

Fig. 4 The remaining cavity walls were shortened only occlusally.

Fig. 8 The virtual endocrown in the CAD software from the occlusal view.

Fig. 9 The construction in the lingual view.

Fig. 10 The VITABLOCS Mark II clamped in the grinding unit.

3. CAM and finalization

The endocrown was then digitally designed and fabricated from VITABLOCS Mark II with the MyCrown Mill grinding unit (FONA Dental, Bratislava, Slovakia). After separation from the attachment, the restoration was tried in and then gently finalized with a fine diamond. This was followed by the characterization of the fissures with VITA AKZENT Plus EFFECT STAINS (ES06, rust red) and the final glaze. Since a reliable adhesive bond to the tooth substance is a key component of long-term clinical success, a rubber dam was created to ensure freedom from contamination and absolute dryness.

4. Conditioning and integration

The feldspar ceramic was then etched with hydrofluoric acid to create a microretentive etch pattern and then silanized. The cavity was conditioned with phosphoric acid and an adhesive. For adhesive bonding, the composite Micerium (Micerium, Avegno, Italy) in the shade UD2 was heated to make it flowable for insertion. After light-curing and removal of composite residues, the restoration was well integrated into the natural tooth structure, thanks to its outstanding light-optical properties.

Report 07/19
Fig. 5 After the intraoral scan, the preparation margin was determined.

Fig. 6 The habitual intercuspation was transferred with a vestibular scan.

Fig. 7 The minimum layer thicknesses were maintained in the construction of the restoration.

Fig. 11 The feldspar ceramic restoration during the clinical try-in.

Fig. 12 No transition between the restoration and the tooth can be seen from the vestibular view.

Fig. 13 The occlusal view of the fully adhesively integrated endocrown.

RESULT The highly esthetic integration of the restoration at the time of follow-up after six months.
Extensive esthetic reconstructions in the front require extensive planning and active involvement of patients to achieve a result that satisfies both esthetic principles and patient expectations. Using the example of a veneer restoration, Dr. Stas Belous shows how he simulated the desired result step-by-step, using digital smile design and an analog mock-up, and then efficiently implemented it in the digital workflow. In this case, he decided in favor of the zirconia-reinforced lithium silicate glass ceramic VITA SUPRINITY PC (VITA Zahnfabrik, Bad Säckingen, Germany). Due to its excellent light-optical properties, this material enables predictable, highly esthetic results with minimal time.

Dr. Stas Belous
Moskau, Russia
A 33-year-old female patient with dental anxiety was dissatisfied with the esthetic appearance of her upper front teeth. The assessment showed a gap between the lateral and central incisors and a fractured incisal edge on tooth 21. The patient refused orthodontic pre-treatment in combination with bleaching. She wanted a time-efficient, highly esthetic solution with the most minimally invasive approach possible. The decision was made for the CAD/CAM-based production of veneers made of VITA SUPRINITY PC glass ceramic.

1. Findings and patient expectations

A 33-year-old female patient with dental anxiety was dissatisfied with the esthetic appearance of her upper front teeth. The assessment showed a gap between the lateral and central incisors and a fractured incisal edge on tooth 21. The patient refused orthodontic pre-treatment in combination with bleaching. She wanted a time-efficient, highly esthetic solution with the most minimally invasive approach possible. The decision was made for the CAD/CAM-based production of veneers made of VITA SUPRINITY PC glass ceramic.
For prosthetic planning in dialog with the patient, the patient’s face and esthetic zone were scanned using the Bellus3D Dental Pro smartphone app (Bellus3D, Campbell, California, USA). The morphology was subsequently transferred to the exocad software (exocad, Darmstadt, Germany). An idealized model could be printed based on the data record. An intraoral mock-up was created using a silicone key and temporary composite and discussed with the patient. This was used to make morphological corrections in the exocad software, and a printed model was used to create another intraoral mock-up that was approved by the patient and the practitioner. This result was subsequently scanned.

2. Comprehensive digital and analog planning phase

For prosthetic planning in dialog with the patient, the patient’s face and esthetic zone were scanned using the Bellus3D Dental Pro smartphone app (Bellus3D, Campbell, California, USA). The morphology was subsequently transferred to the exocad software (exocad, Darmstadt, Germany). An idealized model could be printed based on the data record. An intraoral mock-up was created using a silicone key and temporary composite and discussed with the patient. This was used to make morphological corrections in the exocad software, and a printed model was used to create another intraoral mock-up that was approved by the patient and the practitioner. This result was subsequently scanned.

3. Digital shade determination and CAM production

The digital workflow was managed with the MyCrown System (FONA-Dental, Bratislava, Slovakia). After local anesthesia, the VITA Easyshade V (VITA Zahnfabrik, Bad Säckingen, Germany) was used to digitally determine tooth shade 2R1.5. This was followed by a mock-up preparation from tooth 13 to 23 in order to work as minimally invasively as possible. In a first step, deep grooves were created that provided orientation during the preparation. The situation was rescanned and the mock-up scan transferred to the new situation to construct the veneers according to the patient’s request. For the blank selection, a lighter shade (1M2 T) was chosen, with the goal of later controlling the chroma of the restoration in a targeted manner via the shade of the composite cement.
The intraoral mock-up was scanned with the MyCrown System.

Initially, deep grooves of 0.8 mm were incorporated into the mock-up and marked in pencil. This enabled a controlled and minimally invasive preparation.

Even before the try-in, the finished veneer restorations appeared absolutely natural.

After conditioning with hydrofluoric acid and silane, the veneers could be integrated with full adhesion.

The veneers blend into the natural dental arches.

This was followed by the fabrication of the veneers with the grinding unit MyCrown Mill, the manual processing and the crystallization firing. The patient-specific characterization and glazing of the veneers were performed with the VITA AKZENT Plus stain and glaze system. After the try-in with glycerine gel and the final fixation, the patient was pleased with the highly esthetic result. Detailed planning and the consistent involvement of the patient in all planning steps, combined with the outstanding light-optical properties of the glass ceramic veneers made of VITA SUPRINITY PC, reliably led to the successful treatment.

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RESULT The result is convincing in shape, shade and light dynamics.
A female patient in her late thirties presented in a dental office because she was dissatisfied with the function and esthetics of her dental situation. At the first inspection, the entire oral cavity appeared as a piecemeal of temporary work. The crowns and bridges showed no coordinated morphology. In general, the restorations were lifeless and their shades did not match. The gingival garland in the upper jaw had an uneven, asymmetrical gradient. After extensive consultation, the patient wanted full ceramic restorations. In the process, the lost bite height was to be restored. The patient rejected surgical measures to level the gum line in the upper jaw. For a sustainable, functional and esthetic result, high-strength, opaque zirconia VITA YZ T was selected for the framework, and the veneering ceramic VITA VM 9 was selected for the veneering.

For an individually veneered total reconstruction, a first-class esthetic and functional interaction of the framework and veneering material are required. Only if all the required material components are ideally matched to one another can the dental laboratory efficiently and reliably produce clinically stable and highly esthetic results. The prerequisite for this is that the manufacturer investigates in detail and systematically monitors the interaction of the components during material development and production. In the case of large-scale reconstructions, for example, it is important for the dental technician to be able to rely on a precisely calculated sintering shrinkage in all three space dimensions in order to achieve a high accuracy of fit. The veneering ceramic must guarantee a reliable bond to the framework and support a natural play of shade and light through its material composition. In the following, master dental technician Björn Czappa shows how he was able to create a highly esthetic, total reconstruction with the ideally coordinated framework and veneering materials VITA YZ and VITA VM 9 (both VITA Zahnfabrik, Bad Säckingen, Germany).

1. Initial situation

A female patient in her late thirties presented in a dental office because she was dissatisfied with the function and esthetics of her dental situation. At the first inspection, the entire oral cavity appeared as a piecemeal of temporary work. The crowns and bridges showed no coordinated morphology. In general, the restorations were lifeless and their shades did not match. The gingival garland in the upper jaw had an uneven, asymmetrical gradient. After extensive consultation, the patient wanted full ceramic restorations. In the process, the lost bite height was to be restored. The patient rejected surgical measures to level the gum line in the upper jaw. For a sustainable, functional and esthetic result, high-strength, opaque zirconia VITA YZ T was selected for the framework, and the veneering ceramic VITA VM 9 was selected for the veneering.

2. Planning and clinical procedure

In the first quadrant, a crown block was planned at tooth 16 and 17 for added stability, from 13 to 15 a bridge and at 11, a single crown. In the second quadrant, a bridge was to be formed on the abutment teeth 21, 23 and 25. Single crowns were selected for teeth 26 and 27. In the lower jaw, the entire front could be left untreated, except for 33. In the third quadrant, the existing gap was to be closed with a bridge from 33 and 34 to 37. On the opposite jaw, a bridge was planned from 44 to 46 because tooth 47 was missing. After local anesthesia, the crowns and bridges in the upper and lower jaws were removed, and the new and old abutment teeth were put into the desired preparation forms. An impression was taken of the situation, and then the habitual bite was registered. The temporary new restoration was made using silicone keys from the initial situation.
Master models were produced and articulated in the laboratory. Since the centric condylar position did not differ clinically from the habitual bite, the support pin and the bite were raised as well by 2.5 mm. This was followed by the digitization of the two models with the laboratory scanner (3Shape, Copenhagen, Denmark). When the zirconia substructures were designed with the CAD software, attention was paid to an anatomically reduced design for a uniformly supported veneering layer and maximized connector cross-sections in the bridge designs. After the frameworks were nested in the VITA YZ T disc in the shade A2, they could be fabricated with the milling unit (Datron, Mühltal, Germany). Before sintering, the restorations were separated from the retaining bars and carefully finalized. The frameworks fit the master models precisely. The raised bite situation in the articulator was keyed with modeling plastic as a control during the framework try-in.

3. Digital workflow and veneering

The frameworks showed a precise fit intraorally as well. However, the desired bite height with the key proved to be too high, which is why the support pin was slightly lowered again. The veneering began with a VITA VM 9 EFFECT LINER 4 wash-bake (yellow) to support the basic shade fluorescently from underneath. Except on the darker canines where BASE DENTINE A3 was used, the dentine body was layered with BASE DENTINE A2. In the incisal and cusp area, grayish-translucent EFFECT ENAMEL 1 1 and an alternating layer of MAMELON 2 (warm yellow brown) and 3 (soft orange) were used. A whitish-translucent strip was applied centrally with EFFECT ENAMEL 1. The final layer was done with ENAMEL light. The occlusal area was also individualized with orange EFFECT CHROMA 6. After the final firing, finishing and polishing, a highly esthetic result was revealed, which unfolded a lively dynamic of light after the final integration.

RESULT The restorations harmonized in shape and shade with the natural tooth substance.
FRAMEWORK MATERIALS, VENEERING MATERIALS AND STAINS FOR HIGH VITALITY
Intelligent layering concept for a true-to-life result in the front

Achieving true-to-life results in the front requires creative and intelligent concepts. A patient-specific layering has to reproduce the special characteristics of the neighboring teeth, as well as the natural shade and light play in all its facets. The light must be resorbed, reflected or refracted analogously to the natural dentition in the corresponding restoration areas. The VITA VM 9 veneering ceramic (VITA Zahnfabrik, Bad Säckingen, Germany) offers a wide range of dentin, enamel and effect compounds for high-precision reproduction of natural light dynamics. With this, dental technicians have the greatest possible scope of materials for producing lifelike reconstructions. In the following interview, the dental technician Marcio Breda explains his layer concept for brilliant anterior crowns.

DV: How long have you been working with VITA VM 9, and why did you choose this veneering ceramic?

Marcio Breda: I have been successfully using this system since the launch of VITA VM 9 in 2004. What really impressed me from the beginning is the special lifelike quality that I can achieve with this ceramic material. Intraorally, the ceramic restorations made of VITA VM 9 are absolutely natural.

DV: Essentially, what did you do in the present case, and which ceramic compounds did you primarily use?

Marcio Breda: In this case, I applied several EFFECT LINERS to the framework in the first step and then reproduced the base shade with BASE DENTINE. Afterwards I applied various translucent and fluorescent enamels for the incisal area. For even more natural lifelike esthetics, I finally used effect compounds such as NEUTRAL, WINDOW, and EFFECT PEARL. For an even greater natural appearance, I used effect compounds such as NEUTRAL, WINDOW and EFFECT PEARL.

DV: For the cervical area of the crowns, opaque ceramic materials were used. What was your goal in using these materials here?

Marcio Breda: As with natural dentition, I wanted to achieve high chromacity for the cervical area. That’s why I applied the yellow EFFECT LINER 4 here before applying BASE DENTINE. This gives me an intense, stable shade effect in the base shade.

DV: For true-to-nature light dynamics, you also need fluorescence, among other things. Which VITA VM 9 compounds do you prefer to use, and in which crown area?

Marcio Breda: As already mentioned, in the context of the first dentine firing in the cervical area, I rely on the fluorescent depth effect of the EFFECT LINER. During the second dentine firing, I like to work with EFFECT PEARL to implement a lot of brightness in the crown surface.

DV: The case is characterized by natural-looking incisal areas. How did you achieve the very lively play of shade and light?

Marcio Breda: The case is characterized by natural-looking incisal areas. How did you achieve the very lively play of shade and light?
VITA VM 9 displays impressive natural shade effects, light dynamics and excellent mechanical properties.

“Light must be able to flow through the crown.”

Marcio Breda: The light must be able to flow through the crown. I achieve this with translucent materials such as the bluish EFFECT ENAMEL 9, opalescent EFFECT OPAL 1, or WINDOW as a counterpart to the shade-intensive EFFECT CHROMAS or the intensely fluorescent MAMELON materials.

DV: What was your goal in applying a highly translucent material to the entire crown geometry in the last step?

Marcio Breda: Based on my experience, with the highly translucent ceramic layer at the end of the veneering process, I can individually control the shade intensity and luminosity of the restoration. The result after the firing shows me if and where I still need to increase or reduce the shade intensity or luminosity.

DV: What should dental technicians pay attention to when processing VITA VM 9 materials in order to achieve reliably reproducible results?

Marcio Breda: There are generally a few parameters to consider here that are not just related to the processing of VITA VM 9. In my experience, care must be taken with the framework structure to ensure that the right material is selected in the right shade. Furthermore, it must be taken into account in the veneering that the respective layer thicknesses have an influence on the light transmission and shade effect. Finally, materials for reflective effects should only be used in the crown body and not on the restoration surface.

DV: What recommendations can you give regarding the firing of VITA VM 9 veneering ceramic?

Marcio Breda: I can make some very general recommendations for this as well. The firing programs recommended by the manufacturer should always be used. I personally always allow the layering result to dry for ten minutes before firing. When veneering, I work with a lot of moisture and use the VITA MODELING FLUID RS for this.

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Fig. 4 The shade effect immediately after the effect materials are fired.

Fig. 5 The dentine core was layered with BASE DENTINE A2.

Fig. 6 The dentine core was modified with TRANSPER DENTINE.

Fig. 7 In order to ensure an incisal light transmission in some places, an anatomical cut-back was used.

Fig. 8 The application of bluish-translucent EE9 approximately, whitish-translucent EE1 and the light blockade of beige MM1.

Fig. 9 The crowns were then completely coated with ENAMEL light.

Fig. 10 The interplay between intense shades, fluorescent effects and translucency after firing.

Fig. 11 Layering of EO1, NEUTRAL and WINDOW on the entire surface and characterizations with EFFECT PEARL 1.

Fig. 12 After the finalization and glazing, the crowns had an absolutely natural effect.

Fig. 13 The lively play of shade and light of the finished restorations.
Individually layered veneer restorations with excellent light dynamics

For cosmetic veneer reconstructions in the front, an intensive dialog with patients during the planning phase is a key factor in the success of treatment. A wax-up and mock-up help to purposefully and efficiently simulate the desired morphological target situation. Furthermore, the mock-up supports the practitioner with minimally invasive preparation. The patient-specific production of veneers using a veneering technique on refractory stumps enables an extremely natural and lively result. However, this requires a veneering ceramic system with which chromacy, translucency, opalescence and fluorescence can be specifically controlled. In the following case study, dental technician Marcio Breda demonstrates the production of highly individualized veneers with excellent light dynamics using VITA VMK Master veneering ceramics (VITA Zahnfabrik, Bad Säckingen, Germany).

Marcio Breda
Vitória, Espírito Santo, Brazil

A 38-year-old female patient was dissatisfied with the esthetic appearance of her front teeth in the upper jaw and presented at the dental office of Dr. Rafael Ballista. After multiple filling treatments with composite, the upper front jaw appeared lifeless and structureless. The incisal edge progression ran in a line from tooth 13 to 23, which looked unnatural. The central incisors had a different length-to-width ratio. When she smiled, it was noticeable that her buccal corridor was too pronounced on both sides, which made her upper jaw seem too small in relation to the width of her mouth. After detailed consultation, the patient opted for a rehabilitation of the esthetic zone with veneers made from VITA VMK Master veneering ceramic, applied individually to refractory stumps.

INITIAL SITUATION The initial situation of a patient with a pronounced buccal corridor.
RESULT The patient was visibly happy about the successful final result.

1. Initial clinical situation

DENTAL VISIONIST 1.9 FRAMEWORK MATERIALS, VENEERING MATERIALS AND STAINS FOR HIGH VITALITY
After the impression, situation models were prepared and articulated in habitual intercuspation. This was followed by an esthetic wax-up in the upper jaw, which was transferred into the patient’s mouth with a silicone key and temporary crown and bridge material. To fill out the buccal corridor more, this extended from tooth 16 to tooth 24. After a few details were added and subtracted in dialog with the patient, a pickup impression was taken of the situation. After local anesthesia, a guided mock-up preparation followed to provide the patient with non-invasive or minimally invasive treatment in the enamel area. An impression was taken of the upper jaw, and a master model was created on this basis, with refractory stumps on the relevant teeth.

VITA VMK Master is primarily used for the veneering of metal frameworks, but can also be used for the framework-free production of veneers.

For initial layering, VITA VMK Master DENTINE A1 was used in the cervical area, and DENTINE A1 and neutral TRANSLUCENT 4 (T4) were used in the incisal area. After the firing, DENTINE A1 was layered over the entire surface and a cut-back was carried out. In the mamelon area, shade-intensive DENTINE MODIFIER 2 (cream) and whitish T1 were subsequently layered over the DENTINE A1 in a three-to-one mixture. Work was done with light blue T5 and gray T7 in the incisal area, as well as with a two-to-one mixture of whitish ENAMEL 1 and neutral T4 in the central area, and the result was fired. In a next step, a balanced mixture of neutral WINDOW, T4 and opalescent OPAL TRANSLUCENT 1 was created over the complete surface. To integrate a halo effect, DENTINE A2 was applied to the incisal edge. Finally, PLT1 (pearlescent cream) was layered laterally and centrally to precisely lighten the dentine body.

2. Planning phase and preparation

3. Highly individual veneer layering
After the final firing, the eleven veneers were carefully finalized and polished. In the clinical try-in with glycerine gel, the patient was immediately enthusiastic about her new appearance, so a rubber dam was created and the conditioning of the restorations with hydrofluoric acid and silane started. After the vestibular enamel of the teeth was successively etched with phosphoric acid, the adhesive CLEARFIL SE BOND was applied (Kuraray Noritake, Tokyo, Japan), and beginning with the second quadrant, one veneer after the other was integrated with composite cement. The result was a highly esthetic restoration and a very happy patient. The veneers had an absolutely natural effect and were convincing with their balanced play of shade and light.

4. Final integration and final result

After the final firing, the eleven veneers were carefully finalized and polished. In the clinical try-in with glycerine gel, the patient was immediately enthusiastic about her new appearance, so a rubber dam was created and the conditioning of the restorations with hydrofluoric acid and silane started. After the vestibular enamel of the teeth was successively etched with phosphoric acid, the adhesive CLEARFIL SE BOND was applied (Kuraray Noritake, Tokyo, Japan), and beginning with the second quadrant, one veneer after the other was integrated with composite cement. The result was a highly esthetic restoration and a very happy patient. The veneers had an absolutely natural effect and were convincing with their balanced play of shade and light.

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