

THE DENTAL ADVISORTM

"Improving Patient Care Through Research & Education"



Photography by John W. Farah, D.D.S., Ph.D., Ann Arbor, Michigan

Composite Finishing and Polishing

Finishing establishes the final anatomical form and individual tooth characteristics of a restoration. Polishing renders the surface shiny and reflective. Finishing begins with the initial placement of the composite and a visualization of the final shade variations, anatomical form, and individual characteristics of the end result. This concept is essential to achieve the most esthetic result as well as reducing finishing time. Most initial finishing is done using 12-fluted carbide burs or medium/fine diamonds. Sharp new burs or single-use burs produce the smoothest, most consistent surface texture, which reduces finishing and polishing time.

This issue of THE DENTAL ADVISOR describes steps for finishing and polishing of full veneer, Class I, Class II, Class III, Class IV, and Class V restorations. Characteristics of 79 finishing and polishing systems from 16 manufacturers are reviewed.

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Excellent	+++++
Very Good	++++
Good	+++

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Composite Finishing and Polishing

Full Veneer, Class III and Class IV

- To minimize irregularities or finish lines between shades of composite, the entire final surface layer should be placed and cured at the same time. This technique allows smoother shade transitions and reduces voids in the composite.
- Remove excess composite and establish the incisal edge length, facial contours, and interproximal contours using long tapered medium/fine diamonds or 8- or 12-fluted carbide burs.
- Establish the emergence profile using a very thin, short tapered, safe-end carbide or fine diamond bur. Protect the gingival tissues by inserting a thin paddle instrument in the sulcus and gently retracting the tissue slightly to allow for insertion of the bur tip. Proceed slowly using a gentle sweeping motion in the rotational direction of the bur.

- Repeat with 16- and 30-fluted carbides or extra/ultra-fine diamonds for final contouring and finishing the margin.
- Use the size of football carbide or diamond that most closely matches the lingual concavity contour when adjusting occlusion and anterior guidance.
- Finish lingual embrasures with short tapered diamond or carbide burs.
- Finish proximal surfaces with metal-backed fine 200- to 300-mesh diamond or coarse/medium aluminum oxide finishing strips. Repeat with 600-mesh and 1000-mesh or fine/extra-fine aluminum oxide finishing strips.
- Take care to avoid laceration of the gingiva or lips.

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fini Polishing Disks Kit
(Pentron Clinical Technologies)

Product	Company	Surface¹	Shape²	No. of Grits	Type of Abrasive	Finishing	Pre-Polish	Polishing	Autoclavable/Disposable
3M ESPE Sof-Lex Contouring and Polishing Disc Kit #1980	3M ESPE	La, Li	D	4	Aluminum oxide	•	•	•	Disc: disposable; Mandrel: autoclavable
3M ESPE Sof-Lex Extra Thin Contouring and Polishing Disc Kit #2380	3M ESPE	La, Li	D	4	Aluminum oxide	•	•	•	Disc: disposable; Mandrel: autoclavable
3M ESPE Sof-Lex Finishing and Polishing Strips #1954, #1954N, #1956	3M ESPE	P	S	4	Aluminum oxide	•	•	•	Disposable
3M ESPE Sof-Lex Finishing and Polishing Systems Kit #2385P	3M ESPE	La, Li, P	D, S	4	Aluminum oxide	•	•	•	Disc: disposable; Mandrel: autoclavable
Astropol	Ivoclar Vivadent	La, Li, O	C, D, Fl	3	Silicon carbide	•	•	•	Disposable
CeriSander	Den-Mat	P	S	2	Diamond	•			Autoclavable, disposable
CeriSaw	Den-Mat	P	S	1	Stainless steel	•			Autoclavable, disposable
Compo-Disc	Premier Dental Products	P	D	1	Diamond	•			Autoclavable
CompoMaster Coarse	Shofu	All	C, D, F, Fb, P, W	1	Diamond	•			Autoclavable
CompoMaster Polishers	Shofu	La, Li, O	C, D, F, P, W	1	Diamond		•	•	Autoclavable
ComposiPro Diacomp	Brasseler USA	La, Li, O	C, D, P	2	Diamond		•	•	Autoclavable
ComposiPro One-Step Brushes	Brasseler USA	La, Li, O	Brush: C, P	1	Silicon carbide		•	•	Autoclavable
ComposiPro One-Step Polishers	Brasseler USA	La, Li, O	C, D, P	1	Diamond		•	•	Autoclavable
ComposiPro Universal	Brasseler USA	La, Li, O	C, D, P	1	Silicon carbide		•	•	Autoclavable
Composite Finishing and Polishing Introductory Kit	Brasseler USA	La, Li, O	B, Bu, C, D, P, S	4	Aluminum oxide, diamond, silicon carbide	•	•	•	Autoclavable, disposable
Compo-Strip	Premier Dental Products	P	S	3	Diamond	•			Autoclavable
Deliver-Eze	AXIS Dental	P	S	2	Aluminum oxide	•			Autoclavable
Diacomp	Brasseler USA	La, Li, O	C, D, P	2	Diamond			•	Autoclavable
Diamond Twist Super-Charged Polishing Paste	Premier Dental Products	La, Li, O	Pa	1	Diamond		•	•	Syringe: multi-use
Dura-Green Stones	Shofu	La, Li, O	C, D, F, Fb, P, W	1	Aluminum oxide	•			Autoclavable
Dura-White Stones	Shofu	La, Li, O	C, F, Fb, P, W	1	Aluminum oxide		•	•	Autoclavable
Enamelize	Cosmedent	La, Li, O	Pa	1	Aluminum oxide			•	Tube: multi-use
ENHANCE Finishing & Polishing System	DENTSPLY Caulk	La, Li, O	C, D, P, Pa	1	Aluminum oxide	•	•	•	Disc: disposable; Syringe: multi-use
ENHANCE/PoGo Complete Kit	DENTSPLY Caulk	La, Li, O	C, D, P	1	Aluminum oxide, diamond		•	•	Disposable
EP Composite Polishing System	Brasseler USA	La, Li, O	D	4	Silicon carbide	•	•	•	Disposable
Epitex Finishing and Polishing Strips	GC America	P	S	4	Silicon carbide	•	•		Disposable
ET Illustra	Brasseler USA	La, Li, O	C, D, P	2	Mix of aluminum oxide and silicon carbide		•	•	Single Use
fini Polishing Disks Kit	Pentron Clinical Technologies	La, Li, O	D	4	Aluminum oxide, silicon carbide	•	•	•	Disposable
fini Polishing Paste Kit	Pentron Clinical Technologies	La, Li, O	Pa	1	Diamond		•	•	Disc: disposable

¹Surface:
All = all surfaces
La = labial
Li = lingual
O = occlusal
P = proximal

²Shape:
B = brush
Bu = burs
C = cup
D = disc
F = flame
Fb = football
P = point
Pa = paste
S = strip
W = wheel

Composite Finishing and Polishing

- Fine finish all remaining surfaces with 16/30-fluted carbides; extra/ultrafine diamonds; or aluminum oxide medium/fine pre-polishing points, cups, or discs.
- Polish with high-shine diamond impregnated points, cups or discs using a light touch.
- Final polish with diamond-impregnated polishing paste or extra-fine composite polishing paste on a superbuff or felt pad.
- The surface should have a high luster matching the characteristics, contours, profile, and reflectance of the contra-lateral or adjacent tooth.

Class I and Class II

- Remove excess occlusal composite using the remaining anatomical tooth contour as a guide.
- For Class II restorations, form the marginal ridge where accessible, with a thin flexible disc or thin tapered bur.
- Adjust the occlusion, check for gingival excess and contour embrasures.
- Use a thin diamond finishing strip or sickle scaler, #6/7 to remove cervical excess. The width of the strip can be customized by cutting it lengthwise.

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FlexiDisc Top Finisher System (Cosmedent)



HiLusterPLUS Polishing System (Kerr Dental)



LUMINEERS Finishing Kit (Den-Mat)



Moore-Flex Advantage Kit (E.C. Moore)



Moore-Flex Starter Kit (E.C. Moore)

Product	Company	Surface ¹	Shape ²	No. of Grits	Type of Abrasive	Finishing	Pre-Polish	Polishing	Autoclavable/Disposable
FlexiBuff	Cosmedent	La, Li, O	D	1	Felt, mylar			•	Disposable
FlexiCups, FlexiPoints	Cosmedent	La, Li, O	C, P, W	2	Aluminum oxide		•	•	Autoclavable
FlexiDiamond Strips	Cosmedent	P	S	3	Diamond	•			Autoclavable
FlexiDisc Mini	Cosmedent	La, Li, P	D	4	Aluminum oxide	•	•	•	Disposable
FlexiDisc Plastic Center	Cosmedent	La, Li, O	D	4	Aluminum oxide	•	•	•	Disposable
FlexiDisc Top Finisher System	Cosmedent	All	C, D, P, Pa S, W	6-discs; 3-cups, points, wheels; 2-strips; 2-paste	Aluminum oxide, diamond	•	•	•	Autoclavable, disposable
FlexiStrips	Cosmedent	P	S	2	Aluminum oxide	•			Disposable
Gateway Strips	Brasseler USA	P	S	4	Diamond	•			Autoclavable
GC Metal Strips	GC America	P	S	4	Alundum	•	•		Autoclavable
HiLusterPLUS Polishing System	Kerr Dental	La, Li, O	C, D, F, P	4	Aluminum oxide, diamond	•	•	•	Autoclavable
Jiffy Composite Polishing Brushes	Ultradent	La, Li, O	Brush: C, P	1	Silicon carbide		•	•	Autoclavable
Jiffy Diamond Strips	Ultradent	P	S	1	Diamond	•			Autoclavable
Jiffy HiShine	Ultradent	La, Li, O	C, D, P	1	Diamond, silicon carbide		•	•	Autoclavable
Jiffy Polishers	Ultradent	La, Li, O	C, D, P	3	Aluminum oxide	•	•	•	Autoclavable
Jiffy Proximal Saw	Ultradent	P	S	1	Silicon carbide	•			Autoclavable
LUMINEERS Finishing Kit	Den-Mat	Li, P	Bu, C, Fb	6	Diamond	•		•	Autoclavable
Luminescence	Premier Dental Products	La, Li, O	Pa	1	Diamond		•	•	Syringe: multi-use
Luminescence Plus	Premier Dental Products	La, Li, O	Pa	1	Diamond		•	•	Syringe: multi-use
Micro-Fill Composite Finishing Kit	E. C. Moore	La, Li, O	D	4	Aluminum oxide, silicon carbide	•	•	•	Disposable
Min-Identoflex	Centrix	La, Li, O	C, P	3	Mesh aluminum oxide	•	•	•	Disposable
Moore-Flex Advantage Kit	E. C. Moore	All	D, S	4-discs; 2-strips	Aluminum oxide	•	•	•	Disposable
Moore-Flex Finishing & Polishing Strips	E. C. Moore	P	S	4	Aluminum oxide	•			Disposable
Moore-Flex Starter Kit	E. C. Moore	La, Li, O	D	4	Aluminum oxide, silicon carbide	•	•	•	Disposable
NTI Brown Polishers	AXIS Dental	La, Li, O	C, D, F, P, W	1	Silicon		•		Autoclavable
NTI DiaGloss Composite High Shine Polishers	AXIS Dental	La, Li, O	C, D, F, P, W	1	Diamond			•	Autoclavable
NTI DiaGloss Composite Pre-Polishers	AXIS Dental	La, Li, O	C, D, F, P, W	1	Diamond		•		Autoclavable
NTI DiaGloss Logic Set LS-501	AXIS Dental	La, Li, O	C, D, F	2	Diamond		•	•	Autoclavable
NTI Diamond Finishing Strips (Serrated and Abrasive)	AXIS Dental	P	S	3	Diamond	•			Autoclavable
NTI Green Polishers	AXIS Dental	La, Li, O	C, D, F, P, W	1	Silicon		•	•	Autoclavable
NTI PDQ2 Composite Polishing System	AXIS Dental	La, Li, O	C, D, P	1	Diamond			•	Autoclavable

¹Surface:
All = all surfaces
La = labial
Li = lingual
O = occlusal
P = proximal

²Shape:
B = brush
Bu = burs
C = cup
D = disc
F = flame
Fb = football
P = point
Pa = paste
S = strip
W = wheel

Composite Finishing and Polishing

- If no center-gap, metal-finishing strips can be carefully passed through the interproximal using cotton pliers.
- Finish margins with short tapered diamonds or carbide burs.
- Place secondary anatomy with 12-fluted short tapered carbides.
- Initially pre-polish with intermittent moderate pressure gradually reducing to a light touch.
- Repeat with high-shine, diamond-impregnated polishers and composite or diamond polishing paste on a felt or buffing disc.

Class V

- Make every effort to avoid tissue damage during the cavity preparation. Controlling bleeding during this phase greatly reduces composite placement time, finishing time, and increases the longevity of the restoration.

- For subgingival preparations, if sulcular space permits, a very thin retraction cord can be gently inserted to gain access to the cervical finish line.
- If minimal reduction is needed, use silicone and diamond-impregnated pre-polish and high-shine polishers to finish and polish the entire restoration.
- For posterior and subgingival restorations, use high-speed, safe-end tapered carbide or fine diamonds to establish the emergence profile. They then can be used to finish the entire restoration.
- Regular diamonds can be converted to safe ends by running 0.5 mm of the tip against a fine diamond stone until its shiny.
- For anterior restorations requiring contouring and where margins are accessible, use aluminum oxide discs to finish and polish. Mylar backed discs are more flexible and adapt better to the contours.

- If a higher luster is required, polish with extra-fine composite or diamond polishing paste on a felt pad or buffing disc.

Clinical Hints – Polishing

- Pre-polishers, high-shine polishers, and polishing pastes require moderate intermittent pressure at speeds generally between 10,000-20,000 rpm.
- Rotation of discs and polishers should be from composite to tooth to minimize “white lines” at the margins.



One Gloss PS
(Shofu)



OptiDisc
(Kerr Dental)



OptraPol Finishing &
Polishing System
(Ivoclar Vivadent)

Product	Company	Surface ¹	Shape ²	No. of Grits	Type of Abrasive	Finishing	Pre-Polish	Polishing	Autoclavable/Disposable
Occlubrush	Kerr Dental	La, Li, O	Brush: C, P	1	Diamond		•	•	Autoclavable
One Gloss PS	Shofu	La, Li, O	C, D, P	1	Aluminum oxide	•	•	•	Disposable
OptiDisc	Kerr Dental	La, Li, O	D	4	na	•	•	•	Disposable
OptraPol Finishing & Polishing System	Ivoclar Vivadent	La, Li, O	C, D, F	1	Silicon	•	•	•	Autoclavable
PDQ Composite Polisher and Brush Assortment LS-509	AXIS Dental	La, Li, O	B, D	1	Diamond	•	•	•	Autoclavable
PDQ Composite Polishing Brush LS-508	AXIS Dental	La, Li, O	Brush: C, P	1	Diamond	•	•	•	Autoclavable
PoGo One Step Diamond Micro Polishers	DENTSPLY Caulk	La, Li, O	C, D, P	1	Diamond		•	•	Disposable
Poli-Pro Disks Composite Polishing System	Premier Dental Products	La, Li, O	D	4	Aluminum oxide, silicon carbide		•	•	Disposable
Prisma Gloss	DENTSPLY Caulk	La, Li, O	Pa	2	Aluminum oxide		•	•	Syringe: multi-use
ProxiDiscs	Centrix	P	Interproximal disc	2	Stainless steel	•			Autoclavable
QwikStrip Abrasive & Serrated Strips	AXIS Dental	P	S	4	Diamond	•			Autoclavable
Shammy Bright Smile Polishing System	AXIS Dental	La, Li, O	D, Pa	1	Aluminum oxide or diamond			•	Disc: disposable; Syringe: multi-use
Sparkle	Pulpdent	La, Li, O	Pa	1	Diamond		•	•	Syringe: multi-use
Super-Snap Buff Disk	Shofu	La, Li, O	D	1	Synthetic velvet			•	Disposable
Super-Snap Finishing & Polishing Disk System	Shofu	All	D, S	4	Aluminum oxide	•	•	•	Autoclavable, disposable
Super-Snap Singles	Shofu	La, Li, O	D	4	Aluminum oxide	•	•	•	Disposable
Super-Snap SuperBuff Set	Shofu	La, Li, O	D	1	Aluminum oxide			•	Disposable
Ultradent Diamond Polish	Ultradent	La, Li, O	Pa	2	Diamond		•	•	Syringe: multi-use
VisionFlex Strips	Brasseler USA	P	S	3	Diamond	•			Autoclavable
Zip-Zip-Go	Centrix	All	C, P, Interproximal disc	3-cups & points; 2-interproximal discs	Mesh aluminum oxide: cups, points; stainless steel: discs	•	•	•	Autoclavable, disposable

¹Surface:
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La = labial
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O = occlusal
P = proximal

²Shape:
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Fb = football
P = point
Pa = paste
S = strip
W = wheel



Poli-Pro Disks Composite
Polishing System
(Premier Dental Products)



Super-Snap Finishing &
Polishing Disk System
(Shofu)

Liquid Polishes

Dentists today can choose to apply a protective coating as the final step in the placement of new composite restorations. These coatings are most commonly referred to as liquid polishes or surface sealants. Additionally, these light-cured resins can be used on indirect composites, provisional restorations, acrylic appliances, and in other restorative applications. Some products can be used on previously placed composites to resurface old and worn

restorations. Provided in a variety of delivery systems, they are designed to reduce chair-time and the number of polishing products and steps needed and to provide a long-lasting esthetic finish. In addition to giving a smooth, glossy finish, liquid polishes may seal margins and microscopic cracks and fissures and provide resistance to staining from food and beverages. Characteristics of seven liquid polishes are described.

Clinical Tips

- Cure the composite and complete traditional finishing and polishing.
- Typically, apply one coat and light cure.
- Some products (*DuraFinish*) claim to eliminate the need for finishing and polishing all together, while others

- (*BisCover*) can be used on uncured composite in order to cure and finish all in one step.
- After light curing, some products may require removal of the air-inhibited layer with alcohol. ■

Product	Company	Dispensing	Self-etching	Type of Light Cure	Length of Cure	Direct Composite	Indirect Composite	Provisional Restorations	Other	Rating
BisCover	Bisco Dental Products	Syringe	No	PAC or Halogen	30 s	Yes	Yes	Yes	Acrylic appliances, enamel before/after ortho bracket placement	91%
BisCover LV	Bisco Dental Products	Bottle	No	LED, PAC or Halogen	30 s	Yes	Yes	Yes	RMGI, Acrylic appliances, enamel before/after ortho bracket placement, enamel after whitening	95%
DuraFinish	Parkell	Bottle	No	Halogen	30 s	Yes	No	Yes	na	na
DuraFinish LED	Parkell	Bottle	No	All	30 s	Yes	No	Yes	na	na
EMBRACE WetBond Seal-N-Shine	Pulpdent	Bottle, syringe	No	All	20 s	Yes	Yes	Yes	Seal Pits and Fissures, enamel defects and margins of indirect restorations cemented with resin cement	91%
G-COAT PLUS	GC America	Bottle	Yes	LED or Halogen	20 s	Yes	Yes	Yes	Glass ionomers, jacket crowns	ce
Lasting Touch	DENTSPLY Caulk	Bottle, unit-dose	No	LED or Halogen	15 s	Yes	*Yes	Yes	na	na

*If composite resin or methacrylates.

ce = currently evaluating, na = not available



BisCover LV
(Bisco Dental Products)



Lasting Touch
(DENTSPLY Caulk)

QTX + + + +

Quick-TX
248.276.9631
www.quick-tx.com

Description

QTX is a secure, encrypted internet-based file-sharing application. It allows dentists to send and view electronic data such as patient referrals, files and digital images using a more secure method than traditional e-mail. QTX utilizes SSL (*Secure Sockets Layer*), which is the same technology used for online credit card transactions. SSL creates a secure

connection between a client and a server so file sharing is made HIPAA-compliant. With this application, the user can choose to share files; upload and view radiographs, images and documents; or upload a broad range of standard file types. It works with most common imaging software and is accessible from anywhere with an internet connection. The application does not allow for audio files to be uploaded and shared. QTX is designed to provide patients with time-saving access to specialists; low-cost access to digital imaging; real-time consultations with multiple treatment plans and multiple specialists to

help the user gain insight on complex cases; and elimination of x-ray duplication, printing and postage costs. Setting up an office with the system begins with an off-site appointment with the QTX technical support. They provide verbal step-by-step instruction on setup and use of the system. The system also offers clinical treatment and instant messaging services as well as an image enhancement tool bar. Clinical consultants in eight dental offices evaluated QTX over a six-month period. This system received an 86% clinical rating.

Suggested Retail Cost

- \$50.00/month or \$500/year

System Features

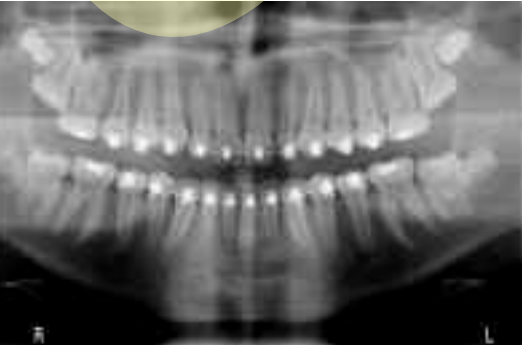
Overall, consultants spent an average of 45 minutes for QTX setup and the instructional process and felt the initial setup was simple. One office experienced difficulty with establishing passwords. The instructions were found to be very good, although some consultants commented on the desire to have “help” menus on each page of the web site to decrease the learning curve. Customer service was rated as very good. Integration of QTX with consultants’ current office protocol was also found to be very good.

However, QTX was limited to use only with *Internet Explorer* and not other web browsers and was not able to be used on *Apple Macintosh* operating systems. Ease of uploading files, adding notes to files, and opening files sent to the consultants were rated as excellent. Sharing files with other offices was cumbersome if the colleague’s office was not using the same system. Consultants liked the idea of gaining immediate peer insight to cases and found the system to be fairly reliable, but did not deem QTX to be a necessity. Twenty-five percent of consultants would recommend QTX to a colleague and 38% found it equivalent to or better than their current method of sharing patient records and images. ■

Editor’s Note: “Help” menus and the ability to utilize the *Macintosh* operating system are currently under development.

Consultants’ Comments

- ▶ “I like the idea of a HIPAA-compliant site to send x-rays and referrals.”
- ▶ “This system has good graphic features.”
- ▶ “The customer service staff was very nice and helpful.”
- ▶ “I did not like having to send login and password information to each specialist before posting files/images.”
- ▶ “There was not a help menu, except in the folder section.”



Ivoclar Vivadent, Inc.
800.533.6825 • 716.691.0010
www.ivoclarvivadent.us.com

Description

Tetric EvoCeram is a universal, nano-hybrid composite indicated for anterior and posterior restorations. Nineteen radiopaque shades are available: A1, A2, A3, A3.5, A4, B2, B3, C1, C2, C3, D3 (enamel shades); A3.5, A4, B2 (dentin); T (transparent incisal); XL, L, I, M (bleach). This light-cured composite consists of particles ranging in size from 40 to 3,000 nm with an average particle size of 550 nm. It is packaged in 0.2-g, color-coded, unit-dose capsules and 3-g, color-coded syringes. This product received a 99% clinical rating.

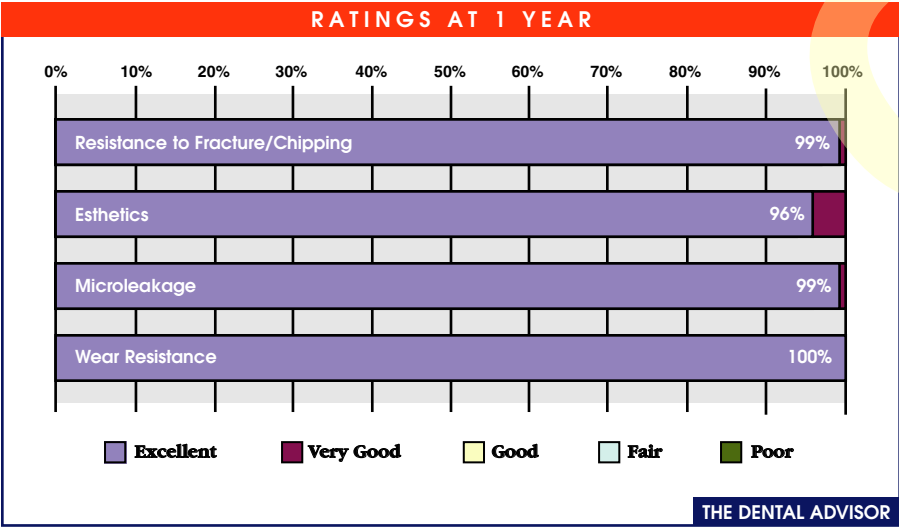
Clinical Evaluation Protocol

- Four hundred **Tetric EvoCeram** restorations were placed and monitored over an 18-month period.
- Two hundred twelve of these restorations were recalled. The recalled restorations had been in function for 12-18 months.
- Sixty-one percent (130) of the recalled restorations were bonded with *AdbeSE*, a 6th-generation bonding agent, while the rest were bonded with a variety of other bonding agents.
- At recall restorations were evaluated on a 1-5 rating scale: 1 = poor, 2 = fair, 3 = good, 4 = very good, 5 = excellent.

Clinical Results

Resistance to Fracture/Chipping

Two recalled restorations chipped or fractured. **Tetric EvoCeram** proved to be very resistant to fracture and chipping at one year, especially since 90% of the recalled restorations were posterior restorations.



Consultants' Comments

- ▶ "Material handles and sculpts well."
- ▶ "Excellent blending with the tooth."
- ▶ "A good universal product for all-around use."

Esthetics

The esthetics of **Tetric EvoCeram** was excellent at recall. Out of 212 restorations recalled, 203 (96%) received an excellent rating. The restorations blended extremely well with the tooth. When any shade was layered with the translucent shade, the opalescence and translucency improved the esthetics even further. In cases where the tooth was not discolored and the preparation was shallow, using the translucent shade alone was sufficient to result in a restoration that was totally undetectable.

Microleakage

Only two out of 212 restorations exhibited minor marginal staining. There was almost no staining at the margins regardless of which bonding agent was used.

Wear Resistance

None of the restorations exhibited any noticeable wear at 12 to 18 months.

Surface Finish

Not only did the restoration blend well with the surrounding tooth, but also the surface finish was excellent at recall. The restorations routinely had a glossy and smooth appearance.

Conclusions

Tetric EvoCeram is a composite with excellent handling characteristics. It is packable, not sticky, contours well, and is easy to finish and polish with excellent results. The results of the 12- to 18-month recall of 212 restorations demonstrated that the composite performed superiorly in all areas, including lack of fracture and chipping, esthetics, lack of microleakage, and surface finish. There was no perceptible wear of the composite or the opposing tooth structure. ■

Pulpdent Corporation
800.343.4342 • 617.926.6666
www.pulpdent.com

Description

EMBRACE Esthetic Opaquer

Kit is a direct placement opaquer, intended to mask the appearance of metals and discolored tooth surfaces under composite and ceramic restorations. The kit contains instructions, 20 applicator tips and opaquer in 1.2-ml syringes in five shades: bleach white, off-white, yellow, pink, and a unique brown color used for custom shading, characterization, or tinting of the other four shades. The individual shades can be mixed to achieve custom shades. The manufacturer reports that this resin can form chemical bonds to metal, ceramic, and tooth surfaces, although it is recommended that metals be microabraded and ceramics be either etched or microabraded before use. Tooth surfaces should be slightly moist before the product is applied. The use of a bonding agent is optional. Curing time is 20 seconds with a conventional halogen light; more powerful lights will cure the material faster. Twenty-four consultants evaluated **EMBRACE Esthetic Opaquer Kit** in over 150 restorations. This product received a 90% clinical rating.

Suggested Retail Cost

- \$87.50/kit
- \$22.50/refill

Product Features

Consultants commented that the **EMBRACE Esthetic Opaquer Kit** was a good product to have in the office and was very useful in specific clinical situations. The ability to mix a custom shade is helpful and consultants especially liked this versatility. Several consultants remarked that the yellow shade is very similar to the off-white shade, and they would have preferred it to have more chroma. Consultants especially liked the flow of the material but stressed the



Consultants' Comments

- ▶ "I would definitely keep this kit in the office, even though I wouldn't use it every day."
- ▶ "Dispensing directly from the syringe is easy."
- ▶ "Nice viscosity – the material stays in place."
- ▶ "There is a learning curve to selecting the best shade and mixing custom shades for the best result."
- ▶ "Including a ceramic etch and primer in the kit would be helpful."

need to follow directions carefully and use a brush or applicator tip to apply the material for the best results. Ninety-three percent of consultants found the **EMBRACE Esthetic Opaquer Kit** to be equal to or better than the product they currently use. Fifty-eight percent of consultants would switch to the **EMBRACE Esthetic Opaquer Kit** and 71% would recommend it to a colleague.

Clinical Tips

- When working with veneers or pressed ceramic crowns on stained teeth, apply opaquer followed by an opaque composite to help achieve a natural dentin color.
- Use the pink shade to increase the value of a dark tooth under ceramic or composite veneers.
- When used alone, the brown shade should be applied in a very thin layer.
- Use a microbrush or artist brush to judiciously spread the opaquer on the tooth. Make sure to cure completely before adding the next composite layer.
- When restoring an endodontic access opening in a ceramic-metal crown, place composite core material up to the level of the metal, followed by a layer of opaquer and then a layer of hybrid composite on the occlusal surface. This technique eliminates the gray appearance that can be caused by the metal shining through the composite. ■

x-tra fil + + + + ½

VOCO
888.658.2584
www.vocoamerica.com

Description

x-tra fil is a light-cured, radiopaque composite for direct posterior restorative procedures, including core buildups. The material is 70% filled by volume with hybrid filler particles intended to limit polymerization shrinkage with increased depth of cure (up to 4-mm increments). **x-tra fil** is compatible with LED and halogen lights, with a curing time of 10 seconds for lights with an intensity of > 800 mW/cm². The manufacturer recommends *Futurabond NR* as the bonding agent of choice, although **x-tra fil** may be used with any bonding agent. It is available in a single, universal shade and in both 0.25-g unit-dose capsules and 5-g syringes. Twenty-four clinical consultants used **x-tra fil** unit-dose capsules in over 400 restorations. This product received a 92% clinical rating.

Suggested Retail Cost

- \$76.95/20, 0.25-g unit-dose capsules
- \$67.95/5-g syringe

Product Features

Consultants reported that the translucency of the single shade of **x-tra fil** aided in blending of restorations with the surrounding enamel in most situations. The angle of the unit-dose capsule tip



Consultants' Comments

- ▶ *"This composite makes core buildups easy."*
- ▶ *"When I used x-tra fil with a sectional matrix, the interproximal contacts were excellent."*
- ▶ *"A very good posterior composite."*
- ▶ *"Life-like polish."*
- ▶ *"It would be good to have a second shade."*

is ideal for placement of the material into posterior preparations. The material handles well during dispensing, adaptation to cavity walls and sculpting. The viscosity of **x-tra fil** makes it easy to pack, and final interproximal contacts were rated very good. Finishing and polishing are easily accomplished, resulting in very smooth surfaces. The ability to bulk fill preparations and light cure in 10 seconds results in fast core buildups and fillings, which was viewed as an advantage by most consultants. While the high translucency of **x-tra fil** is a plus for speed, depth of cure and its chameleon effect, it also contributes to a high sensitivity to ambient light and a possible gray appearance to the filling. The radiopacity of **x-tra fil** is excellent. Sixty-three percent of consultants felt that **x-tra fil** is equivalent to or better than their current composites, 83% would recommend **x-tra fil** to a colleague.

Clinical Tip

- Reduce overhead illumination while placing **x-tra fil** to prevent premature curing.
- Use an opaquer to mask darkly stained dentin before placing **x-tra fil**. ■

THE DENTAL ADVISOR

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Midwest Caries Device + + + +

DENTSPLY Professional
800.989.8826
www.professional.dentsply.com

Description

The **Midwest Caries Device** is a lightweight, handheld device that is used to detect occlusal and interproximal caries. It is similar in size to a handpiece and is compatible with handpiece supports. The cordless unit is operated by two AAA batteries. The tip uses fiberoptic technology with a light-emitting diode (LED) to reflect light from the tooth surface. The reflected light is then converted to electrical signals for analysis. The unit has an on/off button and an energy-saving mode that automatically puts the unit into a sleep mode after two seconds of inactivity. When the tip contacts a surface, the unit automatically reactivates. It will automatically shut off after two minutes of inactivity. The tip of the **Midwest Caries Device** is placed in contact with the tooth surface as the green and red indicator lights come on. When the red light remains on, the **Midwest Caries Device** is indicating that the area beneath the probe may be carious. An audible signal that varies in intensity also characterizes the degree of damage to the tooth. The unit has recently received FDA approval for proximal caries detection. Detection of interproximal caries is made by probing on the occlusal surface of the marginal ridge but not from the buccal or lingual surfaces. The tooth that is being diagnosed must be free of debris, restoration and brown stain. The tip must be in contact with a damp tooth surface, but there is no need to apply pressure. Sixteen consultants evaluated the **Midwest Caries Device** on 332 teeth. This product received a 90% clinical rating.

Suggested Retail Cost

- \$3,299

Equipment Features

The **Midwest Caries Device** is neatly packaged in a foam-lined metal container along with the necessary materials and an instruction manual for



Consultants' Comments

- ▶ *"The instrument is small and cordless, making it easily portable."*
- ▶ *"The energy saving mode is useful, eliminating the need to turn off the unit."*
- ▶ *"Too many beeps – it should only beep when tooth is carious."*

easy assembly and setup. The instrument is to be used as an adjunct to routine clinical indicators for the detection of caries: discoloration, explorer-catch, and radiographs. The on/off switch is accessible and is also used to adjust the volume of the audible signals. The size and weight of the **Midwest Caries Device** allow it to rest comfortably, even in small hands. The simplicity of use and the time required to perform the exam make office implementation easy. The combination of the red light on the tooth surface and the distinctive beeps indicates the severity of the carious lesion. Some consultants felt that a digital read-out would allow comparisons over a series of successive recall exams. Seventy percent of the consultants rated the **Midwest Caries Device** equivalent to or better than other similar instruments they have used, and 54 % would recommend it.

Clinical Tips

- The **Midwest Caries Device** should not be used on or at the interface of dental restorations or on dark brown stains.
- Use on primary teeth is not recommended.
- The teeth should be cleaned and must be damp during the examination. ■

Editor's Note: Formerly known as NEKS D-Carie Mini.

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Silk Line™ + + + + ½

J. Morita USA
888.566.7482 • 949.581.9600
www.jmoritausa.com

Description

Silk Line is a soft denture relining material. The addition silicone material may be used to provide a long-term cushioning layer to the base of acrylic denture resins. The material can be used either chairside or in the laboratory. The kit contains an instruction card; a 50-ml auto-mix cartridge of reline material; 10 mixing tips; 5 ml each of primer, varnish base and catalyst; and accessories. When used intraorally, one minute of working time is allotted to apply **Silk Line**, and four minutes of intraoral curing time is required. Twenty-one consultants used **Silk Line** in over 85 reline applications. This product received a 92% clinical rating.

Suggested Retail Cost
• \$159.90/kit

Product Features

Consultants reported **Silk Line** was easy to use and gave consistent results. The flow characteristics were favorable, with ease of application rating better than similar products used by consultants. Patients reported satisfaction with characteristics such as taste, odor, lack of heat generation, and the translucent pink color. A solid, clean reline, free of seams and voids and with good retention to the underlying denture base, was routinely achieved. Some consultants would have preferred a shorter working time. Trimming with a scalpel sharp scissors, or low-speed rotary silicone trimming points, and the use of the included varnish provide an adequately smooth final finish. The retention of **Silk Line** is excellent. It works well when used to line immediate dentures. One hundred percent



of consultants found **Silk Line** to be equivalent to or better than their current soft relining material. Seventy-five percent said they would switch and 100% would recommend **Silk Line** to a colleague.

Clinical Tips

- Apply and smooth the material in a thin layer to avoid trimming a large amount of excess material after curing.

Consultants' Comments

- ▶ *"This product is great for the stabilization and correction of interim removable prostheses."*
- ▶ *"The translucent pink color blends with most denture bases."*
- ▶ *"Silk Line is a convenient way to create a functional post dam."*
- ▶ *"The flexible engagement of linguoalveolar undercuts can help retain lower dentures."*
- ▶ *"The material seems strong and retentive enough to provide options when cushioning and temporizing dental implants."*
- ▶ *"It would be nice to have the primer in unit-dose packaging to prevent cross-contamination."*
- ▶ *"The varnish is very viscous – supply it in an auto-mix syringe."*

Prepometer + + + ½

Hager Worldwide
800.328.2335 • 813.926.7474
www.hagerworldwide.com

Description

Prepometer is a battery-powered instrument designed to determine dentin thickness by measuring electronic resistance of the dentin above the pulp. The primary indication is in crown preparation. An alternating 500-Hz

current with amplitude of 10 µA flows between a reference electrode on the lip clip and a measuring electrode placed on the prepared dentin. The flow of the current is influenced by dentinal permeability; therefore, thick dentin with wide open dentinal tubules may show the same resistance as thin dentin with narrow tubules. The resistance is measured, evaluated, and displayed by LED lights on the unit. As the resistance decreases, the light colors change, indicating the increasing risk of pulpal exposure. Each measurement takes 10 seconds. Thinner areas can be marked with a pencil to prevent further reduction. The **Prepometer** is supplied in a blue plastic carrying case and includes the handpiece, a measuring electrode, a reference electrode, 20 disposable silicone tips, an auxiliary electrode used for calibration, and batteries. Each silicone tip can be autoclaved up to five times before discarding. Six consultants used the **Prepometer** in over 55 applications. This product received an 81% clinical rating.

Suggested Retail Cost
• \$889.90/unit

Equipment Features

The 13-page, black-and-white instruction manual has diagrams illustrating assembly, operation and battery replacement. Consultants noted that the written instructions could be clearer. The carrying case was often difficult to open and close, with one consultant breaking the clasp on the case. **Prepometer** is easy to setup and clean. Several consultants indicated that a simple on/off switch would be a beneficial feature. The time required to use **Prepometer** is short; the 10-second wait for each measurement was a favorite feature. Colored LED lights indicating dentin depth are simple to read, but could be improved by using a scale with increments of 0.5 mm. While consultants noted the clinical usefulness of **Prepometer** in the preservation of pulpal tissue by avoiding an exposure, they also noted its usefulness in the evaluation and treatment of tooth sensitivity. Some consultants questioned the

reliability of the subjective LED readings and did not feel comfortable replacing x-rays and clinical observation for tooth preparation.

Clinical Tips

- Prepometer should not be used on patients with pacemakers.
- Make sure the dentin surface you are testing is flat. ■

Editors' Note: The LED lights of the **Prepometer** provide an indication of the permeability of the dentin and indirectly provides feedback on the thickness of the remaining dentin. This permeability measurement may be important in determining which agent should be used for treatment of sensitive teeth or whether a liner is required after tooth preparation. Permeability measurements may also play a role in re-evaluating the success of treatment on sensitive teeth.

Consultants' Comments

- ▶ *"This is a good, unique product."*
- ▶ *"Simple to put together."*
- ▶ *"No patient discomfort."*
- ▶ *"I received inconsistent and somewhat questionable readings, especially if calcifications were present in the pulp chamber."*
- ▶ *"The colored light display requires repeated reference to the instruction manual."*

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BEYOND® Power Whitening System + + + + ½

BEYOND Health & Dental
408.746.3028
www.beyonddent.com

Description

The **BEYOND Power Whitening System**, comprised of *Beyond Whitening Accelerator* and the *Beyond II Single Patient Treatment Kit*, is an in-office tooth whitening system designed to whiten teeth in three, 10-minute treatments. The whitening gel is delivered in a dual-barrel syringe and contains hydrogen peroxide and silicon dioxide. The gel is activated by the system's light at a wavelength of 480-520 nanometers, which is filtered to remove any harmful ultraviolet light. The light is packaged with assembly instructions, two pairs of goggles, an instruction DVD, and an operations manual, as well as a marketing kit including 100 brochures, two wall posters, a standing poster, a before and after photo book, and a window decal. The whitening kit contains 3 ml of the whitening gel, a 2-ml bottle of 35% hydrogen peroxide, 650 mg of catalyst, 1 ml of gingival protector, cheek retractor, polishing sand, lip protection cream, 30-g tube of *BEYOND Pearl White Toothpaste*, and all the necessary accessories. The hydrogen peroxide is used in combination with the silicon dioxide for patients having dark stains or tetracycline-stained teeth before the

whitening gel treatment. The whitening gel must be refrigerated. The **BEYOND Power Whitening System** was used for 20 in-office whitening treatments. This product received a 91% clinical rating.

Suggested Retail Cost

- \$85.00/kit
- \$2,600/light

Product Features

The **BEYOND Power Whitening System** provides very good whitening results in a relatively short treatment time. The system is packaged with illustrated and written instructions and is supported by a DVD for assembly of the light and for the application procedure for the whitening treatment. The kit contains all the required materials for isolation and pre-treatment of dark discolored teeth and a toothpaste that contains calcium peroxide to remove superficial stains from the teeth after the whitening procedure. The whitening gel covers the tooth surfaces well, stays in place during the treatment, and can be easily removed with a high-volume evacuator. Although the light assembled quickly, consultants reported that it was somewhat unstable when it was moved between operatories. The average shade change was 4-5 shades on the Vita value-ordered guide. Patients with tetracycline-stained teeth who

were first treated with the mixture of hydrogen peroxide and silicon dioxide showed a definite improvement in whitening after one treatment, particularly in the incisal half of the teeth. A number of patients reported sensitivity in the teeth and soft tissues during and after treatment attributed to both the light and the whitening gel.

Clinical Tip

- For better adhesion of the gingival barrier apply a thin layer to dry gingiva, cure for three seconds per area or by moving across the arch for 20 seconds, apply a second thin layer and cure again for three seconds per area or by moving across the arch for 20 seconds. The gingival barrier performs best when cured completely. ■



Consultants' Comments

- ▶ **"Good results for the short treatment time."**
- ▶ **"Quick, simple procedure for patients with a busy schedule."**
- ▶ **"Some discomfort from the light."**
- ▶ **"Dam material does not flow as well as other gingival barriers I have used."**
- ▶ **"The light does not pivot and is difficult to align with the patient's mouth."**
- ▶ **"Cheek retractor is uncomfortable, need additional sizes to accommodate different size mouths."**

GrandiO Flow Veneer Kit + + + +

VOCO
888.658.2584
www.vocoamerica.com

Description

GrandiO Flow Veneer Kit is a flowable, nano-hybrid composite kit indicated for the adhesive cementing of ceramic and composite veneers and inlays. The kit contains four, 1.8-g syringes of *GrandiO Flow* (one each of A1, A2, Bleach, White Opaque); four, 1.2-g syringes of *GrandiO Flow Try-In Paste* (one each of A1, A2, Bleach, White Opaque); one, 5-ml bottle of *Ceramic Bond*; accessories; and instructions. *GrandiO Flow* is filled 65% by volume, radiopaque, and available in eight Vita shades: A1, A2, A3, B1, B2, C2, Bleach, White Opaque. The water-soluble *GrandiO Flow Try-In Paste* is available in the same eight shades. *Futurabond NR*

is the recommended bonding agent and is available separately. Twenty-two consultants were provided with the **GrandiO Flow Veneer Kit**, *GrandiO Flow* and *GrandiO Flow Try-In Paste* refill syringes, and *Futurabond NR* to evaluate in over 340 restorations. This product received a 90% clinical rating.

Suggested Retail Cost

- \$199.95/kit



Consultants' Comments

- ▶ **"This is a very versatile material."**
- ▶ **"Stays in place when placed on the tooth."**
- ▶ **"Syringe dispensing can be messy as material continues to flow after the pressure is released."**
- ▶ **"Add a bonding agent to the kit."**

Product Features

GrandiO Flow Veneer Kit is packaged in an easy-to-use kit with good instructions and a nicely illustrated chairside procedure card. The four shades packaged in the kit are a good selection for most cases. *GrandiO Flow* cleans-up well, has an acceptable working time and is easy to apply. A majority of consultants found the viscosity of the composite to be good, but a few suggested that if the viscosity were increased, it might stop bubbles from being dispensed during application and excess material from running out of the syringe after application. The composite is sensitive to ambient light. One consultant suggested turning off the operatory light to prevent premature curing. *GrandiO Flow Try-In Paste* provides a good shade match to the composite and is easy to use and clean-up. Patients reported a low incidence of postoperative sensitivity. Consultants suggested that adding the

recommended bonding agent to the kit would make a more complete kit. Eighty percent of consultants found the **GrandiO Flow Veneer Kit** to be equivalent to or better than their current veneer cement, while slightly more than half would recommend it to a colleague.

Clinical Tips

- To stop the composite from flowing out the syringe after dispensing, pull back on the plunger just a little.
- Mix the shades together for a customized shade. ■

Editor's Note: *GrandiO Flow Veneer Kit* is available with *Futurabond NR SingleDose* (50 single doses).

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ImprESSIX + + + + ½

DENTSPLY Raintree Essix
800.883.8733 • 504.488.0080
www.essix.com

Description

ImprESSIX is an extra-fast-setting, highly elastic alginate impression material that is reported to be dimensionally stable for two days (if stored properly) with the added benefit that each impression can be poured with stone twice. The alginate has a 40 second working time and a 60 second setting time. The manufacturer cautions that the use of non-distilled water may decrease working and setting times. The product is packaged with 500 g of powder in a compact bag and comes in a berry-red color and berry scent. An *Alginate Water Dosing Bottle* was included in the evaluation. The unique plastic squeeze bottle has a water reservoir and an upper dosing section that measures the correct amount of water for one, two or three scoops of powder. Twenty-four clinical consultants evaluated **ImprESSIX** alginate, taking

266 upper and lower impressions. This product received a 95% clinical rating.

Suggested Retail Cost

- \$29.95/starter kit (500-g bag of alginate, storage container, alginate scoop, and water dosing bottle)
- If purchased separately: \$14.95/500-g bag, \$239.00/case of 20, 500-g bags, \$39.95/storage container, \$0.99/alginate scoop, \$12.95/one water dosing bottle

Product Features

Seventy-five percent of the consultants expressed praise for **ImprESSIX** alginate. They liked the ease of dispensing the powder and mixing it with room temperature water for



Consultants' Comments

- ▶ "Patients loved the aroma."
- ▶ "Quick setting with excellent detail."
- ▶ "The water dispenser is great."
- ▶ "One of the best products I have seen."
- ▶ "Nice texture, very smooth."
- ▶ "Excellent material – nice to be able to get a second pour."
- ▶ "Not runny, great taste and scent, easy clean-up, bubble-free."
- ▶ "Fast setting is great for patients who gag."
- ▶ "The instructions could be better."

consistent mixes. Twenty-three out of 24 consultants particularly complimented the *Alginate Water Dosing Bottle*. It easily measures precise water volume. The texture and smoothness of the alginate received high marks. Consultants noted that the majority of patients liked the scent and taste of the material.

Though the material sets quickly, the working time is sufficient in most cases. Fifty percent of the clinicians preferred the extra-fast-setting characteristics of the material. The firmness of the set material, lack of bubbles or voids and detail of the impression all received very good to excellent ratings. Sixty percent of consultants rated **ImprESSIX** better than their usual alginate, and 63% indicated they would switch to this new material. ■

Editors' Note: DENTSPLY Raintree Essix has the **imprESSIX** Alginate Storage Canister that was not evaluated. The airtight seal of the container keeps alginate fresh and ready to use. The canister measures 7" high x 6" wide x 6" deep and holds two, 500-g bags of alginate. The alginate scoop is stored inside the hinged lid for convenience and easy access.

ALPHA-EASE + + + + ½

Dental Technologies, Inc.
800.835.0885 • 847.677.5500
www.dentaltech.com

Description

ALPHA-EASE is a one-step, glutaraldehyde-based product for treating and preventing dentinal hypersensitivity. It contains sodium fluoride and is designed to seal the dentinal tubules and inhibit bacterial growth. **ALPHA-EASE** is indicated for use under indirect and direct resin-bonded restorations in conjunction with other bonding adhesives or alone to reduce cervical sensitivity. It is applied to a clean, slightly moist, tooth surface in a gentle rubbing motion for 10 seconds and allowed to remain for 30 seconds. The material is then thinned with gentle air. No light curing or rinsing is required. **ALPHA-EASE** is supplied in a 7-ml bottle. Twenty-four consultants used **ALPHA-EASE** in over 525 clinical applications. This product received a 91% rating.

Suggested Retail Cost

- \$34.50/7-ml bottle



Consultants' Comments

- ▶ "Very easy to use."
- ▶ "Immediate results."
- ▶ "Viscosity makes it more difficult to displace with air but provides more control in cervical areas."
- ▶ "I appreciate the bacteriostatic and fluoride-releasing properties."

Product Features

The packaging and directions for **ALPHA-EASE** are simple. The single bottle and one-step application make integration of this product into daily procedures easy for both the dentist and hygienist. The relatively thick viscosity of the liquid provides good

control in cervical areas; however, completely avoiding soft tissue contact was not possible. Slight irritation of the tissue is sometimes visible but not uncomfortable for the patient. The poor taste resulting from the material is consistent with similar materials. Consultants noted almost immediate relief of cervical sensitivity in the majority of cases, leading them to apply **ALPHA-EASE** under provisional, direct and indirect restorations. Ninety-six percent of consultants reported **ALPHA-EASE** was the same as or better than their current desensitizer. Eighty-six percent would recommend it to a colleague and 63% would switch. ■

Contour Plus Powder Free Nitrile Gloves + + + +

Cranberry USA
888.811.6839 • 707.553.6190
www.cranberryusa.com

Description

Contour Plus Powder Free Nitrile Gloves are ambidextrous exam gloves with a textured surface for better grip. The latex-free and powder-free gloves have an inner coating of lanolin and vitamin E to minimize skin irritation without leaving a residue. They are white in color with a beaded cuff and are unscented. **Contour Plus Gloves** are manufactured, examined, and packaged with zero skin contact by workers to provide a cleaner end product. The gloves are available in boxes of 100

and in sizes XS, S, M, L, and XL. Fifty consultants, including dentists, dental hygienists and dental assistants, evaluated **Contour Plus** in over 1500 uses. This product received an 88% clinical rating.

Suggested Retail Cost

- \$9.95/box

Product Features

Contour Plus Gloves were well received by consultants for the ease of donning and removing. Consultants rated the gloves highly for the tactile sensation they provide as well as the lack of discoloration while in use. The consultants reported that **Contour Plus Gloves** were comfortable and kind to the skin. The white color of the gloves was also noted as a positive feature. Many consultants reported that the glove sizes ran smaller than the packaging indicated, and they had to use one size larger than normal. For some consultants, the fit was tight across the palm of the hand. Although nitrile gloves are inherently less elastic than latex, more than half of the consultants were pleased with the elasticity of the **Contour Plus Gloves**, with only minimal tearing occurring. Sixty-six percent of consultants rated **Contour Plus Gloves** equivalent to or better than the product they were currently using. ■

Consultants' Comments

- ▶ "One of the best gloves I have tried."
- ▶ "These are very thin for nitrile, which provides good tactile sensation."
- ▶ "My hands feel smooth after removing these gloves."
- ▶ "Make the sizes larger across the palm of the hand."
- ▶ "Improve consistency of sizes within each box."

CLINICAL CONSULTANTS

C. Ramsey, FL
S. Ratner, NY
R. Reichl, GA
G. Reskakis, NY
C. Rice, MA
A. Ridall, TX
J. Riggs, MI
M. Rogers, PA
W. Roper, TX
F. Ross, WI
K. Ross, MI
K. Rowan, MO
R. Sambuchi, MI
P. Sandvick, WI
D. Schimmel, PA
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M. Sylvester, CA
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G. Zann, FL
S. Zimmer, MI

LABORATORY CONSULTANTS

Alpha Dental Studio, MI
Nellmar Laboratory, LLC, MI

Premier Dental Products Co.
888.670.6100 • 610.239.6000
www.premusa.com

Description

Enamel Loc is a self-etching, light-cured pit and fissure sealant that contains fluoride. No pretreatment of the tooth with phosphoric acid is necessary. **Enamel Loc** is placed onto the surface of a clean tooth, allowed to remain undisturbed for 15 seconds, and then light cured for 20 seconds. The self-etch feature requires only a single-step before light-curing. For best results the manufacturer recommends a oil- and fluoride-free pumice with a pointed tip prophyl brush, a fissure bur, or air abrasion as a pit and fissure cleaning method. Use of a prophyl cup is not recommended. The standard kit contains one, 1.2-ml syringe of *Natural White* color sealant and 10 applicator tips. **Enamel Loc** was evaluated by 25 consultants who placed 344 sealants. This product received a 92% clinical rating.

Suggested Retail Cost

- \$23.20/kit



Consultants' Comments

- ▶ *"The short procedure time and the self-etch feature make this a great product."*
- ▶ *"It is very convenient."*
- ▶ *"Easy to use – only one product needs to be stocked."*
- ▶ *"The product is a little too runny."*
- ▶ *"Make the product in a clear version or to have a color change when cured."*

Product Features

Enamel Loc is packaged in a complete kit with clear, concise instructions for use. The opaque Natural White shade provides excellent visibility during placement and finishing. The flowable viscosity allows for easy sealing of pits and fissures on both permanent and primary teeth. Many consultants remarked that the self-etch, single-step feature was desirable for quick application in pediatric cases. Some consultants reported that the low viscosity often allowed too much material to be expressed onto the tooth or that it would continue to run out of the syringe. They suggested using a narrower gauge tip or a brush-tip applicator. Eighty percent of consultants found **Enamel Loc** better than the sealant they were currently using, and 68% said they would switch or recommend it to a colleague.

Clinical Tips

- Using a smaller applicator tip will prevent run-on of material.
- Use a brush tip to aid in application.
- Pulling back on syringe plunger will stop flow.
- Pits and fissures must be dry before sealant application. For maximum retention, allow **Enamel Loc** to sit uncured in the pit and fissure for at least 15 seconds while it etches the enamel surface. ■

"Best Kept Secrets" Cosmetic and Restorative Dentistry

John W. Farah, D.D.S., Ph.D., Editor

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Invite Dr. Farah to be your next guest speaker!

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