While all of these specialties currently use SimPlant for implant treatment planning, Materialise Dental is currently developing new SimPlant packages directed toward specific specialties. For instance, SimPlant Ortho will be available in the near future with others to follow.

**How are you changing dentistry? How do you see the field changing over the next five or ten years?**

It is becoming more apparent that CT scans and dental implants are the fastest growing products in the dental industry, as they are becoming more important in dentistry each day.

SimPlant supports that relationship by combining the CT scanner with three-dimensional implant treatment planning software into a user-friendly interface for your desktop computer.

SimPlant allows clinicians to interact with the axial, cross-sectional, and panoramic views, as well as a clean and clear three-dimensional representation of the patient’s anatomy for diagnostic evaluation of bone, teeth and nerves.

**What’s in the works at Materialise?**

In 2007, Materialise Dental introduced SimPlant Version 11 and will continue to introduce one major product upgrade per year.

This year a bone grafting module was developed to complement SimPlant Version 11. This module (purchased separately) allows you to simulate bone grafts in three-dimensional images and provides you with instant detailed graft measurements.

Any model thereafter that Materialise Dental produces will include the newly grafted area. This new feature will help save a considerable amount of time during planning as well as during surgery.

The advanced bone grafting module is best suited for implant practices where bone grafting plays a prominent role in proper implant placement, patients request full disclosure and visualization of the proposed procedure, and implementing time-saving steps is customary.

**What are your growth/expansion strategies?**

Materialise Dental’s U.S. division is in the process of moving to a larger facility to accommodate the production of SurgiGuides in North America, thus cutting down on production and shipping time.

Materialise Dental is also in the process of developing new uses for SimPlant. Currently, SimPlant can be used for implant treatment planning, simulating bone grafts, and cranio-maxillofacial treatment planning.

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