Eight ways you can improve your leadership skills today

Being a good dentist doesn’t make you a good leader — skills do

Owning and operating a successful dental practice calls on not just your expertise in dentistry but also on your leadership abilities. Being an effective leader will help you focus your staff and your partners on creating and maintaining the kind of dental practice that you can be proud of.

The following eight areas of focus can help practice owners and other dental professionals develop and strengthen leadership skills:

1. **Promote creativity.** When staffs are encouraged to express creativity, they stretch their limits.

2. **Display your passion.** If employees see that you care about your work and your practice, they’ll be more likely to care too.

3. **Listen.** If you don’t know what’s happening in your practice or among your workers, you can’t fix problems or address concerns. Ask questions, check in on staff members in different areas of your practice and find out what’s going on. The more you know, the better you’ll be able to reach your workers and address their needs.

4. **Be honest.** If things have gone wrong or are less than perfect in your practice, own up to it and look for ways to improve. Effective leaders don’t deny weaknesses and mistakes; they learn from them.

5. **Communicate.** People who work with you need to know what direction things are headed. Be sure employees are informed about changes and developments in the practice, particularly those that affect them.

6. **Be a role model.** If you’re asking people to work longer hours, don’t clock out early. If you want staff to abide by a new workflow practice, be sure you’re taking part. Build trust by practicing what you preach, and employees may be increasingly receptive to your leadership.

7. **Be positive.** People will likely be more agreeable if they feel your guidance will lead to something good. Be confident about the direction your practice is taking.

8. **Be open.** Every day you have the opportunity to learn something new, either from your surroundings, what you read, what you observe or the people you work with. Being a leader means continuing to grow and change so you can take your practice with you on the journey.

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(Source: PNC Financial Services Group)
VOCO introduces new ISO-pak infection- and climate-control packaging

Air-tight, individually sealed foil saves time and money

By VOCO Staff

VOCO, a Germany-based global leader in the manufacturing of dental restorative materials, offers the next level of quality control with the introduction of its new ISO-pak packaging.

For use with all of VOCO’s composites (Grandio, GrandioSO, x-tra fil) and VOCO’s new nano-ORMOCER Admira Fusion, the new ISO-pak comes as an air-tight, individually sealed foil that includes the product name, expiration date, shade, cure time, storage information and lot number imprinted on each individual unit.

The ISO-pak will maximize the infection control efforts of each office, saving the offices time and money by making the disinfection of each single unit dose capsule obsolete.

An added ISO-pak benefit is humidity control. All encapsulated composites and ORMOCERS on the market have the tendency to get stickier with increased levels of humidity or stiffer in low humidity levels. The new ISO-pak is an air-tight packaging solution that will provide the clinician the same consistency of VOCO restoratives for each use, whether they are located in the dry winter arctic air of Canada or in the moist humid air in the tropics of Florida.

VOCO’s new ISO-pak offers added value to its customers without any additional costs passed on.

According to the company, VOCO is proud to continue to be an industry leader and innovator when it comes to product solutions and product value — as experienced by both dentists and their patients.

For more information on VOCO’s new ISO-pak packaging and VOCO products, you can visit the VOCO websites at www.voco.com and www.vocoamerica.com. Additionally, you can earn C.E. credit online through www.vocolearning.com. Contact VOCO America at (888) 658-2584 or infousa@voco.com.

Calcicur: A ready-to-use radiopaque water-based calcium hydroxide paste

High pH for anti-microbial effect, promotion of secondary dentin formation

By VOCO Staff

VOCO recently introduced Calcicur, a radiopaque water-based calcium hydroxide paste. According to the company, Calcicur is an ideal material for direct pulp capping and after pulpotomies as well as indirect pulp capping in cases of deep decay. Containing 45 percent calcium hydroxide, Calcicur provides high pH values (12.5) for an anti-microbial effect and the promotion of secondary dentin formation. Calcicur’s high pH values also allow for the indication of temporary root canal fillings, the disinfection of root canals and the lining of cavities to prevent exposure to acid media when using cements.

Calcicur’s endo tip makes root canal treatment easy, minimizing time and effort. Photos/Provided by VOCO
Authors cover full-range of techno-clinical aspects of the fixed removable prosthesis

**Book is dedicated to the removable prosthesis that’s ‘Made in Italy’**

The industry’s first book dedicated to combined restorations and removable prostheses was released in October. Its title: “Techno-clinical aspects of Fixed removable prosthesis.”

The book helps illustrate how the combined prosthesis now offers the edentulous or partially edentulous patient comfort that was unthinkable a few years ago. The combined prosthesis is a valuable solution but only if done by experts in the field of clinical dentistry working with dental technicians with in-depth knowledge of clinical anatomy, occlusion, gnathology and dental materials.

The idea for the book came from a desire to provide guidelines to all those who want to learn this branch of dentistry and who want to deepen their knowledge of techniques and protocols. To create the book, a team of dentists and dental technicians skilled in multiple solutions and techniques were invited to contribute. The result is a resource previously unavailable in a single text.

The book involved 27 authors and 23 cases. The introduction was written by three professors from three Italian universities: Siena, Milan and Turin. The book is intended to be read by an international audience; it has been written in Italian, English and Spanish.

The authors are Prof. Andrea Borraccini, University of Siena; Dr. Alessio Casucci and Prof. Gianfranco Gassino, University of Turin; Dr. Massimo Pasi, University of Milan; Dr. Luca Ortenesi, Dr. Caterina Perra, Dr. Ugo Torquati Gritti, Dr. Daniele Vrespa, Dr. Gabriele Rosano, Dr. Riccardo Stefani, Dr. Gerardo Schiatti, Dr. Mauro Colombo, Dr. Umberto Ferrone, Dr. Eugenio Guidetti, Dr. Marco Montanari, Dr. Massimo Pedrinazzi, Dr. Alessandro Iorio Siciliano, D.T. Luca Ruggiero, D.T. Giuliano Bonato, D.T. Armando Buongiovanni, D.T. Carlo Borromeo, D.T. Vittorio Capezzuto, D.T. Salvatore Chimenz, D.T. Rodolfo Colognesi, D.T. Davide N dalini, D.T. Marco Ortenesi and D.T. Giancarlo Riva.

To learn more, visit www.rhein83.com or send an email to marketing@rhein83.it or telephone 39 (335) 784-0719.

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You can visit the company online at www.rhein83usa.com to learn more about all of its products and services.

(Source: Rhein83)
**Wireless and unconnected**

**Headlight transfers across loupes, frames**

**LED DayLite WireLess not tied to single pair of loupes or a specific eyeglass frame**

Designs for Vision’s new LED DayLite® WireLess™ not only frees you from being tethered to a battery pack, but the simple modular design also uncouples the “Wireless” light from a specific frame or single pair of loupes. Prior technology married a cordless light to one pair of loupes via a cumbersome integration of the batteries and electronics into the frame. The compact design of the DayLite WireLess is independent of any frame/loupes. The patent-pending design of the LED DayLite WireLess is a new concept: a self-contained headlight that can integrate with various platforms, including your existing loupes, safety eyewear, lightweight headbands and future loupes or eyewear purchases. The LED DayLite WireLess is not limited to just one pair of loupes or built into a single, specific eyeglass frame. The LED DayLite WireLess can be transferred from one platform to another, expanding your “WireLess” illumination possibilities across all of your eyewear options. The LED DayLite WireLess weighs only 1.4 ounces and, when attached to a pair of loupes, the combined weight is half the weight of integrated cordless lights/loupes. The LED DayLite WireLess produces more than 40,000 lux at high intensity and 27,000 lux at medium intensity. The spot size of the LED DayLite WireLess will illuminate the entire oral cavity. The function of the headlight is controlled via capacitive touch. The LED DayLite WireLess is powered by a compact, rechargeable lithium-ion power pod. It comes complete with three power pods. The charging cradle enables you to independently recharge two power pods at the same time and clearly displays the progress of each charge cycle. Designs for Vision has been showing the Micro Series together for the first time this winter. The Micro 3.5x EFS Scopes use a revolutionary optical design that reduces the size of the prismatic telescope by 50 percent and reduces the weight by 40 percent, while providing an expanded-field full-oral-cavity view at 3.5x magnification.

The new Micro 2.5x Scopes are 23 percent smaller and 36 percent lighter than traditional 2.5x telescopes, and enlarge the entire oral cavity at true 2.5x magnification. The Micro Series is fully customized and uses the proprietary lens coatings for the greatest light transmission. You can “See the Visible Difference®” yourself by visiting the Designs for Vision booth, No. 413 at the American Association of Endodontists meeting, No. 1119 at the Oregon Dental Association, or No. 1323 at the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry session. Or arrange a visit in your office by calling (800) 345-4009 or emailing info@dvimail.com.

( Source: Designs For Vision)

**Flow Dental launches new Deluxe Cushies**

Deluxe Cushies from Flow Dental enable your patients to leave the chair happy. Only Deluxe Cushies work on either the long or short side of sensors, PSP envelopes, or film. Deluxe Cushies are soft and cushiony, versatile, easy to use, and are one size fits all, according to the company. Proudly made in the USA, Deluxe Cushies are single use and packaged in an easy to use self-dispensing box of 300. Item No. 15810. For more information, or to order, contact your local dealer or visit www.FlowDental.com.

( Source: Flow Dental)