The completely renewed Planmeca Romexis®

Planmeca Romexis® Smile Design revealed

Pioneering Planmeca Ultra Low Dose™ protocol
Planmeca Romexis® 4.0.R
One software – all solutions
Imaging and CAD/CAM in one system

The completely redefined Planmeca Romexis® 4.0
Discover Planmeca Romexis® 4.0 – the brains behind Planmeca’s products. Built around an improved user-friendly interface, the new version of the unequaled all-in-one software combines 2D and 3D imaging with the complete CAD/CAM workflow, while also providing innovative connectivity with Planmeca equipment.
Welcome the new era of digital dentistry!
Dentistry is at an exciting crossroads. The digital dental revolution has already begun and soon 3D technology is going to transform the entire field. In a fully digital workflow, it will be of paramount importance that all devices and software work together completely seamlessly. This reality is at the core of all Planmeca product development.

The International Dental Show in Cologne, Germany is a great chance to get a first-hand look at our latest innovations and leading dental technology. We are extremely proud to welcome several new additions to our extensive product lineup this year.

Our revolutionary all-in-one software platform Planmeca Romexis® 4.0 is the brains behind all our products. It provides extended connectivity with Planmeca dental equipment, and is also the first software in the world to combine 2D and 3D imaging and the entire CAD/CAM workflow. Planmeca Romexis 4.0 introduces a radically improved user interface, as well as a complete selection of features designed for the needs of different specialists – welcoming the new era of digital dentistry.

The future will not only be digital, but also increasingly mobile. Our user-friendly Planmeca mRomexis™ image viewer has been designed for flexible multiplatform use. The mobile application presents our market-leading usability to Android users for the first time – and is also available for iOS devices and as a browser-based desktop application. Planmeca mRomexis is the ideal solution for fast and light viewing of images, as it allows users to stay on top of their workflow even when on the go.

Planmeca 4D™ Jaw Motion is the only true CBCT integrated solution for tracking, recording, visualising and analysing jaw movement in 3D. It provides valuable visualisation and measurement data of mandibular 3D movements in real-time. The tracking system will soon be available as an option for the Planmeca ProMax® 3D Mid and Max X-ray units – opening up new dimensions in diagnostics.

Planmeca Romexis® Smile Design is an intuitive software program that allows dentists to easily create harmonious new smiles for patients in a matter of minutes. It is a powerful tool for smile designing, visual communication and treatment planning. The software will reduce the possibility of misunderstandings and increase case acceptance.

These are some of the exciting new innovations we will be presenting at IDS – but there is also much more to discover. We are going to guide dentistry into the future like no one else can: Planmeca has always been a forerunner in building a rich ecosystem of devices, software and services. Our unrivaled product portfolio covers everything needed in a high tech dental clinic: all 2D and 3D imaging modalities together with digital dental units, CAD/CAM systems and comprehensive software solutions.

Our strong commitment to R&D ensures that we will remain at the cutting edge of our industry and our dedication to continuous development enables us to offer the most inspiring working environment for dental professionals worldwide.

I am looking forward to another great year for dentistry!
Planmeca Romexis® 4.0
– a completely renewed all-in-one software

Planmeca Romexis® is the first dental software in the world to combine 2D and 3D imaging and the complete CAD/CAM workflow, while also providing extended connectivity with Planmeca dental equipment. The new version 4 of the software introduces an improved user interface that will ease the daily workflow of dental professionals around the world. Available for Apple Mac OS and Microsoft Windows, Planmeca Romexis 4.0 allows Planmeca products at a dental clinic to work together seamlessly.

The revolutionary Planmeca Romexis® software platform offers a multitude of tools and features to meet the demands of different specialists. Version 4 of the software redefines the all-in-one experience, further improving user-friendliness and presenting a wide selection of enhanced modules. Optimised for Full HD screens, the fresh new look and design of the software corresponds with the fluid usability that has come to define Planmeca products.

First-class usability
Planmeca Romexis 4.0 delivers a user experience that is second to none. Its innovative dashboard interface utilises a flexible tile-based layout, helping users streamline their workflow and do more with fewer clicks. The software now dedicates more room for patient images, while its redesigned toolbars enhance usability.

In addition, the Planmeca Romexis® 3D Implant Planning module has been upgraded with several awaited tools, including implant alignment, safety areas with alerts, as well as a custom abutment designer. Version 4 also adds many essential functional enhancements, most importantly its 3D object browser – a feature that allows easy management of annotations and implant simulation elements.

A true all-in-one experience
“We have strived to build a complete ecosystem of devices, software and services that communicate with each other smoothly. Planmeca Romexis has always been integral to this process, as it is essentially the brains behind all our products,” remarks Ms. Helianna Puhlin-Numminen, Vice President, Digital Imaging and Applications division at Planmeca. “The new software version is a great step forward in providing users with an even smoother workflow. With Planmeca Romexis 4.0, the future of digital dentistry has arrived.”

Planmeca is a forerunner in developing a complete range of solutions for dental professionals. The Planmeca Romexis software platform is at the heart of this endeavour – supporting the most versatile range of 2D and 3D imaging modalities and integrating the entire chairside CAD/CAM workflow from intraoral scanning to prosthetic designing and milling in one software. The Planmeca Romexis® Clinic Management module further provides extensive connectivity and real-time information of Planmeca dental units, X-ray devices and milling units.
Planmeca Romexis® Clinic Management now supports all Planmeca digital dental units, Planmeca ProMax® 2D and 3D X-ray units and the Planmeca PlanMill® 40 milling unit.

The pioneering Planmeca Romexis® Clinic Management software module now offers real-time information and monitoring of Planmeca’s dental units, X-ray devices and the Planmeca PlanMill® 40 milling unit, bringing unique benefits and services to its different user groups:

• Dentists can store their personal dental unit settings (chair positions and instrument settings) to Planmeca Romexis Clinic Management and access them from any dental unit at the clinic.
• Dental assistants, who are also often responsible for infection control, can make sure that infection control procedures have been performed properly.
• Planmeca PlanMill® 40 users can monitor the status of the milling units, as well as keep track of the estimated completion times of their tasks.
• Members of the technical staff can remotely monitor the entire clinic in real time. All dental, X-ray and milling unit usage information is also recorded to a database, which provides valuable information when solving technical problems.
• Remotely performed mass dental unit software updates result in significant time and cost savings.
• Clinic managers receive reliable information on dental unit usage hours, as well as the number and type of completed milling jobs and taken X-ray images. This data can be used to improve clinic efficiency and it is also valuable when planning new investments.

Building on the success of the popular Planmeca iRomexis™ mobile application, Planmeca mRomexis™ is the ideal solution for fast and easy viewing of 2D and 3D images, Planmeca PlanScan® 3D optical impressions and Planmeca ProFace® facial photos. It introduces several fresh features, such as a recent images list, multiplatform support and multiplanar reconstruction views of 3D images.

Planmeca mRomexis helps users stay on top of their workflow, ensuring that the images most relevant to their next task are always readily at hand.

Planmeca mRomexis allows users to access images in the Planmeca Romexis® database on a local network, or carry images with them on their mobile devices. Images can also be flexibly shared via the secure Planmeca Romexis® Cloud image transfer service.

“When designing Planmeca mRomexis, we put a strong emphasis on usability”, comments Ms. Helianna Puhlin-Nurminen, Vice President, Digital Imaging and Applications division at Planmeca. “The application ensures easy and straightforward sharing of vital images for users who are often on the go – allowing them to always stay informed.”

The iOS and Android versions of Planmeca mRomexis are available on iTunes and Google Play.
Planmeca PlanScan® is the world’s first dental unit integrated intraoral scanner

Planmeca’s full range of open CAD/CAM solutions for dentists and dental technicians includes the world’s first dental unit integrated intraoral scanner – Planmeca PlanScan®. The scanner’s unique integration with Planmeca dental units guarantees a smooth workflow, as real-time scanning data is now immediately available from the chairside tablet device. Scanning can also be controlled from the dental unit’s wireless foot control for hands-free operation.

A smooth scanning workflow
The ultra-fast and accurate Planmeca PlanScan® can now be easily integrated with any digital Planmeca dental unit. Thanks to the dental unit’s Full HD tablet device, the dental team has constant and optimal access to live scanning data. This allows them to focus on the treatment area without any distractions. The scanner also provides practical sound guidance to ensure optimal data capture.

Unique foot controlled scanning
What also sets Planmeca PlanScan apart from other scanners is that it can be conveniently controlled from the dental unit’s wireless foot control, leaving the user’s hands free for scanning and patient treatment at all times. The foot control allows easy toggling between prep, opposing and buccal views, so that the dentist can focus on scanning without interruptions. Hands-free operation also guarantees impeccable infection control.

Easy and flexible use
Planmeca PlanScan has been designed for an efficient workflow – it is used just like any other dental instrument and shared effortlessly between different users. The plug-and-play scanner can also be easily installed in different dental units and different rooms. The flexible licensing system enables different CAD/CAM work phases (scanning, designing and manufacturing) to be performed simultaneously by different users. “This is a truly innovative product that guarantees a smooth and effortless chairside workflow and lets dentists concentrate on their patients. The system is built on our Planmeca Romexis® software platform – the first software in the world combining CAD/CAM and X-ray imaging. This means that all images and scans are conveniently available through one user interface”, says Mr. Jukka Kanerva, Vice President, Dental Care Units and CAD/CAM at Planmeca. “Together with our other Planmeca CAD/CAM® solutions, Planmeca PlanScan contributes to better patient care and helps to increase the clinic’s productivity.”

Planmeca ProSensor® HD elevates the standard of intraoral dental imaging

Planmeca further strengthens its position in the intraoral imaging market with a new addition to its product portfolio. The Planmeca ProSensor® HD intraoral sensor offers a unique combination of image quality, patient-centred design and usability. It sets a new standard for intraoral dental imaging – ensuring successful results in all treatment situations.

Planmeca ProSensor® HD is an innovative new intraoral sensor that provides users with many key benefits. It produces outstanding images in a matter of seconds, while providing usability that assures smooth operation at all times. The intraoral sensor is fully compatible with both Mac OS and Windows.

Cutting-edge image quality and usability
With an image resolution of over 20 lp/mm, Planmeca ProSensor HD offers true HD quality. Supporting detailed diagnosis, the intraoral sensor with a fibre-optic layer captures sharp, low noise and high contrast images. The wide dynamic range of the sensor guarantees consistent results.

Planmeca ProSensor HD is always easily at hand. It can be integrated into the Planmeca ProX™ intraoral X-ray unit, or connected to through Ethernet or a USB port. The sensor has a sophisticated magnetic connector that is easy to attach using only one hand, while the white colour of the sensor’s cover enhances visibility to ease positioning. The elegant control box with a distinguished design is equipped with a colour-coded LED light, providing instant visual feedback of the imaging procedure.

Durable patient-centred design
Planmeca ProSensor HD has been designed with patient comfort and durability at mind. Capturing an image takes only a few seconds and the sensor’s rounded edges make imaging procedures comfortable for patients. To fulfil all intraoral imaging needs, the sensor is available in three different sizes. Planmeca ProSensor HD has been built to last. For optimal endurance, the sensor cable includes only two wires and Planmeca’s special five-year warranty program ensures that the sensor is a safe investment.

“Planmeca ProSensor HD is a refined combination of usability, design and image quality,” notes Ms. Helianna Puhlin-Nurminen, Vice President, Digital Imaging and Applications division at Planmeca. “The intraoral sensor’s clever design details ensure an efficient workflow, while also taking patients’ needs into consideration. Planmeca ProSensor HD provides outstanding images without compromise – quickly, easily and consistently.”
Planmeca Romexis® Smile Design allows dentists to create harmonious new smiles for patients

Planmeca has made a strong commitment to improve the daily workflow of dentists all over the world. The newest addition to the company’s vast product portfolio is Planmeca Romexis® Smile Design – a powerful and intuitive software program developed for smile designing, visual communication and treatment planning. It revolutionises dentists’ communication with other specialists, dental labs and patients – resulting in a higher rate of case acceptance, as well as an improved realisation of created designs.

Planmeca Romexis® Smile Design allows dentists to design new smiles using a simple 2D facial smile photo and intelligent teeth silhouettes. As is the Planmeca standard, the software enables a workflow that is characterised by its ease-of-use. Designing a smile is a straightforward process – it takes only a matter of minutes and can be done with a few clicks.

Exceptional ease-of-use
All the needed tools for designing warm new smiles are included in Planmeca Romexis Smile Design, as the software allows manipulation of the position, shape and dimensions of teeth – individually or as a group. Planmeca Romexis Smile Design automatically shows the dimensions and ratio of tooth height to width and also provides all the required measurement tools for analysing proportions of the teeth and face. Modifying teeth has never been as easy and designs can be completed precisely according to patients’ distinctive needs. The result is a photorealistic simulation of a patient’s new harmonious smile.

Improved communication
Planmeca Romexis Smile Design is a powerful tool for marketing, patient education and communication. The software actively involves patients in the designing process and allows them to see the full potential of their smiles beforehand. Foreseeable results help to build trust and decrease uncertainty, as patients can rest assured that the outcome of the treatment will match their expectations.

Planmeca Romexis Smile Design also provides dentists with the means to visually and numerically communicate with other specialists and dental laboratories in determining the correct treatment options for patients. Interdisciplinary collaboration improves the quality of care significantly and reduces the possibility of misunderstandings. Designs can be printed out or securely sent to patients, dental labs or other specialists via the Planmeca Romexis® Cloud file transfer service.

Compatibility with CAD/CAM and orthodontic software
Planmeca Romexis Smile Design is more than a visualisation tool, as finalised 2D designs can act as a visual guide or reference for physical mockup designing, as well as final restoration. “Completed smile designs can be easily connected to a 3D reality, as they can be exported on to Planmeca PlanCAD® Easy, Planmeca Romexis® 3D Ortho Studio, or any other orthodontic or CAD/CAM software,” says Ms. Helianna Puhlin-Nurminen, Vice President, Digital Imaging and Applications division at Planmeca. “Planmeca Romexis Smile Design is an invaluable link between treatment planning and implementation, as it revolutionises the way dentists communicate with labs and specialists visually.”

Planmeca Romexis Smile Design is available for Windows and Mac OS. It is sold as a standalone version, as well as a module for the Planmeca Romexis® all-in-one software.
Planmeca announces advanced Planmeca 4D™ Jaw Motion

Planmeca is expanding its extensive product range with an unmatched method for tracking jaw movement. The standard-setting Planmeca 4D™ Jaw Motion system offers incomparable visualisation and measurement data of mandibular 3D movements in real-time. It will be available as an option for the Planmeca ProMax® 3D Mid and Max X-ray units.

Planmeca 4D™ Jaw Motion is the only true CBCT integrated solution for tracking, recording, visualising and analysing jaw movement in 3D. Utilising CBCT imaging and Planmeca ProMax® 3D ProFace cameras, Planmeca 4D Jaw Motion tracks and visualises jaw movements in real-time, requiring no additional hardware in the process. Captured 3D visualisations are displayed in the Planmeca Romexis® imaging software without delay, allowing immediate diagnostics. All data can also be recorded for later use and analysis.

With Planmeca 4D Jaw Motion, it is possible to measure and record the movement path of one or more points of interest in a 3D image. For occlusion analysis, digital dental models can be aligned with a CBCT image. All movement and measurement information can be exported to 3rd party software in an XML or CSV format for analyses and treatment planning.

“Planmeca 4D Jaw Motion provides users with extremely valuable quantitative data regarding lower jaw movement, as well as other information unattainable with a static 3D image”, states Ms. Helianna Puhlin-Nurminen, Vice President, Digital Imaging and Applications division at Planmeca.

Planmeca 4D Jaw Motion can be used for temporomandibular disorder (TMD) diagnostics, mandibular movement analysis, articulator programming, as well as preoperative planning and postoperative treatment verification.
Planmeca’s cutting-edge endodontic imaging mode – detailed images without noise or artefacts

Specifically designed for endodontic studies, Planmeca’s advanced endodontic imaging mode provides perfect visualisation of even the finest anatomical details. It is available for all X-ray units belonging to the Planmeca ProMax® 3D family and is ideal for endodontics, as well as other cases that require imaging of small anatomical details, such as imaging of the ear. The program produces extremely high-resolution images with a very small voxel size (only 75 µm).

Thanks to the intelligent Planmeca AINO™ noise removal and Planmeca ARA™ artefact removal algorithms, noise-free and crystal-clear images are produced.

Planmeca ARA removes artefacts efficiently
Metal restorations and root fillings in the patient’s mouth can cause shadows and streaks in CBCT images. The intelligent Planmeca ARA Artefact Removal Algorithm removes these artefacts efficiently from Planmeca ProMax 3D images.

Planmeca AINO removes noise from CBCT images
A particularly low radiation dose or small voxel size can cause noise in 3D X-ray images. The new Planmeca AINO Adaptive Image Noise Optimiser is an intelligent noise filter that reduces noise in CBCT images without losing valuable details. The filter improves image quality in the endodontic imaging mode, where noise is inherent due to the extremely small voxel size. It is also especially useful when using the Planmeca Ultra Low Dose™ protocol, where noise is induced by the particularly low dose. Planmeca AINO also allows reducing exposure values and consequently the radiation dose in all other imaging modes.

Without artefact removal

With Planmeca ARA™ artefact removal algorithm

Without noise removal

With Planmeca AINO™ noise filter

Mr. Makoto Nakao, President of the renowned dental care product manufacturer GC Corporation, visited Planmeca headquarters in Herttoniemi, Helsinki in January. The visit was hosted by the President of Planmeca Mr. Heikki Kyöstilä, who presented Mr. Nakao with a preview of Planmeca’s IDS highlights and innovations.

Planmeca CAD/CAM™ Chairside Integrated workflow

• Open solutions for all digital dentistry
• High precision for prosthetic works
• One software platform from scanning through design to milling
Planmeca ProMax® 3D units offer the unique Planmeca Ultra Low Dose™ imaging protocol, which enables CBCT imaging with an even lower patient radiation dose than standard 2D panoramic imaging. This pioneering imaging protocol is based on intelligent 3D algorithms developed by Planmeca and yields a vast amount of detailed anatomical information at a very low patient dose.

The protocol can be used with all voxel sizes and in all imaging modes from Normal to Endodontic mode. Using the Planmeca Ultra Low Dose protocol reduces the effective patient dose by up to 75–80%.

The Planmeca Ultra Low Dose™ protocol has changed 3D imaging completely.

We at MESANTIS® 3D DENTAL-RADIOLOGICUM produce about 7,500 CBCT images per year at eight locations in Germany.

Our main concern in X-ray imaging is to reduce the possible radiation dose as much as is reasonably achievable (ALARA principle). Traditional digital 2D X-rays at an orthodontist’s clinic usually have an effective dose ranging between 26–35 µSv (ICRP 2007). Conventional CBCT images of the head with modern CBCT equipment show an effective dose ranging between 49–90 µSv. The latest image protocol with a specific associated algorithm is called the Planmeca Ultra Low Dose™ protocol. In medical terms, it allows radiologists to adjust imaging parameters individually according to the clinical needs of each case. The mA-values, in particular, can be individually adjusted and reduced for each patient, as it is required according to all international scientific guidelines. Therefore, it is possible to further reduce the effective dose significantly by using the Planmeca Ultra Low Dose protocol. Depending on the field of view, nowadays CBCT equipment with a Planmeca Ultra Low Dose algorithm has an effective dose between 4 to 22 or 10 to 36 µSv.

Our patients and referring colleagues are always happy to hear that the effective dose for certain indications is now even lower than in traditional 2D X-ray imaging. Since last year we have been able to replace the common CBCT protocols with the Planmeca Ultra Low Dose protocol.

At MESANTIS® 3D DENTAL-RADIOLOGICUM in Germany, the Planmeca Ultra Low Dose imaging protocol is used either with a small or large field of view. Using the new protocol, a lot of patients can benefit from improved 3D diagnostics without being exposed to a higher radiation dose.

Prof. Dr. Axel Bumann states that he has not received any financial reward or other benefit for this interview.
Planmeca ProMax®
CBCT with CAD/CAM technology:
The perfect combination

CBCT imaging is becoming the new standard of care for complete patient information. These images provide multi-faceted views of teeth and everything below the gum line, including the mandibular nerve canal, making them an invaluable tool for planning implant cases and other restorative treatments.

In most cases, the STL data can also be utilised by the lab to create the final surgical guide for placing the implant with unparalleled accuracy and speed. Temporary and final restorative crowns can be milled in-office in a matter of minutes or milled by a lab as little as 24 hours. Planmeca’s imaging and CAD/CAM technology have captured this concept with the Planmeca ProMax® 3D family of imaging units and the Planmeca PlanScan® and Planmeca PlanMill® systems, offering doctors the ability to acquire a data set with more detail than ever.

Streamlining the digital workflow
Digital dentistry is streamlining virtually every aspect of the restorative workflow. Traditionally, doctors submit a physical impression to the lab with the prescription and instructions written out on paper. This is gradually ceding ground to an entirely digital process where the patient’s information and doctor’s instructions are sent to the lab electronically via a digital impression system.

Planmeca PlanScan restorations can be delivered mere days after the laboratory receives the patient’s intraoral scans, while the Planmeca PlanMill 40 in-office milling unit is making same-day dentistry a reality. The restorations produced by the PlanScan restorative system, along with the combining of the digital impression with CBCT scans, reduce the costs and treatment time associated with replacing a tooth, increasing the demand for digital dentistry exponentially.

For those who want to continue to work with their labs, all of the patient information needed to produce a model-less restoration can be submitted digitally to a dental laboratory. At the same time, clinicians enter the patient’s information and prescription data into their digital impression system’s software prior to submitting each case. Because the Planmeca PlanScan system is an open system and the dental team can send the file in a standard DICOM format, exchanging patient data is easy between most systems through Planmeca Romexis® software.

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Maximising practice profitability with open architecture
Data standardisation is essential to driving down costs for patients, doctors and laboratories alike by establishing interoperability between intraoral scanners, CAD/CAM software and other dental systems. Ultimately, having a common standard that allows the disparate systems used in dental care to function as plug-and-play devices rather than requiring pricy IT solutions will reduce the costs of integrating these new technologies into dental practices and maximise the ROI of the equipment. Planmeca’s CBCT and CAD/CAM imaging systems, along with Planmeca Romexis digital treatment planning software, are using this idea to improve the efficiency, predictability and cost-effectiveness of dental restorations, making chairside dentistry a lucrative investment for dentists who wish to grow their practice and offer patients the latest in same-day technology.

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Access Planmeca product information – wherever you are

Explore our whole product range
The Planmeca Showroom application for iPads and Android tablets
The free, multilingual Planmeca Showroom mobile application lets you explore Planmeca’s dental units, imaging devices, CAD/CAM solutions and software online or offline with your iPad or Android tablet.
Take a virtual tour of our Helsinki headquarters showroom:
find detailed product information and view clinical images, demo videos and animations. You can also send product brochures by email ROI calcula-
tions are available as well
The Planmeca Showroom application is available for download from the App Store and Google Play.

Read and share electronic brochures and user manuals
The Planmeca Brochure Kit and Planmeca Manual Kit for iPads, Android tablets and desktop use
Browse and read our latest materials from the Planmeca Brochure Kit and the Planmeca Manual Kit – online or offline. You can also choose to send a download link to selected materials by email. These free applications are available for download from the App Store and Google Play.
Even the desktop versions let you work offline (Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome recommended). The desktop versions are available at:
• planmeca.com/brochurekit
• planmeca.com/manualkit

Download product images, brochures and user manuals online
The Planmeca Material Bank for desktop use
The Planmeca Material Bank is the online source for all public product materials related to Planmeca. You can download images, brochures and the latest versions of user manuals. Should you need a brochure or a second copy of a user manual, you can order one from the material bank.
Visit the Planmeca Material Bank at planmeca.com/materialbank.

Planmeca PlanScan®
The ultimate scanning experience

• The world’s first dental unit integrated intraoral scanner
• Constant chairside access to live scanning data from Full HD tablet device
• Wireless foot control for hands-free operation

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COPY TIINA LEHTINEN AND HANNA YLIJÄRVI

PLANMECA
A year ago, Finnish dentist Harri Lahti fulfilled a long-time dream of his and started his own clinic. As Lahti wanted to invest in the newest dental technologies, he decided to acquire the complete Planmeca CAD/CAM® Chairside solution – from the Planmeca PlanScan® intraoral scanner to the Planmeca PlanMill® 40 milling unit. Lahti’s clinic is also equipped with Planmeca’s dental units and X-ray devices.

The idea of founding a modern digital dental clinic of his own had been simmering in Harri Lahti’s mind for quite some time. He collaborated with Planmeca’s Finnish distributor and subsidiary Plandent Oy to set up his new clinic. Hymio Hammaslaakonit – roughly translated “the Smiley Dentists” – took a comprehensive role in the clinic’s designing process and also handled all equipment and software deliveries and installations. “Planmeca’s products are stylish and Plandent has a youthful way of operating, which I like. The clinic designing service provided by Plandent was extremely useful. Also, I didn’t want to shop around for each individual item in search of the cheapest possible price – getting everything from the same place was more important to me,” Lahti explains. Overall this ended up being more affordable, and now I know where to call in problem situations”, Lahti explains.

Lahti’s clinic has three treatment rooms and it is equipped with a wide array of Planmeca products, such as Planmeca Compact® iTouch dental units, Planmeca ProMax® intraoral X-ray units, as well as a Planmeca ProMax® 2D 3D X-ray unit. “My Planmeca ProMax has worked very well – the quality of the X-ray images it produces is superb”, Lahti says. “I had some previous experience using Planmeca products, so I knew what I was getting. Many of my colleagues also recommended Planmeca, complementing the durable aluminium frames of their dental units, for example.”

Creating a modern practice with digital dentistry

Lahti joined Planmeca at the Finnish Dental Congress and Exhibition to introduce visitors to the intricacies of CAD/CAM work Image: Marjut Tapper

Harri Lahti scans the teeth efficiently with digital impressions immediately transferring to the Planmeca PlanCAD® Easy design software.

Impressed patients

The clinic’s CAD/CAM work has made a great impression on Lahti’s patients. “They have been astonished. I have often taken the extra time to show patients the images of their scanned teeth. They have been impressed by the efficiency of the workflow. Word of mouth is really the best marketing I get – patients telling their friends about the dentist who designed their teeth with a computer”, Lahti laughs.

Lahti has also been very pleased with the Planmeca CAD/CAM® Chairside concept. In particular, he is fond of the Planmeca PlanMill® 40 high precision milling unit, which mills materials according to their properties – delicate materials are handled carefully and resilient materials more briskly. “Many people have commented on how great it is that a competitive option for CAD/CAM is finally available.”

The Planmeca PlanScan® intraoral scanner can now be integrated with Planmeca’s digital dental units. This eliminates the need for a laptop in the scanning process, as the scanner can be directly connected to the dental unit. The scanning data can now immediately be seen from a chairside tablet device. Planmeca PlanScan has been designed for an efficient workflow as it can be shared between different users and treatment rooms and used just like any other dental instrument.

A functional CAD/CAM system has also allowed Lahti’s clinic to optimise its workflow and distribution of work. “Our dental hygienist Marjut Komulainen has regularly worked on e-max and empress fillings, while dental assistant Piia Hernesniemi has been learning the intricacies of scanning. This enables us to improve our efficiency, as I can utilize the extra time by treating patients in another room,” Lahti states happily.

Creating a modern practice with digital dentistry

References: Europe

Lahti joins Planmeca at the Finnish Dental Congress and Exhibition to introduce visitors to the intricacies of CAD/CAM work Image: Marjo Tapper

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The clinic’s CAD/CAM work has made a great impression on Lahti’s patients. “They have been astonished. I have often taken the extra time to show patients the images of their scanned teeth. They have been impressed by the efficiency of the workflow. Word of mouth is really the best marketing I get – patients telling their friends about the dentist who designed their teeth with a computer”, Lahti laughs.

Lahti has also been very pleased with the Planmeca CAD/CAM® Chairside concept. In particular, he is fond of the Planmeca PlanMill® 40 high precision milling unit, which mills materials according to their properties – delicate materials are handled carefully and resilient materials more briskly. “Many people have commented on how great it is that a competitive option for CAD/CAM is finally available.”

The Planmeca PlanScan® intraoral scanner can now be integrated with Planmeca’s digital dental units. This eliminates the need for a laptop in the scanning process, as the scanner can be directly connected to the dental unit. The scanning data can now immediately be seen from a chairside tablet device. Planmeca PlanScan has been designed for an efficient workflow as it can be shared between different users and treatment rooms and used just like any other dental instrument.

A functional CAD/CAM system has also allowed Lahti’s clinic to optimise its workflow and distribution of work. “Our dental hygienist Marjut Komulainen has regularly worked on e-max and empress fillings, while dental assistant Piia Hernesniemi has been learning the intricacies of scanning. This enables us to improve our efficiency, as I can utilize the extra time by treating patients in another room,” Lahti states happily.

Creating a modern practice with digital dentistry

References: Europe

Lahti joins Planmeca at the Finnish Dental Congress and Exhibition to introduce visitors to the intricacies of CAD/CAM work Image: Marjo Tapper

Harri Lahti scans the teeth efficiently with digital impressions immediately transferring to the Planmeca PlanCAD® Easy design software.
Crisp images of the upper neck with Planmeca’s CBCT device

A few years ago, Seppo Villanen, a Finnish physiatrist specialised in pain management, visited Planmeca’s stand at the Finnish Medical Convention and saw a CBCT image of a patient with an obvious sequela of a fracture in the neck area. This gave him the idea of using a dental 3D X-ray imaging device for imaging patients with neck problems. The idea turned out to be a success, and nearly 30 patients have now been imaged in cooperation with Pantomo Oy, a company offering dental X-ray imaging services.

Seppo Villanen has his practice at medical centre Mehiläinen, which is located in the Helsinki Metropolitan Area. The patients he has referred for a CBCT (cone beam computed tomography) examination have mostly been patients suffering from pain in the upper neck. “During a routine MRI scan of the neck, the upper neck is usually left outside the image, since the scan acquires transverse slices from the C3 vertebra downwards. What’s more, a regular X-ray examination of the neck is routinely performed in a manner that also leaves the upper neck outside the image,” CBCT imaging, on the other hand, covers the entire upper neck, from the base of the skull to the C4 vertebra, which is precisely the area that is often missing from routine studies.”

Villanen’s neck patients are sent to Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology Center Pantomo Oy for imaging with Planmeca ProMax® 3D, and the images are interpreted by radiologist Raija Mikkonen. “We have cooperated with Raija for years”, says Villanen.

In most cases, CBCT imaging is done to support MRI imaging, since the methods complement each other. In some cases, however, a CBCT scan is all that is needed: “It does not provide an insight to soft tissues, but if the image is sufficient to provide an answer to the current question, other methods are not needed.”

“One of the many benefits of CBCT imaging is the low radiation dose compared to e.g. a traditional CT scan.”

Moreover, the method produces very thin slices, with feasible thicknesses of 0.1 to 0.2 mm. In hospitals, CT scans for traumas are usually performed with a slice thickness of 2 mm, and MRI scans are sometimes performed with a slice thickness of up to 5 mm. “The thinner the slice, the more reliable it is when you are studying small things”, says Villanen. “Thin slices have a better resolution and afford better measurements.”

Furthermore, a CBCT scan can be post-processed to include all required slice thicknesses. “They can also be acquired in a high resolution CT scan, but that would produce an even higher radiation dose”, describes Mikkonen.

Thin slices, low radiation doses and a natural head position

One of the many benefits of CBCT imaging is the low radiation dose compared to a traditional CT scan. Conversely, bony structures do not show up well in MRI images, and small bones can be easily confused with scar tissue. In a CT image, even small changes in the bone are plainly visible”, describes Mikkonen.

Also the patient position is better in a CBCT scan than in a CT scan. A CT scan is acquired with the patient lying down, whereas in a CBCT scan, the patient is sitting up, allowing a more natural head position. “In a lying position, the load experienced by the head is not completely natural. All in all, radiologists should make more use of functional imaging, so that patients could be imaged in their normal working positions, for example.”

Fast imaging increases patient comfort

From the patient’s perspective, a CBCT scan is quite pleasant – in addition to the low radiation dose, the procedure is quick. While a regular MRI scan takes about 20 to 30 minutes, and a functional MRI scan up to two hours, a CBCT scan is completed in less than a minute.

“Many patients have been surprised at the brevity of the scan”, says Mika Mattila, a dentist specialised in radiology, who is in charge of imaging neck patients referred to Pantomo Oy by Villanen.

“Planmeca’s device has a handy cervical spine program that sets the device to the right position automatically. The only difference in patient positioning, compared to dental patients, is that the head of neck patients must be turned with extreme caution.”

The open patient positioning also pleases people with claustrophobia. “Some patients may be very relieved for not having to go into a tube for a scan.”

CBCT images of trauma patients

Some of Villanen’s CBCT patients have sustained a neck or head injury in an accident: car accident, horse riding accident, a fall, or by a heavy object falling on their head at a construction site. The patients range from 17 to 80 years of age, and the majority of them are women. “Research shows that all other things being equal, women are more prone to injuries in a car crash than men.” The position of the head is crucial in a crash, and women often make the mistake of first turning their head to see if the children in the back seat are okay

You should not look back, but protect yourself”, says Villanen.

Villanen and Mikkonen state that the upper neck is a relatively new area of interest in imaging and medicine. “The upper neck has been somewhat of a no-man’s land, even though it is one of the most mobile joint systems in the body. A neuroradiologist examines the brain, while a radiologist usually examines the area below the C3 vertebra. Treatment of a neck injury patient is a challenging multidisciplinary effort that requires a clinician, a physiotherapist and a radiologist. If a brain or spinal injury is also suspected, the team needs a neurologist and a neuropsychologist as well.”

A CBCT scan is an economical imaging method of which many insurance companies have agreed to cover the costs, describes Villanen.
New imaging capabilities for Planmed Verity® introduced

With the most significant upgrade yet to the Planmed Verity® extremity scanner, Planmed introduces a number of new features to its popular CBCT unit, along with an even better image quality. The new 2.0 version of the Planmed Verity® Manager software (VM2.0) also further improves usability, one of the core values of Planmed’s design philosophy.

Images without artefacts
Metal implants causing different types of artefacts are always troublesome in medical imaging. With the VM2.0 software, artefacts caused by surgical screws and implants can now be reduced to a minimum by fine-tuning images by metal suppression. Hard and soft tissue resolution can also be improved with specific image reconstruction filters and kernels. Furthermore, it is now also possible to examine the original, metal-artefact-free 2D images used for 3D reconstruction for better diagnostic support. With VM2.0, you can always get the optimal image for different purposes, ranging from smooth 3D rendered images visualising complex fractures to sharper images for detailed bone structure analysis.

Usability with new features
For users, the most striking change is the new, larger multi-touch display. You can now zoom and rotate images with two fingers, just like with your mobile device. We have also developed a new method to help patient positioning. The HoverTray feature provides more comfort for a fracture patient by reducing the need to move the extremity for scanning. Additionally, it is now easier to define your own imaging protocols. Collabo
Planmeca broadens its scope to the field of educational business

COPY HANNA KORIN AND DANIEL PURSSALA

NIIDE – the Nordic Institute of Dental Education – is a joint venture company Planmeca founded together with the University of Turku. It has been the logical next step in Planmeca’s close and decades-long collaboration with the university world. Utilising Planmeca’s technological innovations, as well as the University of Turku’s strong academic pedigree, NIIDE offers continued education courses to international dental professionals looking to strengthen their expertise.

Collaboration between the public and private sector can be notoriously tricky and challenging. However, when carried out carefully and open-mindedly, it can lead to outstanding results otherwise difficult to reach. With the Nordic Institute of Dental Education, Planmeca and the University of Turku have taken a brave step that promises to be fruitful. Founded in collaboration with the University of Turku – and most importantly, our clients”, states Ms Jenni Pajunen, CEO of NIIDE. “Our first courses are organised this spring.”

Sky-high goals

Pajunen has been running the company since its inception last summer. The process has been more akin to a marathon than a sprint, as the field of educational business is very competitive and newcomers have to patiently build from the ground up. Acquiring world-class lecturers and attracting participants to courses does not happen overnight – it requires extensive background work to take place. After establishing the needed infrastructure, NIIDE’s first courses are now ready to take place. More course options could be introduced as soon as the fall of 2019, as the company continues to communicate with its stakeholders to develop its course offerings.

“Instead of providing rigid one-size-fits-all solutions, we want to identify groups who we can offer tailored courses to”, Pajunen reveals. “We continue to take feedback into account when planning unique educational concepts to offer to different markets.”

NIIDE has been received very positively and has already generated much interest. The company has ambitious aspirations. “In addition to being an important part of Planmeca’s educational business, we are aiming to become a leading company offering Finnish dental expertise”, Pajunen states.

The goal is not far-fetched. Planmeca can supply NIIDE with market-leading dental technology, as well as expertise to match it. In addition to acclaimed lecturers from the academic and clinical worlds, NIIDE is going to utilise Planmeca’s in-house talent in some of its courses. “We can provide a rare blend of cutting-edge technology and expertise as a part of our curriculum”, Pajunen summarises. “We also want to build on the strengths of Finland as an exotic travel destination that has a lot to offer to visitors. This includes its clean nature with excellent conditions for adventure travel, functional cities, a vibrant design and culture scene, and great connections to reach St. Petersburg and other capitals of the Baltic Sea region.”

Putting Finnish dental expertise on the map

NIIDE has utilised expertise from both home and abroad in moulding its course offering. “Finland has knowledgeable experts, but seeing as our country is rather small and NIIDE is an international company, we want to branch out and benefit from foreign expertise as well.”

Lecturers for NIIDE courses are recruited in collaboration with the University of Turku and Planmeca. “We have an extensive network of contacts that has been formed through organising events, as well as working closely together with universities and professors”, Pajunen tells. “Of course, bookings must be made well in advance, as the best lecturers tend to be very busy.”

The quality of NIIDE’s courses is guaranteed by European accrediting standards – participants who complete courses are awarded with academic ECTS credits by the University of Turku. “If a topic is interesting, credits tend to have a secondary significance for participants”, Pajunen notes. “But they certainly do attest to the high quality of our courses.”

NIIDE’s courses also include extensive hands-on training. This gives participants the chance to test the technologies addressed. Some courses also incorporate laboratory testing as a part of the curriculum. “Our courses offer a solid balance of scientific content and clinical work”, Pajunen emphasises.

Planmeca Digital Academy

– all educational activity under one umbrella concept

Education has always played an important part for Planmeca. The company has an extensive history of closely collaborating with leading universities in the dental field, and has also for long offered outstanding equipment training. As dental technology continues to develop, the role of education is only set to expand. “Increasing educational expertise will help our company tremendously. It is our goal to find ways to better utilise our vast educational resources”, Pajunen states.

In addition to NIIDE, Pajunen has been developing Planmeca Digital Academy – an umbrella concept covering all trainings and education collaborations offered by Planmeca. These include trainings for dealers and dental professionals, as well as courses organised together with universities and dental clinics. “Going forward, we are also prepared to further develop our online education offering”, Pajunen reveals. “We are looking to provide different kinds of combinations of attendance-based courses and online courses, for example.”

“IT is our firm intention to improve digital dentistry expertise all over the world. In the future, we will increase NIIDE’s geographic flexibility”, Pajunen reveals. “We are aiming at bringing our courses nearly anywhere.”
Check out our new websites for Planmeca veterinary and medical solutions:

veterinary.planmeca.com  
medical.planmeca.com

Planmeca expands into the veterinary and medical technology businesses

To continue our expansion in the healthcare technology market, we are now pleased to offer products also to veterinary and medical customers. Many of our familiar solutions are already in use at veterinary and medical clinics and hospitals worldwide.

“We have a lot of potential and expertise at Planmeca that can be utilized in the medical and veterinary markets. Many of our products already exceed traditional dental imaging: for example, the Planmeca Promax® 3D Mid and Max X-ray devices are used for head and neck radiology, including the imaging of ears, nose, throat, and the upper part of the cervical spine”, says Ms. Mari Varjonen, Director of Medical Imaging at Planmeca.

In addition to head and neck radiology, Planmeca’s offering for the medical market includes the orthopaedic CBCT imaging solution Planmeca Xtremity™, the Planmeca Romexis® imaging software, as well as patient-specific Planmeca ProModel™ 3D implants for maxillofacial surgery. “We want to offer the best possible usability, excellent diagnostic image quality with a low dose, and lasting product design for medical needs. I am certain that this is a way for us to differentiate ourselves from our competitors”, Varjonen says.

For the veterinary market, Planmeca offers a new high standard of care. This includes e.g. a CBCT 3D imaging solution, software, the cart version of the Planmeca Compact™ dental unit, intraoral X-ray solutions, and instruments. “Veterinary care, including dental care, is growing all over the world, as people are investing more and more in the wellbeing of their pets. As is the Planmeca standard, our products provide a smooth workflow with excellent image quality for dentists, veterinarians, as well as medical doctors.”

Varjonen praises Planmeca’s proficiency in CBCT solutions. “Planmeca is the world’s best CBCT provider. We have the whole package: expertise in software development, algorithms, mechanical engineering, and so on. We are one of the world’s leading dental equipment manufacturers, and now we can use our knowledge in other fields too.”

The Planmeca product portfolio will be further developed to answer the needs of medical and veterinary professionals in the best way. We are also currently expanding our dealer network for our new market segments.

Courses in 2015:

**3D imaging and diagnostics**

- 11-12 May
- 8-9 June
- 28-29 September
- Helsinki

2 days, 1 ECTS credit, EUR 1,000 + VAT

**Mastering CAD/CAM fabricated restorations**

- 15-17 April
- 10-12 June
- 14-16 October
- Helsinki

3 days, 2 ECTS credits, EUR 1,500 + VAT

**Digital Dentistry Summer School: 3D imaging and CAD/CAM**

- 8-12 June
- Helsinki

5 days, 3 ECTS credits, EUR 2,500 + VAT

**Minimally invasive dental treatments by using fiber-reinforced composite**

- 20-22 May
- Turku

3 days, 2 ECTS credits, EUR 1,500 + VAT

**All about adhesion**

- 23-25 September
- Turku

3 days, 2 ECTS credits, EUR 1,500 + VAT
Located in southern Finland, the veterinary clinic Anident has no shortage of dental patients. They come in all shapes and sizes, as the clinic treats around 250 animals each month. Most of the patients are dogs and one fifth of them cats. “Our patients regularly suffer from periodontitis. Among dogs, fractures, tumours and especially malocclusions are also common, while cats often suffer from idiopathic dental resorption”, Kuntsi-Vaattovaara, the founder of Anident, summarises.

In addition to Helena Kuntsi-Vaattovaara, there is only one other veterinary dentist in Finland and currently only Anident offers residency (official speciality training) in veterinary dentistry in the country. “Vet school is only able to offer minimal teaching in veterinary dentistry and that is why veterinarians have an urgent need for post-graduate training in the field. It often happens that after working some time at a clinic the veterinarians notice how important proper dental care is”, Kuntsi-Vaattovaara comments.

Kuntsi-Vaattovaara completed her residency in veterinary dentistry and oral surgery at the University of California, Davis.

Planmeca Verity® – a CBCT solution for veterinary clinics

Anident is a well-equipped veterinary clinic. It uses Planmeca Compact™ dental units and Planmeca’s intraoral X-ray, as well as a comprehensive selection of other dental devices and instruments. Last year, Anident also acquired the Planmeca Verity® CBCT extremity scanner – suitable, for example, for orthopaedic imaging, as well as for diagnosing skull fractures, tumours and teeth of cats, dogs and other animals. “We were already involved in the product development of Planmeca Verity, as we had a clear need for CT technology in certain cases. We knew that a CBCT scan would provide more information to us than a standard X-ray image could”, Kuntsi-Vaattovaara recounts.

In addition to tumours and maxillofacial fractures, Kuntsi-Vaattovaara plans to utilise Planmeca Verity in endodontic and periodontal diagnosis, as research regarding them increases. The CBCT device has also proved to be particularly useful in diagnosing ear infections. “Planmeca Verity offers the means to see into the middle ear, for example. Ear infections are very common and can place a pet’s very life at stake, as they can lead to a choice between treatment and putting the animal to sleep. Thus, the scans play an extremely important role”, Kuntsi-Vaattovaara explains.

Acquiring 3D images with Planmeca Verity is quick and easy. Kuntsi-Vaattovaara considers this to be the scanner’s best quality. “Patients are always anesthetised, so speed and practicality are essential. Additionally, the lead shields for Planmeca Verity are lightweight and the scanner’s radiation protocol easy”, Kuntsi-Vaattovaara points out. CBCT imaging with Planmeca Verity is also much more affordable than a comprehensive CT scan would be.

Rising awareness of animal dental care

The future of veterinary dental clinics looks promising, as the interest for animal dental care is increasing all over the world. The internet is contributing to a growing dental awareness among pet owners everywhere. Still, animals are not treated quite like people, as they are rarely brought in specifically for dental care – problems are typically identified while animals are being treated for other issues, such as bad breath, or vaccinations.

Kuntsi-Vaattovaara highlights that many of Anident’s customers do brush their pet’s teeth regularly. However, far too many pet owners do not yet understand that they are supposed to do this – preferably every day. “No food or dental chew can replace brushing as a means of removing plaque from teeth. We know that 80% of dogs and 70% of cats over three years of age suffer from periodontal disease”, she states.

Kuntsi-Vaattovaara thinks it is important that veterinarians learn to identify potential problems residing in animals’ mouths. “A dog cannot tell anyone it is in pain, so it is the responsibility of the vet to notice. All veterinarians need to also be aware of their abilities and limitations – when to treat animals themselves and when to refer them to a specialist. This not only ensures proper care for the pet, but also helps the owner to trust the veterinarian’s skills.”

Acquiring 3D images with Planmeca Verity is quick and easy.
A new genuinely ergonomic hand instrument: 

**LM ErgoSense**

Unique intelligence with advanced RFID tracking

The Hygienist School of Copenhagen University (SH) tested the Dental Tracking System for four months, afterwards Bo Danielsen commented:  

"The Dental Tracking System provided us with valuable information that we did not have before, not only allowing to follow the instruments flow in the clinic but also their status at all times. Based on knowledge of the instruments flow we easily get an overview on the number of instruments we need and from the data we are able to trace any instrument in the cycle from autoclaving through to the individual patient the instrument has been used on. Thereby we acquire important documentation of data for our quality assurance of our clinical hygiene. We see many other purposes for the Dental Tracking System here at our clinic in the school."

Today the focus is on ergonomics – without losing sight of efficiency. The new LM-ErgoSense hand instrument from LM-Dental, one of the leading manufacturers of dental instruments, meets both of these requirements and is truly a unique combination of ergonomic design and integrated new technology. It is the outcome of intense research and product development in close cooperation with dental clinicians and professionals. An ergonomic, high quality hand instrument naturally feels good in the hand. Even genuinely sensational as the new, smart LM-ErgoSense has been described.

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King of Sweden introduced to a new standard of dental technology at Planmeca

The Royal Technology Mission, with His Majesty King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden as its patron, visited Planmeca headquarters in Helsinki in November 2014. His Majesty, along with 30 other top representatives from Sweden’s government, private sector and academia learned of the company’s growth story and innovations.

The Royal Technology Mission visited Finland to become inspired by the country’s innovative companies, initiatives and growth strategies. At Planmeca, the mission was introduced to revolutionary 3x3D technology, patient-specific 3D implants, as well as the dental unit integrated intraoral scanner Planmeca PlanScan®. Planmeca has taken a strong foothold as one of the world’s largest manufacturers of dental care technology, with a product portfolio that has placed it at the vanguard of the industry.

“We received a unique opportunity to share our growth story with the Swedish leaders and to introduce to them our newest dental and healthcare innovations, such as combinations of patient 3D data. Thanks to the emergence of 3D technologies and applications, dental care is undergoing a remarkable change,” says Mr. Tuomas Lokki, Senior Vice President of Planmeca. “Healthcare technology has recently become Finland’s largest high-tech export, and we’re proud to be forerunners in the field.”

The Royal Technology Mission visit was organised by IVA, The Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences. IVA has organised similar excursions around the world since 1984.
Planmeca products are presented locally by distributors near you.

Find your local dealer: www.planmeca.com