

....Ahead by a Nose....



Dear Colleagues,

Despite the global economic crisis and the expected downswing of the general income situation, we are happy that the interest in laser dentistry is not just steady but is also increasing.

Let's recapitulate the 10 years' development of laser dentistry in this period.

New laser types have come onto the market, like KTP or the diodes, with their variety of wavelengths between 810 and 980 nm, therapy concepts have been improved and become standard in some specializations, evidence based research has been published on many indications.

Take the "Erbiums" for example: we've seen great progress in preparation speed, the precision of the handpieces, and the stability of energy deliverance, all of which make applications much more easy and predictable.

Lasers have evolved dramatically in the 10 years since SOLA's founding, bringing an inducement to acquire one of the masterpieces of dental technology at far lower prices than were available only 10 years ago.

In the current difficult situation, we are even prouder to have managed to maintain and even slightly increase the number of participants at our "10-year Anniversary Congress", being held in Vienna at this time. And – YES – we do think it is time to celebrate instead of complain. Of course, all of us had easier times some years ago, but having placed emphasis on establishing lasers as a standard tool in innovative dental therapies,

we have the chance to be ahead by a nose in the competitive situation in our daily working life. "Winners don't do different things – they do things differently" a wise man once quipped.

We have included lasers in dental education at some universities, seeing that our young colleagues are absolutely enthusiastic about laser technology and plan to integrate this field from the beginning in their offices. This gives us hope to bring new life and a great deal of scientific input into the future of SOLA.

At a time when patients have started asking for laser therapy in our offices and clinics, we would do well to be ready to give them what they ask for. It began with his ideas – so – let's cite him once more:

"More than in the past I am interested in the future, because it's the future I am going to live in." (A. Einstein)

So let's begin our next 10 successful years by continuing to realize our ideas of spreading lasers in dental communities everywhere.

Enjoy the upcoming days at the Vienna conference together with the SOLA family!

Sincerely yours,

Prof. DDr. A. Moritz
President of SOLA International

DDr. Franziska Beer
Secretary General SOLA