

#### TRADITIONAL BITE RECORDS

Why is it that an interocclusal bite registration taken over prepared teeth has become the accepted protocol in fixed restorative dentistry? Though mucosal bite records have long been accepted in removable prosthetics, the unpredictability of a tissue bite registration does not complement the exacting demands of fixed restorations. Common sense has long dictated that occlusal records be taken over the preparations for fixed prosthetics and the acceptance of this science has become unquestionably universal. Tradition!

### **IMPLANT BITE RECORDS**

Today, dental implants have become part of the restorative mainstream and present the largest growth area in all of dentistry. We now have more choices of implants, implant accessories, and dental educators to help us work through these new technical opportunities. The science is taught routinely in dental schools throughout the world. We can all accept that implant dentistry is here to stay and that more technical advancements are a foregone conclusion. However, oftentimes the road to advanced technology is lined with great achievements only to find that we have missed the mark on some core principle and we then struggle to find the easy solution. Without preparations, how can we utilize traditional interocclusal bite science?

## OCCLUSAL PAIN

Let us again revisit the accepted science of bite registrations over preparations and ask ourselves what happened to our bite registration strategy when it came to implant dentistry. The absence of preparations in implant dentistry has led to occlusal uncertainty for fixed prosthetics. Implant dentistry has caused us to revert back to the problematic science of bite records over tissue that has long been associated with removable prosthetics. It appears we have talked ourselves into believing in the myth that a small healing cap in the tissue can serve as a surrogate preparation. Healing caps do not serve this purpose well because they often rquire part of the record to be on soft tissue to balance the bite while placing the casts together. A truly experienced laboratory technician will testify to this fact. Bites cannot be set on healing caps alone and the necessary tissue portion of the model is inaccurate at best! The use of healing caps also requires the clinician to supply a second set of healing caps to the laboratory along with seating order to allow the lab to set the bite. This is expensive and confusing!

# THE REMEDY

Implant Bite Posts (IBP<sup>M</sup>) fill the void left by the absence of preparations in interocclusal bite science for implant cases. In fact, they are even more accurate than registrations over preparations. These titanium or surgical steel Bite Posts are easy to use, reusable and accurate! Each post bottoms out to the platform with three easy turns and has the ideal undercut to capture a perfect bite every time. Each Bite Post is laser engraved for easy identification and sorting for both the dental office and the laboratories. As a dentist or a laboratory technician, today is the day that you can finally begin to put occlusal predictability into your implant case strategy. Please see the list of available Bite Post platforms on this site and let us know if you have a request for a platform that we don't yet carry. "The Science is back!"







First, select the bite post that corresponds with your desired implant platform. The Implant Bite Posts™ come in regular or long. You simply select the post that matches your vertical needs (Figure 1).

Hand place and screw the bite post in place with light finger pressure. The top of the bite post has a .050 universal hex that may be used to remove the post if needed (Figure 2).

The two circles at the apex of the bite post are designed as an undercut to capture and retain the bite material (Figure 3).

The circles are round and aligned with one another so that the undercut creates 360 degrees of diametric opposition that will hold the registration firmly in place even if the facial of the bite requires 90 degrees of cut back (Figure 4).

After the bite is taken, remove the bite and the Bite Post, sterilize them both, and clearly identify which Bite Post belongs to which implant site before sending the case to the lab. Laser engraving for product identification (Figure 5).

When seating the bite post into the stone model, on occasion it may be necessary to reduce stone around the implant entry site to be certain that the Bite Post is fully seated. When sending the case to the lab, always remember to clearly identify which bite post belongs to which implant site.

#### **BITE MATERIALS**

ALWAYS use high consistency polyvinylsiloxane addition type bite material like Jet Bite<sup>™</sup> by Coltene-Whaledent. These softer memory perfect materials can easily be navigated on and off the Implant Bite Posts™ without any change in the bite. NEVER use rigid or crumble prone bite material as the undercuts in the Implant Bite Posts™ will likely destroy the bite registration.







