

oralhealth

May 2011

1911 • 2011

Endodontic Irrigation:

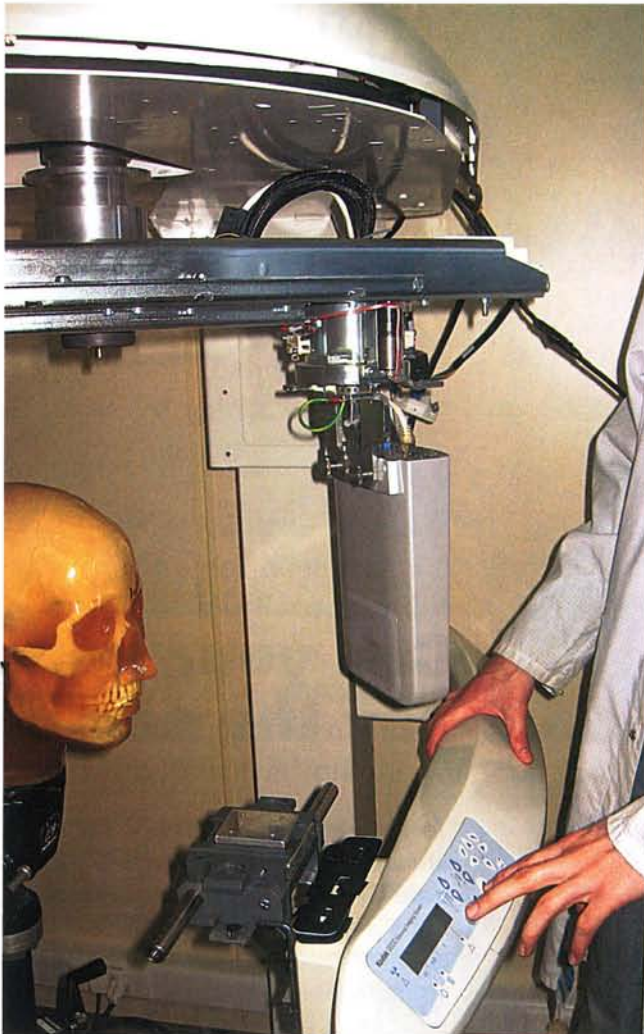
A Treatment Unto Itself

A BUSINESS INFORMATION GROUP PUBLICATION

www.oralhealthjournal.com

CARESTREAM DENTAL PLANT TOUR

A Snapshot of a People-Powered Business



The editors of *Oral Health* took a detour following this year's International Dental Show in Cologne, Germany for a visit to Carestream Dental's design and manufacturing facility in Marne-la-Vallée, France. Executives provided an extensive tour covering everything from product development to delivery and after-sales service areas. The tour provided a revelatory look at the dental imaging market today as it transitions from 2D to 3D and the degree of quality control required to create today's leading X-ray generators, sensors, machines and software. Of special interest was to see just how much of Carestream Dental's manufacturing process is still done by the hands of skilled craftsmen rather than automation. The personal effort that goes into testing every product at each step of manufacturing is refreshing — evidence that Carestream Dental is truly a people-powered business.

- The Carestream Dental – Marne-la-Vallée plant covers 11,000 square metres.
- There are 260 total employees at the plant.
- The company moved to this location from Paris in 1996.
- The manufacturing process is very labour-intensive, with multiple quality control steps built in throughout the process. There is a heavy emphasis on the health and safety of workers at all times.
- One of their challenges is to find highly qualified computer software people (competition with the gaming design companies).
- Making the tubes and generators and making the sensors is a core part of their system, they control the manufacturing process.
- Areas with the most growth potential: Brazil, India and Korea.
- Carestream Dental is a global leader in imaging technology.



At its facility in Marne-la-Vallée, France, Carestream Dental designs, manufactures and tests a diverse range of products, including the KODAK 9000 3D Extraoral Imaging System and their new KODAK RVG 6500 System. Here, the Carestream Dental team creates its own X-ray tubes as one of its specialty activities. Also, a 3D device is shown as it is tested in a lead-lined cabin with X-ray shots on a "dry skull."

