The Difference Integration Makes in the Orthodontic Practice

Jean-Michel Foucart, D.D.S.

Dr. Foucart is not a newcomer to digital imaging. In fact, he bought his first digital panoramic and cephalometric system in 1998. When a diagnosis called for computerized tomography (CT), Dr. Foucart used a system at the university. In 2007, he transitioned to cone beam computed tomography (CBCT) with the CS 9000C 3D to take advantage of the benefits the technology offered: higher resolution, faster processing, a lower dose—and the convenience of having an in-house system. He later moved to the CS 9300C to benefit from a larger 3D field of view.

The importance of CBCT

When asked what capabilities he values in a CBCT system, Dr. Foucart replied, “We should always strive to seek the lowest dose possible while still obtaining the necessary diagnostic images. A CBCT system with multiple fields of view—like my CS 9300C—helps doctors achieve that goal. In addition, the system should provide true panoramic and cephalometric imaging.”
Dr. Foucart also appreciates a system that provides automatic cephalometric tracing. “Tracing facilitates diagnoses,” he said. “With a system that does it automatically, you save a lot of time. The feature registers each anatomic landmark, and accuracy is about 80 percent. There’s no need for a time-consuming manual analysis.”

Dr. Foucart appreciates the improved view of impacted cuspids that CBCT imaging provides. He can determine the presence of ankylosis, which panoramic imaging does not reveal. “With 2D imaging, I can see only the frontal and lateral, but with 3D I can see the entire form and analyze the relationship between the teeth and the maxilla, as well as the roots and whether they cross,” said Dr. Foucart. “I can determine the exact angle of the tooth.”

His patients can more easily understand their clinical situation—especially when there are impacted cuspids or serious concerns—from the images generated by the CBCT system. Plus, referrals can choose from the images Dr. Foucart has already taken, preventing the need to reimage the patient.

The Speediness of the CS 3600
Dr. Foucart has been working with the CS 3600 intraoral scanner since January 2016. He loves the speed of scanning as well as the ability to immediately view the digital model on the screen. And thanks to CS Model+, he can analyze the entire scan within minutes.

“Creating a digital model with an intraoral scanner is much faster than traditional methods,” said Dr. Foucart. “Taking the conventional impression, pouring in plaster, sending the impression to a lab and then waiting for delivery of the model is not an efficient process.”