

Implants Division

A user-friendly, reliable implant system for all indications and continuous improvements of our existing product lines are the basis for our sustainable growth.

A product portfolio with a clear strategic focus

Straumann is the only large company in its sector to focus exclusively on implant dentistry. Its product portfolio primarily consists of implants, prosthetic components (abutments that connect the implant with the visible crown of the artificial tooth), and instruments. Our customers value our products for their ease of use and clinically documented long-term success rates, and they esteem our ability to cover all indications with a single, comprehensive implant system.

Implants are rapidly gaining ground over conventional methods of tooth replacement. Valuable tooth substance is lost whenever a conventional crown or bridge is fitted, as enamel has to be removed from healthy teeth. In the case of edentulous patients with conventional full dentures, the jawbone deteriorates due to the lack of chewing pressure. The resulting loss of bone mass can lead to facial deformity, an undesirable side effect that can be avoided with dental implant treatment.

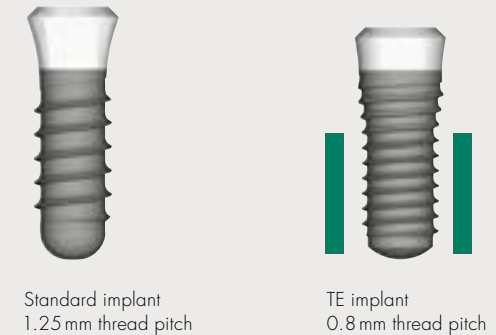
The number of implants being fitted around the world is increasing every year – proof that the treatment with implants is more and more accepted among both dentists and patients. Once an implant is firmly anchored in the bone, the stability of the artificial tooth is much better in the long-term than with conventional methods. Restoring teeth alignment with implants can have a positive effect on the patient's self-confidence and social poise. Patients can bite their teeth together, laugh, and speak just as they would with natural teeth. Apart from esthetic considerations, there are a number of important physical aspects such as the ability to chew properly, which, if impaired, can have a negative effect on eating and general wellbeing. Good teeth mean a better quality of life.

Successful launch of the TE™ implant

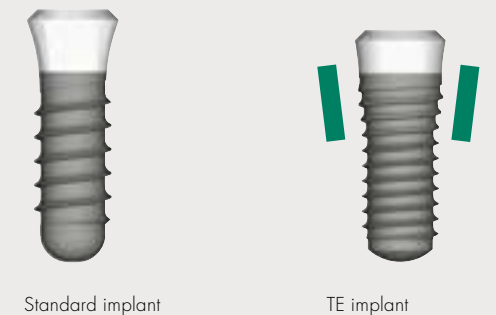
The trend in implant dentistry is towards simplifying treatment and reducing treatment time. "Immediate implant placement" means inserting the implant into a fresh extraction alveole (i.e. the cavity left after a tooth has been extracted); "early implant placement" refers to a delay of six to eight weeks between extracting the tooth and inserting the implant. In principle, immediate implant placements can be made in all areas of the jaw. This is a definite advantage, since patients tend to want gaps in their teeth treated as quickly as possible. However, inserting an implant into an extraction alveole is more demanding than inserting it into a healed jawbone and requires a certain amount of surgical experience. It is therefore the responsibility of the surgeon to assess the clinical implications involved in each case and to discuss them openly with the patient.

The TE implant design.

The new ITI TE implant is especially suitable for immediate and delayed implant placement in an extraction alveole (the cavity left after the loss of a tooth). The implant body is modeled on the natural root of the tooth. TE stands for "Tapered Effect" – the implant is anchored in the implant bed like a wedge.



The cylindrical section of the thread ensures high primary stability when the implant is inserted into the bone. TE implants are self-tapping, therefore the implant screw threads do not need to be pre-cut, which saves the surgeon valuable operating time. The smaller thread pitch of the TE implant increases the surface of the implant, allowing more contact between the bone and the implant.



The design of the conical section of the TE implant is modeled on the anatomy of an extraction alveole for optimal fit in the cavity.

In 2002, Straumann introduced a highly promising product for immediate implant placement – the TE implant – which was successfully launched on the global market in the course of the year under review. The TE implant is based on the proven benefits of Straumann’s standard implants: rapid ingrowth in the jawbone due to the patented rough SLA surface, a highly stable internal Morse taper connection (the connection between the implant and the abutment), and an internal octagon for precise positioning of the prosthetic components. The TE implant can be used with all prosthetic components and instruments of the Straumann Dental Implant System. This keeps the additional investment to a minimum for our existing customers, and contributes to a cost-efficient treatment for the patient.

SynOcta® prosthetic product line simplified

Dental implants offer a variety of solutions regardless of whether patients are missing one, several, or all of their teeth. Depending on the patient’s dentition, the surgeon places one or more implants so that a single tooth, a bar, or a bridge can be firmly attached.

While the implant is healing, the patient generally wears a temporary restoration. The procedure is successfully completed once the implants have healed and are firmly anchored in the bone. The actual prosthetic treatment – the custom manufacture of visible teeth – begins around the time of surgery. This stage in the treatment process requires close and precise interaction between the restorative dentist and the dental technician. High-precision auxiliary components are needed to map the exact position of the implant onto the model, which the dental technician then uses to model the missing tooth or teeth. Straumann’s SynOcta prosthetic product line offers a well-designed, simple, and flexible system for prosthetic restorations supported by implants. It is optimally tailored to suit the workflow between the different specialists and can be relied on to produce accurate results.

We further simplified and strengthened treatment opportunities with our proven SynOcta prosthetic product line in the year under review by introducing the SynOcta 1.5 screw-retained abutment, the SynOcta components for Wide Neck implants, and the SynOcta milling cylinder.

Custom-made solutions as a service

At Straumann, we place a high priority on responding to our customers’ individual needs. Our Rapid Deployment Team – a group of experienced specialist technicians and developers – enables us to offer solutions for non-standard tasks. The Rapid Deployment Team constructs and manufactures tailor-made items, customer-specific medical products, and study aids. Tailor-made items are unique pieces ordered by customers for specific patients. As with all Straumann products, these items are manufactured using clearly defined processes, which are part of our comprehensive quality assurance program in order to ensure end-to-end traceability and reproducibility.

Selective improvements to the existing implant system in 2004

Straumann’s research and development with regard to the implant portfolio focuses on reducing the length of the healing process. In 2004, we will be presenting the first clinical data on a newly developed implant surface that heals more quickly and allows the implant to be loaded after a shorter time. The market launch is planned for 2005. In addition, we will continue to expand our prosthetics range as well as systematically round off our product range.

As in previous years, Straumann is expecting a continued growth in the area of implants in 2004. We offer our customers innovative products that meet clinical needs, allow efficient handling, and shorten treatment times.

The SynOcta prosthetic product line: reliable, simple, flexible



A dental implant comprises three components: the implant body (the part that is inserted into the jawbone), the crown (the visible section of the artificial tooth), and the abutment, which connects the two components.