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Alloys
Attachments
Implants
Restorative Systems

July 13, 2009

Dear Valued Customer,

In an effort to improve the fit of the angle correction females used in the ERA Implant Abutments and ERA Implants, we have redesigned the "button" on the bottom of the females. Our goal has been to make the snap more consistent, eliminating excess movement, while maintaining the necessary rotation. This change in design achieves those goals.

By hollowing out the button we have been able to gain greater flexibility in this snap area. That has allowed us to adjust the size of the button to provide a consistent snap fit. Any slight variations due to manufacturing tolerance are compensated for by the increased flexibility in this area. At the same time we made sure that the angled females still turn smoothly in the base.

However, we wanted to make sure that the cement bond of the two parts is still strong enough to withstand any possible force that will be applied to them in the mouth. In addition to our in house testing we have had an independent engineering company; Thielsch Engineering, Inc., of Cranston, RI, do extensive testing, involving as many as 5 million pressure cycles on the cemented parts. This testing was as rigorous as the original testing done some eighteen years ago, when we first introduced the angle correction ERA females. All the tests have indicated that, using the same cement and the same technique as in the first FDA required testing, this new design provides the same performance. In other words, none of the cemented females became uncemented even when we used our 17° females and angled them an additional 7° for a total of 24° off angle.

In addition, you will notice that the occlusal edge of the females is now rounded more than in the past. The easing of this edge will make seating of the males even easier.

We remain committed to continuous evaluation and improvement of our products. Please contact me with any questions or comments that you may have.

Sincerely,

James T. Ellison, CDT

James T. Ellison, CDT
Director of Technical and Educational Services