



MDT Ralf Dahl did his dental technician

Since 1994, he is co-owner and managing member of the "Dental Excellence veneering technology and all-ceramics.

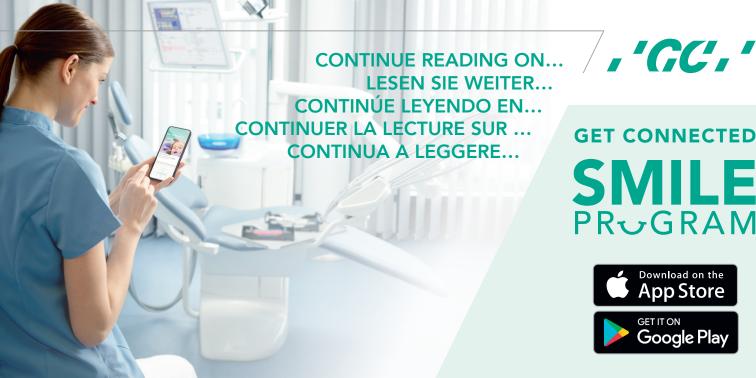
## **Ceramics and** digital solutions from a single source: where manual and automated techniques go hand in hand

By Ralf Dahl, Germany

"Is an industrial revolution awaiting us in dental technology?" The author of the article addresses this question and comes to the conclusion that great digital technologies are helpful, but do not replace many of the manual skills of the dental technician. Rather, both go hand in hand. By means of a patient case, he presents the possibilities that result from the interplay of digital technologies, modern materials and dental skills.

## Success can be planned: a patient case

A patient consulted the dental practice with the desire to have nice front teeth. Teeth 12 and 21 were restored with composite restorations and severely discolored (Fig. 1). Together with the prosthetic work team, it was decided to restore both teeth with zirconia-based crowns. There are certain requirements from a preparatory and material point of view. For a detailed scan, the stumps should have an ideal geometry: that is the basis for an ideally fitting restoration. In order to meet the high aesthetic demands, the crowns had to be veneered manually. An adequate rounded chamfer, soft shapes with rounded angles and sufficient space in the veneering area ceramic offer the best conditions for a functional, aesthetic, long-term stable restoration.





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