

Continental style

Dave Bennett explains the benefits of working ergonomically.

The traditional side or rear mounted delivery systems, currently utilised in 80-90 per cent of all of the treatment centres found in UK dental practices, are inefficient and therefore cost the operator money.

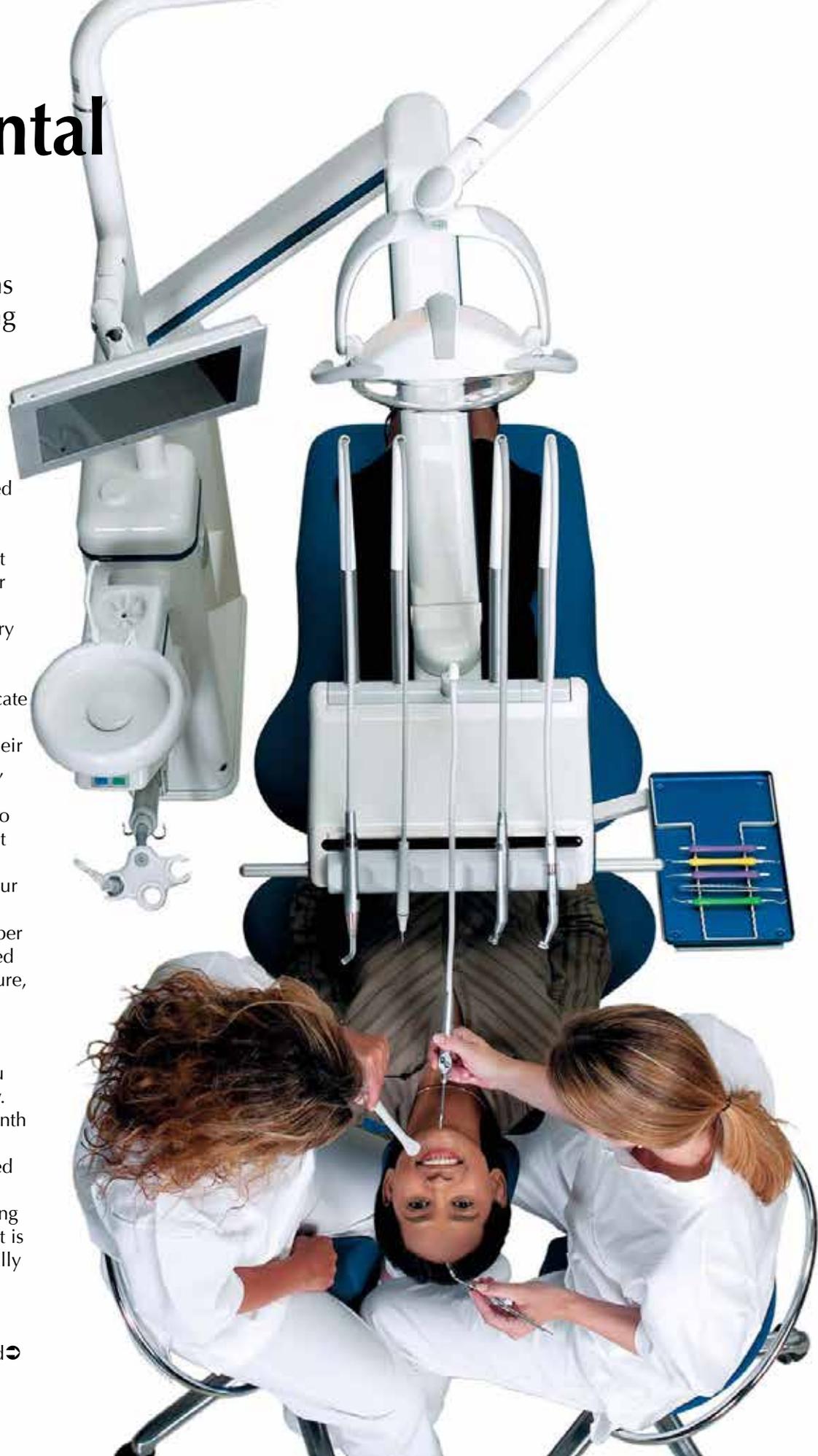
Consider the time taken every time the operator stops, puts down the instrument they are using, moves their focus to locate the next piece of equipment they need, picks it up, turns their focus back towards the mouth, then starts to use it. The next time you have a few minutes to waste in the surgery, why don't you time yourself to see how long it takes you to pick up your handpiece and start using it? Multiply this time by the number of times you will probably need to do this for a typical procedure, and then multiply this by the number of procedures you perform in a typical day. Now you know how much time you are wasting every working day. How much is that a week, month and year? Using an inefficient traditional side or rear mounted delivery system is costing you financially. This is to say nothing about the stresses and strains it is putting on your body, potentially shortening the length of your working life.

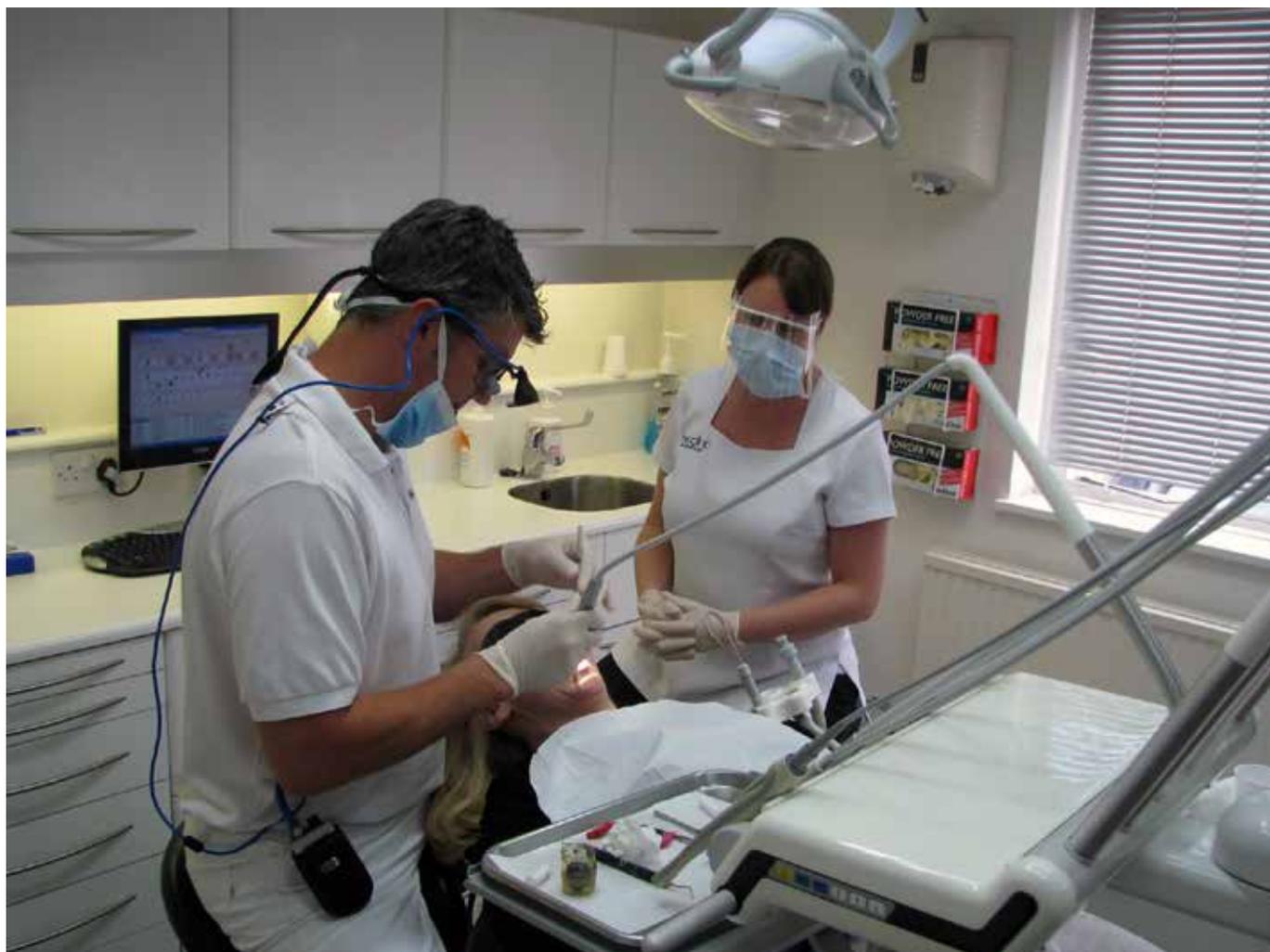
With a continental delivery system employed by top brand

Dave Bennet

is managing director of DB Dental.

The continental style means all instrumentation is out of view of the patient in the supine position.





Mads Nyborg from The Clinical Referral Implant and Cosmetic Practice, Haywards Heath, treating a patient with his Heka Dental UNICLine Treatment Unit.

European equipment manufacturers, all the important equipment (handpieces, curing lights, scalers, three-in-one syringes and so on) are positioned immediately above the patient's chest and within easy reach of both the operator and their assistant, depending upon who will primarily be using them. For example, the three-in-one syringe and curing light are positioned on the assistant's side, whilst the handpieces and scalers are on the operator's side.

Positioned within the peripheral vision of whoever will primarily be using them, they can be picked up without the relevant person needing

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to take their focus off the working site. Saving the operator all the wasted time and money associated with using a conventional rear or side mounted delivery system.

What is more, because the instruments on a CDS are delivered spring loaded, with a different strength spring depending upon the weight of the specific instrument concerned, they are always delivered perfectly balanced, so they can literally be supported by a single finger. This makes their use much less tiring for the operator.

Sadly, many UK Dentists believe that the continental delivery system is 'frightening' for patients because they will see the feared drill literally hanging over them. This is simply not true; in fact, it is just because they have not been fortunate enough to be trained within a European dental school, where the use of the

continental delivery system is virtually universal. In reality, once the patient has been moved into the supine position and the instrument arm has been moved into place over the patient's chest, within easy reach of the operator and their assistant, they can't even see it because it's outside their peripheral vision. However, they are aware that the operator is more engaged with them, doesn't keep looking away and appears more focused on the procedure at hand.

You will not find the traditional rear or side mounted delivery system used anywhere else in Europe.

For example Sven Sorenson and Mads Nyborg at The Clinic Dental, Hawards Heath, have been using Heka Dental Treatment Centres with Continental Delivery Systems since 2006 and their referral implant and cosmetic practice is expanding year-upon-year.