

Introducing

## AquaSpense™ and AquaSpense SL™

*Reducing Remakes and Improving Consistency*

According to a survey that appeared in the December 2003 issue of Dental Town, when dentists were asked to give the primary reason they discontinue a lab's service, 60% of the respondents said "inconsistency of the work".

Remakes are the result of a dental lab striving to meet established standards, and negatively impact Labs trying to contain costs while improving output. Remakes eat up resources, waste time, material, and disrupt production schedules. If you are working with a 10% profit margin, it takes ten cases to make up a single reworked case.

While the financial impact of reworks is evident, another consequence of reworks is the damage done to a lab's reputation. Too many inaccurate models or mistakes due to shrinkage or expansion can cause irreparable harm to a company's good name. In a competitive environment, you can't afford to waste time or send your customers a finished product that misses the mark too many times.

Many factors can affect the accuracy of a case but the measuring and mixing operations found in the model department and the investing station of the lab are two prime sources of trouble. Labs typically use graduated cylinders to manually measure water or colloidal liquid. The greater the surface area of a cylinder, the greater the meniscus or concave arch created. That curvature can affect a measurement by as much as 2mls. An excess of 2mls of water per arch or 100g of powder can cause a drop of 25% in compressive strength of the gypsum model, resulting in a softer model surface which affects the interproximal or occlusal contact. On the other side, colloidal deposits have a tendency to accumulate on the sides of graduated cylinders, resulting in less volume, which can alter liquid/water ratios and impact investment expansion and therefore the fit of a casting.

Slight inconsistencies in the bag weights of investments from some manufactures can trip up skilled technicians, and even the best of technicians are susceptible to human error while measuring, weighing, and dispensing.

One way to attack these sources of inconsistency is through automation. Equipment providing precise weighing and dispensing technology can eliminate those unfortunate and unforeseen variables. Technicians can select preset programs for various gypsums or investments that will produce the desired water/power ratio through exact dispensing.

Whip Mix, an industry leader in production efficiency and high quality lab materials, has developed two new innovative dispensing units designed to eliminate inconsistencies in the model/die department and investing operations. They utilize precise measurement technology and are designed specially for dental labs.



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