

FIRST IMPRESSIONS



In First Impressions, George Freedman, DDS, gives readers a brief summary of products that have recently been introduced to dentistry, based on his clinical experience.

ProDrive Handpiece

ProDrive Systems

The basic design of dental handpieces has remained almost unchanged for more than a century, consisting of an air- or electrically-powered turbine that rotates a bur held in place by friction. While this mechanism is relatively effective in high-speed handpieces, the friction grip nature of the relationship between the handpiece and the bur can lead to a slippage of the bur, particularly in situations where additional torque is required. This causes the turbine to rotate more quickly than the bur, decreasing operative speed while concurrently wearing the inside of the turbine. The ProDrive Handpiece system from ProDrive Systems has been designed to upgrade handpieces through a turbine-and-bur-locking



mechanism that can improve the performance of the currently-used handpieces. It is fully compatible with many of today's most popular handpieces, providing an improved clinical performance.

The ProDrive Handpiece utilizes a proprietary triangular bur shank design that physically locks the bur into the turbine. This provides positive bur retention, greatly increasing torque transfer, and hence improved cutting. Other benefits include smoother handpiece operation and greater rotational concentricity during use. The significantly enhanced ProDrive grip on the bur improves cutting speeds and

decreasing stresses on the tooth as well as on the practitioner. This reduces vibration and chatter during preparation, permitting a more predictable cutting definition that offers superior margin in both direct and indirect restorations. There are more than 550 bur types available for the ProDrive Handpiece system. A unique bur-lengthening feature permits a totally safe 3mm bur extension; the ProDrive chuck engages horizontal bur grooves to eliminate any risk of losing the bur during operation. The ProDrive Handpiece system is an innovative, upgraded approach to tooth preparation.

For more information, call (866) 937-8882 or visit www.prodrivesystems.com

Dr. Freedman is a founder and past president of the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry, a co-founder of the Canadian Academy for Esthetic Dentistry, and a Diplomate of the American Board of Aesthetic Dentistry. He is the Special Advisor of First Impressions and Buyers' Guides for Dentistry Today. He is the author or co-author of 11 textbooks, more than 600 dental articles, and numerous Webinars and CDs, and is a Team Member of REALITY. He lectures internationally on dental aesthetics, adhesion, desensitization, composites, impression materials, and porcelain veneers. A graduate of McGill University in Montreal, Dr. Freedman maintains a private practice limited to aesthetic dentistry in Toronto. He can be reached at (905) 513-9191 or epdot@rogers.com.