Saving time on fabrications—without sacrificing quality

How one lab owner uses Wonderfill and Wonderformer to improve his implant fabrication results.

by Tom Zaleske

Like most business owners, I am always looking to find multiple uses for products I use around the laboratory. The goal is to consolidate product purchases and at the same time provide quick, consistent, quality results. The last time I mentioned Dental Creations' Wonderfill and Wonderformer (**Fig. 1**) in an article was when I recommended them for boxing conventional denture impressions. Since then, I have found another excellent use for the products involving implant prosthetic fabrication.

Like most laboratories, in the last five years I have experienced an increase in fabricating hybrid, wrap around and all-on-four cases in my lab. As with other fabrications we produce, we investigate and discover different ways to reduce labor time and lower material costs without sacrificing quality.

Wonderfill

Wonderfill is a tongue and void filler formulated to require no setup time and no messy cleanup.

Reported features for implant fabrication:

- Accurate model fabrication
- Fast and easy setup
- Lowered material costs
- No hard-to-manage lab putty
- No messy clean-up

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Fig. 1 Wonderfill and Former ordered separately. Plexiglas base with rubber feet is my additional option which will allow for easy handling.

Fig. 2 Preservation of wax contours for cleanliness and intimacy of acrylic to implants reduces hygienic difficulty once the bar is delivered.

Fig. 3 The old method: Analogs placed and tissue side encased in lab putty or PVS impression material. Adaption of putty is difficult. Retention holes are added to add retention of putty to stone base.

Fig. 4 Old method: Stone base is poured. Bar placed on putty surface to illustrate contour replication.

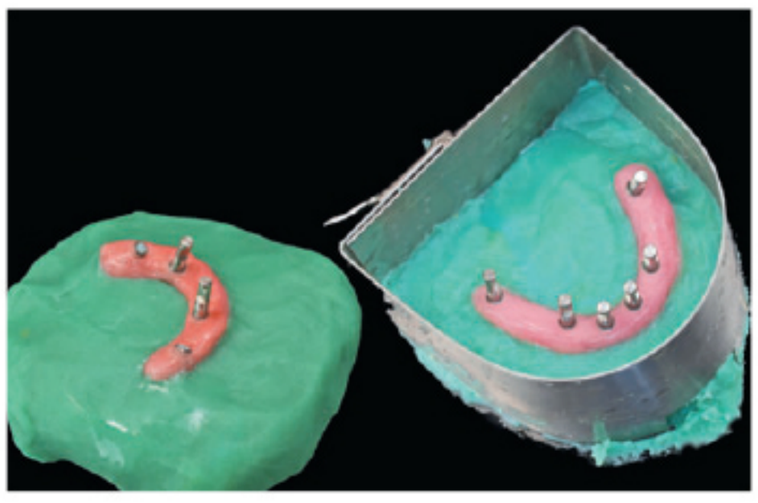

Fig. 5 New method: Inverted, one step pour assures accurate adaption to wax form and analogs allowing for exact stone replication of wax form.

Fig. 6 Wonderfill/Wonderformer produced stone model for processing off the tissue model. Use of a good wetting agent and inverted pour produces speed and accuracy without the cost of lab putty and additional time.

Fig. 7 Final hybrid with acrylic processed against Wonderfill/Wonderformer produced stone processing model. Smooth, accurate and quick to produce.

01 When processing wax try-in approved bar cases, I always fabricate a "processing model" in order to preserve the master tissue model for final fit and finish. Key to that model fabrication is the preservation and duplication of the cleansable contours established in wax (Fig. 2).

02 In the past, part of the processing model fabrication involved placing analogs on the bar and forming laboratory putty around the tissue side and analogs (Fig. 3) to preserve the cleansable contours carved and smoothing in wax around the implant interface before pouring the stone base to that (Fig. 4).

03 This involved a precise adaption technique to avoid the putty from pulling away from the analogs or wax and to avoid making creases in the material.

04 One day, I had an "aha" moment and reached for my Wonderfill and Wonderformer. I reasoned that by submerging the tooth side of the setup down into the Wonderfill and leaving only the tissue bearing and analog side exposed (Fig. 5), I would be able to pour a perfectly adapted "one step" model to the wax and analogs without the typical worry and expense with lab putty.

05 Gravity, an inverted pour and a good wetting agent assures a well-adapted stone replicated processing surface (Figs. 6 & 7). Processing model fabrication is now inexpensive, fast, easy and accurate.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR
Tom Zaleske is the owner of Matrix Dental Laboratory in Crown Point, Ind., and has more than 25 years of experience in removable prosthodontics. He regularly lectures on providing high quality service to dentists and, most importantly, to their patients. He can be reached at **matrixdental@comcast.net.**