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DENTSPLY Caulk recently released TPH Spectra™ Universal Composite. This new, simplified restorative material is the only composite with preferred handling.

Jason H. Goodchild, DMD reviews its benefits. [READ MORE >>](#)



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D.D.S. Dan



TPH Spectra



DENTSPLY Caulk



TPH Spectra™:

A new composite restorative material offering simplified shading and two viscosity choices

Jason H. Goodchild, DMD

To simplify decision-making and to offer a composite that can insure excellent performance in all clinical situations, DENTSPLY Caulk has introduced TPH Spectra™ Universal Composite. This new composite is based on the resin technology of TPH3 and contains nanohybrid- and micro-filler components. The result is a composite that can perform well in either the anterior or posterior, and has tooth-like translucency, improved polishability and color stability, and good wear resistance. TPH Spectra also comes in two handling choices: a creamy light-viscosity formulation, and a packable high-viscosity formulation. For both viscosities the physical properties are similar. Because handling preference is subjective and highly individualized, practitioners are now able to select the right viscosity for all clinical situations.

In order to make shade selection simpler, TPH Spectra is available in the seven most popular shades: B1, A1, A2, A3, A3.5, A4, and C2. According to DENTSPLY's internal data, the seven shades of TPH Spectra represent more than 80% of total sales from the previous TPH3 formulation. The TPH Spectra shade guide was condensed for several reasons. First, some practitioners may be overwhelmed with the number of current shades; the Vita Classic (Vident) shade guide has sixteen shades, and the TPH3 shade guide has twenty-six. Because only seven of the current twenty-six TPH3 shades are regularly purchased, the color difference (i.e., Delta-E value) between shades was calculated to determine if a top-seven shade could be used in place of another shade not offered. Table 1 shows that it will be possible to "cover" all the Vita shades with the existing TPH Spectra offerings by keeping the Delta-E less than 4 (if the two shades, tooth-composite or composite-composite, have a Delta-E difference of less than 4, the difference is difficult to distinguish by the human eye).

Table 1.

		TPH Spectra™ Shades						
		B1	A1	A2	C2	A3	A3.5	A4
Light	B1	●	●	●	●	●		
	A1	●	●	●	●	●		
	B2	●	●	●	●	●		
	D2			●	●	●		
	A2			●	●	●	●	
VITA Shades	C1			●	●	●	●	
	C2			●	●	●	●	●
	D4			●	●	●	●	●
	A3			●	●	●	●	●
	D3			●	●	●	●	●
	B3			●	●	●	●	●
	A3.5				●	●	●	●
	B4				●	●	●	●
	C3					●	●	●
	A4						●	●
Dark	A4						●	●
	C4						●	●

TPH Spectra also offers excellent color blending between restorative materials and natural tooth, often called, "the chameleon effect." Again, building and improving from the previous TPH3 composite formulation, TPH Spectra has a refractive index that falls directly between enamel (1.63) and dentin (1.54). Because of TPH Spectra's excellent translucent properties and an appropriate refractive index similar to natural tooth structure, it will have an excellent chameleon effect and create restorations that are unable to be detected.

With the introduction of TPH Spectra by DENTSPLY Caulk, dentists now have one material that can be used for all situations. As a result, no longer do practitioners need to struggle with decisions of shading or selecting the material with the most appropriate physical properties. TPH Spectra's characteristics and excellent chameleon effect will provide the dentist and patient with predictable results not only during placement at chairside but for years to come.

For more information contact DENTSPLY Caulk at 1-800-532-2855 or visit www.TPHSpectra.com.