

NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DENTSPLY INTERNATIONAL INC. RECEIVES SHILS AWARD

York, PA – June 25, 2008 – DENTSPLY International Inc. (Nasdaq- XRAY) announced it received the 2008 Dr. Edward B. Shils Entrepreneurial Education Fund Award presented to dental industry for its Student Clinician Research Program. This Award recognizes DENTSPLY's 50 year commitment to financial support and partnership with the American Dental Association to support student research during the ADA's Annual Session.

Over the past 50 years, DENTSPLY International's Student Clinician Research Program has grown to include more than 5000 student participants in over 35 countries worldwide. This global program supports student scientists to present their research at dental meetings throughout the world.

"DENTSPLY is honored to receive this award in recognition of our continuing involvement and support for this valued and unique global program for dental student research. By conducting dental research, students learn the value of innovation and discovery that often stays with them throughout their professional career" noted Bret Wise, Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President, in accepting this award during the ceremony on June 17 at the Union League in Philadelphia. Dr. Shils's hometown.

The Dr. Edward B. Shils Entrepreneurial Education Fund was founded to honor the over 50 years of service provided by Dr. Shils to the dental industry. The Fund is administered by the ADA Foundation and recognizes the development and implementation of programs that motivate and encourage innovative leadership in the dental community.

DENTSPLY designs, develops, manufactures and markets a broad range of products for the dental market. The Company believes that it is the world's leading manufacturer and distributor of dental prosthetics, precious metal dental alloys, dental ceramics, endodontic instruments and materials, prophylaxis paste, dental sealants, ultrasonic scalers, and crown and bridge materials;

the leading United States manufacturer and distributor of dental handpieces, dental x-ray film holders, film mounts and bone substitute/grafting materials; and a leading worldwide manufacturer or distributor of dental implants, impression materials, orthodontic appliances, dental cutting instruments, infection control products, and dental injectable anesthetics. The Company distributes its dental products in over 120 countries under some of the most well established brand names in the industry.

DENTSPLY is committed to the development of innovative, high quality, cost-effective new products for the dental market.