# QUICK TIPS FOR CLINICAL SUCCESS



### LOCATOR F-Tx® FIXED ATTACHMENT SYSTEM

The LOCATOR F-Tx FIXED Attachment System is easy to use, but when used incorrectly, it may lead to unfavorable results. Below are some quick tips to follow when working with the System. To ensure maximum performance of the System and longevity of the prosthesis, please see the LOCATOR F-Tx Technique Manual for additional guidelines and recommended techniques.

LOCATOR F-Tx IS A FIXED ATTACHMENT SYSTEM: This is an implant supported FIXED Attachment System for partial or full-arch restorations with cross arch stabilization and a minimum of four implants; "F-Tx" stands for "Fixed Treatment." This is NOT a patient removable system and should NOT be used in combination with any removable attachment system. It is not appropriate for single tooth restorations, unilateral bridges or with combined implant of convergence/divergence greater than 20° from a common vertical reference. This **FIXED** restoration is similar to a screw or cement retained restoration in that the patient is unable to remove it; it is **FIXED** for the patient and **ONLY** removable by the clinician using specialized tools provided by Zest Dental Solutions.





Finger Tighten Processing Ball before insertion into Abutment/Analog



**Ensure Retention Balls** are finger tight prior to final placement

## PROCESSING AND RETENTION BALLS MUST BE FINGER TIGHT ONLY:

- DO NOT OVER TIGHTEN BALLS: Performance of the Ball is NOT enhanced when over tightened, over tightening may strip the hex interface making ball removal more difficult.
- TORQUE WRENCH SHOULD NOT BE USED WITH ANY BALLS.

#### **BLACK PROCESSING BALLS:**

The System is packaged with a Processing Ball already pre-inserted into the Denture Attachment Housing. It is recommended to verify that the Ball is FINGER TIGHT in the Housing prior to seating it into the Abutment or Analog. The Processing Balls may be subjected to multiple insertions of the prosthesis during an immediate provisional or laboratory fabrication of the final prosthesis and should be replaced after multiple insertions. A replacement Processing Ball is included in the package and should be used during the pick-up of the Denture Attachment Housing into the prosthesis.

### HANDLING OF COLORED RETENTION BALLS:

Made of PEEK (polyetheretherketone); a high-performance plastic with outstanding resistance to harsh chemicals, excellent mechanical strength, and dimensional stability. Peek material offers hydrolysis resistance to steam and water, however the Retention Balls must be handled carefully to avoid damage. When positioning the prosthesis over the Abutment cavities prior to seating, use caution to avoid sliding the Retention Balls over the tops of the Abutments as permanent damage may occur.

#### **RETENTION BALLS ARE SINGLE INSERTION ONLY:**

There is an undercut inside the Abutment cavity that serves as the retentive element of the Attachment. When the Ball is disengaged from the Abutment during removal of the prosthesis, the undercut shaves and reduces the diameter of the Ball reducing its level of retention. For this reason, a Retention Ball CANNOT be reused after it has been disengaged from the Abutment. Reusing a Retention Ball will result in significant reduction of the retention that could lead to unintended dislodgement.

**RECOMMENDED USE OF THE RETENTION BALLS:** LOW (BLUE): Can be used during implant integration or when the prosthesis may need to be removed shortly after surgery and on compliant patients who will follow a soft diet. The use of Blue Balls in a final or long-term restoration may lead to premature dislodgement of the restoration.

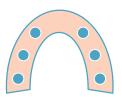
HIGH (GREEN) AND MEDIUM (TAN): Can be used in final or long-term restorations; two Green Balls per quadrant is recommended and should be used together with Tan Balls for the remaining implants. Long-term restorations can include those for immediate load situations if the prosthesis will not be removed during the healing

FINAL BALL SELECTION: The above recommendations are provided to improve the patient experience, but are by no means inclusive of all scenarios in which Retention Balls will be used. Final Ball selection is at the discretion of the clinician, based on many factors, including but not limited to, the number of implants and the case requirements.





SINGLE INSERTION ONLY!



IMMEDIATE LOAD PROVISIONAL: Blue Retention Balls Are Only Recommended In A Short-Term Immediate Load Provisional. NOT Recommended In Final, Long-Term Restorations



FINAL / LONG-TERM RESTORATION:

Green and/or Tan Retention Balls Are Recommended In Final Restorations Depending on Total Number of Implants



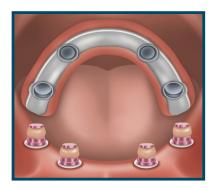
#### **DEDICATED .050"/1.25MM RETENTION BALL HEX DRIVER:**

The Processing and Retention Balls are inserted and removed from the Denture Attachment Housings using a .050"/1.25mm hex driver. The Hex Driver provided by Zest is a specialized, patent-pending driver incorporating "blades" that when operated counterclockwise will grab the Retention Ball for easier removal. Using the dedicated Retention Ball Hex Driver is strongly encouraged for maximum performance of the System.

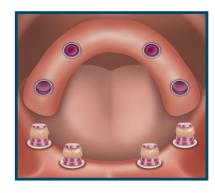
TORQUE WRENCH SHOULD NOT BE USED WITH ANY BALLS.

#### PROCESSING THE DENTURE ATTACHMENT HOUSINGS (DAHs):

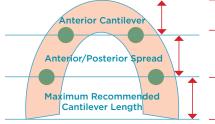
- 1. To ensure precise pick-up of the Denture Attachment Housings, start with a new Black Processing Ball, insert into the Abutment once and gently rotate to the desired angulation. Never force rotation beyond the 20° physical limits.
- 2. Always create an undercut in the prosthesis for the chairside pick-up material to mechanically bond to. Failure to complete this step could result in loose Housings over time that provide no retention to the prosthesis.
- 3. Process All Denture Attachment Housings at the same time to ensure a passive pick-up of the prosthesis.
- 4. Denture Attachment Housings MUST be picked-up chairside. Achieving the precise connection between the spherical geometry of the Abutment and the Denture Attachment Housing is an imperative step for the System to function properly. Laboratory pick-up of the Denture Attachment Housings is NOT RECOMMENDED due to possible misalignment and improper seating of the prosthesis.
- 5. The pick-up material must be **completely** set prior to removing the prosthesis during processing. Premature removal of the prosthesis could alter the intended positioning of the Housings, negatively affecting the final seating of the prosthesis and minimizing the performance of the System.

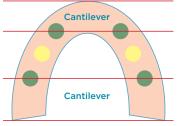


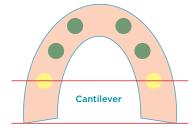
Process All DAHs At The Same Time. Ensure Pick-up Material Is Fully Set.

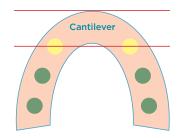


**ANTERIOR/POSTERIOR (A/P) SPREAD GUIDELINE: Maximum 1X A/P Spread**. To minimize dislodgement, higher Retention Balls (**Green**) are required with cantilevers and **MUST** be used on the opposite end of the cantilever. Posterior cantilevers require higher Retention Balls to be placed in the most anterior Abutments and anterior cantilevers require higher Retention Balls to be placed in the most posterior Abutments to offset the loads.









Cantilevers Require Higher Retention Balls to minimize dislodgement. Higher Retention Balls MUST be used on the opposite end of cantilever.



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