AKIRA SCHÜTTLER
TIPS & TRICKS

on the latest features in the
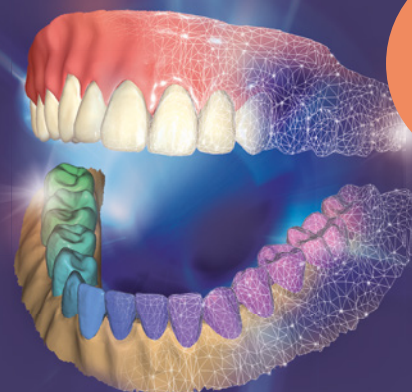*Virtual Articulator* and *Implant Module*

**Akira Schüttler,
Global Head of Technology Integration at exocad**

With the *DentalCAD 3.2 Elefsina* release, we have implemented some long-requested wishes from our customers in the area of technical integration.
My personal highlights include new features in the *Virtual Articulator* and *Implant Module*.

INFORMATION

VIRTUAL ARTICULATOR

A new feature has been added to this add-on module for *DentalCAD*, that allows users to work with articulators that have an incisal table attached to the upper, movable part of the articulator. These articulators offer an alternative way of simulating a patient's jaw movements. This option has been requested the most frequently and has now been implemented for the first time with the integration of the GAMMA Dental Reference SL virtual articulator (Fig. 1).
The software supports this articulator in all functions, for example the fivefold customizable eccentricity through exchangeable SKN and TKN elements. Further articulators with an incisal plate mounted on the top will be successively integrated.
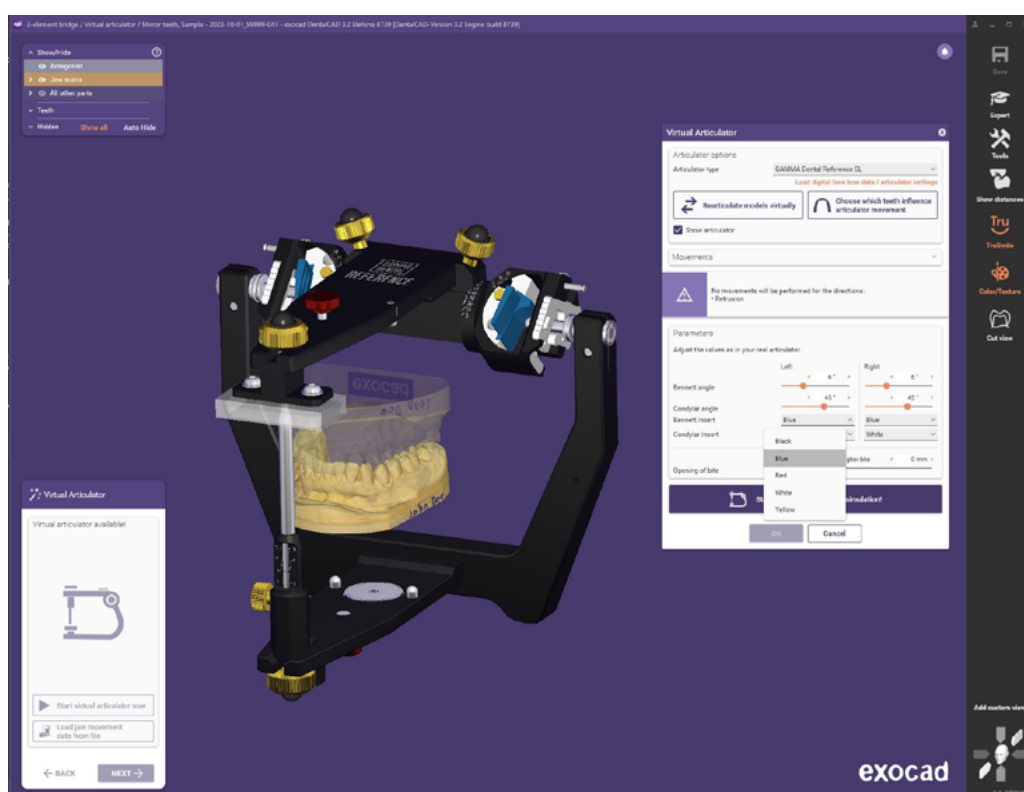

Fig. 1

Other new articulators supported by *DentalCAD 3.2 Elefsina* include the KaVo PROTARevo 5B and the Mälzer Dental CORSOART BKR AC-Line. In addition, articulator visualization in an anatomical skull model (in-skull articulator) (Fig. 7) is now supported.

IMPLANT MODULE
with new features for screw channel angulation

The *Implant Module* for the design of implant-based restorations supports individually angled screw channels. With *DentalCAD 3.2 Elefsina*, the workflow for creating angled screw channels has been made easier and more intuitive. In addition, a new feature makes it easier to set up angled screw channels where the bend point is located within the titanium base.

This is how it works: In the workflow, users now create the angled screw channels after tooth placement in the "Abutment Bottom" step (Figs. 2, 3) using the example of Straumann® Variobase® for crown angled solutions. The geometry of the titanium base defined by the manufacturer is stored in the software and is automatically considered when designing the angled screw channel (Figs. 4, 5). If the manufacturer allows the titanium base to be angled in a certain direction, users can adjust the screw channel precisely and individually within this defined angle range (Fig. 6). If a titanium base with anti-rotation protection is connected to an implant with anti-rotation protection, the specified anti-rotation protection is automatically respected—the titanium base rotates to the appropriate position and the angled screw channel is placed in the desired position. This makes the process of defining an angled screw channel much simpler and more efficient.
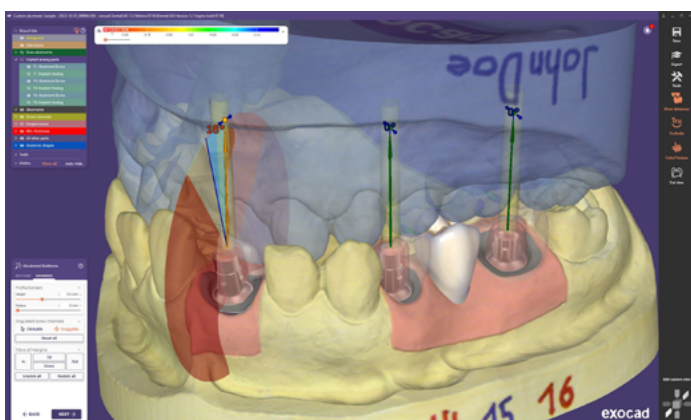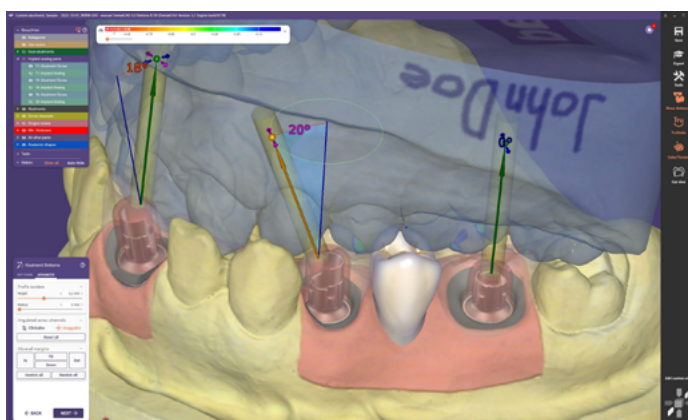

Fig. 2
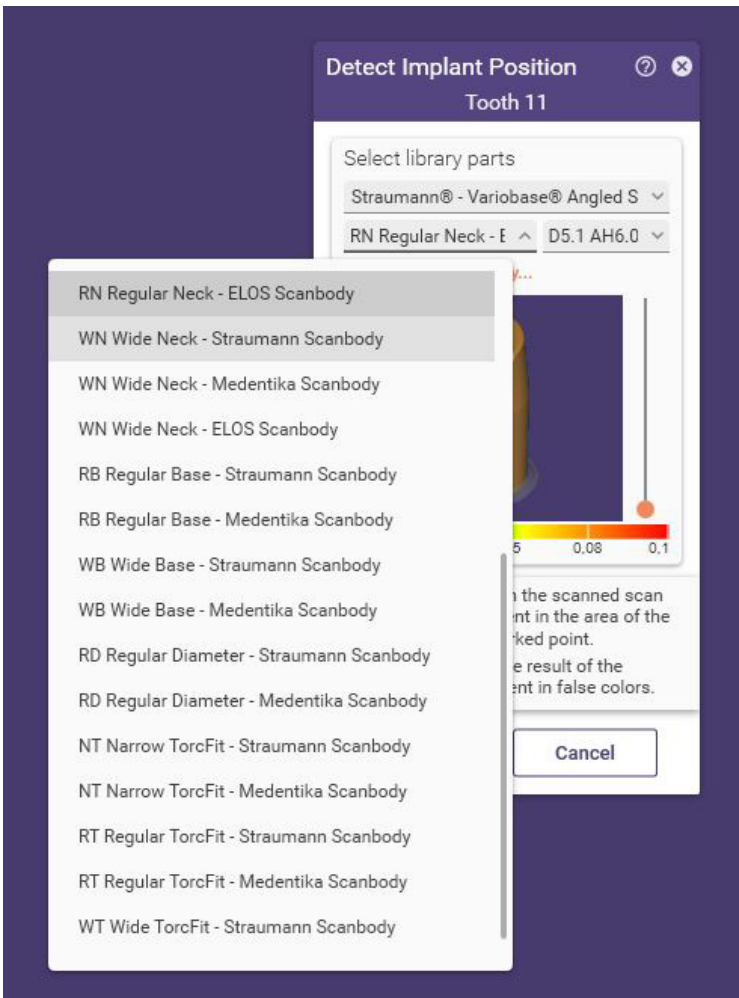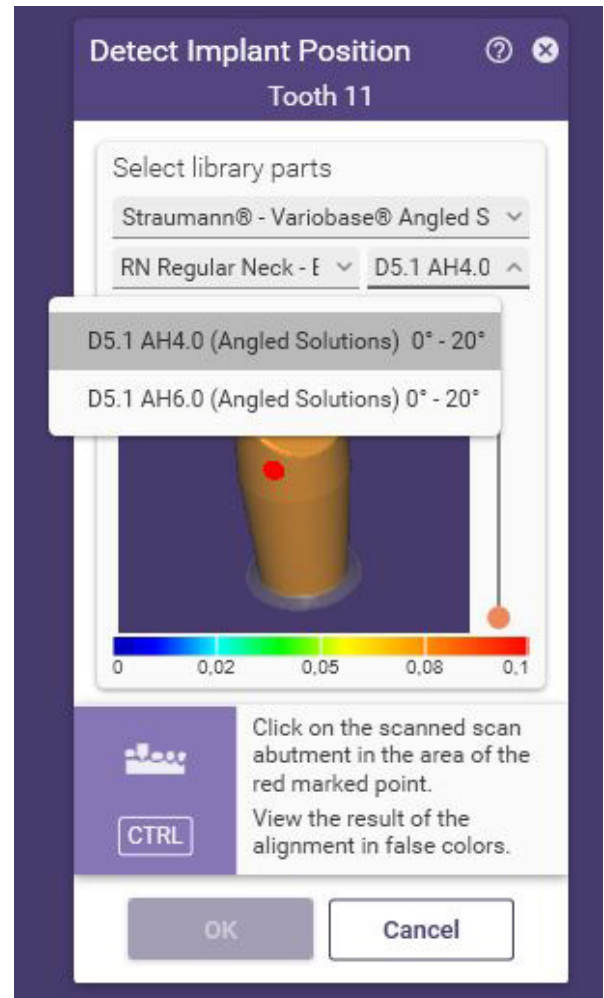

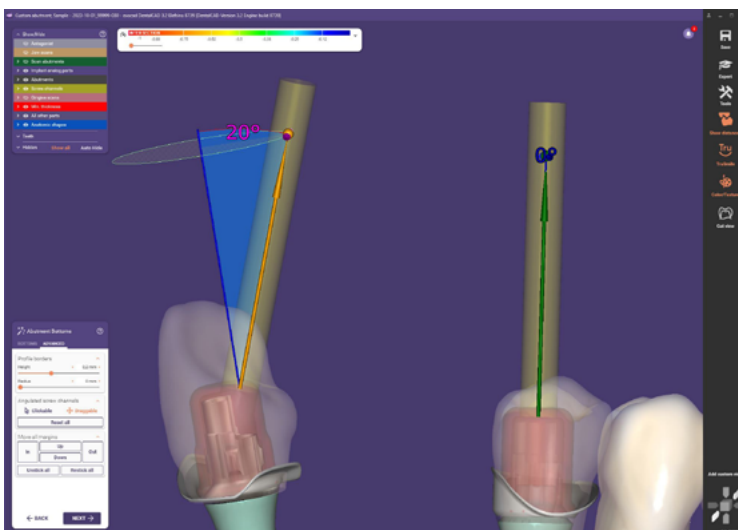
Fig. 3

INFORMATION

Fig. 4

Fig. 5

Fig. 6

The *Implant Module* already offers a selection of implant libraries with corresponding prosthetic components (e.g. titanium bases) from all leading manufacturers.

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AKIRA'S **PERSONAL TIP**
In-skull articulator

In the standard "opaque" view, the skull bone appears solid and the view of the planned restoration may be restricted as a result. I prefer a more transparent view. I set a transparency value of 75% for the upper jaw and go to 50% for the lower skull area (Fig. 7). This allows me to see the planned restoration in motion much better and even recognize the virtual tooth roots in the upper jaw of our skull model.
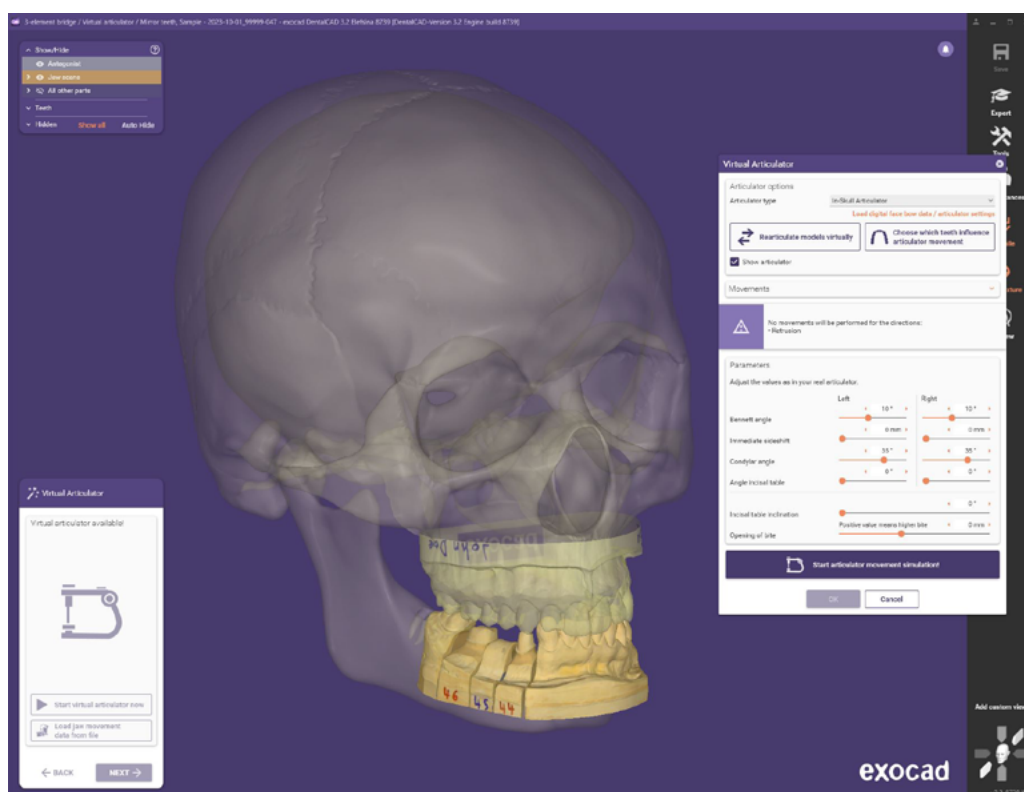

Fig. 7

Implant libraries

If you subscribe to our monthly newsletter *News Bites*, you will receive all the latest exocad updates, including new integrated articulators and implant libraries:
exocad.com/newsletter.
In addition to the daily updated download of all exocad libraries,
exocad.com/integration/overview also offers a download option for the latest 3D printer presets and an overview of the 19 currently integrated articulator models.