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## Radiography in 3-D—The Gift that Keeps Giving

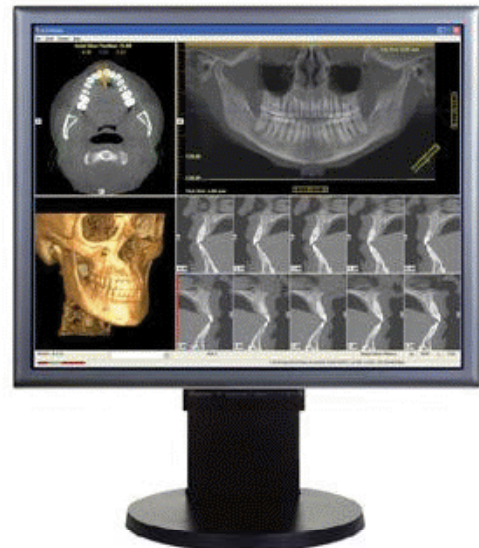
- By [Edward Y. Lin, DDS, MS](#)

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### Technology Spotlight

Technology permeates every aspect of our lives—from our phones, to our music, our computers, and our televisions. In fact, the number one personal gift is usually some kind of digital device. Digital imaging and 3-D radiography is like a gift to your practice. The choice to invest in these systems will set your practice apart from the rest.

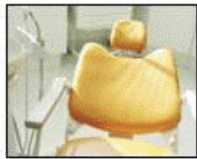
By now, most people have heard the praises of digital—no more budgeting for traditional x-ray film and processing chemicals, and no more wasting time while your assistant develops film in the darkroom or searches for misplaced x-rays. Digital images appear on your monitor instantly and can be easily electronically transmitted to referring doctors. Now, digital technology offers us even more—[radiography in 3-D \(Cone Beam\)](#) that can be captured in the convenience of our own offices.



Cone Beam 3-D—a gift for yourself that benefits your patients.

Dentists who are considering investing in Cone Beam 3-D imaging need to be informed about the various choices. I have used the i-CAT® Classic for over 2 years, and just implemented the [i-CAT Next Generation](#) last October. While both offer the full field of view (FOV), the sensor on my newer model can rotate from horizontal to vertical, capturing an extended FOV in around 8.9 seconds. My team and I enjoy the user-friendly software and that scans can be used in applications like [SureSmile®](#). My patients are in awe of the technology. I got here because I did my homework.

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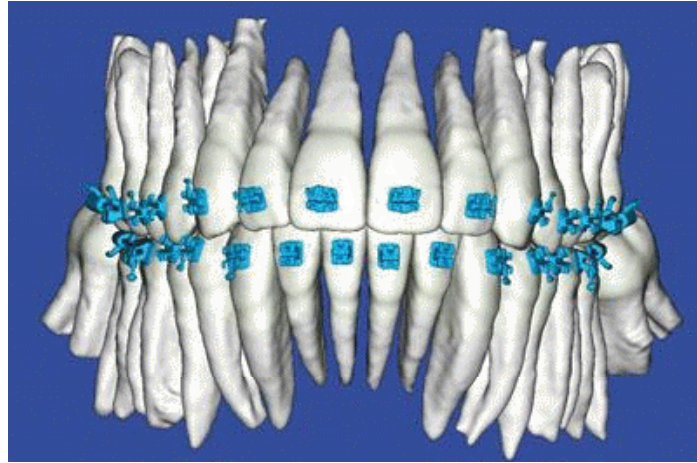
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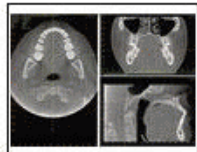
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Expanded applications with Cone Beam—only i-CAT is 'SureSmile' certified.

In order to choose the appropriate system, you need to hear from professionals who already have made the transition. In 2002, I heard Dr. David Hatcher at the Moyers Symposium talk about Cone Beam. At another meeting, he said that the i-CAT was the best machine available. While this was a powerful statement, I continued my information gathering. I spoke to many different doctors and asked why they chose the system they did, and how they blended the technology into their practices. I went to the Dolphin Users meeting and asked how to integrate Cone Beam with my software systems. I attended the Midwinter dental meeting in Chicago, saw the machines first hand and discussed details such as size and reconstruction rates with exhibitors, and I checked out service and training options as well.

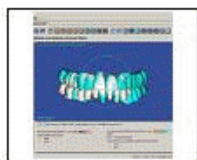
Sometimes the best and most satisfying gifts are the ones you get yourself, the ones that you've taken the time to make that well-informed choice. Armed with all of the facts, your practice will become a technology leader, respected by patients and colleagues for optimum therapeutic care. Investing in 3-D is one of the best decisions we have ever made.



#### »i-CAT - Imaging Sciences International

The technology and design of the i-CAT® puts advanced in-office imaging within the realm of an expanding universe of practices, those that want to place themselves at the center of patient care by providing a full continuum of services from diagnosis to treatment. The i-CAT's Cone Beam 3-D Dental Imaging System provides high-definition, digital imaging at reduced cost with less radiation to the patient and typical scan times of 5, 8.9 or 26.9 seconds. The i-CAT's computer controlled software delivers quick & easy reconstruction of critical anatomical information typically in less than 30 seconds.

[Request Information](#)



#### »SureSmile Orthodontic Treatment Planning Software - OraMetric Inc

The SureSmile software includes a powerful set of visualization tools you can use for precise diagnosis, treatment planning, and therapeutic design—so you can see the result and map out the path to get there before you begin treatment. Interactive 3-D viewing of the malocclusion and target occlusion from any angle or magnification. Fine-tune diagnostic setups created by the SureSmile Service Center to customize the target occlusion for each patient. Order precision custom archwires that drive tooth alignment

along the most direct path to the target. View treatment progress and communicate it to the patient at any stage in the care cycle.

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