Groningen, the Netherlands Interview with Dr. Rolf de Ruijter



"The best solutions for our specific."

At the university in Groningen, around 300 young people study dentistry each semester and 240 train to become dental hygienists. In 2010, under the supervision of Dr. de Ruijter, a completely new training center with 32 Sirona dental units was set up.

What were the challenges?

Dr. Rolf de Ruijter: "We needed a unit which could be very quickly converted from a right- to a left-handed version. Sirona proposed a convertible unit which allowed very quick conversion, yet our students were not able to handle it properly. We thus opted for a classic unit for right-handed use and asked Sirona to attach the dentist element to the left. Sirona satisfied this rather unusual request."

What, in your view, are our weaknesses, where could we improve in the future?

Dr. Rolf de Ruijter: "In terms of hygiene requirements in particular, each country has different regulations and the equipment details sometimes don't dovetail into the practice workflow. However, overall, I have to say that Sirona really did make the impossible possible and took an extremely open and flexible approach to our wishes. This has allowed us to identify so many practical solutions and it really is a shame that these are only available for use by us."

How has the equipment stood up in a practical setting? Would you recommend Sirona as an equipment provider?

Dr. Rolf de Ruijter: "Our expectations and wishes were met in full and we are very satisfied with the new equipment. The cooperation with Sirona worked really well and this company identified excellent solutions for our demanding and very specific needs. Sirona kept all its promises, including in terms of the tight deadlines. It truly was a case of delivery on demand."

What would you wish for the future?

Dr. Rolf de Ruijter: "I would like the industry to continually introduce new technologies which, up to now, we didn't even know we needed. This provides new stimulus for the dentistry of tomorrow which will ultimately be the everyday working lives of our students."

