

Happy birthday to us!

This is a special time in dental history that deserves attention.

In 1969 *Quintessence International* was launched for the purpose of providing practical, broad information to the global dental community. In its 30 years of existence, QI has reached that goal, and it continues to grow and develop. QI now enjoys worldwide distribution in English and is translated into 10 languages.

1999 also marks the 50th anniversary of our parent, Quintessenz Verlags-GmbH, the preeminent dental publisher known for quality content, graphics, and printing. Dr. Walter Haase founded the company in Berlin in 1949, and today it is headed by his son, H. W. Haase. The company has grown into the leading international dental publisher, with its main office still in Berlin and additional offices in Chicago, London, Tokyo, Paris, Barcelona, Moscow, Warsaw, São Paulo, and Prague. There are also numerous publishing partners in Italy, Hungary, Greece, Korea, Estonia, Lithuania, Indonesia, and Malaysia who publish translated editions of Quintessenz books and journals. Our most recent collaboration occurred with the publication of two new journals from the Chinese dental community.

With thousands of books, journals, and videos, Quintessenz remains predominantly devoted to dentistry. In addition to the various publishing activities, the company regularly sponsors symposia, seminars, and congresses around the world. Two such meetings of note are:

- The 50th Anniversary meeting of Quintessenz in Berlin, February 5-7 (see ad on opposite page)
- The 30th Anniversary Symposia in Orlando, Florida, from July 16-18, commemorating the beginning of *Quintessence International* in 1969

There will be two concurrent symposia in Orlando: the 16th International Quintessence Symposium, "Changing Smiles in the Millennium," and the 18th International Symposium on Ceramics, "Masters Teamwork."

H. W. Haase achieved a place in publishing history by being one of the first to introduce color plates in the dental literature. Committed to innovative, high-quality publishing, his newest undertaking is aimed at the multimedia potential for information transfer in the new electronic age. This project is immense in both scope and scale, as it proposes to create a global system for professional, paraprofessional, and public education, as well as clinical decision-making support and postgraduate studies in health care. This Global Dentistry Network offers possibilities ranging from traditional texts, manuals, and video tapes to CD-ROM programs, DVD, Internet, and live satellite presentations. There are currently about two dozen universities, institutions, and companies participating in the endeavor, and that number will grow rapidly as the broad content base expands.

The ultimate result will be "on-demand" knowledge about any topic, delivered by a platform of choice, when and where the information seeker wants it! It is appropriate that this project will reach fruition at the dawn of a new millennium.

Join me in appreciation for the entire Quintessenz family, and in wishing happy 50th and 30th anniversaries to Quintessenz and QI!

Bill Wathen, DMD

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Editor-in-Chief