

The Implant Bite Post

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Restorative outcomes depend on a lot of variables. Assuming our patients have great occlusion to begin (which they usually don't), single tooth restorations are easy. When it comes to rebuilding dentitions that don't have even, stable closure positions and perhaps exacerbated by several missing teeth, recording bite registrations becomes the straw that breaks the camels back. Using tooth preparations as the index for a bite record works fine but when large edentulous spans or quadrants exist we've had to rely on soft tissue indexes or removable base plates to transfer this critical data to the lab. Dental implants have enhanced restorative dentistry in many ways, but due to the fact that they are replacing missing teeth, the conundrum of obtaining accurate occlusal records is compounded. Do we use removable base plates or rely on soft tissue indexing? This is a huge challenge.

Any removable or non-rigid bite index will not fly in today's demanding clinical practices. Using extra healing caps attached directly to the implant helped somewhat. I have wasted hours making custom or jerry-rigged facsimiles to rigid abutments, but the advent of the Implant Bite Post™ has changed the game. The bite post simply screws in and bottoms out to the implant platform. These bite posts have the ideal undercut, they are perfectly round to eliminate any thread timing issues and they can be used over and over again. This is a simple and user-friendly solution.

The Implant Bite Post has returned the ease and accuracy of using a preparation to make my occlusal records on implant cases. To use these surrogate preps, I simply screw them in and record the bite. Then I remove the bite, unscrew the bite post and send it all to the lab with the case. Now, I can feel confident that the occlusion will be accurate when I seat my implant cases. The occlusion problem with implant cases was a bigger issue than I first thought, but the solution was easier than I imagined. These bite posts really work, give them a try!

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