

Stephen's Top Five	When did you start using it	Why can you not live/work without it	When do you use the item	If you could change anything about the item, what would it be
Isolite	Two years ago	Not only could I not work without it but my clinical assistants could not either! There is nothing else that provides quick comfortable isolation and improves the quality of dentistry no matter what the procedure.	Just about every patient.	I would like to see some variable sizes for patients with high palates and an additional suction port in the rear of the block to suction behind the device.
Periolase	January 2008	I am able to save teeth that I could not save before which has changed the way I treatment plan cases for the better. After all that is what we as dentists are supposed to do — save teeth not extract them.	Any patient that has periodontal disease is a candidate. I also use it for frenectomies, exposing implants, removing tissue around orthodontic brackets, and exposing cuspids.	
Instrumentarium Orthoceph OC 200D	February 2008	The quality of the images are absolutely amazing. The additional cephalometric attachment gives me the ability to do the appropriate and complete orthodontic work-up right in our office. I can then instantly send the images to other doctors or in the case of the cephalometric image immediately for tracing.	Every new patient gets a new panoramic image. The system has a variety of special features such as the ability to take a panoramic view only on one side or segment of the face allowing more frequent checks and less exposure for observation purposes. An example of this could be checking an implant site.	
Midmark Track Monitor System and Flexview System	I started using the Flexview System about four years ago and recently added six new Midmark Track Monitor Systems.	I am so used to having the patients watching TV it would seem strange now if they weren't. I also have the Internet integrated into the system so I can pull up the patient's Invisalign files. They really love seeing the Clincheck right in front of them during the appointment.	Every patient appointment and anytime I need help with patient education.	Easy integration of wireless headsets.
Digidoc Intraoral Camera	I started using the older analog model about four years ago and recently added their newest model.	There is no better tool for instantly showing the patient what their problem is. I have this integrated into our track monitor systems and they can instantly look above and see the images.	Anytime I want to easily explain something to the patient or I want to document a problem. The camera is integrated into the practice management software so I can easily store images into their files. These files then can be used to send electronically to insurance as additional documentation.	I would like to have an auto focus and the camera sheaths do not work well.

story continued on page 42