My experience with 3M[™] APC[™] Adhesive



Kirk R. Davies, DDS, MS

daviesortho.com Waukesha, Wis. October 2017

I have been using the 3M™ APC™ Adhesive Coated Appliance System for about 15 years. The advantages to me range from a more organized way to inventory and prepare brackets prior to placement, to ease for the chairside assistant passing brackets to me with a completely consistent amount of adhesive on the back of the bracket. The labeling of the



bracket package makes it very difficult to have the wrong bracket handed to me. Parents appreciate the single-use packaged brackets from an infection control standpoint. The APC system has allowed my office to save time setting up before the appointment as well as shorter doctor time necessary for bracket placement. With fewer steps necessary in the bonding process, there are fewer steps that can lead to bond failure. Any extra bond failure creates an expensive, time consuming, and negative patient experience.

Over the past year and a half, I have been using 3M™ APC™ Flash-Free Adhesive. It offers all the benefits of previous APC Adhesive systems, with the added benefit of no flash clean-up. Placing an APC Flash-Free Adhesive coated bracket is similar to a traditional bracket placement, but there is no flash to clean up. In our practice, what no flash means to the doctor is about five minutes of time savings during a full bonding. That isn't just any five minutes – cleaning up the flash around a bracket is the least favorite and least productive part of the appointment.

Cleaning up the flash is the exhausting part of the placement. It uses your fine motor skills, constant concentration, and a visual focus. Using extra effort cleaning up the flash wears you down, makes you more tired, and increases stress. There is also a constant worry about accidentally bumping a bracket out of position. APC Flash-Free Adhesive reduced that stress for me. It gave me a busy summer without burnout.

APC Flash-Free Adhesive answers the question,

"If I could improve one thing about the bonding procedure to make life easier, what would it be?"





