

## About the Case

A 33-year-old female patient complained about the appearance of the existing partial composite reconstructions on her central lateral incisors.

## Challenge

The main challenge in this case was to create a naturallooking, anatomically correct tooth shape. To simplify the procedure, we used an anterior matrix system and 3M<sup>™</sup> Filtek<sup>™</sup> Universal Restorative, because it was designed for the single-shade technique, and has great modeling properties and a chameleon effect for good optical integration. We used a single-shade technique, as an analysis of the adjacent teeth's internal structure revealed no complex variations in translucency.

## Outcome

The team and the patient were satisfied with the overall result.

Additionally, the team appreciated that the colour and material integration was solved with a single-shade restoration rather than placing more opaque colours such as dentine shades. Through the creation of a natural tooth shape, a lifelike restoration was obtained.



# It's all about the shape: Direct Anterior Solutions

Clinical dentistry and photography by Dr. Jordi Manauta, University of Siena, Italy, and University of Seville, Spain



Before



After

See a step-by-step Case Overview on back.

### About Dr. Jordi Manauta

Born in Mexico City, Dr. Jordi Manauta graduated from the Technological University of Mexico (UNITEC) with a degree in dentistry with major grants. He continued his postgraduate studies in operative and aesthetic dentistry at the International University of Catalonia (UIC) in Barcelona, Spain, where he obtained a master's degree. He is currently a visiting professor at the University of Siena (Italy) and the University of Seville (Spain), and practices aesthetic and conservative dentistry privately in Santa Margherita Ligure (Italy).

Dr. Manauta has developed various materials and instruments for aesthetic dentistry and photography in collaboration with international companies. He is a co-author of the book "Layers: An Atlas of Composite Resin Stratification" (Quintessence, 2012); an author and co-author of publications in international journals; and a scientific consultant for two European journals. Dr. Manauta is frequently invited as a lecturer.

## **Case Overview**



INITIAL SITUATION: Composite restorations on the maxillary central incisors needed to be replaced. Composite veneers were planned.



Two anterior matrices were placed and fixed with wedges.



Appearance of the restoration immediately after the application of the last layer of composite and removal of the second matrix. The shape looked good, while the texture needed to be refined.



Photo taken using a polarising filter revealed internal structure and restorations. Dark areas in the teeth's mesial aspect were more prominent than in the unfiltered photo.



Bonding surfaces were etched with 3M™ Scotchbond™ Universal Etchant. The gel was rinsed off with water after 15 seconds.



Photograph of the restorations and adjacent teeth was taken with the aid of polarising filters. A relatively plain internal structure was revealed.



Palatal view of the maxillary anterior teeth. Marginal integrity of the restorations was compromised and marginal discolouration visible.



After the adhesive was applied, the interproximal and cervical areas of the right central incisor were built up with 3M<sup>™</sup> Filtek<sup>™</sup> Universal Restorative A2 shade, light cured, and the matrix was removed.



Restoration surface was polished with the 3M<sup>™</sup> Sof-Lex<sup>™</sup> Diamond Polishing System. The 3M<sup>™</sup> Sof-Lex<sup>™</sup> Pre-Polishing Spiral (beige) was used first.



Central incisors after the old restorations were removed, caries were excavated and teeth were prepared.



Palatal and interproximal aspects of the left central incisor were built up. The restoration on the right central incisor was then completed.



Next, the 3M<sup>™</sup> Sof-Lex<sup>™</sup> Diamond Polishing Spiral (pink) was used. A natural gloss was achieved without the need for polishing paste.



FINAL RESULT: The patient's smile was restored with lifelike results.

Refer to Instructions for Use (IFU) for complete product information.

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