

30 Years AKI – Instrument Preparation Working Group

The AKI celebrated the 30th anniversary of its founding in 2006. The working group includes experts from the chemical and medical engineering industry who collect and collate information on correct preparation and handling of surgical instruments from the various branches involved and therefore provide support for users in their daily work.

The working group meets twice a year to discuss, for example, new findings or trends and to collate the information obtained. However, this is not all. The group also initiates trial series such as a cleaning study concerned with the problems of machine cleaning instruments with awkward geometry and inaccessible areas.

On the occasion on the 30th anniversary, the founding members were also invited to Lake Constance for this year's Autumn meeting.

They were certainly impressed to see the fruits of their endeavours - the AKI brochures - in the meantime the symbolic trademark of the AKI. These present the AKI recommendations on instrument processing:

- The "Red Brochure" - Proper Maintenance of Instruments - provides detailed instructions on the correct handling of instruments and the first edition appeared in 1979. It is currently available in its 8th revision in 17 languages.



- The "Yellow Brochure" (2nd edition) deals with instrument processing in dental practices.
- The "Green Brochure" was published in 2006 with instructions on instrument processing specifically for veterinary practices.

The brochures have achieved international recognition - attested by their availability in 17 languages. For several years now, the AKI brochures have been available online as free downloads in pdf format. In 2005 alone, 21,000 brochures were downloaded from the home page!

The Web site also regularly includes up-to-date articles, for example "Guideline for Validation and Risk Monitoring in Machine Cleaning and Disinfection Processes" prepared by the AKI in collaboration with the DGSV and DGKH.

The AKI has been recognised internationally for many years and they provide a forum on the Web site to allow worldwide

discussion. Questions on all aspects of instrument preparation are answered by the AKI experts and, where relevant, published on the Web site.

(www.a-k-i.org / info@a-k-i.org).

Members of the AKI. Photograph from left to right:

Dr. Ingo Haas (Martin), Rudolf Glasmacher (Ecolab), Dr. Holger Biering (Ecolab), Prof. Dr. Ulrich Junghannß (University of Applied Sciences Köthen), Dr. Winfried Michels (Miele), Robert Eibel (MMM), Hans-Jörg Drouin (MMM), Michael Sedlag (Miele), Dr. Jürgen Staffeldt (Dr. Weigert), Karl Leibinger (Martin/Leibinger), Verona Schmidt (Dr. Weigert), Ursel Ölrich (Aesculap), Wolfgang Fuchs (Aesculap), Birgit Schwarz (MMM), Claudia Schwieger (Heine Optotechnik), Helmi Henn (Richard Wolf)

