

BURTON BANDS

DEAR COLLEAGUES,

Current ring systems require a multi-step process that is inefficient and often times unpredictable. In my experience as a dental practitioner, I have found that the primary pain point lies in properly placing the thin sectional matrix, which is very large compared to the restoration area. This large size allows for practitioner handling as well as ample surface area for the ring to grip and stabilize the matrix. However, it is difficult to seat these sectional matrices from the occlusal as the vertical curve of the matrix frequently catches the pulpal floor of the prep or follows the gingival tissue of the adjacent tooth, leading to an ill-adapted matrix and a wide gap at the gingival margin. Once this tedious task of accurately placing the sectional matrix is complete, you must then place a wedge, while holding the sectional matrix in place so that it does not move out of position. It is my opinion that this causes unnecessary trial and error, wasted time and materials, and frustration, with no guarantee of desirable and accurate results.

I designed the BurtonBands² system to streamline matrix and wedge placement. This revolutionary product utilizes a Split Wedge with the sectional matrix attached to one side. The split allows for the two wings of the wedge to flex and adapt to the natural contours of the interproximal space. Additionally, the flexible wedge acts as a guide for the sectional matrix, ensuring that the wedge and matrix settle into the appropriate position. This feature saves you time and greatly reduces frustration while attempting to place the sectional matrix and wedge. It also allows for a significantly smaller matrix band and ensures that it is sealed at the gingival margin. This prevents the metal band from kinking inward, causing a short and open margin, or bowing outward, causing an overhanging margin. The smaller sectional matrix band also improves your visibility during the procedure. This allows for improved accuracy in the placement of the composite material, especially near the marginal ridge, which eliminates time-consuming gross occlusal surface adjustments following restoration placement. You can quickly sculpt a restoration that has a properly placed and shaped marginal ridge.

A smaller Force Wedge is inserted from the other side between the two wings of the Split Wedge. This locks the Split Wedge and matrix band in place while creating separation and engaging the wings of the Split Wedge against the teeth without the use of a ring. That being said, I recognize that many dentists have established routines, and some products “just work” in certain doctors’ practiced hands. For this reason, I designed the BurtonBands² system to be compatible with most ring systems. If you desire, the ring can be placed, but it will not adversely affect the contour and shape of the thin sectional matrix band. This is due to the streamlined size of the BurtonBands² sectional matrix. The ring will engage the walls of the teeth without engaging the matrix, giving class 2 restorations perfect shape and contour. Furthermore, because the ring is not displacing the sectional matrix, you will notice that there is far less excess composite material exuded near the axial walls and gingival margin. This **greatly** reduces frustrating and time-consuming post-polymerization adjustments.

When completed, simply remove your ring component and Force Wedge, gently free the sectional matrix from the tooth, and grasp the handle of the Split Wedge to remove the wedge and metal matrix in one quick and easy step. Spend a few seconds admiring your work, and a few more seconds polishing, and you are ready to move on to your next op!



DR. MATTHEW BURTON
INVENTOR OF BURTONBANDS