

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20549

FORM 11-K

ANNUAL REPORT
PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF THE
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

(Mark One):

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 (FEE REQUIRED).

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 1996

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF THE
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 (NO FEE REQUIRED).

For the transition period from _____ to _____.

Commission file number 0-16211

A. Full title of the plan and the address of the plan, if
different from that of the issuer named below:

DENTSPLY International Inc. 401(k) Savings Plan

B. Name of issuer of the securities held pursuant to the plan
and the address of its principal executive office:

DENTSPLY International Inc. 570 West College Avenue, York,

Pennsylvania 17405

REQUIRED INFORMATION

1. Financial Statements:

The following financial information, including Independent Auditors' Report thereon of the DENTSPLY International Inc. 401(k) Savings Plan are submitted herewith:

Statement of Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits as of December 31, 1996 and 1995.

Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits for the Years Ended December 31, 1996, 1995 and 1994.

Supplemental Schedule of Assets Held for Investment Purposes as of December 31, 1996.

2. Exhibit:

The following exhibit is submitted herewith:

Exhibit(A) - Consent of Independent Auditors

SIGNATURE

The Plan. Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the trustees (or other persons who administer the employee benefit plan) have duly caused this annual report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

DENTSPLY International Inc.
401(k) Savings Plan

Date: June 25, 1997

/s/ Marcus K. Dixon

Marcus K. Dixon
Treasurer and Member of
the DENTSPLY International Inc.
401(k) Savings Plan Committee

DENTSPLY INTERNATIONAL INC.
401(K) SAVINGS PLAN

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
AND
SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE

December 31, 1996

DENTSPLY INTERNATIONAL INC.
401(K) SAVINGS PLAN

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AND
SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE

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Independent Auditors' Report

Participants and Trustees of
DENTSPLY International Inc. 401(k) Savings Plan

We have audited the accompanying statements of net assets available for benefits of DENTSPLY International Inc. 401(k) Savings Plan as of December 31, 1996 and 1995 and the related statements of changes in net assets available for benefits for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 1996. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Plan's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits of DENTSPLY International Inc. 401(k) Savings Plan as of December 31, 1996 and 1995, and the changes in net assets available for benefits for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 1996, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Our audits were made for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The supplemental schedule of assets held for investment purposes is presented for the purpose of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplemental information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. The Fund Information in the statements of net assets available for benefits and the statements of changes in net assets available for benefits and the statements of changes in net assets available for benefits is presented for purposes of additional analysis rather than to present the net assets available for benefits and changes in net assets available for benefits of each fund. The supplemental schedule and Fund Information have been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

May 30, 1997

KPMG Peat Marwick LLP

DENTSPLY INTERNATIONAL INC. 401(K) SAVINGS PLAN

STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS (WITH FUND INFORMATION)

December 31, 1996

	Fidelity Magellan Fund	Fidelity Growth Company Fund	Fidelity Balanced Fund	Fidelity Puritan Fund	Vanguard U.S. Growth Fund	Vanguard Index 500 Fund
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Assets:						
Cash & money market investments	\$ --	--	--	--	--	--
Investments, at fair value (see Note 5)	3,021,676	2,161,023	474,779	1,288,740	1,157,396	2,971,849
Participant notes receivable	--	--	--	--	--	--
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total investments	3,021,676	2,161,023	474,779	1,288,740	1,157,396	2,971,849
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Receivables:						
Participants' contributions	74,509	53,752	9,669	24,034	27,932	34,377
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net assets available for benefits	\$3,096,185	2,214,775	484,448	1,312,774	1,185,328	3,006,226
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

DENTSPLY INTERNATIONAL INC. 401(K) SAVINGS PLAN

STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS (WITH FUND INFORMATION)

December 31, 1996

	Vanguard Windsor II Fund	Vanguard Wellington Fund	Vanguard Short-Term Corporate Bond Fund	Schwab Inst. Advantage Money Fund	DENTSPLY Intl. Inc. Stock Fund	Loan Fund	TOTAL
Assets:							
Cash & money market investments	\$ --	--	--	2,330,975	--	--	2,330,975
Investments, at fair value (see Note 5)	1,123,737	530,111	1,264,614	--	384,893	--	14,378,818
Participant notes receivable	--	--	--	--	--	285,832	285,832
Total investments	1,123,737	530,111	1,264,614	2,330,975	384,893	285,832	16,995,625
Receivables:							
Participants' contributions	23,998	10,096	7,318	14,481	15,084	--	295,250
Net assets available for benefits	\$1,147,735	540,207	1,271,932	2,345,456	399,977	285,832	17,290,875

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

DENTSPLY INTERNATIONAL INC. 401(K) SAVINGS PLAN

STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS (WITH FUND INFORMATION)

December 31, 1995

	Fidelity Magellan Fund	Fidelity Growth Company Fund	Fidelity Balanced Fund	Fidelity Puritan Fund	Vanguard U.S. Growth Fund	Vanguard Index 500 Fund	Vanguard Windsor II Fund
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Assets:							
Cash & money market investments	\$ 23,900	12,271	476	9,525	11	8,476	5,776
Investments, at fair value (see Note 5)	2,434,046	1,330,029	435,669	926,911	398,866	2,340,380	512,920
Participant notes receivable	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total investments	2,457,946	1,342,300	436,145	936,436	398,877	2,348,856	518,696
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Receivables:							
Participants' contributions	82,062	44,394	14,474	28,375	14,857	21,894	17,341
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net assets available for benefits	\$2,540,008	1,386,694	450,619	964,811	413,734	2,370,750	536,037
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

DENTSPLY INTERNATIONAL INC. 401(K) SAVINGS PLAN

STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS (WITH FUND INFORMATION)

December 31, 1995

	Vanguard Wellington Fund	Vanguard Short-Term Corporate Bond Fund	Mellon Bank Money Market Fund	DENTSPLY International Inc. Stock Fund	Loan Fund	TOTAL
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Assets:						
Cash & money market investments	\$ 1,181	2,326	2,433,303	1,743	--	2,498,988
Investments, at fair value (see Note 5)	363,966	1,548,834	--	150,680	--	10,442,301
Participant notes receivable	--	--	--	--	163,966	163,966
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total investments	365,147	1,551,160	2,433,303	152,423	163,966	13,105,255
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Receivables:						
Participants' contributions	11,950	10,072	12,401	7,783	--	265,603
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net assets available for benefits	\$ 377,097	1,561,232	2,445,704	160,206	163,966	13,370,858
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

DENTSPLY INTERNATIONAL INC. 401(K) SAVINGS PLAN
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS (WITH FUND INFORMATION)

For the Year Ended December 31, 1996

	Fidelity Magellan Fund	Fidelity Growth Company Fund	Fidelity Balanced Fund	Fidelity Puritan Fund	Vanguard U.S. Growth Fund	Vanguard Index 500 Fund
Additions to net assets attributed to:						
Investment income:						
Interest and dividends	\$ 433,380	96,203	23,263	137,436	98,984	66,816
Net realized gains (losses) on sales of investments	(63,388)	32,648	(2,043)	4,852	22,947	55,123
Net appreciation (depreciation) in fair value of investments	(52,319)	133,522	21,566	32,010	69,902	418,779
	317,673	262,373	42,786	174,298	191,833	540,718
Contributions:						
Participants	890,559	620,929	135,705	295,302	249,418	329,898
Participant rollovers	50,570	97,315	5,463	34,334	31,141	30,373
	941,129	718,244	141,168	329,636	280,559	360,271
Total additions	1,258,802	980,617	183,954	503,934	472,392	900,989
Deductions from net assets attributed to:						
Distribution of benefits	331,368	298,885	55,916	85,859	57,826	305,498
Total deductions	331,368	298,885	55,916	85,859	57,826	305,498
Net increase (decrease) prior to interfund transfers						
	927,434	681,732	128,038	418,075	414,566	595,491
Interfund transfers	(371,257)	146,349	(94,209)	(70,112)	357,028	39,985
Net increase (decrease)	556,177	828,081	33,829	347,963	771,594	635,476
Net assets available for benefits:						
Beginning of year	2,540,008	1,386,694	450,619	964,811	413,734	2,370,750
End of year	\$3,096,185	2,214,775	484,448	1,312,774	1,185,328	3,006,226

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

DENTSPLY INTERNATIONAL INC. 401(K) SAVINGS PLAN
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS (WITH FUND INFORMATION)

For the Year Ended December 31, 1996

	Vanguard Windsor II Fund	Vanguard Wellington Fund	Vanguard Short-Term Corporate Bond Fund	Mellon Bank Money Market Fund	Schwab Institutional Advantage Money Fund
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Additions to net assets attributed to:					
Investment income:					
Interest and dividends	\$ 78,386	41,349	85,573	11,807	105,239
Net realized gains (losses) on sales of investments	13,466	4,730	(9,068)	--	--
Net appreciation (depreciation) in fair value of investments	(52,319)	133,522	21,566	32,010	69,902
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	175,324	71,327	60,759	11,807	105,239
Contributions:					
Participants	234,053	123,976	86,827	--	166,662
Participant rollovers	98,817	5,155	711	--	4,013
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	332,870	129,131	87,538	--	170,675
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total additions	508,194	200,458	148,297	11,807	275,914
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Deductions from net assets attributed to:					
Distribution of benefits	54,801	35,304	217,568	7,628	308,396
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total deductions	54,801	35,304	217,568	7,628	308,396
Net increase (decrease) prior to interfund transfers	453,393	165,154	(69,271)	4,179	(32,482)
Interfund transfers	158,305	(2,044)	(220,029)	(2,449,883)	2,377,938
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net increase (decrease)	611,698	163,110	(289,300)	(2,445,704)	2,345,456
Net assets available for benefits:					
Beginning of year	536,037	377,097	1,561,232	2,445,704	--
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
End of year	\$1,147,735	540,207	1,271,932	--	2,345,456
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

DENTSPLY INTERNATIONAL INC. 401(K) SAVINGS PLAN
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS (WITH FUND INFORMATION)

For the Year Ended December 31, 1996

	DENTSPLY International Inc. Stock Fund -----	Loan Fund -----	TOTAL -----
Additions to net assets attributed to:			
Investment income:			
Interest and dividends	\$ 1,889	--	1,180,325
Net realized gains (losses) on sales of investments	2,733	--	62,000
Net appreciation (depreciation) in fair value of investments	48,406	--	764,840
	-----		-----
	53,028	--	2,007,165
Contributions:			
Participants	144,199	--	3,277,528
Participant rollovers	65,290	--	423,182
	-----		-----
	209,489	--	3,700,710
	-----		-----
Total additions	262,517	--	5,707,875
Deductions from net assets attributed to:			
Distribution of benefits	5,492	23,317	1,787,858
	-----		-----
Total deductions	5,492	23,317	1,787,858
Net increase (decrease) prior to interfund transfers	257,025	(23,317)	3,920,017
Interfund transfers	(17,254)	145,183	--
	-----		-----
Net increase (decrease)	239,771	121,866	3,920,017
Net assets available for benefits:			
Beginning of year	160,206	163,966	13,370,858
	-----		-----
End of year	\$ 399,977	285,832	17,290,875
	=====		=====

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

DENTSPLY INTERNATIONAL INC. 401(K) SAVINGS PLAN
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS (WITH FUND INFORMATION)

For the Year Ended December 31, 1995

	Fidelity Magellan Fund	Fidelity Growth Company Fund	Fidelity Balanced Fund	Fidelity Puritan Fund	Fidelity Spartan Limited Maturity Government Fund	Vanguard U.S. Growth Fund
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Additions to net assets attributed to:						
Investment income:						
Interest and dividends	\$ 121,764	74,338	19,105	50,428	2,444	1,001
Net realized gains (losses) on sales of investments	77,191	42,430	9,243	15,403	2,343	4,290
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	269,659	172,640	28,294	85,970	--	64,204
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	468,614	289,408	56,642	151,801	4,787	69,495

Contributions:						
Participants	879,345	446,569	175,316	348,291	19,113	143,937
Participant rollovers	133,848	31,547	5,371	28,779	567	3,893
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	1,013,193	478,116	180,687	377,070	19,680	147,830
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total additions	1,481,807	767,524	237,329	528,871	24,467	217,325

Deductions from net assets attributed to:						
Distribution of benefits	280,956	121,709	74,356	122,657	7,746	19,886
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total deductions	280,956	121,709	74,356	122,657	7,746	19,886
Net increase (decrease) prior to interfund transfers	1,200,851	645,815	162,973	406,214	16,721	197,439
Interfund transfers	242,336	159,265	(1,834)	69,183	(68,909)	68,532
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net increase (decrease)	1,443,187	805,080	161,139	475,397	(52,188)	265,971
Net assets available for benefits:						
Beginning of year	1,096,821	581,614	289,480	489,414	52,188	147,763
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
End of year	\$2,540,008	1,386,694	450,619	964,811	--	413,734
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

DENTSPLY INTERNATIONAL INC. 401(K) SAVINGS PLAN

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS (WITH FUND INFORMATION)

For the Year Ended December 31, 1995

	Vanguard Index 500 Fund	Vanguard Windsor II Fund	Vanguard Wellington Fund	Vanguard Short-Term Corporate Bond Fund	Harris Bank Index Fund
Additions to net assets attributed to:					
Investment income:					
Interest and dividends	\$ 40,417	35,338	17,215	24,811	115
Net realized gains (losses) on sales of investments	44,040	14,148	9,160	2,697	418,592
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	165,331	70,638	45,244	18,239	--
	249,788	120,124	71,619	45,747	418,707
Contributions:					
Participants	174,865	189,365	108,913	73,464	46,750
Participant rollovers	73,970	7,187	1,130	--	8,100
	248,835	196,552	110,043	73,464	54,850
Total additions	498,623	316,676	181,662	119,211	473,557
Deductions from net assets attributed to:					
Distribution of benefits	130,413	58,956	62,488	25,466	419,389
Total deductions	130,413	58,956	62,488	25,466	419,389
Net increase (decrease) prior to interfund transfers	368,210	257,720	119,174	93,745	54,168
Interfund transfers	1,869,818	83,950	90,974	1,423,485	(2,179,126)
Net increase (decrease)	2,238,028	341,670	210,148	1,517,230	(2,124,958)
Net assets available for benefits:					
Beginning of year	132,722	194,367	166,949	44,002	2,124,958
End of year	\$2,370,750	536,037	377,097	1,561,232	--

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

DENTSPLY INTERNATIONAL INC. 401(K) SAVINGS PLAN
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS (WITH FUND INFORMATION)

For the Year Ended December 31, 1995

	Harris Bank Government Agency Intermediate Fund	Mellon Bank Money Market Fund	DENTSPLY International Inc. Stock Fund	Loan Fund	TOTAL
Additions to net assets attributed to:					
Investment income:					
Interest and dividends	\$ 68	162,750	283	11,149	561,226
Net realized gains (losses) on sales of investments	146,857	--	(1,093)	--	785,301
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	--	270	17,427	--	937,916
	146,925	163,020	16,617	11,149	2,284,443
Contributions:					
Participants	47,232	138,367	39,178	--	2,830,705
Participant rollovers	--	9,658	41,316	--	345,366
	47,232	148,025	80,494	--	3,176,071
Total additions	194,157	311,045	97,111	11,149	5,460,514
Deductions from net assets attributed to:					
Distribution of benefits	432,575	735,235	2,960	32,421	2,527,213
Total deductions	432,575	735,235	2,960	32,421	2,527,213
Net increase (decrease) prior to interfund transfers	(238,418)	(424,190)	94,151	(21,272)	2,933,301
Interfund transfers	(1,878,471)	20,538	66,055	34,204	--
Net increase (decrease)	(2,116,889)	(403,652)	160,206	12,932	2,933,301
Net assets available for benefits:					
Beginning of year	2,116,889	2,849,356	--	151,034	10,437,557
End of year	\$ --	2,445,704	160,206	163,966	13,370,858

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

DENTSPLY INTERNATIONAL INC. 401(K) SAVINGS PLAN
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS (WITH FUND INFORMATION)

For the Year Ended December 31, 1994

	Fidelity Magellan Fund	Fidelity Growth Company Fund	Fidelity Balanced Fund	Fidelity Puritan Fund	Fidelity Spartan Limited Maturity Government Fund	Vanguard U.S Growth Fund
Additions to net assets attributed to:						
Investment income:						
Interest and dividends	\$ 3,108	3,013	2,802	7,665	727	1,014
Net realized gains (losses) on sales of investments	3,048	11,094	--	8,783	--	--
Net appreciation (depreciation) in fair value of investments	(35,413)	(21,736)	(6,644)	(17,950)	(690)	1,976
	(29,257)	(7,629)	(3,842)	(1,502)	37	2,990
Contributions:						
Participants	927,523	419,043	223,666	356,901	36,729	98,076
Participant rollovers	36,013	13,203	4,634	12,367	--	11,841
	963,536	432,246	228,300	369,268	36,729	109,917
Total additions	934,279	424,617	224,458	367,766	36,766	112,907
Deductions from net assets attributed to:						
Distribution of benefits	2,834	2,084	74	209	435	1,723
Total deductions	2,834	2,084	74	209	435	1,723
Net increase (decrease) prior to interfund transfers	931,445	422,533	224,384	367,557	36,331	111,184
Interfund transfers	16,871	94,401	4,723	23,702	1,117	3,249
Net increase (decrease)	948,316	516,934	229,107	391,259	37,448	114,433
Merger of plans	148,505	64,680	60,373	98,155	14,740	33,330
Net assets available for benefits:						
Beginning of year	--	--	--	--	--	--
End of year	\$1,096,821	581,614	289,480	489,414	52,188	147,763

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

DENTSPLY INTERNATIONAL INC. 401(K) SAVINGS PLAN
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS (WITH FUND INFORMATION)

For the Year Ended December 31, 1994

	Vanguard Index Trust Fund	Vanguard Windsor II Fund	Vanguard Wellington Fund	Vanguard Short-Term Corporate Bond Fund	Harris Bank Index Fund
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Additions to net assets attributed to:					
Investment income:					
Interest and dividends	\$ 1,515	3,418	1,898	833	55,260
Net realized gains (losses) on sales of investments	277	3,507	104	--	224,402
Net appreciation (depreciation) in fair value of investments	(392)	(8,591)	(2,024)	(656)	(266,521)
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	1,400	(1,666)	(22)	177	13,141

Contributions:					
Participants	98,700	165,372	85,453	38,227	110,511
Participant rollovers	14,164	3,023	1,426	--	2,129
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	112,864	168,395	86,879	38,227	112,640

Total additions	114,264	166,729	86,857	38,404	125,781

Deductions from net assets attributed to:					
Distribution of benefits	125	569	--	--	319,865
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total deductions	125	569	--	--	319,865

Net increase (decrease) prior to interfund transfers	114,139	166,160	86,857	38,404	(194,084)
Interfund transfers	2,931	(36)	12,945	743	(42,677)
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net increase (decrease)	117,070	166,124	99,802	39,147	(236,761)
Merger of plans	15,652	28,243	67,147	4,855	2,217

Net assets available for benefits:					
Beginning of year	--	--	--	--	2,359,502
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
End of year	\$132,722	194,367	166,949	44,002	2,124,958
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

DENTSPLY INTERNATIONAL INC. 401(K) SAVINGS PLAN
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS (WITH FUND INFORMATION)
For the Year Ended December 31, 1994

	Harris Bank Government Agency Intermediate Fund	Harris Bank Principal Preservation Fund	Mellon Bank Money Market Fund	Loan Fund	TOTAL
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Additions to net assets attributed to:					
Investment income:					
Interest and dividends	\$ 128,883	116,445	2,681	11,676	340,938
Net realized gains (losses) on sales of investments	(75,393)	8,179	--	--	184,001
Net appreciation (depreciation) in fair value of investments	(75,056)	--	--	--	(433,697)
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	(21,566)	124,624	2,681	11,676	91,242
Contributions:					
Participants	117,730	190	98,280	--	2,776,401
Participant rollovers	--	--	82	--	98,882
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	117,730	190	98,362	--	2,875,283
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total additions	96,164	124,814	101,043	11,676	2,966,525
Deductions from net assets attributed to:					
Distribution of benefits	200,713	376,352	746	--	905,729
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total deductions	200,713	376,352	746	--	905,729
Net increase (decrease) prior to interfund transfers	(104,549)	(251,538)	100,297	11,676	2,060,796
Interfund transfers	(14,935)	(2,765,902)	2,719,567	(56,699)	--
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net increase (decrease)	(119,484)	(3,017,440)	2,819,864	(45,023)	2,060,796
Merger of plans	6,349	--	29,492	28,555	602,293
Net assets available for benefits:					
Beginning of year	2,230,024	3,017,440	--	167,502	7,774,468
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
End of year	\$2,116,889	--	2,849,356	151,034	10,437,557
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

DENTSPLY INTERNATIONAL INC. 401(K) SAVINGS PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE PLAN

The following is a general description of the DENTSPLY International Inc. 401(k) Savings Plan (the "Plan"). Participants should refer to the Plan document for complete information regarding the Plan.

The Plan is a defined contribution plan, and effective January 1, 1994, covers all full-time employees of the Company and its wholly owned domestic subsidiaries except employees who are members of a collective bargaining unit. Employees who are members of one collective bargaining unit became eligible on October 1, 1994. Employees are eligible to participate in the Plan during open enrollment periods occurring January and July of each year. The maximum percentage of annual compensation each participant may contribute is 15% except for certain highly compensated participants who are subject to limitations. The Company has not made matching contributions to the Plan since December 31, 1993. In early 1996, the Trustee of the Plan was changed from Mellon Bank to The Charles Schwab Trust Company. The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA"). A summary plan description containing specific Plan provisions has been made available to all participants of the Plan.

Although the Company has not expressed an intention to do so, the Company reserves the right to terminate the Plan at any time, subject to Plan provisions and ERISA.

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Plan's Financial Statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting.

Plan assets are valued at fair value based on quoted market prices. Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade date basis.

Unrealized gains and losses have been calculated on a current value basis in the Plan's Financial Statements. Income on Plan assets is accrued when earned and gains or losses on the disposition of Plan assets are recorded when realized. Shares of registered investment companies are valued at quoted market

DENTSPLY INTERNATIONAL INC. 401(K) SAVINGS PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

prices which represent the net asset value of shares held by the Plan at year-end. Participant notes receivable are valued at cost which approximates fair value.

Benefit payments to participants are recorded when distributed.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

NOTE 3 - FUNDING POLICY

- - - - -

For 1996, 1995, and 1994 each non-highly compensated participant, as defined by the Internal Revenue Code (the "Code"), was permitted to contribute from 1% to 15% of annual compensation, as defined in the Plan. Participants may also contribute amounts representing distributions from other qualified defined benefit or contribution plans.

Participants are immediately vested in their contributions plus earnings thereon. Vesting in the Company's former matching contribution portion of their accounts plus earnings thereon was based on years of continuous service, with a participant becoming 100% vested after two years of credited service. All employees are now 100% vested in the employer matching contribution.

NOTE 4 - ADMINISTRATION OF PLAN ASSETS

- - - - -

The Plan's assets are held by the Trustee of the Plan. In early 1996, the Trustee was changed from Mellon Bank to The Charles Schwab Trust Company. The Plan is administered by the 401(k) Savings Plan Committee. The 401(k) Savings Plan Committee and the Trustee of the Plan are appointed by the Board of Directors of DENTSPLY International Inc.

Certain administrative functions are performed by officers or employees of the Company. No such officer or employee receives compensation from the Plan. Administrative expenses for the Plan are paid directly by the Company.

DENTSPLY INTERNATIONAL INC. 401(K) SAVINGS PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 5 - INVESTMENTS

In 1996 and 1995, participants directed their contributions in any of the investment options which are as follows: Fidelity Magellan Fund, Fidelity Growth Company Fund, Fidelity Balanced Fund, Fidelity Puritan Fund, Fidelity Spartan Limited Maturity Government Fund, Vanguard U.S. Growth Fund, Vanguard Index 500 Fund, Vanguard Windsor II Fund, Vanguard Wellington Fund, Harris Bank Index Fund, Harris Bank Government Agency Intermediate Fund, Vanguard Short-Term Corporate Bond Fund, Mellon Bank Money Market Fund, Schwab Institutional Advantage Money Fund, and DENTSPLY International Inc. Stock Fund. During 1996 the Mellon Money Market Fund was eliminated as an investment option. During 1995 the Fidelity Spartan Limited Maturity Government Fund, Harris Bank Index Fund and Harris Bank Government Agency Intermediate Funds were eliminated as investment options. Participants in these eliminated funds who did not switch to another fund had their fund balances transferred to comparable funds.

Participants may borrow from their vested account balances in the Investment Funds a minimum of \$1,000 and up to a maximum equal to the lesser of \$50,000 or 50% of their vested account balance. Through December 31, 1995, only participants who were employees of the Gendex, Midwest and Universal Divisions/Subsidiaries of the Company were eligible to borrow. Loan transactions are treated as a transfer to/from the Investment Funds from/to the Loan Fund. Loan terms range from one to five years except for the purchase of a primary residence. The loans are secured by the balance in the participant's account and bear interest based on the prime rate plus 1%. The interest rate remains fixed throughout the full term of the loan. Principal and interest are paid ratably through payroll deductions.

DENTSPLY INTERNATIONAL INC. 401(K) SAVINGS PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Plan's investments at December 31, 1996 and 1995 were as follows:

December 31, 1996

	Units of Participation	Cost	Fair Value
Schwab Institutional Advantage Money Fund (1)	2,330,975	\$ 2,330,975	\$ 2,330,975*
Fidelity Magellan Fund	37,467	1,240,277	3,021,676*
Fidelity Growth Company Fund	53,411	989,044	2,161,023*
Fidelity Balanced Fund	33,720	143,987	474,779
Fidelity Puritan Fund	73,811	476,899	1,288,740*
Vanguard U.S. Growth Fund	48,753	1,034,702	1,157,396*
Vanguard Index 500 Fund	42,971	2,390,805	2,971,849*
Vanguard Windsor II Fund	47,156	977,751	1,123,737*
Vanguard Wellington Fund	20,272	468,613	530,111
Vanguard Short-Term Corporate Bond Fund	117,639	1,260,622	1,264,614*
DENTSPLY International Inc. Stock Fund	8,103	325,344	384,893
Participant notes receivable, term notes at market rates	285,831	285,831	285,832
Total		\$11,924,850	\$16,995,625

(1) Party in interest to the Plan

*Exceeds 5% of net assets available for benefits of the Plan

DENTSPLY INTERNATIONAL INC. 401(K) SAVINGS PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 1995

	Units of Participation	Cost	Fair Value
Mellon Money Market Fund (1)	2,498,988	\$ 2,498,988	\$ 2,498,988*
Fidelity Magellan Fund	28,309	2,176,181	2,434,046*
Fidelity Growth Company Fund	36,650	1,167,108	1,330,029*
Fidelity Balanced Fund	32,224	410,080	435,669
Fidelity Puritan Fund	54,492	852,695	926,911*
Vanguard U.S. Growth Fund	19,600	332,536	398,866
Vanguard Index Trust Fund	40,632	2,144,139	2,340,380*
Vanguard Windsor II Fund	24,827	447,031	512,920
Vanguard Wellington Fund	14,898	319,189	363,966
Vanguard Short-Term Corporate Bond Fund	141,964	1,529,064	1,548,834*
DENTSPLY International Stock Fund	3,767	134,899	150,680
Participant notes receivable, term notes at market rates	163,966	163,966	163,966
Total		\$12,175,876	\$13,105,255

(1) Party in Interest to the Plan

*Exceeds 5% of net assets available for benefits of the Plan

DENTSPLY INTERNATIONAL INC. 401(K) SAVINGS PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The number of employees participating in the investment programs at December 31, 1996 was as follows:

Schwab Institutional Advantage Money Fund	450
Fidelity Magellan Fund	954
Fidelity Growth Company Fund	674
Fidelity Balanced Fund	205
Fidelity Puritan Fund	397
Vanguard U. S. Growth Fund	360
Vanguard Index 500 Fund	518
Vanguard Windsor II Fund	332
Vanguard Wellington Fund	210
Vanguard Short-Term Corporate Bond Fund	299
DENTSPLY International Inc. Stock Fund	232

NOTE 6 - TAX STATUS OF THE PLAN

The Internal Revenue Service has determined and informed the Company by a letter dated March 25, 1994, that the Plan and related trust are designed in accordance with applicable sections of the Code. Plan management believes that the Plan is currently being operated in accordance with the applicable requirements of the Internal Revenue Code.

DENTSPLY INTERNATIONAL INC. 401(K) SAVINGS PLAN
ITEM 27A - SCHEDULE OF ASSETS HELD FOR INVESTMENT PURPOSES

AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1996

	Units of Participation	Cost	Fair Value
	-----	-----	-----
Schwab Institutional Advantage Money Fund (1)	2,330,975	\$ 2,330,975	\$ 2,330,975*
Fidelity Magellan Fund	37,467	1,240,277	3,021,676*
Fidelity Growth Company Fund	53,411	989,044	2,161,023*
Fidelity Balanced Fund	33,720	143,987	474,779
Fidelity Puritan Fund	73,811	476,899	1,288,740*
Vanguard U.S. Growth Fund	48,753	1,034,702	1,157,396*
Vanguard Index 500 Fund	42,971	2,390,805	2,971,849*
Vanguard Windsor II Fund	47,156	977,751	1,123,737*
Vanguard Wellington Fund	20,272	468,613	530,111
Vanguard Short-Term Corporate Bond Fund	117,639	1,260,622	1,264,614*
DENTSPLY International Inc. Stock Fund	8,103	325,344	384,893
Participant notes receivable, term notes at market rates	285,831	285,831	285,832
Total		----- \$11,924,850 =====	----- \$16,995,625 =====

(1) Party in interest to the Plan

*Exceeds 5% of net assets available for benefits of the Plan

Consent of Independent Auditors

The Board of Directors
DENTSPLY International Inc.

We consent to incorporation by reference in Registration Statement No. 33-897786 on Form S-8 of DENTSPLY International Inc. 401(k) Savings Plan of our report dated May 30, 1997, relating to the statements of net assets available for benefits of the DENTSPLY International Inc. 401(k) Savings Plan as of December 31, 1996 and 1995, and the related statements of changes in net assets available for benefits for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 1996, which report appears in the December 31, 1996 annual report on Form 11-K of the DENTSPLY International Inc. 401(k) Savings Plan.

KPMG Peat Marwick LLP

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
June 24, 1997

