THE FUTURE IS NOW:

Gap-Free Composite Restorations

A comprehensive assessment of Stela,
the self cure composite restorative

Dr Les Rykiss

Since the advent of composite light-cured materials, one of the most challenging technique-sensitive variables has been achieving the gap-free tooth to composite interface. Seamless margins are what we as practitioners strive for. Without them, the bacterial attack at this microscopically open margin will cause the shortened lifespan of the restoration due to recurrent caries.

For many decades, amalgam restorations achieved this gap-free interface. We rarely saw the breakdown of a restoration emanating from the marginal area, except in cases of poor oral hygiene. Unfortunately, composite restorations have a more frequent breakdown at the margin regions, and this marginal breakdown is one of the largest contributing factors to sensitivity and premature restoration failures within 5-10 years of placement.

The last decades have seen dental materials shift from the layered light cured composite technique, to bulk-fill light cured materials, and now to dual-cured material and auto-cured composite materials. The light curing technique sees the restorative material pull away from the tooth and towards the light polymerisation source, introducing stresses and shrinkage. Efforts to reduce these stresses have been made either with a layer of flowable composite or by using the glass ionomer sandwich technique. However, these additional steps have not been successful in eliminating the marginal gap and securing the longevity of composite restorations.

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He completed cosmetic dentistry training at the Nash Institute for Dental Learning, where he is also a graduate and Mentor, and has taught restorative and pediatric dentistry at the University of Manitoba. He is a member of the Manitoba Dental Association, Canadian Dental Association, Winnipeg Dental Society, CAED, and ASDA, and is a past president of the Alpha Omega Dental Fraternity.

Currently the Cosmetic Editor for Oral Health Dental Journal, he has authored e-books and articles and lectures across North America on cosmetic and digital dentistry and laser use.

What's new?

SDI has spearheaded a solution for marginal leakage and sensitivity with a new composite material named Stela. Stela is a self-polymerising chemically-cured composite, delivered in either an automix syringe or a triturated capsule.

Stela's innovative self-cure technology enables a gap-free interface, without sacrificing other mechanical properties such as strength. Unlike standard light cured composites, Stela's polymerisation is accelerated along the restoration interface. This enables a gap-free interface, reducing post operative sensitivity and the risk of premature failure. As a chemical cure composite, Stela also offers an unlimited depth of cure with a shade match that doesn't sacrifice opacity.

Stela isn't just a composite. Stela is an end to end restoration system that includes preparation and placement. While other composites ignore optimising for preparation, Stela places preparation front and centre of the restoration process.

Instead of the standard etch-prime-bond process, Stela Primer has been developed hand in glove with the Stela restorative, to optimise dentine and enamel adhesion and reduce sensitivity – all without using a curing light or having to etch. Simply apply Stela Primer and air dry. Then apply Stela restorative.

» **Stela's innovative self-cure technology enables a gap-free interface, reducing postoperative sensitivity and the risk of premature restoration failure - without sacrificing strength or depth of cure.** «

The science behind Stela

Stela achieves its ground-breaking properties through a tailored combination of BPA-free resin monomers, optimised *ionglass*™ fillers (SDI's bioactive proprietary hybrid glass), and specially surface-modified amorphous silica. Stela's outstanding mechanical properties come from a rapid curing reaction. The Stela monomers form polymeric chains and, simultaneously, these chains are rapidly and densely cross-linked to each other, forming a complex network that strongly binds the *ionglass*™ filler and the amorphous silica, resulting in a strong and resilient restorative material.

The Stela snap set fast cure is due to an innovative hydroperoxide-based initiation system that is free from tertiary amine. This ensures fast-setting characteristics, good colour stability and an excellent degree of conversion.

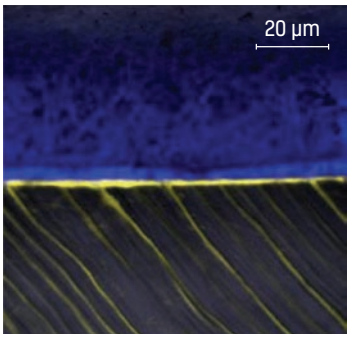
Once cured, Stela's matrix delivers consistent and reliable strength and durability for all restorations. The simple two-step process minimises operator errors and patient sensitivity with no etch or curing lights required. The Stela primer is applied and air dried and then the Stela composite is injected into the tooth preparation for a snap set, ready for finishing and polishing.

» Stela delivers fast, reliable, and durable restorations through its innovative chemistry. «

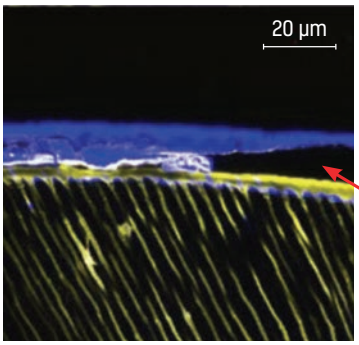
Gap-free accelerated curing

Gap-free interface

Preserving a restoration's interface layer is pivotal in ensuring the long term success of restorations *(Spencer et al., 2010).* Stela features innovative technology that enables a gap-free interface. Unlike standard light cured composites, which polymerise towards the curing light, Stela Primer accelerates the curing around the interface. This enables a gap-free interface, reducing post operative sensitivity and the risk of premature failure. *(Pires et al., 2024)*



STELA BONDING INTERFACE (SELF ETCH)
A confocal micrograph of a **gap-free Stela-dentine interface**, using the self etch Stela Primer.
Note: The **penetration depth** of Stela Primer (yellow) within the dentine tubules.
Pre-test failure rate: 0%

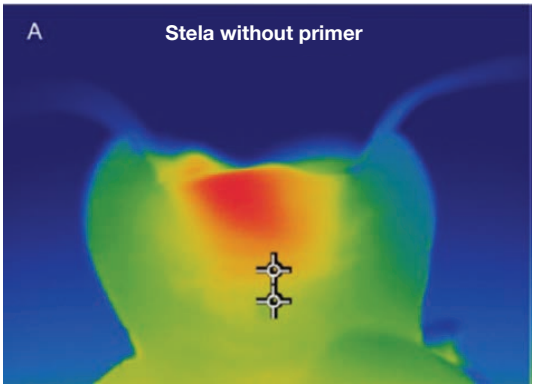


FILTEK ONE BULK FILL (ETCH & RINSE)
A confocal micrograph showing the dentine interface of **Filtek One Bulk-Fill (3M ESPE)**, in **etch & rinse mode.**
The red arrow shows the **presence of gaps.**
Pre-test failure rate: 10%

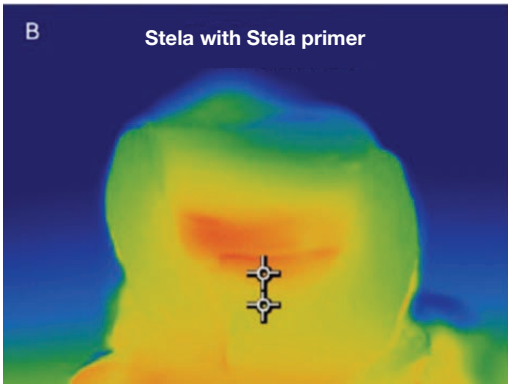
Thermal camera reveals curing acceleration

Stela Primer enables an accelerated cure of the Stela paste upon contact.
This results in polymerisation starting at the interface and not at the center of the mass, resulting in better bond strength and the reduction of gap formation. *(Guarneri et al., 2025)*

Thermal imaging (R. Price, 2025) demonstrated this accelerated curing behaviour.



Stela curing without Primer:
Thermal imaging demonstrates that Stela polymerisation initiates at the centre of the restoration.

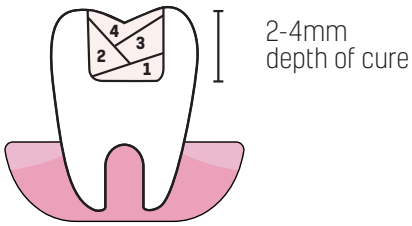


Stela curing with Primer:
When Stela Primer is added to the cavity walls prior to placing Stela restorative, the thermal imaging shows the Stela polymerisation beginning from the restoration interface.

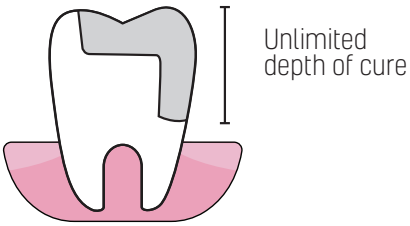
Unlimited depth of cure

Stela removes depth of cure uncertainty. As a self-cure composite, Stela cures to an unlimited depth. This allows full cure certainty for all restorations – and for all acute and difficult to access angles. Restoration failures can have many causes, but the dentist's technique is one of the main factors affecting the longevity of a restoration *(Yadav et al., 2019).* Inadequate curing of light cured materials is a major concern. Stela eliminates this risk, by achieving complete curing at all depths and angles.

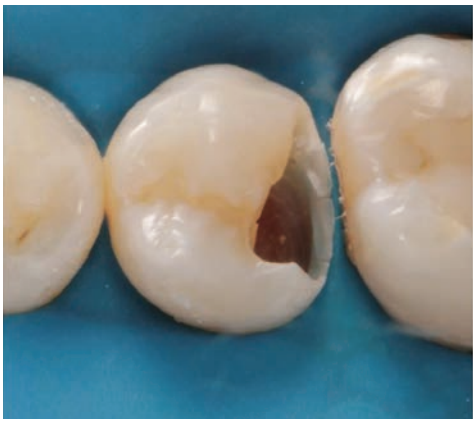
Traditional Composite



Stela



Before restoration



Images courtesy of Prof Alex Olivaldo, Brazil

Final result (Stela Class II)

Images courtesy of Prof Alex Olivaldo, Brazil

Higher conversion and fluoride release

+17% Degree of conversion

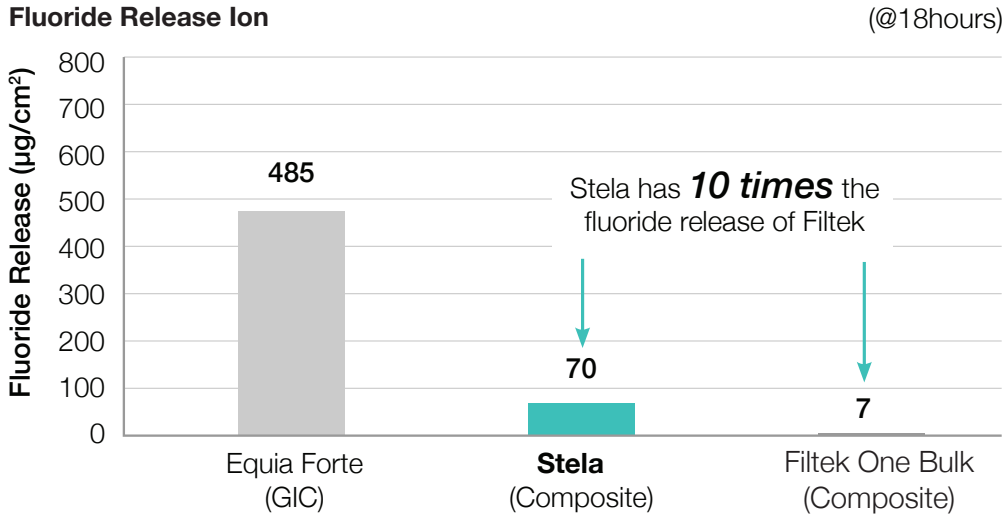
The degree of conversion (DC) is a measure of the percentage of composite that is successfully polymerised. Composites should achieve a minimum DC of 55% to be considered clinically acceptable *(Monterubbianesi et al., 2016)*. This depends on the curing LED, clinician technique and the composite chemistry.

A higher DC means the composite has a more complete cure, leading to stronger mechanical properties and reduced patient sensitivity. The combination of Stela composite and Stela Primer increases DC by 17% compared to using light cured Scotchbond (Solventum) *(Guarneri et al., 2025)*. This unique hand in glove chemistry combines to create longer lasting restorations.

Protocol	Mean degree of conversion (DC)
Stela, no bonding agent	57.7 (1.2)[B]
Stela, with Stela Primer	**72.4 (3.5)[A]** +17%
Stela with (Scotchbond + no light)	58.9 (1.9)[B]
Stela with (Scotchbond + light cured)	62.0 (2.1)[B]

Fluoride release

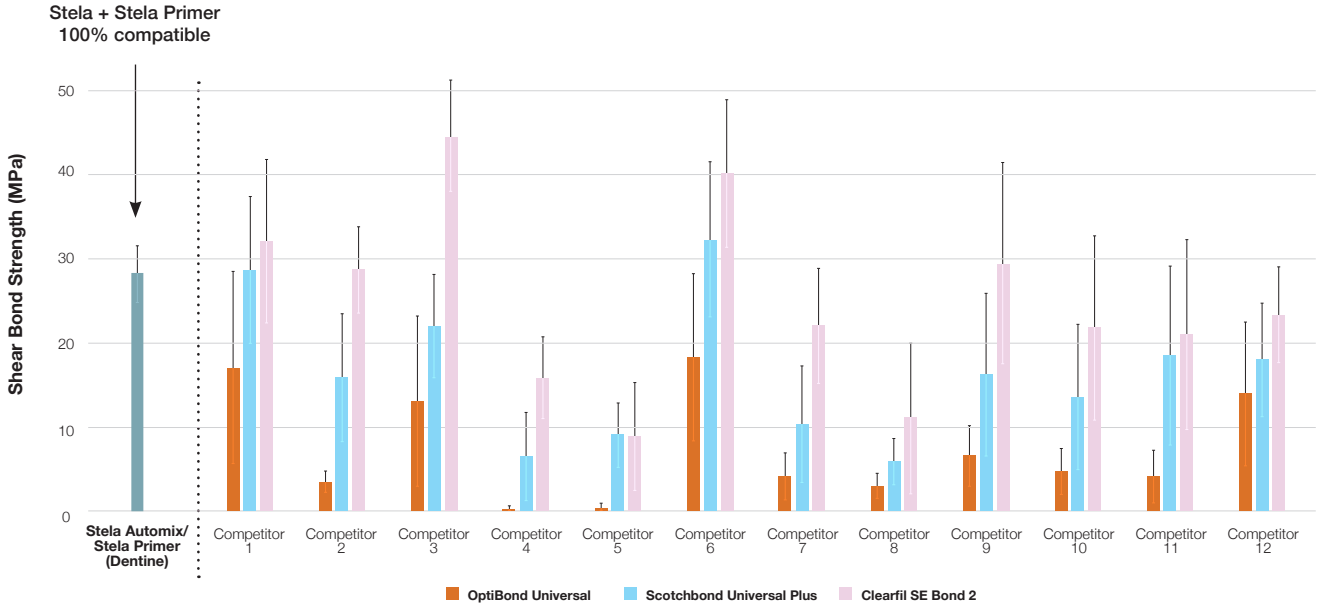
Stela contains fluoride, calcium and strontium which are known for their bioactive properties. While GICs will always release more fluoride than composites, Stela Capsules showed significantly higher fluoride ion release than Filtek One Bulk Fill *(Hiji et al., 2025)*. This indicates bioactive properties with higher fluoride ion release levels than those of standard light-cured restorative materials.



Study: Bond incompatibility with dual cure composites

Your existing bond may not be compatible with dual cure composites that are chemically cured. A recent study (*Green et al., 2025)* compared bond strengths for dual cure composites that were cured with both photo polymerisation and chemical polymerisation. The study concluded 'the results of this study suggest that an incompatibility can exist between self-etching adhesives and dual-cure resin composite core materials.'

Bond strength variability with dual cure composites
Comparing the bond performance of three universal bonds to chemically cured composites



Source: Green, et al., 2025. Stela source: Farrar et al., 2023.

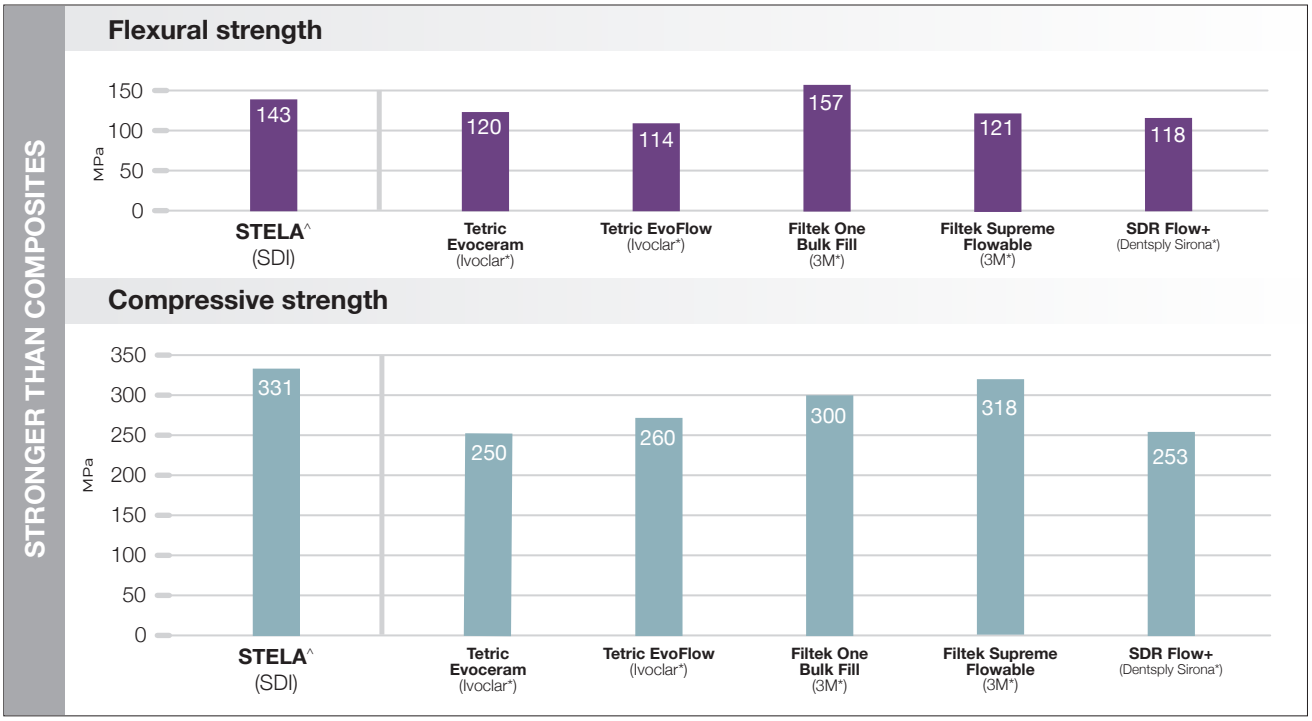
Stela Primer: 100% compatible

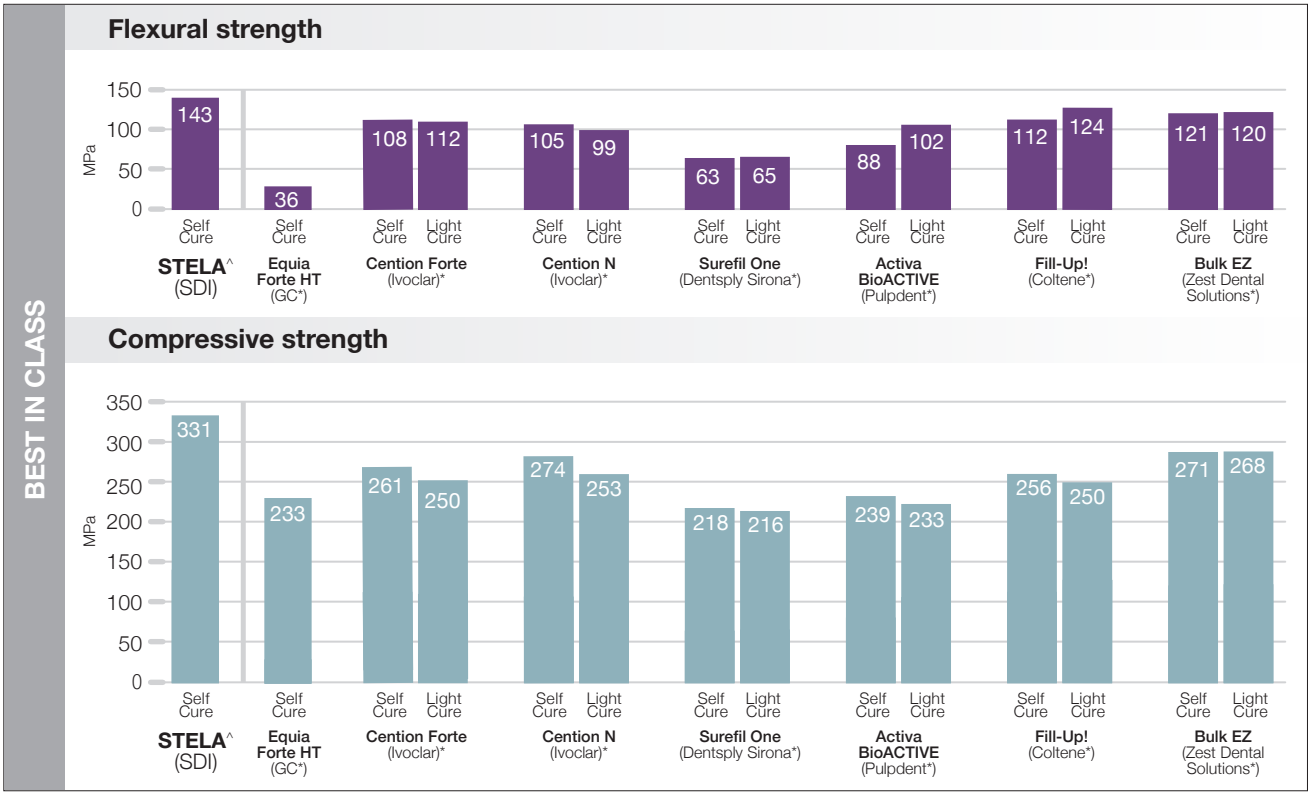
The Stela Primer was developed in tandem with Stela Capsule and Stela Automix syringe. Together, the formulations combine to deliver an **increased bond strength** compared to standard etch-prime-bond products *(Sauro et al., 2022)*.

Both Stela Primer and Stela composite have the MDP monomer, ensuring a strong chemical bond, free of gaps, with better sealing for **durability and almost no sensitivity.**

Higher strength than amalgam alternatives

Stela has an impressive combination of compressive and flexural strength. This is the result of the initiator system that starts a snap set fast cure to convert monomers into polymer chains. These high values ensure that the restoration will easily withstand the forces of repeated occlusion demands and outperforms its competition.





Source: Manufacturer brochures

*Not a registered trademark of SDI.
^ Stela Automix

Chameleon effect shading

Shade stability

Stela is formulated with an innovative hydroperoxide-based initiation system that is free of tertiary amine. The shade is approximately A2/A3. Historically, self cure composites have had a bad reputation for colour instability and yellowing over time. This instability is linked to the type and quantity of amine involved in the polymerisation *(Camargo et al., 2015)*.

Additionally, self cure composites do not require translucency accommodations typically seen in light cured bulk fill composites to facilitate greater light penetration into deeper layers *(Loguercio et al., 2025)*. Higher translucency in materials can limit the ability to cover stains, particularly in cases where amalgam restorations are being replaced.

Before restoration
Image courtesy of
Dr Rocio Lazo, Peru

Final result
Image courtesy of
Dr Rocio Lazo, Peru

Before restoration
Image courtesy of
Dr Gonzalo Arana Gordilo, Colombia

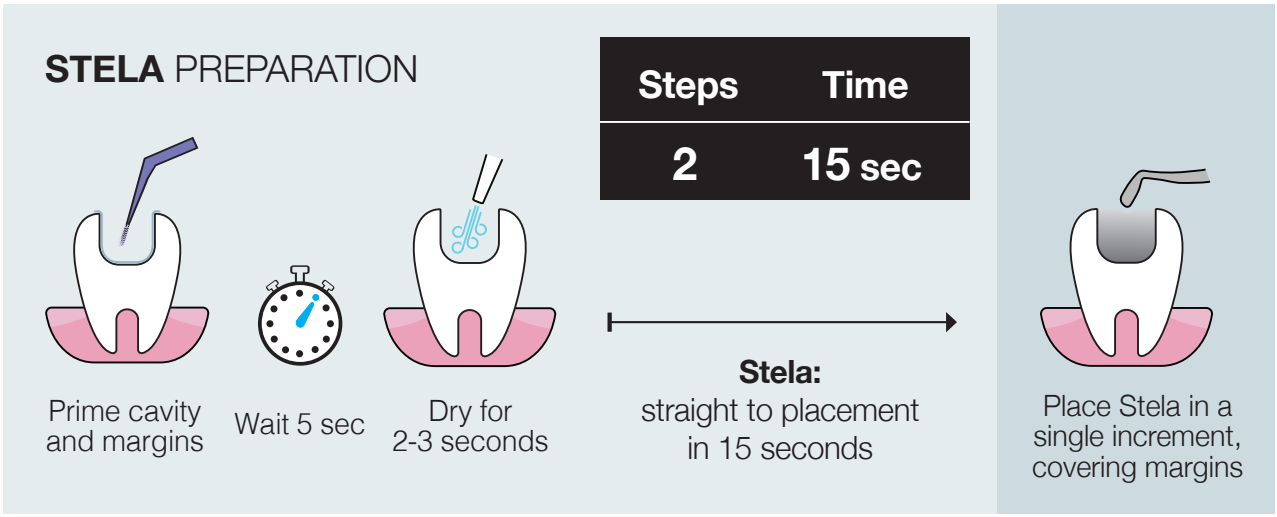
Final result
Image courtesy of
Dr Gonzalo Arana Gordilo, Colombia

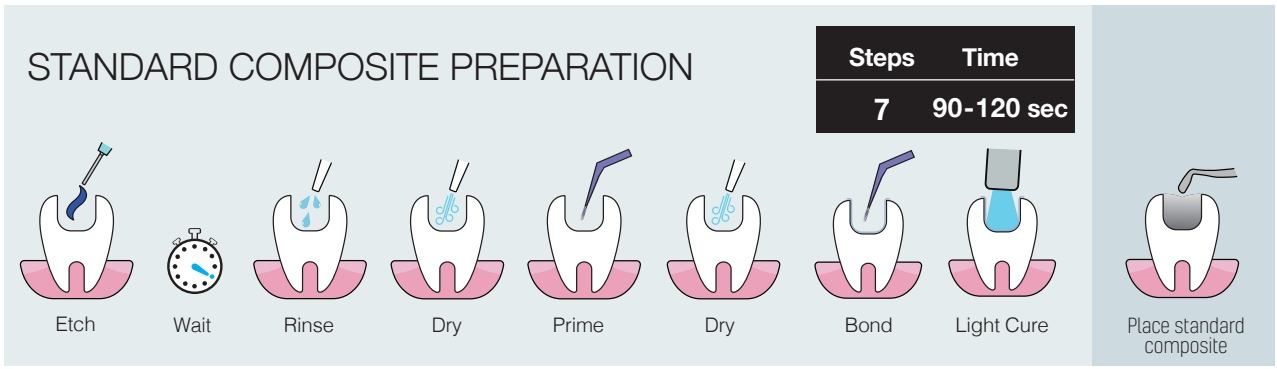
Before restoration
Image courtesy of
Prof Alex Olivaldo, Brazil

Final result
Image courtesy of
Prof Alex Olivaldo, Brazil

Simplified placement: (85% faster)

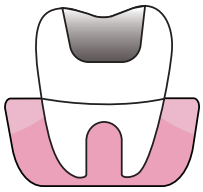
2 Step System (15 seconds preparation)
Stela is a hand in glove system designed from the ground up. Prepare a restoration in just 15 seconds, compared to 120 seconds. Rather than require an etch-prime-bond 7 step process, Stela's optimised chemistry requires only Stela Primer. This reduces technique sensitivity and patient discomfort.



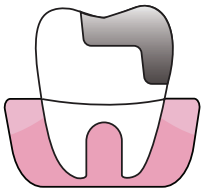


Clinical indications

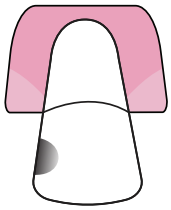
Stela's unique features allows for a variety of clinical uses for both posterior and anterior uses. Its chameleon effect allows the restoration to blend in well with the natural tooth it is restoring as well as its neighbouring tooth in a Class III scenario. Stela may also be used as a base or liner, in core build-ups, and filling endodontic access preparations to a depth that light cannot cure adequately.



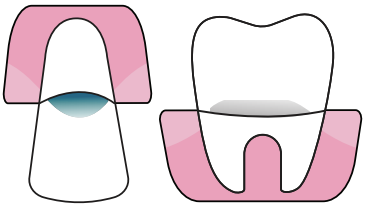
Class I



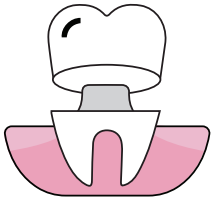
Class II



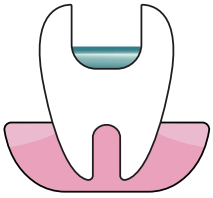
Class III



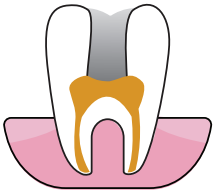
Class V



Core build-ups



Base or liner



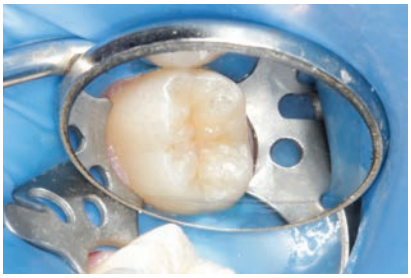
Sealing endodontic access cavities where light cannot access

Clinical indications

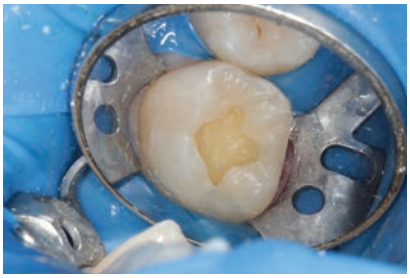
Class I

Restoring Class I restorations with Stela is as easy as you can imagine. Simply prepare the tooth for an occlusal composite. After applying Stela Primer (including around the occlusal edges), apply Stela to an unlimited depth, overfilling slightly on all the occlusal margins. Stela has a working time of 1'30". Stela self polymerises within 4 minutes. An inhibition layer may need to be removed before you start to trim and polish.

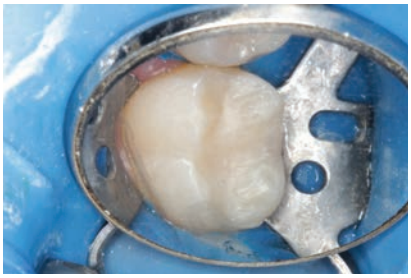
Before restoration



During restoration



Final result



Images courtesy of Dr Les Rykiss, Canada

» Stela simplifies Class I restorations with a 1-step application, unlimited depth of cure, and predictable snap-set similar to amalgam. «

Class II

Restoring Class II cavity preps are really where Stela sets itself apart with ease and simplicity of use. Prepare the Class II cavity as normal, for a flowable restorative. Select a matrix system you are comfortable with. My preference is a Garrison Fusion the Strata-G system. The band or matrix needs to be able to hold its shape and stay intimate with the proximal wall of the adjacent tooth. Otherwise, a tight proximal contact cannot be guaranteed, which risks the success of the restoration.

Preparation

Matrix applied

Final result

Images courtesy of Dr Les Rykiss, Canada

Clinical indications

Class III

Stela is such a versatile restorative material. As previously discussed, Stela has a wide indication flexibility. Stela has the simplicity of a flowable composite, with the added bonus of exceptional compressive strength, flexural strength, and marginal integrity.

Prepare the Class III cavity as normal, for a flowable restorative. Class III restorations can present interface staining as restorations age. As Stela has gap-free technology, this interface staining is almost entirely eliminated. Stela's strength, interface integrity and polishability provide an excellent solution compared to existing restorative solutions.

» Stela combines flowable simplicity with exceptional strength and gap-free technology, reducing interface staining and ensuring durable Class III restorations. «

Class V

Stela can also be used in Class V restorations. If the Class V restoration is small, I would recommend using a standard flowable composite. However, for a large Class V restorations requiring more tooth structure, Stela is an excellent choice. Be sure to slightly overfill the cavity to secure the bonding margins. The restoration will gain all the benefits of Stela, including sealed gap-free margins and high strength.

Before restoration

During restoration

Final result

Images courtesy of Dr Les Rykiss, Canada

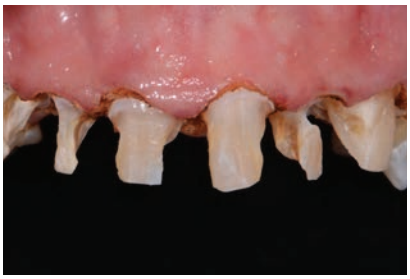
Clinical indications

Core Build-Up

Stela is a popular core build-up material. Simple, strong and easy to use. Its unlimited depth of cure removes curing uncertainty and provides an excellent foundation for indirect restorations.

Before restoration

During restoration



After restoration

Images courtesy of Dr Susan McMahon, USA

Sealing endodontic cavities

Endodontic cavities represent significant depth of cure challenges. Stela's flowability and unlimited depth of cure make sealing endodontic cavities easier. After endodontics are completed, it is imperative that the marginal interface is gap-free. This will provide protection from bacterial invasion into the filled canal spaces. Stela is an excellent choice for use in restorations with a high C-factor (configuration factor). This describes the ratio of a restoration's bonded to unbonded surfaces. Endodontic cavities are notorious for high C-factors, making the longevity of restorations difficult even with seamless execution. Stela's accelerated curing at the interface, combined with an unlimited depth of cure make endodontic restorations easier than ever.

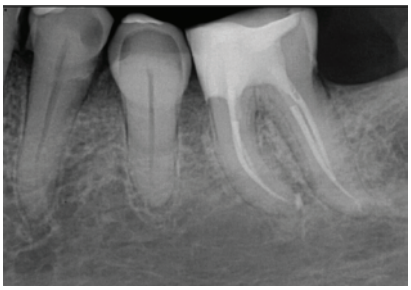


Image courtesy of Dr Richard Ellis, New Zealand

» Stela's flowability and unlimited depth of cure make endodontic restorations easier, ensuring gap-free interfaces even in high C-factor cavities.«

Contraindications

- Do not use for pulp capping
- Do not use if a dry field cannot be established – Stela is moisture sensitive, like standard composites
- Do not use in conjunction with any eugenol containing materials – this is usually found in materials that are used to treat pulpitis
- Do not use in anyone who has an allergy to acrylics
- Do not use Stela Primer with another restorative product
- Stela Primer is only compatible with Stela restorative paste and will not cure when used with other restoratives

Components of the Stela restorative system

While most composites are developed as stand alone restorative materials, Stela has been developed from the ground up as an end to end bonding and restorative system. Recognising that a restoration's bond and interface integrity are essential factors in longevity, Stela's Primer and restorative were developed hand in glove to optimise bond strength, interface integrity and restoration strength. This optimisation has also allowed Stela to simplify the restoration process. Stela simplifies preparation to just 2 steps in 15 seconds, compared to the conventional 7 step etch-prime-bond system.

» Stela is an end to end restorative system: Stela Primer and restorative work together to optimise bond strength, interface integrity, and restoration durability - simplifying the process to just 2 steps in 15 seconds.«

Stela Primer

Stela Primer is a pivotal part of the Stela restorative system. It is unique compared to most etch/primer/adhesive bonding agents. Developed specifically for Stela restorative, the primer chemistry provides maximum bond strength, improved sealing for long lasting durability and no reported sensitivity.

The primer etches the dentine and enamel and then tags into the dentinal tubules forming micromechanical retention. Later, the Stela restorative material forms a chemical bond with the primed dentine/enamel forming a true adhesion between the primer and paste. Stela Primer is only compatible with Stela restorative.

BPA & HEMA FREE

Components of the Stela restorative system

Stela restorative
Stela is an innovative high-performance self-cure composite. Stela offers an unlimited depth of cure and low-stress polymerisation with a gap-free interface. There is no need to acid etch or light cure. Stela achieves its ground-breaking properties through a tailored combination of BPA-free resin monomers, optimised ionglass fillers (SDI's bioactive proprietary hybrid glass), and specially surface-modified amorphous silica. Stela's outstanding mechanical properties come from a rapid curing reaction.

» Stela is a high performance self-cure composite with unlimited depth of cure, low-stress polymerisation, and rapid strength development - allowing finishing in just 4 minutes and providing long-lasting, gap-free restorations.«

The Stela monomers form polymeric chains and, simultaneously, these chains are rapidly and densely cross-linked to each other, forming a complex network that strongly binds the ionglass filler and the amorphous silica, resulting in a strong and resilient restorative material.
Auto-curing restoratives harden over time until they reach their final strength. Stela is formulated to reach a high strength as quickly as possible, allowing finishing and polishing in just 4 minutes. After this initial set, Stela becomes a strong composite that easily exceeds the properties of other materials in its class. Stela achieves 90% of its long-term strength within 60 minutes. Stela's initial high strength reduces premature failures during the critical first 24 hour period. Once fully set, the material exhibits industry leading characteristics. The strength of a restorative should always be judged on its combination of compressive and flexural properties, to resist occlusal forces and to prevent fractures during function. Stela has both impressive compressive and flexural strengths which make it the ultimate aesthetic and functional restorative material.

Stela compared to standard composites

Traditional composites are the bedrock of dental restorations. And with good reason, they provide patients with strong restoratives and excellent aesthetics.

Here are the key reasons why Stela outperforms traditional composites:

	Traditional composite	Stela
Technique sensitivity	High. 7 consecutive steps to be completed without contamination.	✔ **EASIER** 3 much easier consecutive steps to complete.
Patient comfort	Patient exposed to multiple instruments / materials: etch, rinse, prime, bond, light curing.	✔ **MORE COMFORTABLE** Patient only needs a primer, air dry and restorative. No etching. No light curing. Demonstrates low postoperative sensitivity, reinforcing patient comfort after treatment (Loguerico et al., 2024).
Depth of cure	2mm – 5mm (material dependent). Layering required.	✔ **UNLIMITED** Unlimited placement in one extrusion.
Light curing	Required for bond and restorative. Acute angles and deep cavities may lead to cure uncertainty.	✔ **NO LED** Not needed for primer or restorative. Cure certainty.
Translucency limits	The greater the depth of cure, the more translucent the material.	✔ **NO SHADE COMPROMISES** No change. Not limited by light penetration.

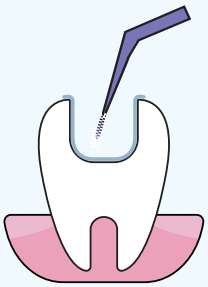
Stela compared to dual cure composites

The premise of dual cure composite is compelling – combining all the benefits of a light cured composite, with the benefits of a chemical cured composite. However, this requires compromises to support both curing methods.

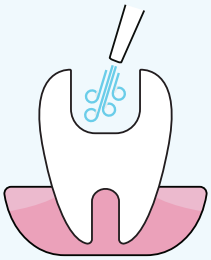
	Dual cure composites	Stela
Technique sensitivity	High. 7 consecutive steps to be completed without contamination. Not optimised for a bond.	✔ **EASIER** 3 much easier consecutive steps to complete. Optimised for bonding with Stela Primer.
Bond strength variability	Many bonds aren't as effective when used with chemically cured composites. (Green et al., 2025).	✔ **FULL COMPATIBILITY** Stela Primer has been optimised for use with Stela. No compatibility issues.
Patient comfort	Patient exposed to multiple instruments / materials: etch, rinse, prime, bond, light curing.	✔ **MORE COMFORTABLE** Patient only needs a primer, air dry and restorative. No etching. No light curing.
Gap-free	Gap-free benefit not applicable when light curing.	✔ **PRIMER ACCELERATED** Gap-free with Stela Primer.
Strength	Reduced, as the material needs to be flexible enough to endure both curing methods.	✔ **HIGH STRENGTH** Optimised for self curing with Stela Primer.
Translucency limits	Compromised, as the shade needs to support both light and chemical polymerisation.	✔ **NO LED** No change. Not limited by light penetration.
Curing stress	Light curing the top layer early can introduce uneven stresses. In the short term, it may also be difficult to confirm if the composite has fully cured and is ready for finishing.	✔ **CURES FROM THE INTERFACE** Stela cures along the margins, for a gap-free restoration.

Stela instructions for use

Restoration preparation



Apply Stela Primer
to cavity walls (3 sec)

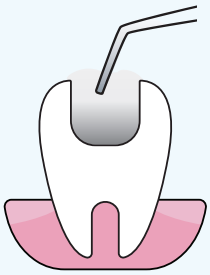


Dry for 2-3 seconds

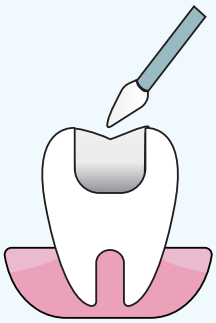
Restoration placement

Your choice: Syringe or capsule

Option 1
Stela Automix

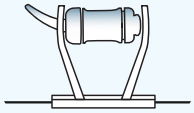


Placing the tip on the syringe to extrude Stela into the cavity. Slightly overfill to ensure good contact with margins. 1’30” working time.

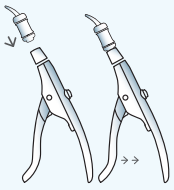


Chemical cures in 4’00”.
Proceed to finishing.

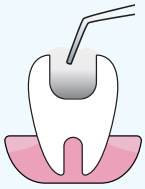
Option 2
Stela Capsule



Activate capsule and
mix for 10 seconds.



Place in capsule applicator.



Extrude Stela into the cavity.
Slightly overfill to ensure
good contact with margins.
1’30” working time.

Chemical cures in 4’00”.
Proceed to finishing.

Stela restorative cases

The following are illustrations of the step-by-step technique used for all classifications of dental restorations using Stela. The most important thing to remember about the technique is that the Stela tooth preparation design is exactly the same as for conventional composite preparations.

The only difference is the Stela bonding protocol, which begins after the prepping and isolation with any matrix of choice (for Class II restorations). Stela is an unlimited depth of cure, self-polymerising restorative material, which delivers gap-free margins at the tooth restoration interface.
These qualities will reduce sensitivity and deliver the high strength qualities needed to overcome the effects of occlusion.

1. Class I

Figure 1. Tooth prior to the restorative procedure

Figure 2. Simple Cl I preparation

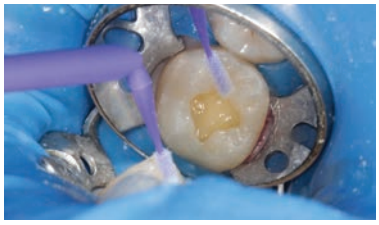


Figure 3. Application of Stela Primer to all walls, and top occlusal margins. Blow dry.

Figure 4. Application of Stela automix

Figure 5. Submerge syringe tip when extruding paste

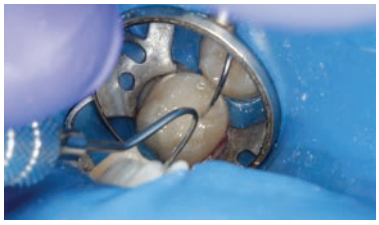


Figure 6. An explorer was used to ensure that the Stela was covering all occlusal margin areas. Working time 1'30"

Figure 7. Stela sets in 4'00".

Figure 8. Use an explorer to confirm snap set. Wipe inhibition layer if required.

Figure 9. Trim restoration

Figure 10. Polish restoration

Figure 11. Final polishing

Figure 12. Final restoration

Images courtesy of Dr Les Rykiss, Canada

Stela restorative cases

The following case illustrates the restorative process for a Class II restoration using Stela.

2. Class II

Figure 13. Prepare tooth with a matrix system, Garrison Strata-G matrice used in this restoration.

Figure 14. Application of Stela Primer to all walls, and top occlusal margins. Wait 5 seconds.

Figure 15. Air dry.

Figure 16. Application of Stela automix.

Figure 17. Submerge syringe tip when extruding paste.

Figure 18. Stela sets in 4'00".

Figure 19. Trim restoration.

Figure 20. Trim restoration.

Figure 21. Polish restoration.

Figure 22. Final polishing.

Figure 23. Final restoration.

Figure 24. Final restoration.

Images courtesy of Dr Les Rykiss, Canada

Stela restorative cases

There are many different Class V preparation and fill techniques that are used in modern dentistry. Commonly, restoring a Class V such as an abfraction is easy with a flowable light cured composite. Stela is suitable for use across a range of restorative sizes. We demonstrate the use of a hard tissue laser technique with Stela:

3. Class V

Figure 25. A typical abfraction where the enamel has fractured at or below the gingiva.

Figure 26. A hard tissue laser approach, first performing a minor gingivectomy at the buccal margin of the gingiva to expose the abfraction.

Figure 27. A bevel of the enamel at the coronal margin.

Figure 28. A laser prepped abfraction to be restored.

Figure 29. Stela Primer is applied, left for 5 seconds and air dried.

Figure 30. Application of Stela automix.

Figure 31. Working time 1'30".

Figure 32. Working time 1'30".

Figure 33. Use an explorer to confirm snap set. Wipe inhibition layer if required.

Figure 34. Polish restoration.

Figure 35. Polish restoration.

Figure 36. Final restoration.

Images courtesy of Dr Les Rykiss, Canada

Stela restorative cases

Another use which shows the versatility of Stela is that of a core material. Stela has the advantage of the gap-free adaptation at the tooth-restorative interface for maximal bond strengths of the core to the tooth, as well as the fact that it can be prepared easily for a crown. Later, the composite luting cement will bond to the core and ceramic crown using the same procedure as any other core paste for a seamless bonded restoration from core to crown.

The rapidly expanding world of restorative materials gives the practitioner many choices as far as which material to use and when. Stela restores the confidence in our restorations that amalgam traditionally provided. Zero microgap means the likelihood of bacterial invasion at the tooth/restorative material interface is not an issue. It also decreases the post operative sensitivity that patients experience occasionally. The high compressive and flexural strength of Stela's restorations gives the practitioner assurance that the material will be able to withstand occlusal forces and provide longevity for the restoration. For these reasons and more, Stela represents a compelling new restorative option.

4. Composite Core

Figure 37. Molar with a fractured ML cusp and a very thin DB cusp.

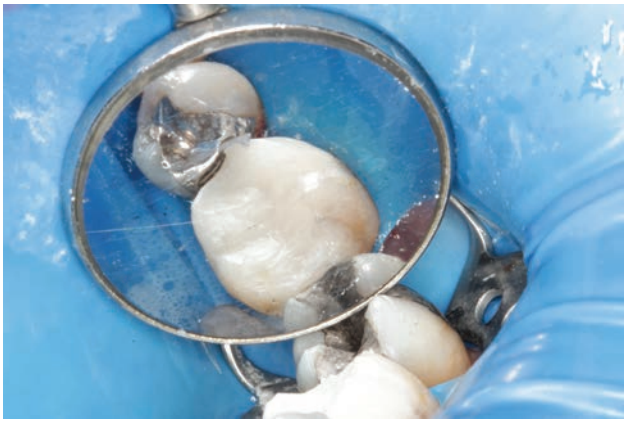


Figure 38. Stela core completed ready for a crown preparation.

Images courtesy of Dr Les Rykiss, Canada

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