It is such a pleasure to be with the members of the Ohio Dental Association and a great honor to be recognized with the 2015 Callahan Memorial Award for Henry Schein’s longstanding commitment to advancing access to oral health care.

While the Callahan Memorial Award may only have my name listed, it really is a reflection of the shared commitment of more than 18,000 Team Schein Members, who work tirelessly to balance the needs of our five constituencies – our customers, supplier partners, investors, Team Schein and society – and who help our customers advance oral health around the world.

On behalf of all of my dedicated colleagues, we are humbled to accept this prestigious award.

Along with this award comes a cash prize, which we would like to give to the ODA Foundation to help support a worthy philanthropic or charitable program that will continue to advance oral health here in Ohio.

We want to thank:
  - Dr. Thomas Paumier, ODA President;
  - David Owsiany, ODA Executive Director;
  - the members of the Callahan Memorial Award Commission;
  - and all of the leaders and members of the Ohio Dental Association.

The Callahan Memorial Award resonates so strongly with the members of Team Schein because we feel a real partnership with the ODA in advancing its mission:
  - improving oral health and strengthening dentistry in Ohio;
  - providing resources to advance the dental profession;
  - improving dental team skills;
  - and increasing public and professional oral health knowledge.

Our Team Schein Members here in Ohio have worked very closely with ODA members on important access to care initiatives, such as Give Kids a Smile, as well as a host of oral health outreach missions here in Ohio, regionally, nationally and internationally.

We share the ODA’s appreciation of the importance of oral health throughout a person’s life, and recognition that oral health care is a vital part of primary care.
• For many years, Henry Schein has been at the forefront of highlighting the link between oral health and total health.

• From the World Economic Forum and the United Nations to Harvard and the Santa Fe Group,
  o we have underscored the many studies that have indicated an association between periodontal disease and oral bacteria with
    ▪ low birth weight and pre-term birth,
    ▪ diabetes,
    ▪ cardiovascular disease,
    ▪ colorectal cancer
    ▪ and Alzheimer’s disease.

• We have helped advance recognition that there are bio-markers in saliva for pancreatic, breast, ovarian and lung cancer,
  o as well as the possible link between dental infections and brain aneurysms.

• We also have helped demonstrate that it really does pay to “put your money where your mouth is.”
  o Several studies underscore the important role that regular dental care can play in reducing overall health care costs.

• A study published in the Journal of Periodontology indicated that patients with periodontal disease have 21% higher health care costs than those without.

• Another study published in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine indicated that periodontal therapy led to significant reductions in total medical costs and hospitalizations for
  o diabetes,
  o coronary artery disease,
  o cerebral vascular disease
  o and pregnancy.

• And, of course, later in life, good oral health and the retention of teeth can improve a person’s overall quality of life and social integration.

• Receiving the Callahan Memorial Award is a tremendous honor,
  o particularly in light of the pioneering work in dentistry and dental research that Dr. John R. Callahan did in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

• The list of award winners since 1922 is a veritable who’s who of dentistry,
  o and it is very humbling to be included among such stellar leaders.
• Many of the past honorees are personal friends in the dental community.

• There is Dr. D. Walter Cohen, who was granted the award in 1993.
  o We worked very closely with Dr. Cohen on oral health programs in the Delaware Valley and internationally.

• There is the late Dr. Larry Meskin, who won the award in 2002.
  o For many years Dr. Meskin was chairman of the Henry Schein Oral Health Advisory Board.

• There is the late Dr. Dominick DePaolo, who won the award in 2012.
  o Dr. DePaolo and I worked closely together when he was president of The Forsyth Institute and I was chairman.

• From their valuable perspectives on the early detection of oral cancer to advancing oral care for children,
  o we relied on the excellent advice of Dr. Cohen, Dr. Meskin and Dr. DePaolo.

• And coincidentally, each of the three also won the Dr. Edward B. Shils Award,
  o which we created to honor outstanding contributions to the oral health community.

• It is a great honor for Henry Schein to be included along with such illustrious global dental leaders and such good friends.

• Our goal at Henry Schein is to help oral health practitioners operate more efficient and successful practices and to deliver high quality care to patients.

• The shared commitment of the ODA membership and the larger global dental community to improve oral health is inspiring.
  o Here in Ohio and around the world, oral health professionals are passionate about providing the best possible care to patients.

• This commitment remains constant as the profession itself continues to evolve at an accelerating rate thanks to technology advances.

• In this age of digital dentistry, the pioneering spirit of the dentist remains as strong as it was in Dr. John Callahan’s time,
  o but technology-driven tools enable today’s dental professionals to realize a higher vision for patient care that few could imagine even a few decades ago.

• That is what excites Team Schein most about dentistry now –
the technology that we are using today and are dreaming about for tomorrow.
- And we look forward to many more years of partnership with the Ohio Dental Association as we use technology together to redefine the practice of dentistry in the future.

- Thank you again for this wonderful honor.