



2006

Choice
Awards



The Editor's Choice Awards were developed to give credit to those devices that are outstanding in their treatment categories. These awards are based on survey results conducted by *Aesthetic Trends and Technologies*. The awards concept, categories, and accompanying comments were developed and written respectively by David M. Cauger of Boston Aesthetics, LLC. Below you will see the ATnT Award and Honorable Mention for each Treatment Category. This year there are new categories to keep pace with the changing equipment market. A few categories have been removed by the Awards Committee. In addition a new scoring system has been implemented. The objective of these awards is to both recognize excellence as well as to provide an avenue of understanding of what devices are available and suggested by your peers. Neither *Aesthetic Trends & Technologies*, Boston Aesthetics, LLC nor David Cauger are in any way responsible for the outcome of any individual or entity, whether positive or negative, if they choose to purchase one of the lasers receiving in these awards.

Cutera Highlights



Best Hair Removal Laser for Dark Skin Types
CoolGlide Excel by Cutera

The 1064nm Excel wins in this category for the third straight year. The device has variable "on-the-fly" spot sizes of 1.5, 3, 5, 7 and 10mm. A 12mm spot would be nice when doing large anatomical areas, but this is still a superior long pulsed Nd:YAG for darker skin types.

The Excel model allows shorter pulses than the CoolGlide Classic and this helps when treating finer brown hair that presents less of a target for the Nd:YAG. The Excel is also an excellent vascular laser. It is a proven performer in this category which has integrated sapphire contact cooling.



Best Laser for Superficial Leg Veins CoolGlide Excel by Cutera

The 1064nm Excel edges out other high powered Nd:YAGs in this category once again. The device has variable "on-the-fly" spot sizes 3, 5, 7 and 10mm. Please be mindful that sclerotherapy is still the gold standard and it is advised that the practitioner be well trained when treating leg veins with the Nd:YAG due to the very high fluences required. The term "superficial" means most vessels less than 1.5mm in diameter. It is important to note that vessel closure has been reported in larger diameters. Please refer to your experienced colleagues for guidance.



Best Non-Ablative Laser for Collagen Remodeling CoolGlide Vantage by Cutera

Honorable Mention

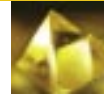
The Vantage is a high powered Nd:YAG with extremely fast repetition rates. The treatment modality uses a 10mm or 8mm spot size to selectively deliver energy to the dermis. The treatment is virtually painless, and other manufacturers have copied this procedure that offer the high powered Nd:YAG. With speeds up to 10 shots per second, the operator simply "paints" the face in a fairly rapid motion. Convincing clinical evidence supports the efficacy in select patients.



Best Device for Skin Laxity Titan by Cutera

Honorable Mention

Titan's infrared spectrum is both predictable and easily understood based on the known coefficients to the target chromophore of water. The Titan uses a spectral profile that will deposit heat in the upper papillary dermis where a wound healing response may generate collagen synthesis to resolve fine wrinkles in specific anatomical areas. While the device is marketed for skin laxity as reported in my article, (September-October 2004), practitioners appear to be extremely satisfied with this device as a collagen remodeling device as well. The device has a simple and intuitive interface, and minor alterations to its settings have been reported to produce excellent results in this very controversial category. The device has integrated contact sapphire cooling and precise feedback to reduce the chances of over treatment. The precise cooling mechanisms and narrow bandwidth output may be one of the reasons the device is reported to be as effective as lasers in this category.



**Most Diverse Aesthetic Laser
XEO w/Option Package E by Cutera**

The CoolGlide XEO platform incorporates almost all the product offerings Cutera offers with an optional Titan upgrade. Hair removal on all skin types, collagen remodeling, facial veins, leg veins, solar lentigenes, and the Genesis procedure are all included with this versatile platform. The only thing missing would be their new Pearl system which I am sure they will somehow integrate into the CoolGlide XEO platform. The XEO also has an intuitive user interface. Cutera's engineers have created a great family of products around the CoolGlide platform.



**Best Customer Service/ Support
Cutera**

Honorable Mention

Cutera has a very unique approach and also has its very loyal following. Cutera actually holds seminars that are not designed as marketing vehicles in various regions of the US and Canada. The purpose of the seminars is to educate and allow practitioners to compare notes, ask questions, and challenge the company. A very strict "no selling" policy is the rule.

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