

## CONTINUOUS MANUFACTURING – CURRENT STATUS AND REGULATORY EXPECTATIONS

### 22-23 JUNE, 2023



8<sup>th</sup> GLOBAL PHARMACEUTICAL QUALITY SUMMIT 2023 Dr. Lalit Kumar Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd, R&D, Gurugram – Haryana, IN



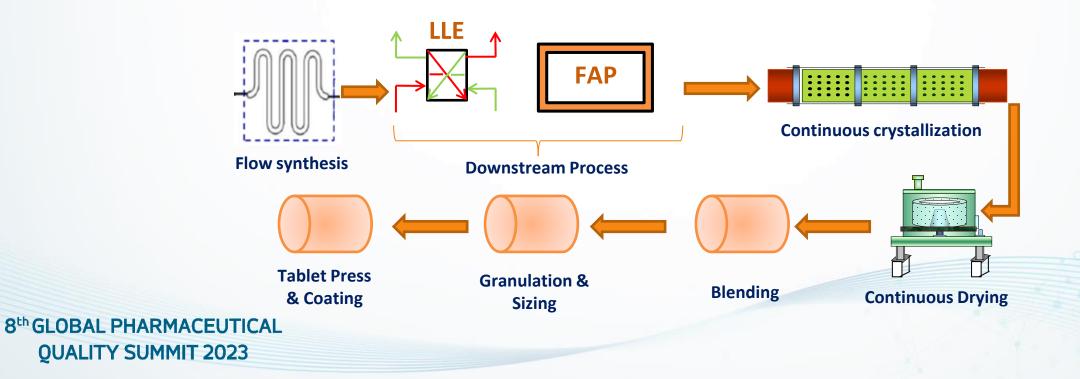


- > INTRODUCTION TO CONTINUOUS MANUFACTURING (CM) CONCEPT
- > CONTINUOUS FLOW SYNTHESIS IN PHARMA INDUSTRY
- FLOW CHEMISTRY EQUIPMENTS
- **CASE STUDIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS FROM LAB TO PLANT**
- > ICH Q13: CONTINUOUS MANUFACURING OF DRUG SUBSTANCES AND DRUG PRODUCTS
- **EXAMPLES OF DRUG SUBSTANCE AND DRUG PRODUCT CM SYSTEM**
- **BENEFITS ACHIEVED WITH FLOW TECHNOLOGY**
- > IMPACT OF CONTINUOUS FLOW MANUFACTURING ON BUSINESS



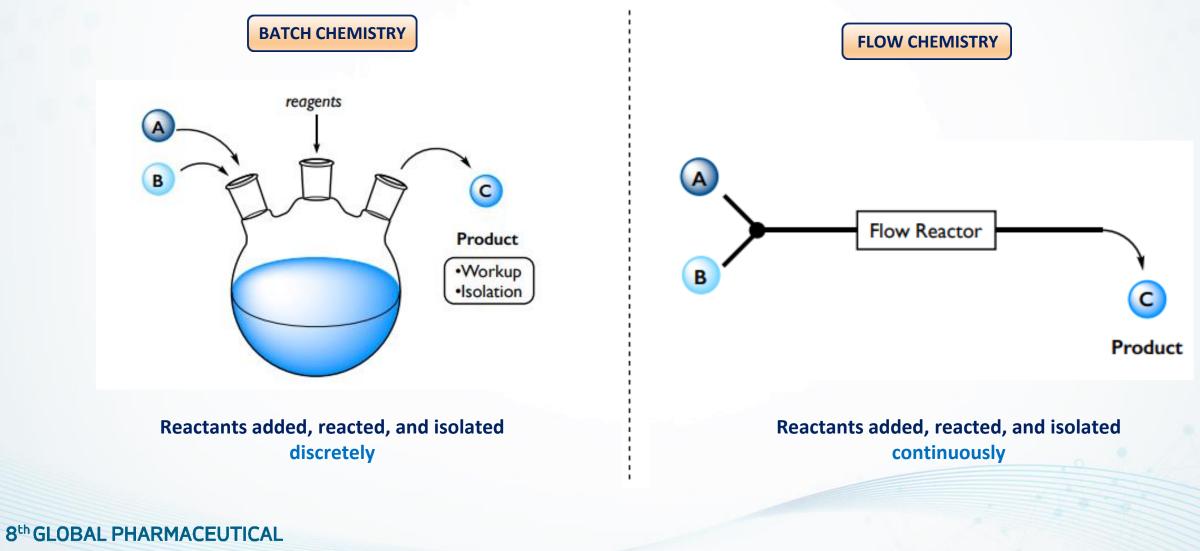


- Pharmaceutical industry since ages have used batch manufacturing which involves large equipment and costly production set up, high quantity of reagent handling, multiple steps and lengthy process of manufacturing.
- Recently, industry has seen a paradigm shift from Batch manufacturing (BM) to Continuous manufacturing (CM) which is much faster, safer and more efficient way.



**BATCH** vs CONTINUOUS OPERATIONS





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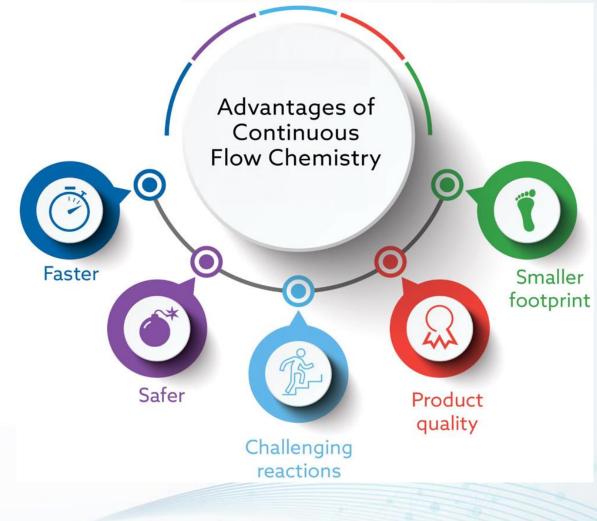
#### ADVANTAGES OF CONTINUOUS MANUFACTUTRING/FLOW CHEMISTRY



Heat-transfer coefficient is very high in flow
 reactors due to high surface to volume ratio which
 enable intense mixing of reactants in the micro
 reactor compared to traditional batch reactor.
 Elow provide higher yield and selectivity as well as

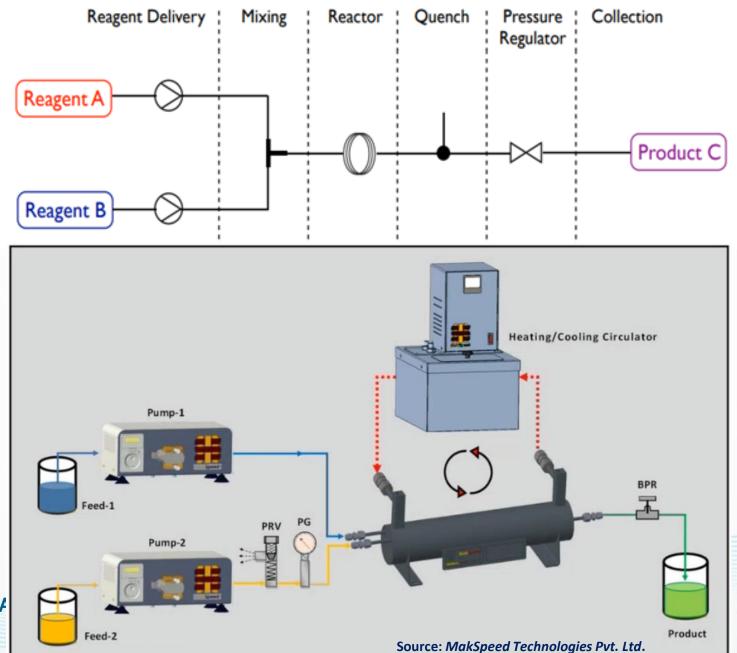
Flow provide higher yield and selectivity as well as safer reactions.

Chemistry which we call forbidden in batch mode can be explored using flow chemistry.



#### ANATOMY OF FLOW REACTOR SYSTEM

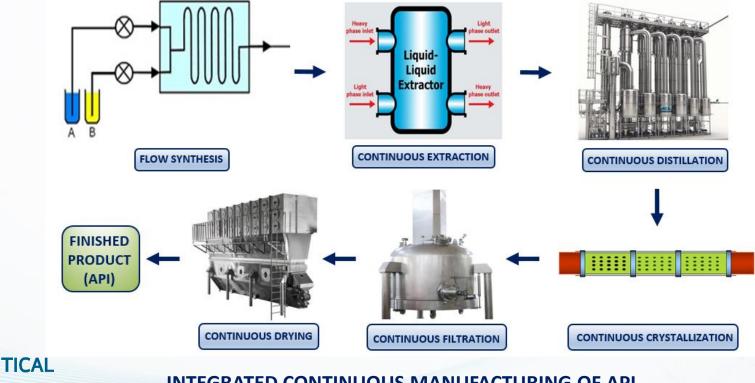






#### CM - Need of the hour ?

- To produce low-cost generic APIs is the need of hour which can not be achieved through backward integration, recovery and recycling of reagents/solvents.
- Integrated continuous manufacturing of API can overcome many of these limitations where upstream and downstream processes are integrated into a seamless process.



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#### INTEGRATED CONTINUOUS MANUFACTURING OF API

#### FLOW CHEMISTRY EQUIPMENTS IN OUR LAB

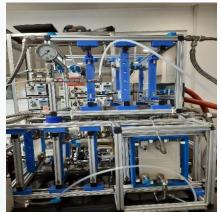






**Fixed Bed Reactor** 





**Corning G1 Reactor** 



Miprowa Ehrfeld



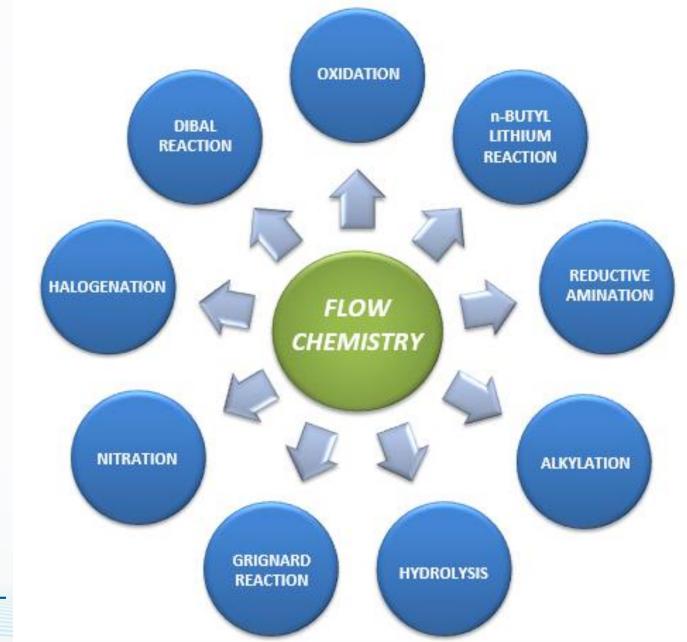
Amar-4P-100ML-SS316



**Photo Flow Reactor** 

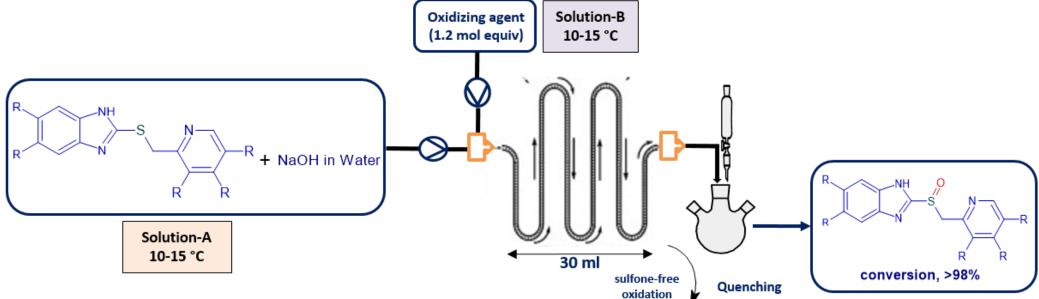


#### SUCCESSFUL FLOW CHEMISTRY REACTIONS



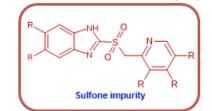
#### **CASE STUDY-1: OXIDATION**





#### Advantages:

- Successfully converted from lab scale to plant scale (up to 500 Kg batch size)
- Regular production in plant using continuous mode
- Over-oxidation of sulfoxide to sulfone has been avoided in flow
- US & CEP filing has been approved for flow process
- Solvent consumption reduced by 60%
- HPLC purity achieved >99.5%
- Costing reduced to 50% in flow compared to batch
- Capacity increased from 5 T/month to 10 T/month





#### Plug Flow Reactor (Plant Set-up)



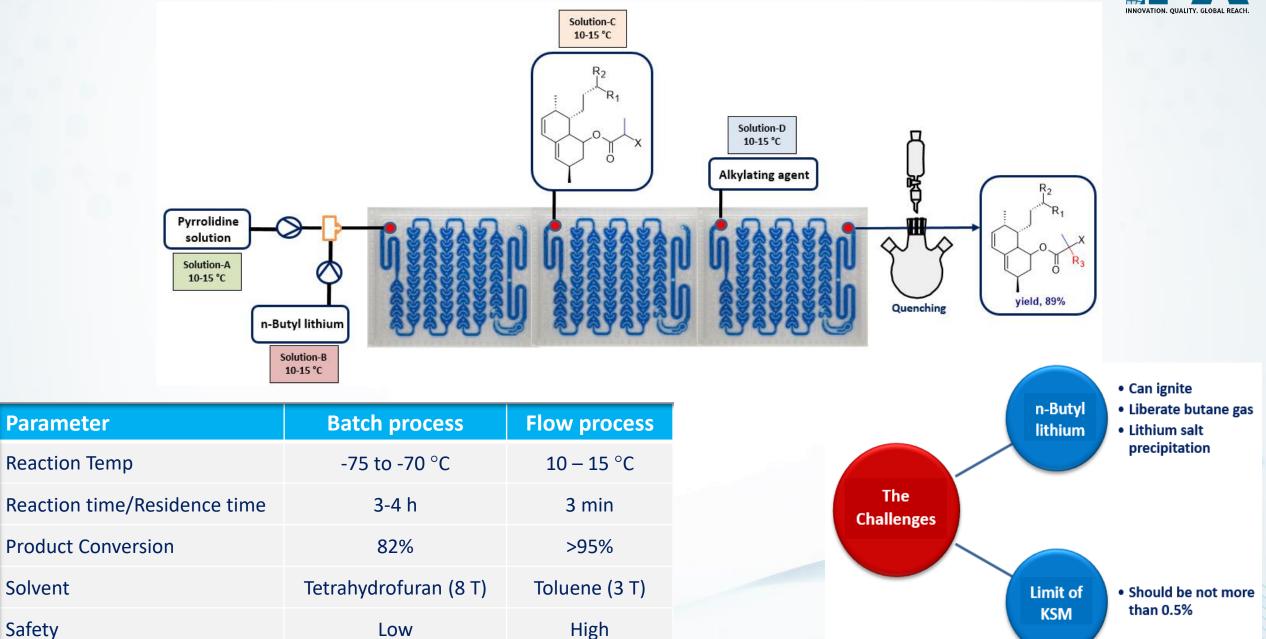
#### CASE STUDY-2: n-BUTYL LITHIUM REACTION – FLASH CHEMISTRY

Parameter

Solvent

Safety

**Reaction Temp** 



#### CASE STUDY-2: n-BUTYL LITHIUM REACTION – FLASH CHEMISTRY



Corning G1 Reactor (Lab Set-up)

## Seamless Scale-up from Gram to Tonnage Scale 55x times



**Corning G4 Reactor (Plant Set-up)** 

#### G1 Observations:

- Solidification observed in initial trials (precipitation of lithium salt)
- Over pressurization of system
- Cleaning of G1 reactor
- Start-up & Shut down procedure

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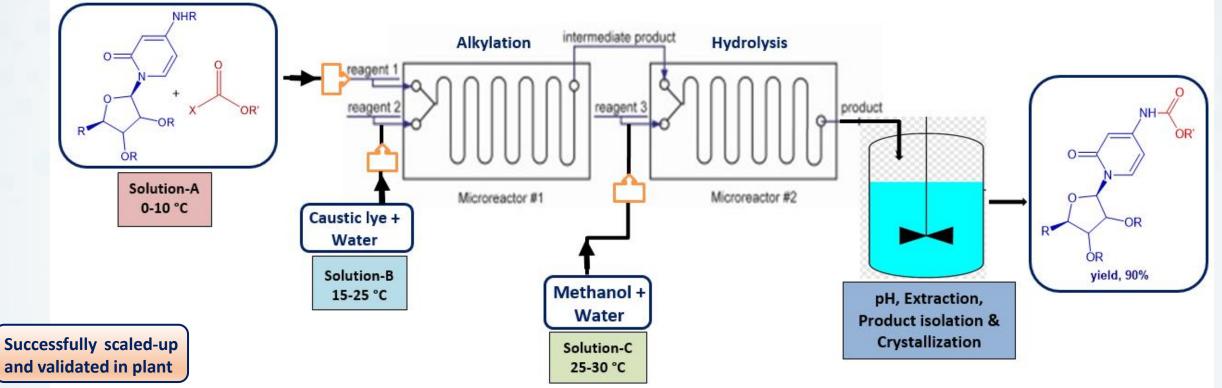
#### G4 Observations/Challenges (Key take-away):

- Precipitation of lithium salt
  - ✓ *n*-Buli switched from 3.2 M to 1.6 M
- Auto-cleaning of G4 reactor
  - Cleaning of reactor with solvent at fixed time interval to avoid pressurization of system (Pressure raised from 10.5 Bar to 15.5 Bar)
- Precise temperature control of feed lines
  - ✓ to avoid exotherm



#### CASE STUDY-3: Alkylation and Hydrolysis (Telescoped Continuous Flow Synthesis)





Reaction parameters	Batch process	Flow process	Key achievements
Solvent:	DCM (22 T)/ Ethyl acetate (14 T)	DCM (9 T)/ Ethyl acetate (7 T)	Volumes of solvent get reduced to 50%
Yield:	70%	85%	High yield compared to batch
Process Time cycle: (Manufacturing)	17 days	8 days	~60% Process time cycle reduction



#### CASE STUDY-4: CONTINUOUS LIQUID-LIQUID EXTRACTION (LLE)





#### CHALLENGE (BATCH PROCESS)

- Aqueous layer has residual impurity which needs to be removed using organic phase extraction
- Multiple extractions are required followed by water and brine washings
- Lengthy process leads to product degradation and yield loss
   Process cycle time: 48 h

#### **CENTRIFUGAL EXTRACTION IN CONTINUOUS MODE**

- Complete extraction of product in organic layer in just single extraction, because of high mass transfer rate in centrifugal LLE.
- Less time of exposure, leads to less degradation
- Process cycle time: 8 h

#### ICH Q13: CONTINUOUS MANUFACURING OF DRUG SUBSTANCES AND DRUG PRODUCTS



#### INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR HARMONISATION OF TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR PHARMACEUTICALS FOR HUMAN USE

ICH HARMONISED GUIDELINE

#### CONTINUOUS MANUFACTURING OF DRUG SUBSTANCES AND DRUG PRODUCTS Q13

Final version

Adopted on 16 November 2022

#### OBJECTIVES

- Describe scientific and regulatory considerations for the development, implementation, operation, and lifecycle management of continuous manufacturing.
- Provides clarification on the concepts of continuous manufacturing.

#### SCOPE

- Applies to the CM of drug substances and drug products for chemical entities and therapeutic proteins
- Applicable to the CM of new drugs, generic drugs, biosimilars and the conversion of batch manufacturing to continuous manufacturing for existing products.

In this guideline, the prerequisites of the main aspects of FDA and other regulation expectations, GMP and key aspects for successful CM are provided with the premise that the output materials from the BM and CM processes should have comparable quality.



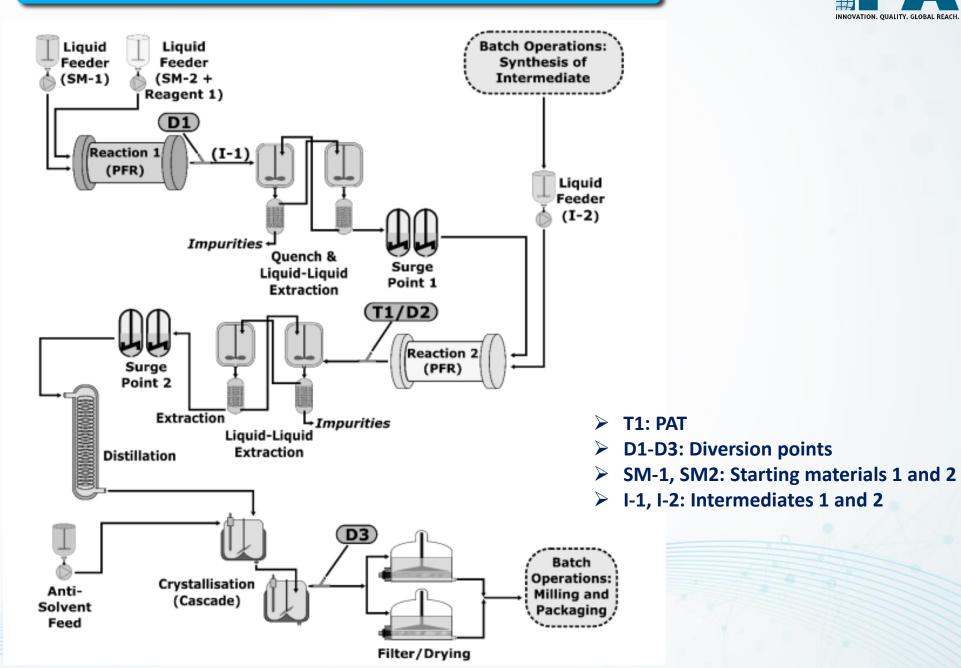
FOCUS AREA	Key aspects for submission of the Common Technical Document (CTD)
Description of manufacturing process and process controls	<ul> <li>Process flow diagrams of flow reactor system</li> <li>A summary of start-up, shutdown, pause and restart procedures</li> <li>Strategy for material diversion and collection</li> <li>Process parameters (e.g., mass flow rate(s), temperature, pressure, residence time)</li> <li>Critical aspects of selected equipment design and configuration</li> </ul>
Control strategy	<ul> <li>Must ensure that output materials made over time are of the desired quality Must consider:         <ul> <li>Input material attributes</li> <li>Process monitoring and controls (sampling strategy and frequency)</li> <li>PAT measurement frequency to the RTD (residence time distribution)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Batch description and batch size	<ul> <li>Size of a batch produced by CM can be defined in terms of:</li> <li>Quantity of output material</li> <li>Quantity of input material</li> <li>Run time at a defined mass flow rate</li> </ul>



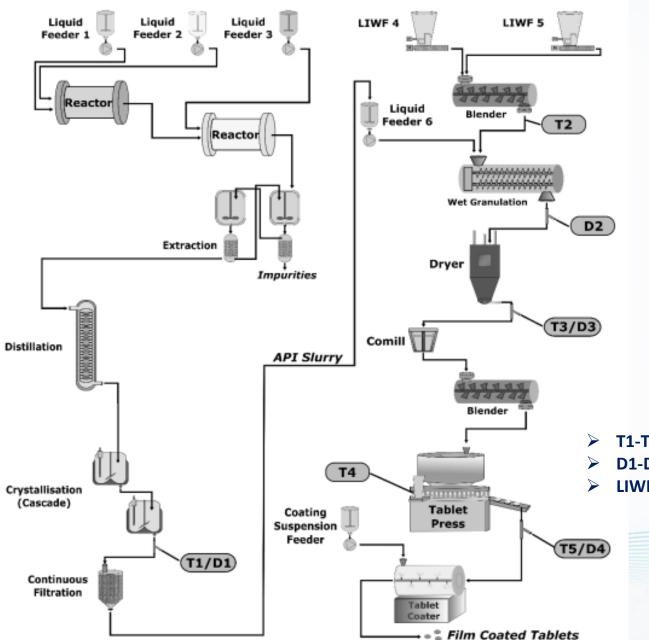
FOCUS AREA	Key aspects for submission of the Common Technical Document (CTD)	
Drug substance and drug product stability	No difference between CM and batch manufacturing modes for the regulatory expectations for stability data package	
Conversion of batch process to CM	Considering appropriate control strategy, BM process can be converted into CM process provided the output materials from the BM and CM process should have comparable quality	
Process validation	Requirements for process validation are similar for CM and BM process and also can follow the same standard approach of a fixed number of validation batches	
Pharmaceutical Quality System (PQS)	Expectations for the PQS are the same for BM and CM process, following pertinent ICH guidelines	
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#### EXAMPLE OF A DRUG SUBSTANCE CM SYSTEM





#### **EXAMPLE OF AN INTEGRATED DRUG SUBSTANCE AND DRUG PRODUCT CM SYSTEM**



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- T1-T5: PAT and at-line test locations
- > D1-D4: Diversion points
- LIWF4 and LIWF5: Loss-in weight feeders

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PARAMETERS	BM PROCESS	CM PROCESS
Product selectivity	Low	High
Product conversion	Limited	Can be maximum
Reagent and Solvent	In excess	Very less
Infrastructure	Huge	Compact
Quality failure	Chances are there	Negligible, once process is optimized
Scale-up	Challenging	Seamless
CAPEX and OPEX	Relatively huge	Relatively 40% less
Production capacity	Limited by reactor size and infrastructure	Easy to increase with the existing set- up
Safety	Less safe	Completely safe



- Overall API cost reduction by improvement in yield and reduction in the quantities of reagents & solvents
- Less outsourcing of the products since exothermic and hazardous reactions can also be handled in-house safely
- Increased production capacity with safe operations
- Consistent batches with negligible failure
- Quick scale-up without failure
- Less infrastructure requirement
- Timely product delivery



- Continuous manufacturing has the same regulatory requirements that batched size manufacturing processes.
- > CM can potentially be a standard of drug manufacturing in the pharmaceutical industry.
  - Many regulatory agencies, including US FDA, EMA and PMDA, strongly support the implementation of CM technology.
  - CM is the necessary technology to realize Industry 4.0.
  - CM can innovate the manufacturing and improve the access to medicines.

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# Thanks