



In it for life



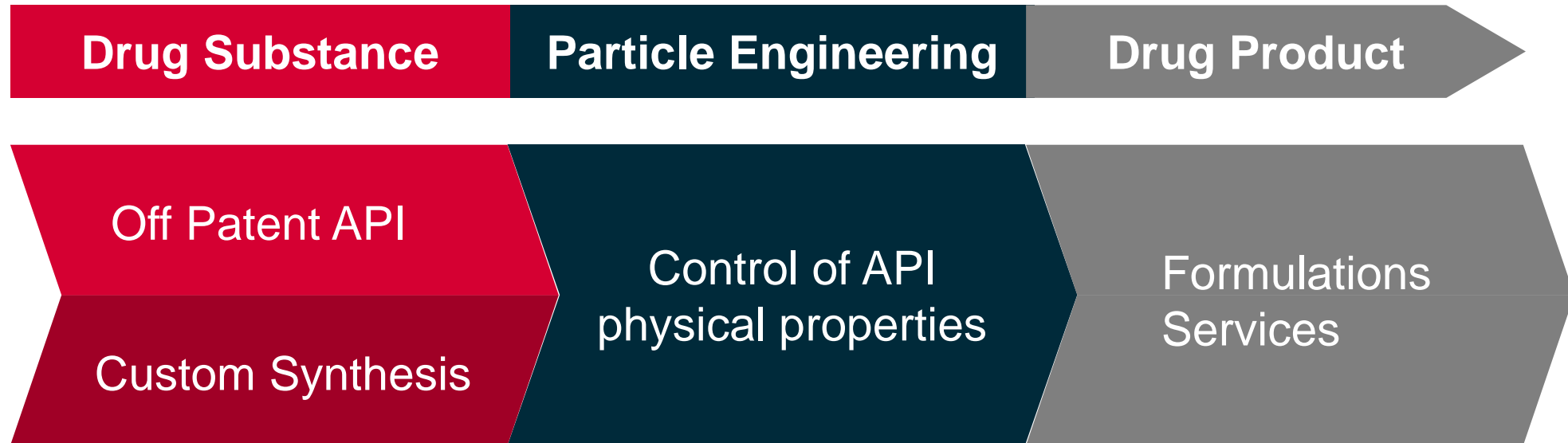
# Continuous Manufacturing - *continuous or batch?*

**Inês Salsinha**

14 October 2023



# Hovione offers Integrated Development and Manufacturing Capabilities as one of its key value propositions



**To passionately turn any challenge into a solution,  
by collaborating with our partners to develop great medicines.**

# Our Drug Product facility is located at Hovione Loures (Portugal) and back integrates to Drug Substance and Particle Engineering

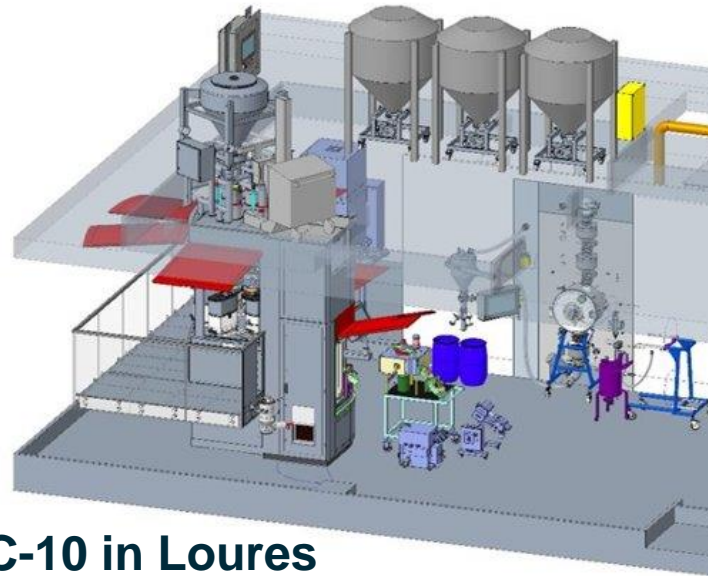




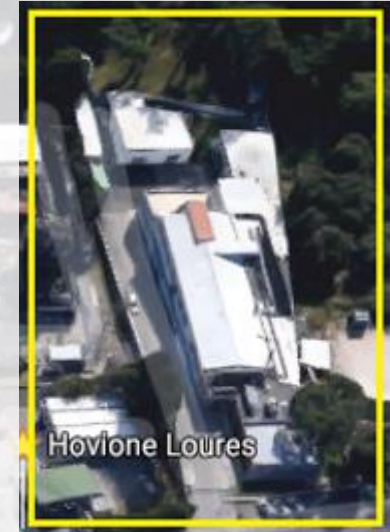
# Our Drug Product facility is located at Hovione Loures (Portugal) and back integrates to Drug Substance and Particle Engineering



- New batch and continuous manufacturing areas (expansion of Drug Product center)
- Batch tableting expansion – Launched in 2021
- Continuous tableting – Launch in 2023/2024
  - Direct compression
  - Twin-screw Wet granulation
- USA unit: FDA approval in 2022



**CDC-10 in Loures**



# What is Continuous Manufacturing?

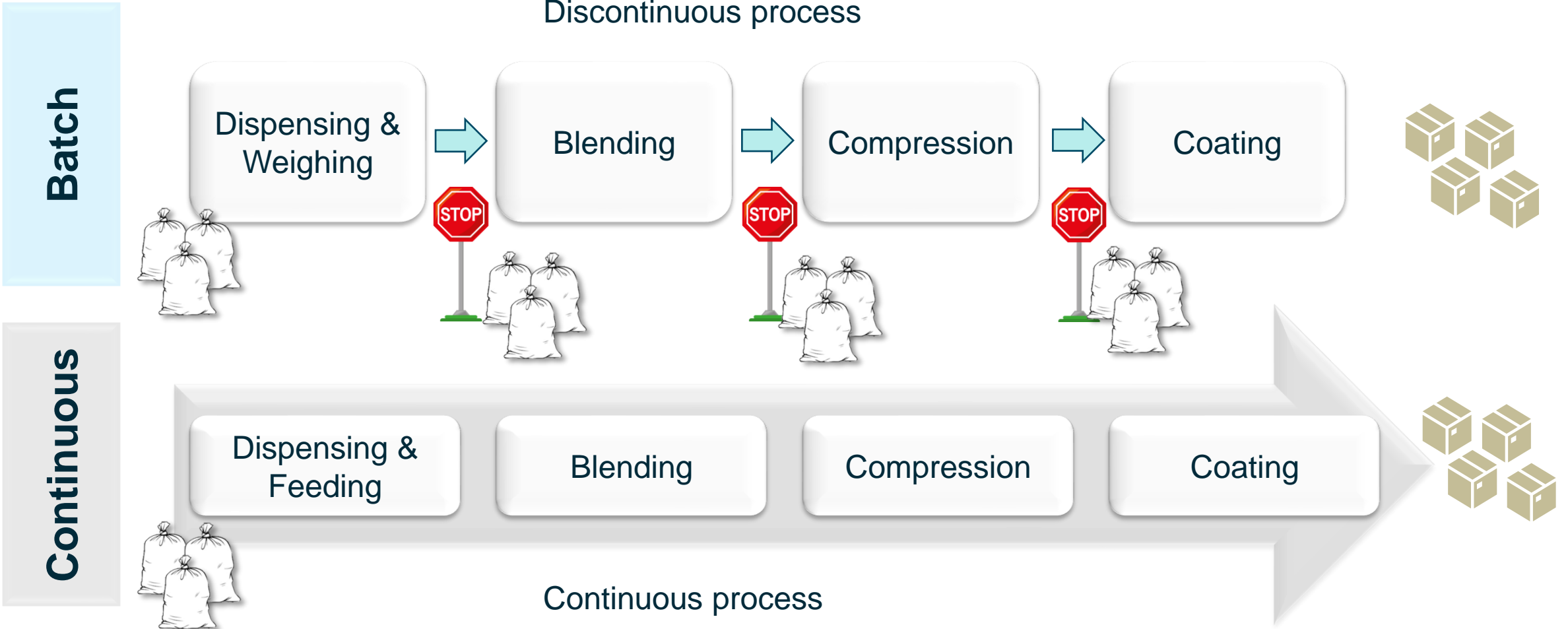
- CM vs Batch Mode
- Batch definition and Control Strategy
- What changes and what does not





# CM vs Batch Mode

## Definitions



# Batch definition

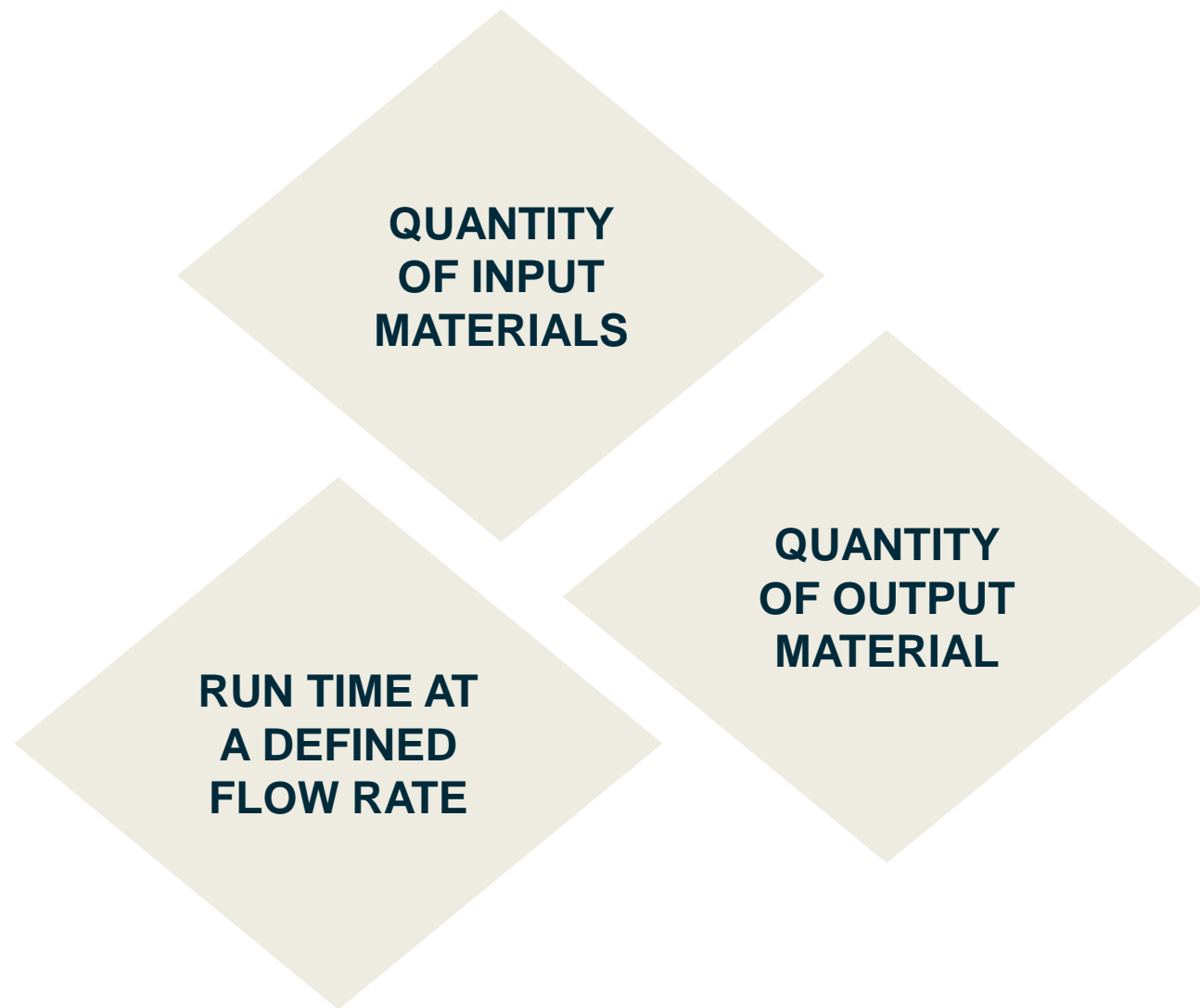


## Guideline Q13

ICH Consensus Guideline

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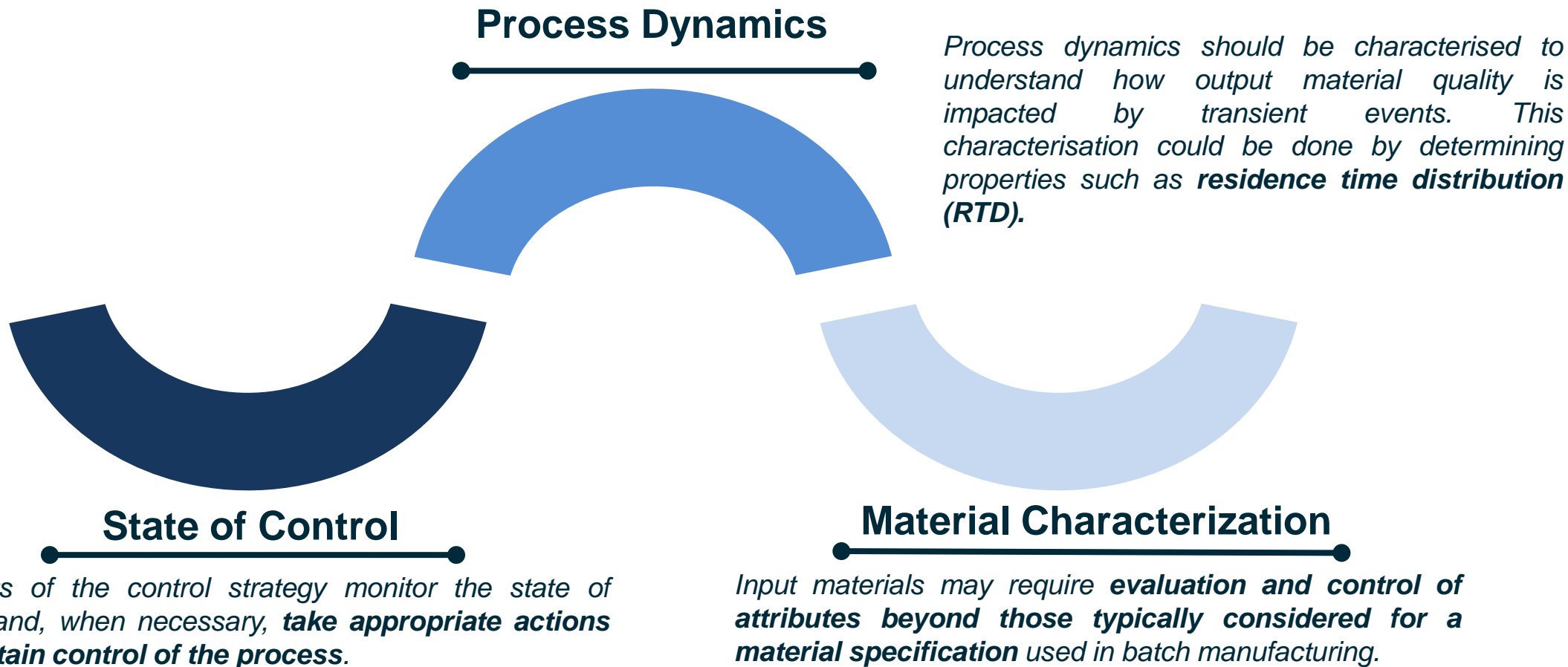
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CAN be defined as a range → Batch size always set prior starting manufacturing activities.

# Control Strategy

## Main aspects as per ICH Q13





# Control Strategy

## Main aspects as per ICH Q13

When developing a CM process and its control strategy, it is important to consider the **characteristics of the integrated systems in addition to the individual equipment** that can affect process performance.

### Process Monitoring and Control



### Equipment Design and System Integration

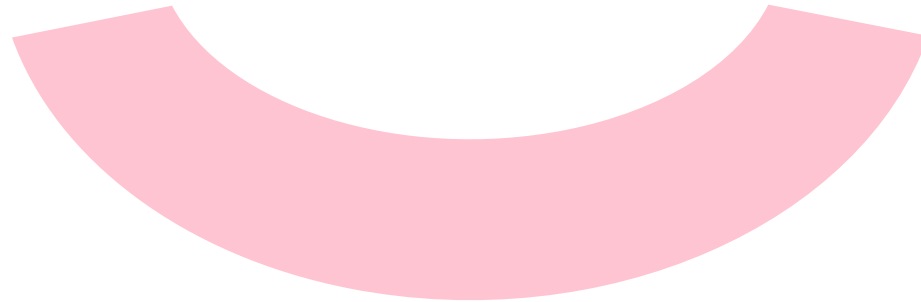
Process analytical technology (PAT) (ICH Q8) is well-suited for CM. (...) **The use of PAT enables disturbances to be detected in real time.** (...)

An **appropriate sampling strategy** is an important aspect of process monitoring and control. (...) assessment of quality of a batch when **real-time release testing (RTRT)** (...).

# Control Strategy

## Main aspects as per ICH Q13

*Understanding the RTD and process dynamics of individual unit operations and integrated systems over planned operating conditions **enables tracking of the distribution of materials over time**. This allows input materials to be traced throughout production.*



### Material Traceability and Diversion

### Process Models

*Process models can be used for **development** of a CM process or as part of a **control strategy** for commercial production, including the **diversion strategy**. Process models may also be used to **predict quality attributes in real time**, enabling timely process adjustments to maintain a state of control.*

# What **CHANGES** and what does not



**Higher focus  
on  
Raw Material  
properties**

(e.g.  
Flowability)



**Study of  
Process  
Dynamics**



**Traceability**

RMs in final  
product and  
Material  
segregation



**Data Size**

Handling,  
Analysis and  
Review



# What changes and what **DOES NOT**

- CM process are bound to the same requirements regarding **cGMP compliance** and the need to demonstrate capacity of reproducible commercial manufacture

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- **Control strategy** based on good process understanding, relating raw material properties and process parameters with CQAs

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- Controls in place for a CM process should be the result of performing structured **Risk Assessment** and defining risk control strategies – ICH Q9

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- **Specifications** are set based on toxicology and clinical data, and from Pharmacopeial standards, regardless of the process being continuous, batch, or with elements of both

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# Challenges and Benefits

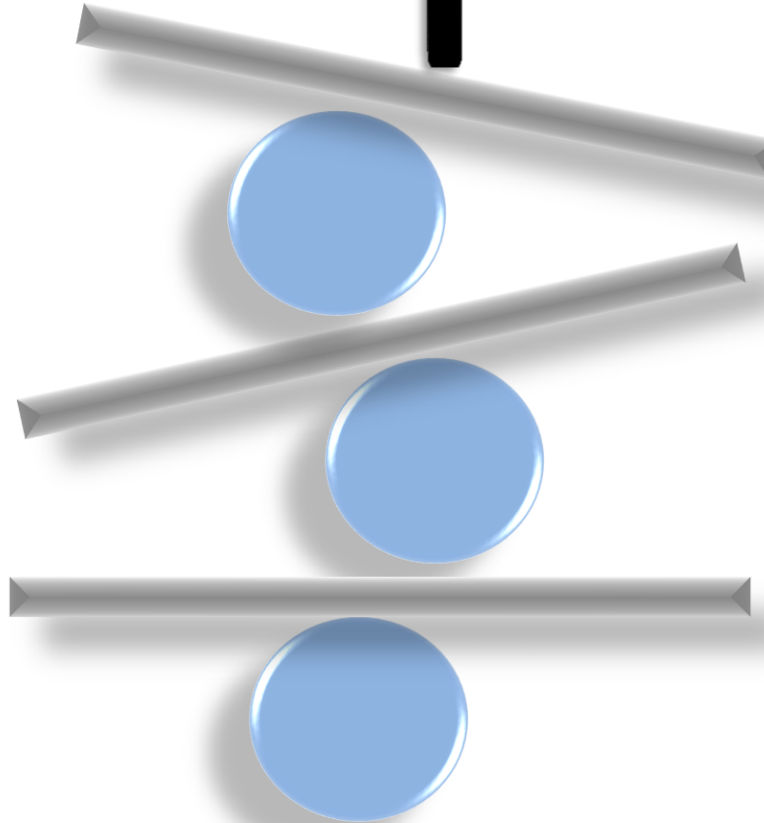
# Challenges of implementing CM

## Knowledge Management

- Dedicated multidisciplinary teams
- Involvement in forums, partnerships to leverage the knowledge
- Promote participation in training sessions

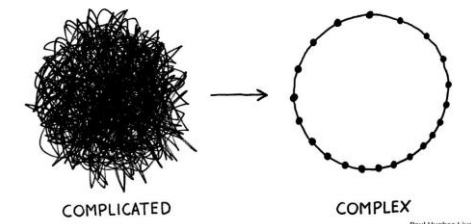
## Costs

- Capital investment to upgrade or purchase equipment
- Higher investment during initial implementation phase
- Significant cleaning and setup time during changeover



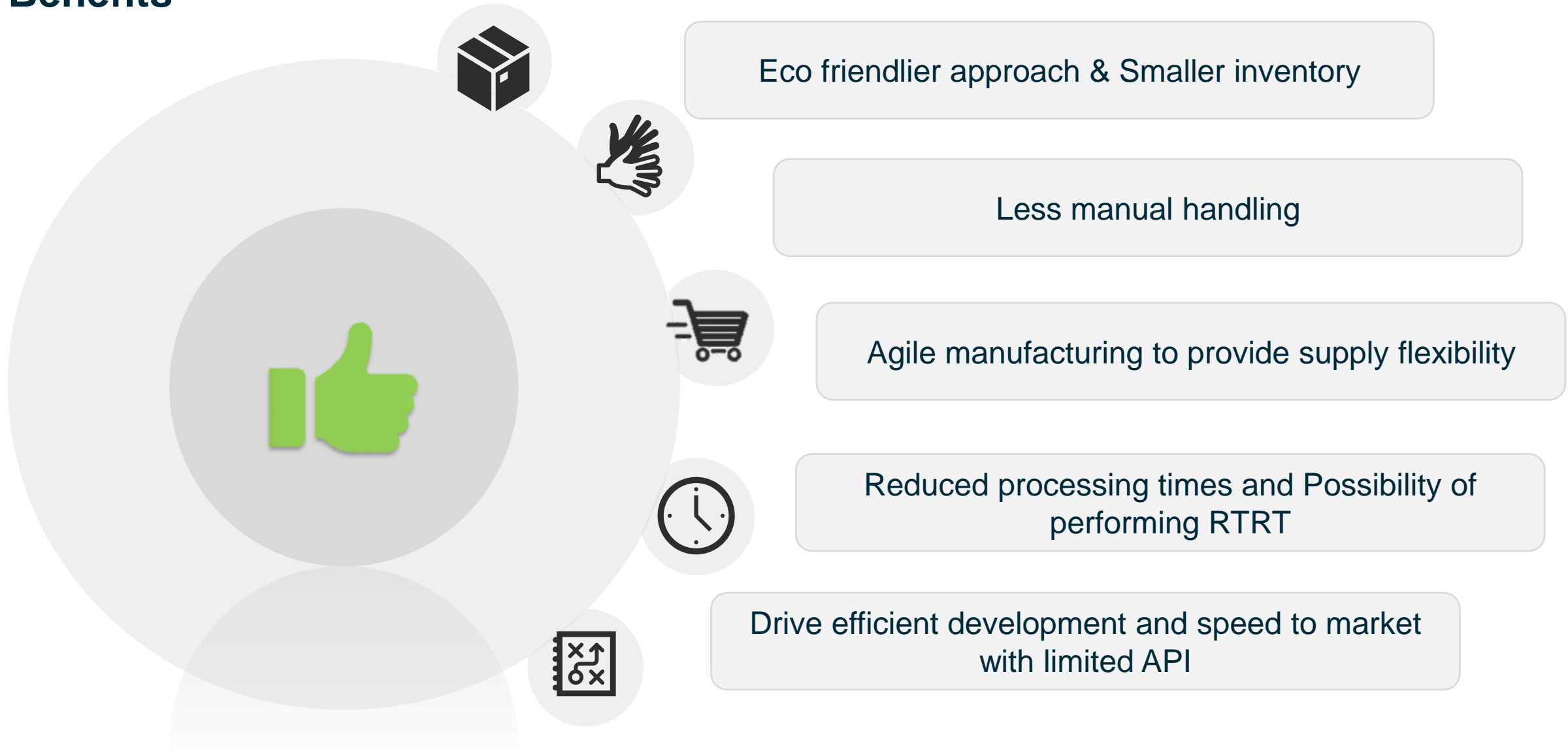
## Complexity and Standardization

- Suitable for different processes: Direct Compression, Dry Granulation, Wet Granulation – fully continuous or semi
- Lack of standard equipment design and software – multiple suppliers
- Several PAT tool
- Definition of Control Strategy







# Benefits



# Benefits throughout project lifecycle


## Development


 More efficient and with less API


 Reduced processing times

 Smaller Inventories

## Validation

 More efficient, same scale as development

 Flexibility to increase batch size → run longer

 Reduced processing times and RTRT as possibility

## Commercial



**More flexibility and robustness, with less costs**


# Regulatory Landscape

- FDA and EMA position
- ICH Guideline






# Regulatory Landscape




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



*This Guideline has been developed by the appropriate ICH Expert Working Group and has been subject to consultation by the regulatory parties, in accordance with the ICH Process. At Step 4 of the Process the final draft is recommended for adoption to the regulatory bodies of ICH regions*

Authorities are supporting and enabling the use of CM, as they acknowledge the potential benefits.

FDA developed a program (ETP) to help industry on advancing and implementing emerging technologies.

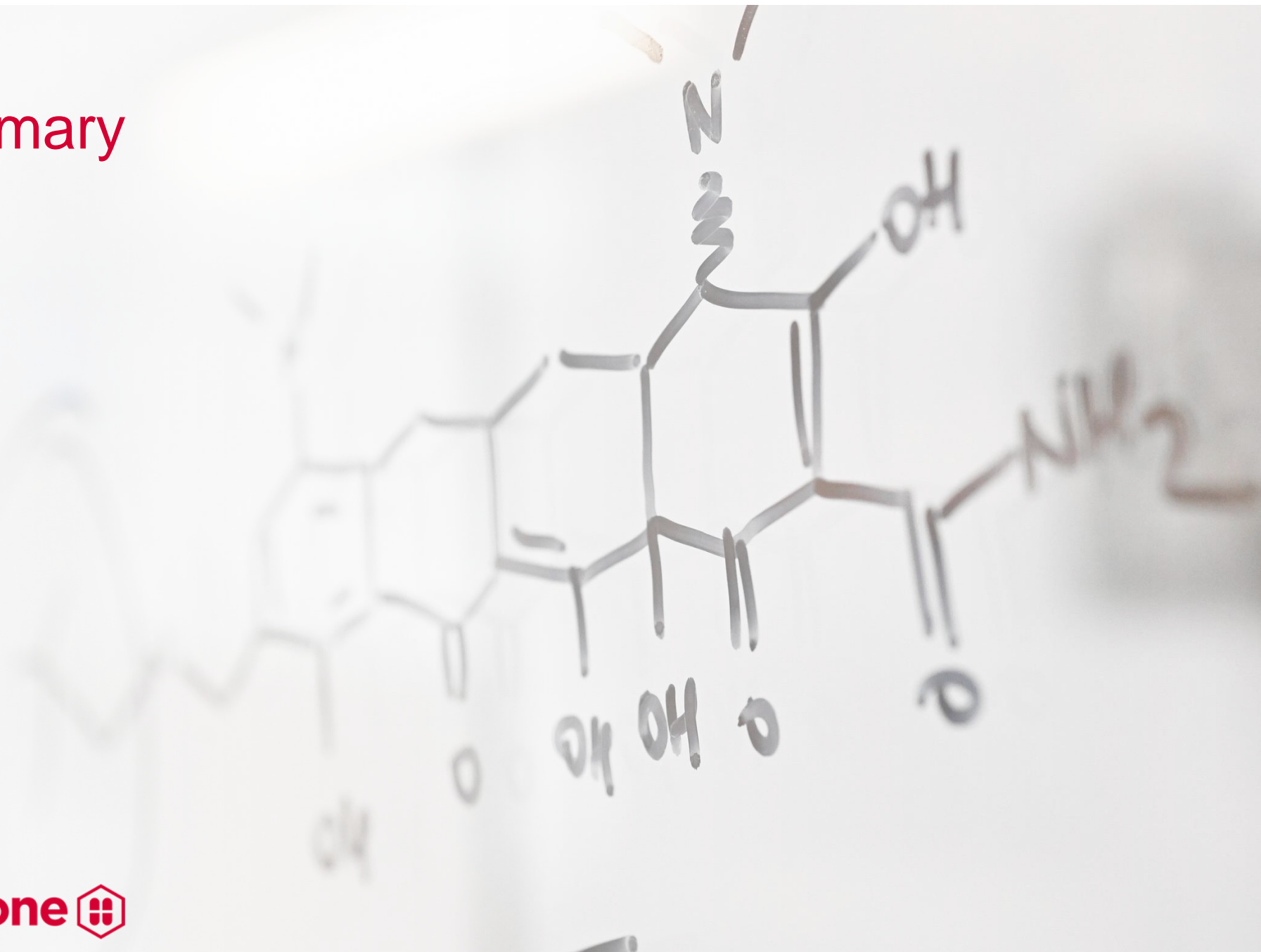
Both EMA and FDA have adopted the ICH Q13 Guideline

Use science- and risk-based approaches, recommending early and frequent discussions with FDA agency.

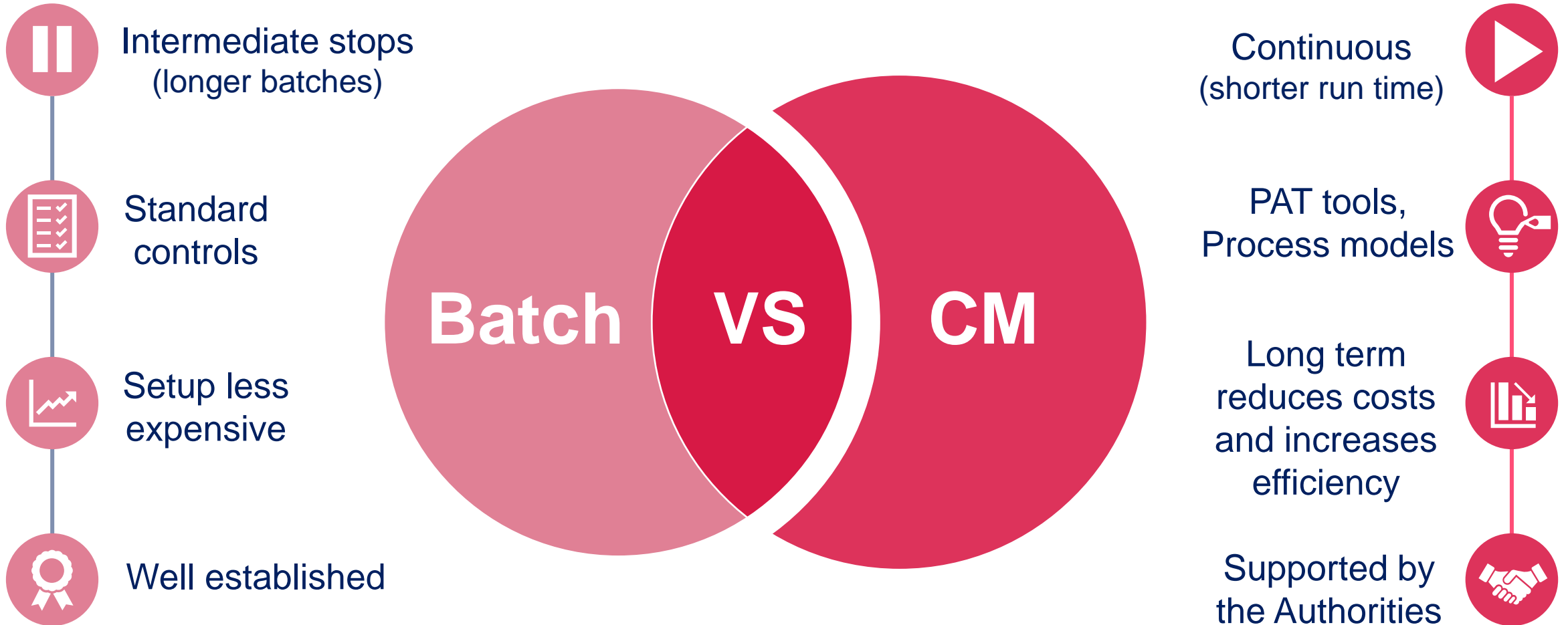
**Regulatory requirements in terms of the quality of the products remain the same as in batch manufacturing.**

Note: Over 10 products approved across the world;

# Summary



# Summary



# Any Questions?



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# Thank you for your attention

