



Introducing an  
Innovative, Advanced  
Aseptic Filling  
Technology to a New  
Manufacturing Facility

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**ANNUAL MEETING & EXPO**  
**18-21 SEPTEMBER 2016** ATLANTA, GA



# Agenda

- Introducing New Manufacturing Technologies – Perceived Barriers to Entry
- Current State of Advanced Aseptic Processing
- Our Business Case and Progress to Date

# Barriers to Innovation

“Large corporations welcome innovation and individualism in the same way the dinosaurs welcomed large meteors.”

Scott Adams - Dilbert

## Current State?

‘Despite increasing recalls, contamination events, and shortages, drug companies continue to rely on outdated manufacturing plants and processes’

W. Nicholson Price II, Making Do in Making Drugs: Innovation Policy and Pharmaceutical Manufacturing 55 B.C.L. Rev. 491 (2014), <http://lawdigitalcommons.bc.edu/bclr/vol55/iss2/5>

# Desired State

‘Desired State: A maximally  
efficient, agile, flexible  
pharmaceutical sector that reliably  
produces drug products without  
extensive regulatory oversight’

Ashley Boam, FDA Acting Director Office of Policy for Pharmaceutical  
Quality – FDA/PDA Joint Regulatory Conference, Sept 2015.

# Barriers to Innovation

Reluctant  
or  
Frustrated  
Innovators?

Innate Conservatism

Lack of Process Understanding

If it's not broken....no issues from last audit

Perceived Regulatory Hurdles

# Regulatory Support

FDA Draft  
Guidance  
for Industry

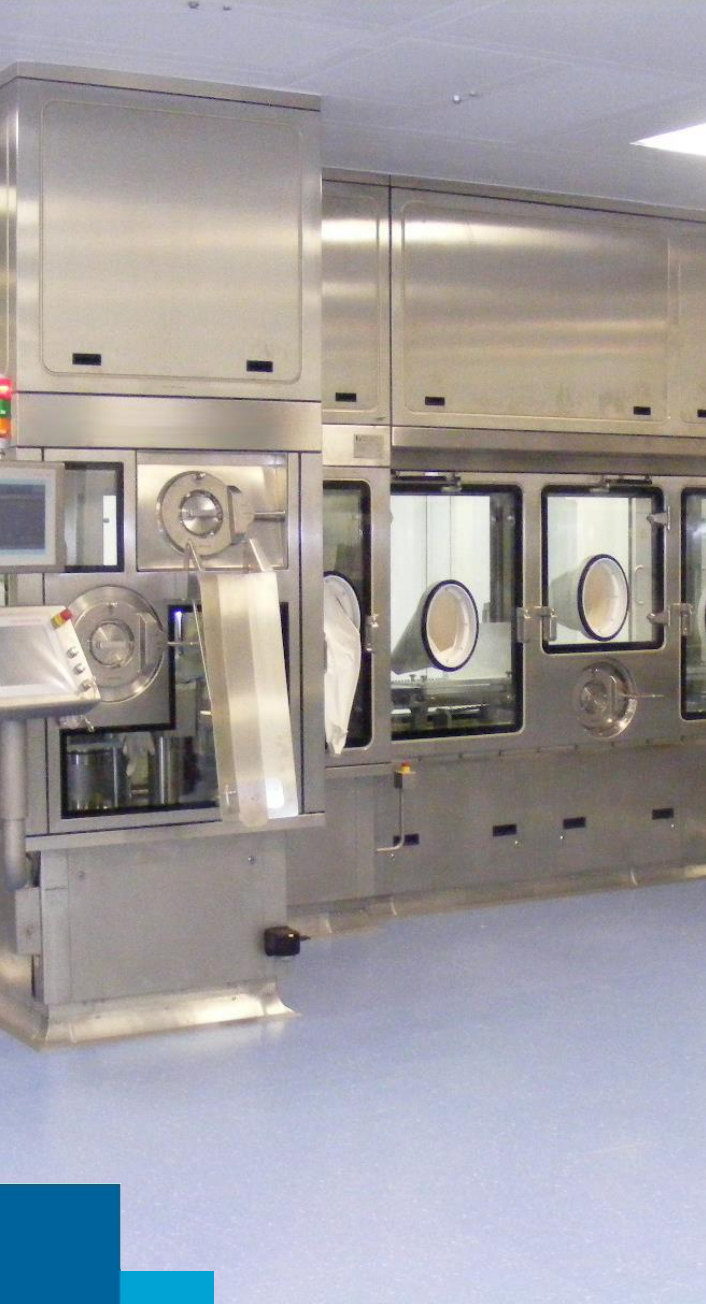
Advancement of Emerging Technology Applications to  
Modernize the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Base, Dec.  
2015

# Advanced Aseptic Processing

‘An Advanced Aseptic Process is one in which direct intervention with open product containers or exposed product contact surfaces by operators wearing conventional cleanroom garments is not required and never permitted’

Akers, J, Agalloco, J, Madsen, R. What is Advanced Aseptic Processing? Pharm. Manuf. 2006: 4(2) 25 – 27.





# What are we seeing?

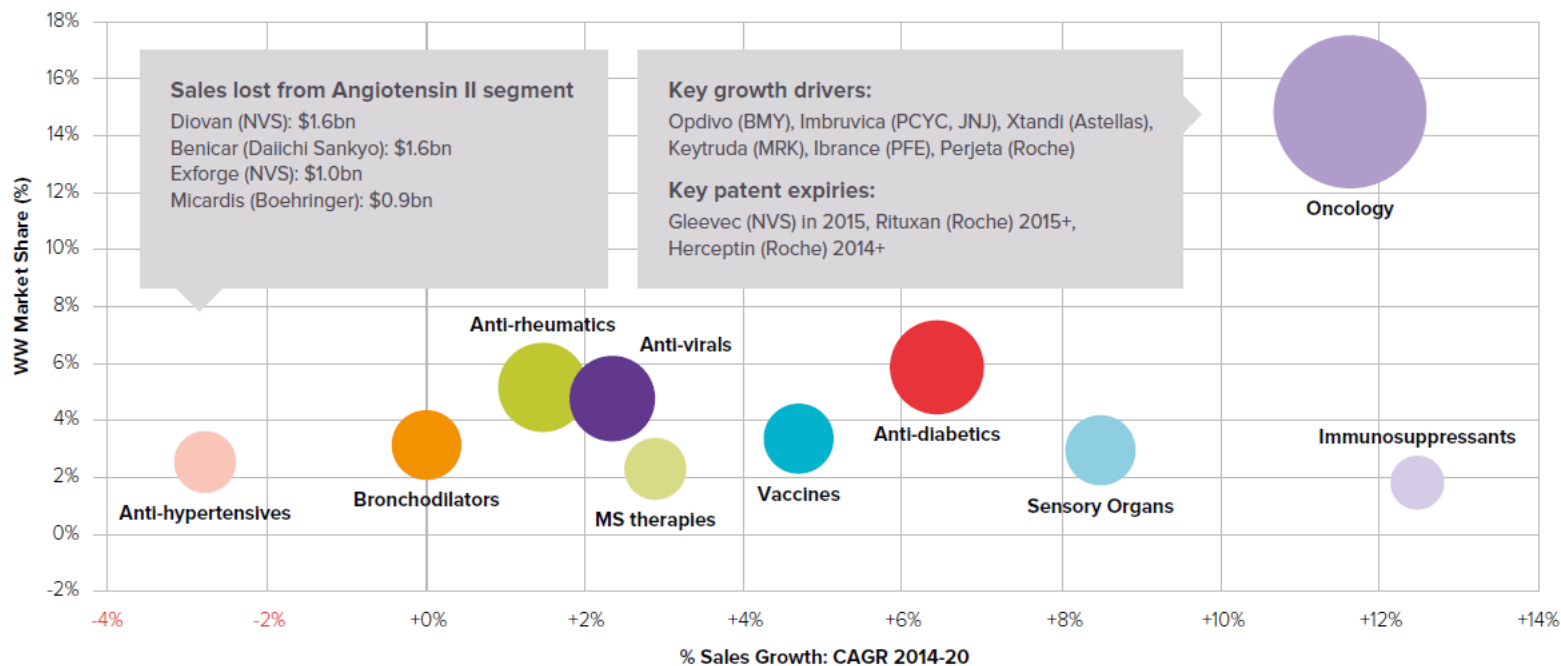
Isolators.... Isolators.... Isolators

- Isolator technology is almost exclusively the pathway
- RABS becoming limited to debuggging and capping operations
- Enhanced sterility assurance thanks to aseptic transfer systems and use of single-use technologies

# Market Projections

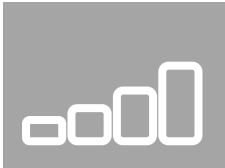
## Top 10 Therapy Areas in 2020, Market Share & Sales Growth

Source: EvaluatePharma® 22 May 2015



# What we are seeing?

## Micro Lot Sizes



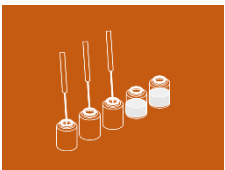
**Growth in personalized medicines**



**Lot sizes range from 50 – 500 vials**

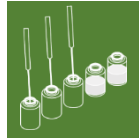


**Need for very rapid turnaround**



**Actual filling can go slower to go faster**

Where  
do we  
need to  
go?



Reliable Robotics



Minimal Handling, Minimal Damage



Simple to use Components



Gloveless



Flexible



Minimal Environmental Monitoring



Fast Turnaround – high OEE



Supplier CQV that works for all

# Business Case/Drivers for New AP Facility



De-Risk the Supply Chain



Low Volume, High Value Products



Flexible, Agile, Reduced Cycle Times – Vials / Cartridges / Syringes



Advanced Aseptic Technology



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# Technical Due Diligence



Specific  
Closure  
Requirements  
– Availability



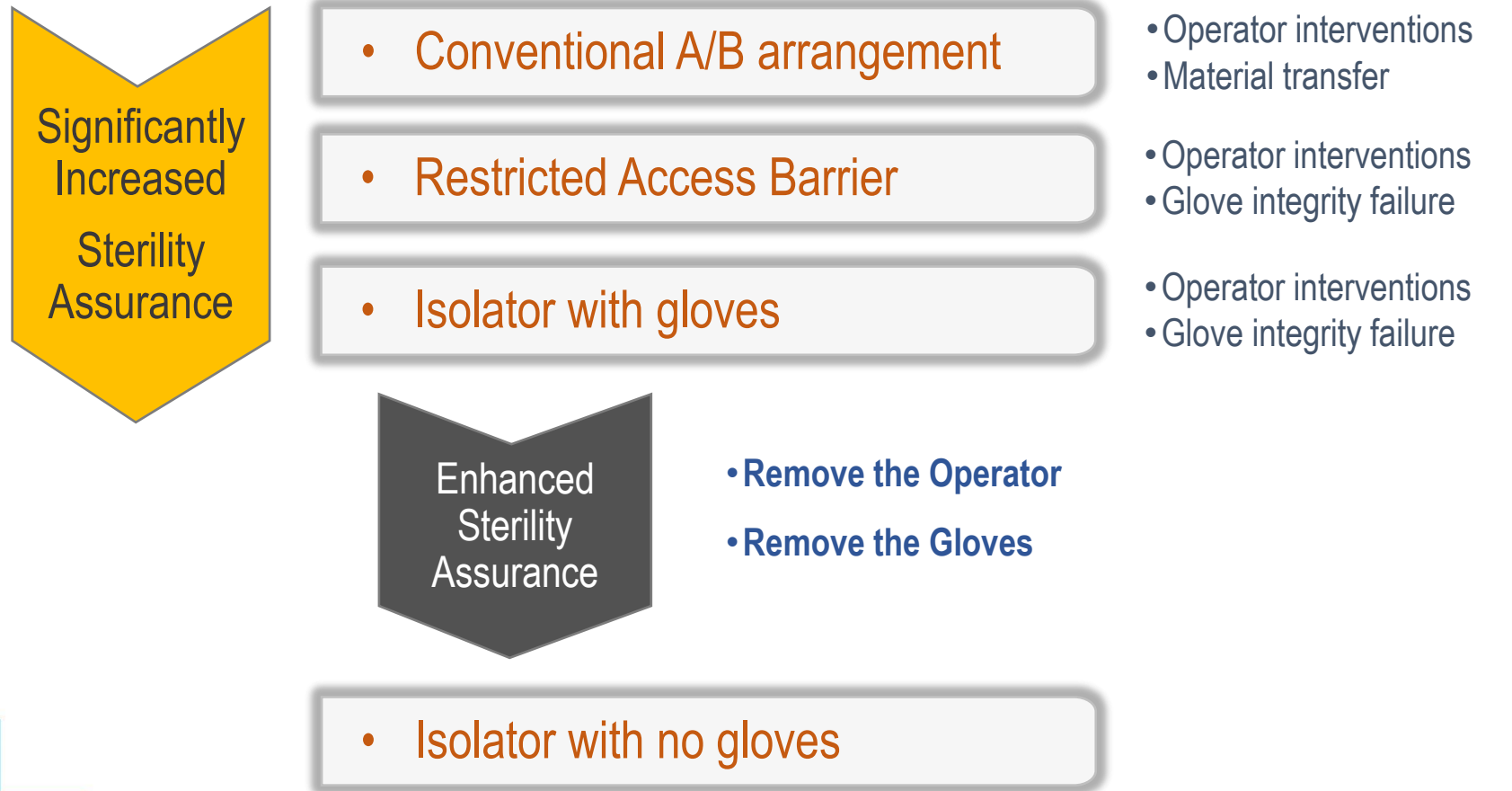
VHP  
Technology &  
Robustness



Viable and Non  
– Viable EM  
Media Fill Data



# Sterility Assurance with Advancing Technologies



# Gloves and Regulations



The transfer of materials into and out of the unit is one of the greatest potential sources of contamination  
– Annex 1



A program to minimize the risk of loss of integrity of gloves, sleeves and suits should be present –  
PICS



A faulty glove or sleeve assembly represents a route of contamination and a critical breach of isolator integrity  
- FDA

# Gloves

How Risky are Pinholes in  
Gloves?

A Rational Appeal for the  
Integrity of Gloves for  
Isolators



Gessler, A. ; Stark, A.; Sigwarth, S. & Moirandt, C. PDA  
J. Pharm Sci and Tech 2011 65: 227-241

# EM Proposal

By removing operator interventions and removing gloves, *the biggest risk to sterility failure is removed.*

By removing operator interventions and removing gloves, *conventional environmental monitoring is not possible.*

## Options:

Re-engineer the system to allow environmental monitoring. However, this then invalidates the concept of removing interventions and gloves

Provide an alternative to conventional environmental monitoring which is at least equivalent to the convention

Regulatory  
Feedback

While acknowledging the step change  
in Aseptic Control, a form of EM is  
warranted during the  
Critical operation

EM – New Technologies

# Regulatory Expectation

Article 23  
of Directive  
2001/83/EC

‘...the authorization holder must, in respect of the methods of manufacturing and control...take account of scientific and technical progress’

Regulatory  
Feedback

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in Aseptic Control, a form of EM is  
warranted during the  
Critical operation

EM – New Technologies

# Conclusion



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Successful collaboration between  
vendor / user / regulatory  
authorities

This (Advanced)<sup>2</sup> Aseptic Processing  
platform has the potential to deliver  
to the lean, flexible and agile desired  
state

Open your mind

We're almost there !