



# THE FUTURE OF THE CHEMISTRY: CONTINUOUS FLOW REACTIONS

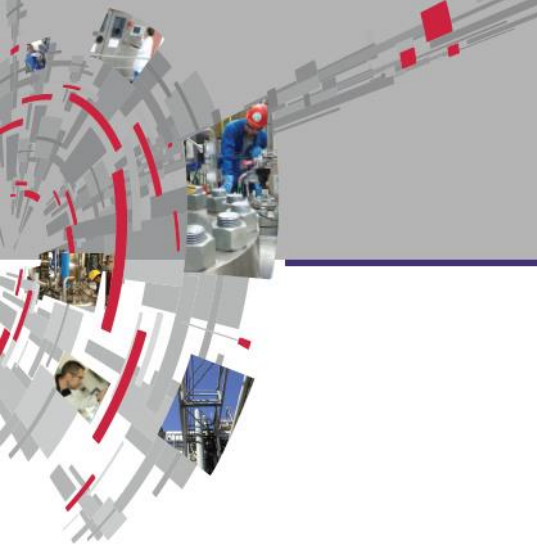
BASEL 2016

**La mesta**

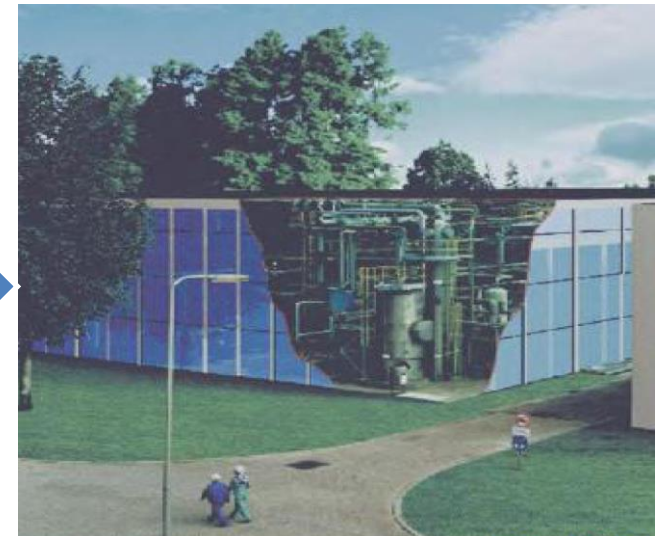
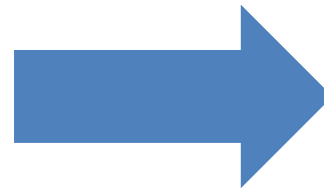
CHIMIE FINE

CONTINUOUS INNOVATION FOR FINE CHEMICALS

# CHEMICAL PLANT



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# CONTINUOUS FLOW REACTOR


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*The continuous flow reactor is a safe system, running chemical reactions in reduced volume with an efficient heat and mass transfer*

## PROCESS INTENSIFICATION:

*Temperature, Pressure, Molar Concentration*

## Micro and Mini Reactors

*Laboratory*  *Industrial*



# CONTINUOUS FLOW REACTION

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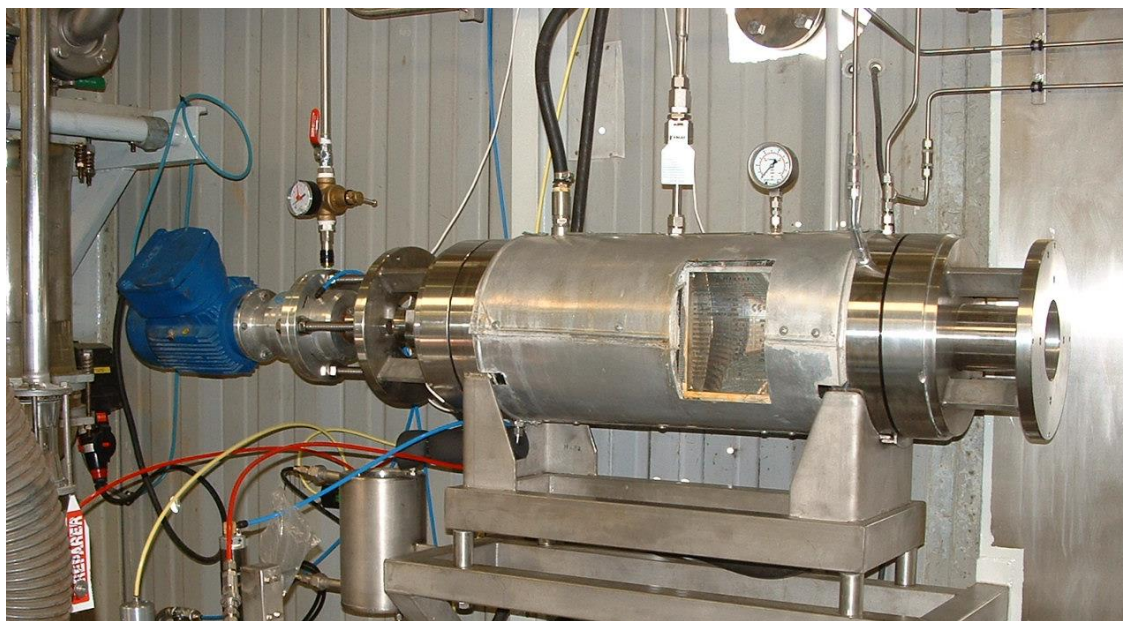
## COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES vs BATCH

- ***Faster reactions: reduce reaction times down to 1 min***
- ***Safer reactions***
- ***Less energy, solvent and reagents consumption***
- ***Lower waste management***
- ***Better control of highly exothermic reactions***
- ***Ability to manage very high pressure and temperature reactions***
- ***Ability to manage highly toxic and corrosive reagents***
- ***Rapid reaction optimization: easy scale-up***
- ***Low capital investment***
- ***Miniaturization***

# INNOVATION

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*La Mesta has developed a proprietary Plug Flow Reactor called*  
**RAPTOR**

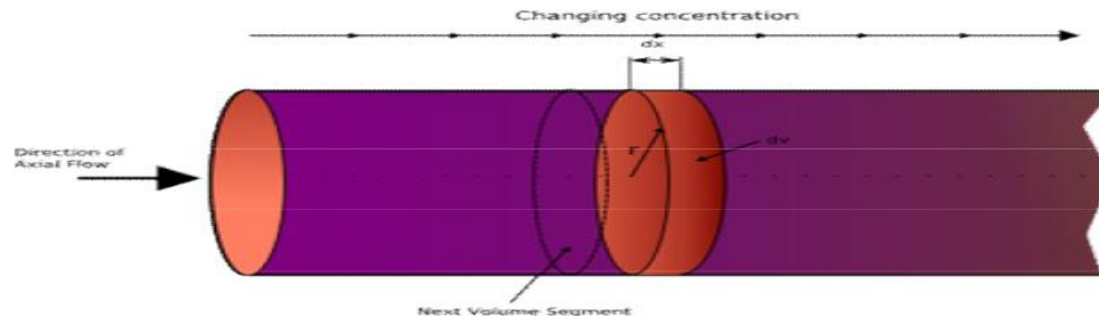


*RAPTOR is a tubular continuous agitated reactor, equipped with heating/cooling jacket and a longitudinal shaft having impellers.*

# RAPTOR TECHNOLOGY

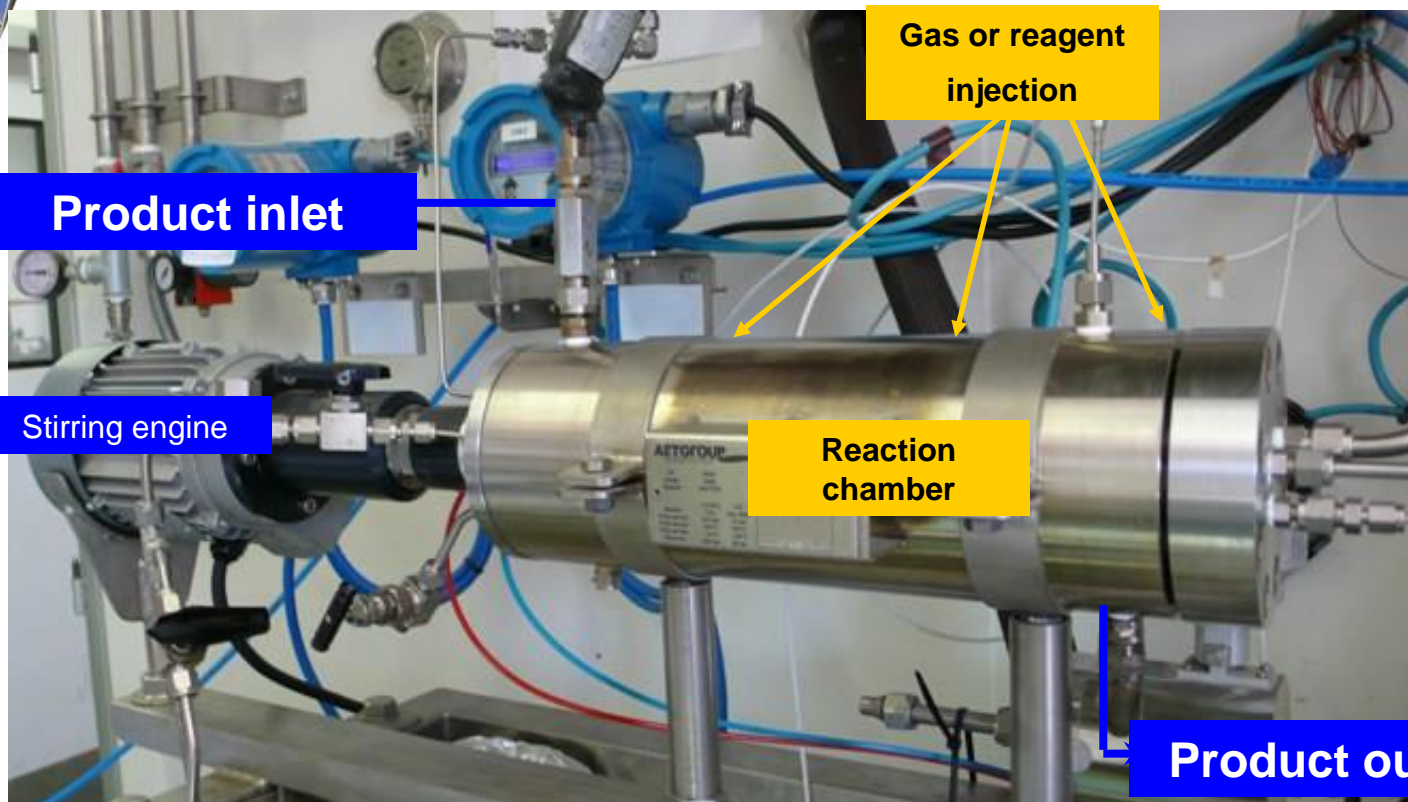
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*Plug Flow Reactor has a series of thin coherent "plugs", each with an uniform composition, travelling in the axial direction, perfectly mixed in the radial direction but not in the axial direction. Each plug is considered as a separate entity, without a forward or a back mixing.*



# RAPTOR TECHNOLOGY

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# RAPTOR TECHNOLOGY

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<b>Temperature</b>	<b>-100°C +300°C</b>
<b>Pressure</b>	<b>300 bar</b>
<b>Heat exchange (area/vol.)</b>	<b>150 m<sup>2</sup>/ m<sup>3</sup></b>
<b>Residence Time</b>	<b>10 sec to few min</b>
<b>Flow rate</b>	<b>5 to 400 liters / h</b>
<b>Stirring</b>	<b>1500 rpm</b>

- **Gas / Liquide / Solid phase reactions**
- **Handling of toxic or highly corrosive reagents (Triflic acid, CO, Phosgene)**
- **Highly exothermic, high temperature or cryogenic processes**
- **Viscous reactions**
- **Solid suspension up to 30% (as starting materials or during reaction)**

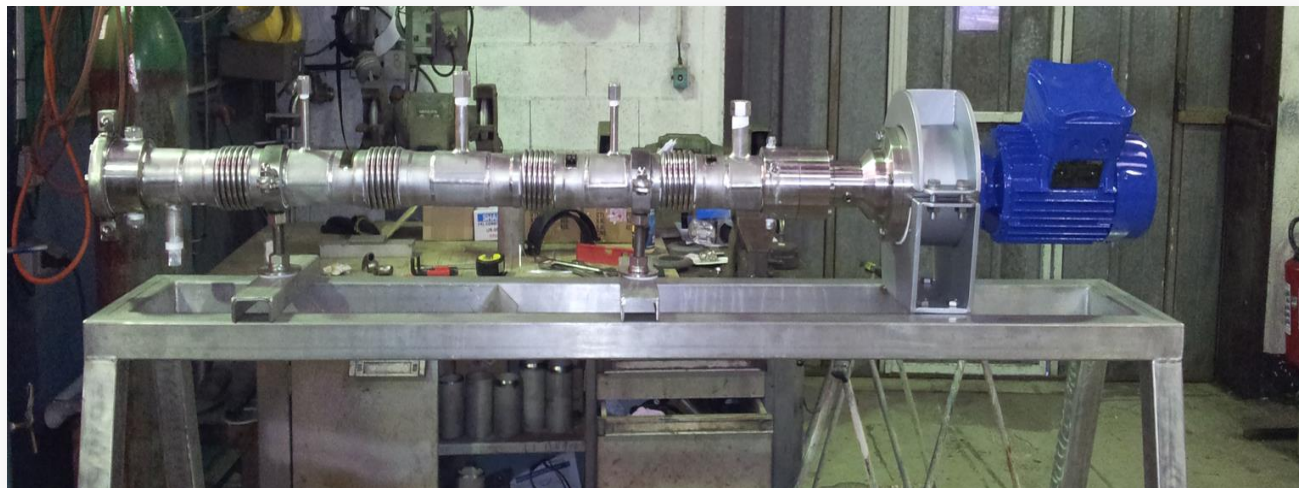


# RAPTOR TECHNOLOGY

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## 5 Raptors are in place:

- ❑ #1 (hastelloy) : flow rate 150 liters/h
- ❑ #2 (ss) : flow rate 40 liters/h
- ❑ #3 (hastelloy) : flow rate 60 liters/h
- ❑ #4 (hastelloy) phosgene chemistry: flow rate 60liters/h
- ❑ **#5 (hastelloy) : flow rate 400liters/h**



# RAPTOR CHEMISTRY

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## MULTIPURPOSE EQUIPMENT

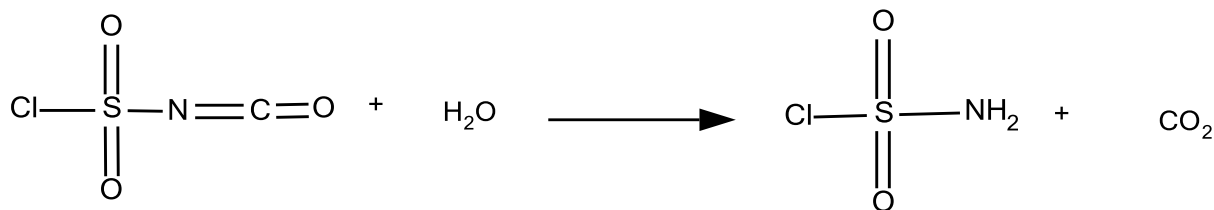


- ✓ *Ammonolysis*
- ✓ *Carbonylation*
- ✓ *Condensation*
- ✓ *Decarboxylation*
- ✓ *Grignard Chemistry*
- ✓ *Hydrogenation*
- ✓ *Isomerization*
- ✓ *Oxidation*
- ✓ *Phosgene Chemistry*
- ✓ *Reductive amination*

# HAZARDOUS REACTIONS

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## DECARBOXYLATION



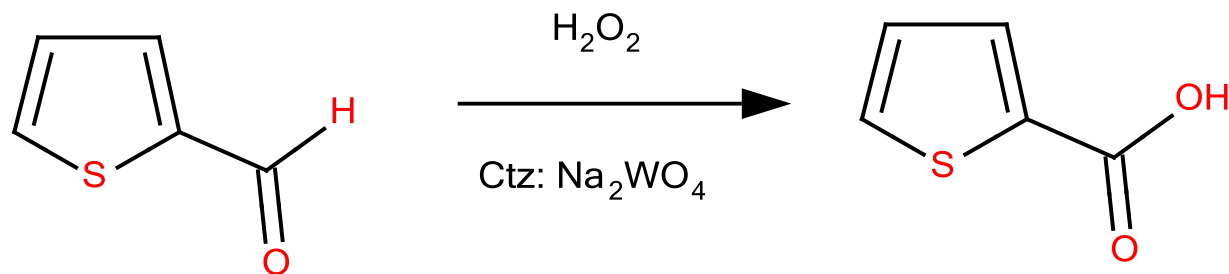
***Hazardous Reaction:  
Uncontrolled CO<sub>2</sub> gas evolution***

***Raptor is safe:  
small reaction volume and up to 300 bar***

# HAZARDOUS REACTIONS

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## OXIDATION with $H_2O_2$

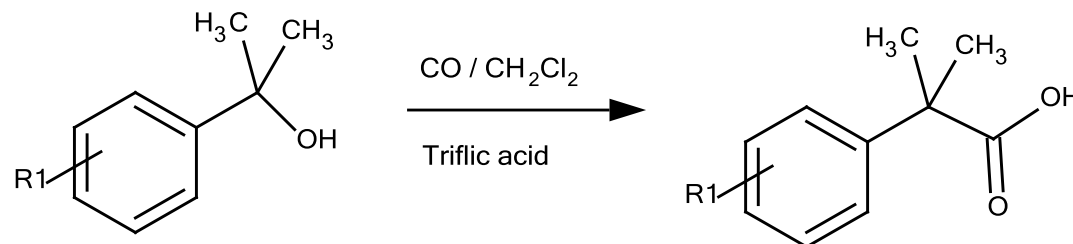


<i>Temperature</i>	70°C
<i>Pressure</i>	10bar
<i>Reaction Time</i>	1 min
<i>Residual <math>H_2O_2</math></i>	0% w/w

# CARBONYLATION

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## Starting Material for API in cGMP

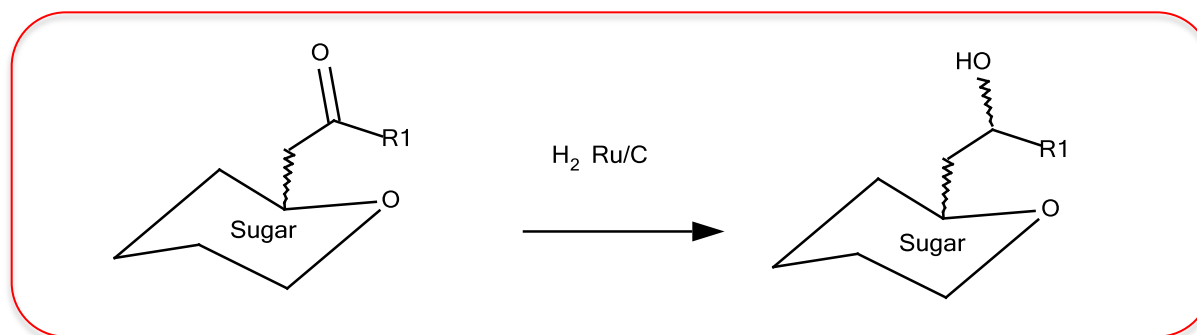


<i>Temperature</i>	45°C
<i>Pressure CO</i>	45 bar
<i>Alcohol in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub></i>	40% w/w
<i>Residence Time</i>	30 sec
<i>Triflic acid</i>	50% w/w
<i>Yield</i>	84%

# CARBONYL REDUCTION

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## ALCOHOL

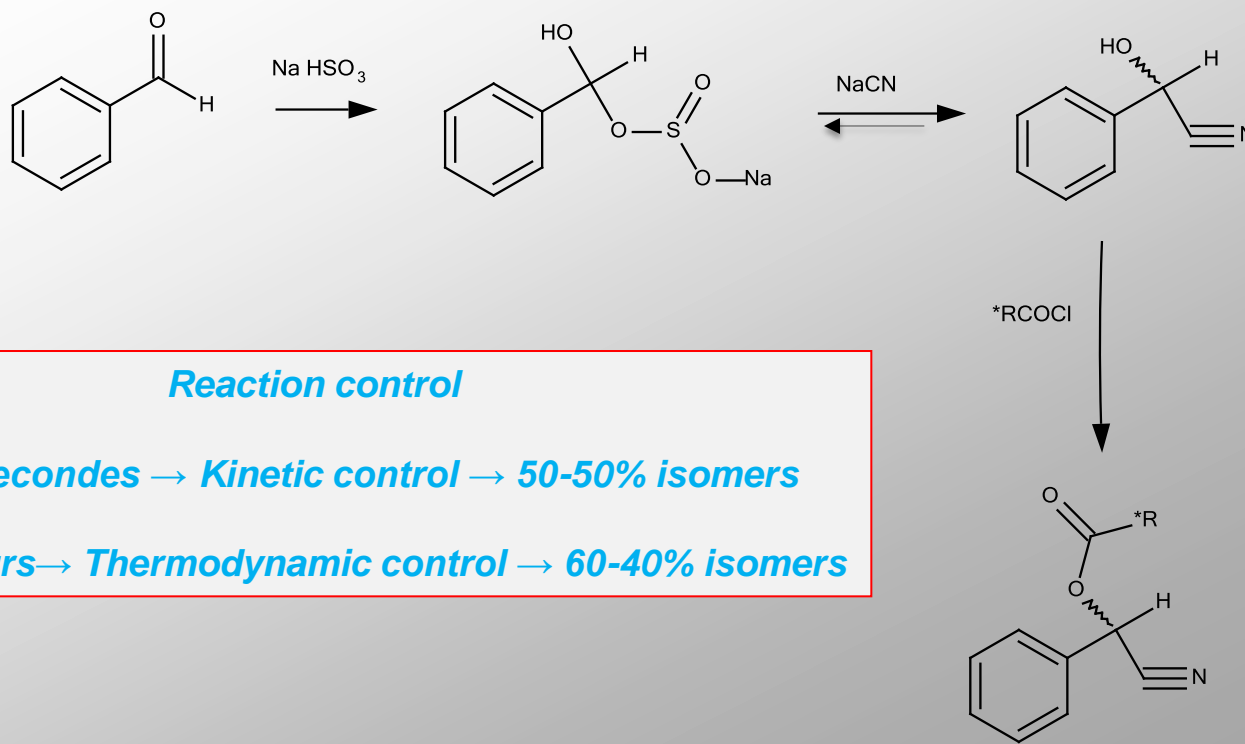


	<b>Batch</b>	<b>Raptor</b>
<i>Pressure <math>H_2</math></i>	10 bar	70 bar
<i>Temperature</i>	90°C	170°C
<i>Reaction Time</i>	12h	1min
<i>Quality (Color)</i>	Not OK (add. step)	OK

# MULTI STEPS SYNTHESIS

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## Cyanohydrin in RAPTOR



### Reaction control

*Raptor: 15 secondes  $\rightarrow$  Kinetic control  $\rightarrow$  50-50% isomers*

*Batch: 6 hours  $\rightarrow$  Thermodynamic control  $\rightarrow$  60-40% isomers*

# CRYOGENIC IN CONTINUOUS

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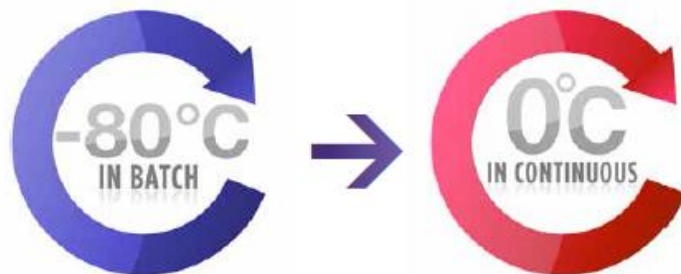
## ***Continuous flow reactor RAPTOR for cryogenic reactions:***

- *Easy to cool down to  $-90^{\circ}\text{C}$  but most of the time not needed;*
- *Short reaction time: reaction selectivity and quality improvement;*
- *Use of highly reactive compounds;*
- *Two raptors in line for consecutive reactions (cryogenic + quenching);*

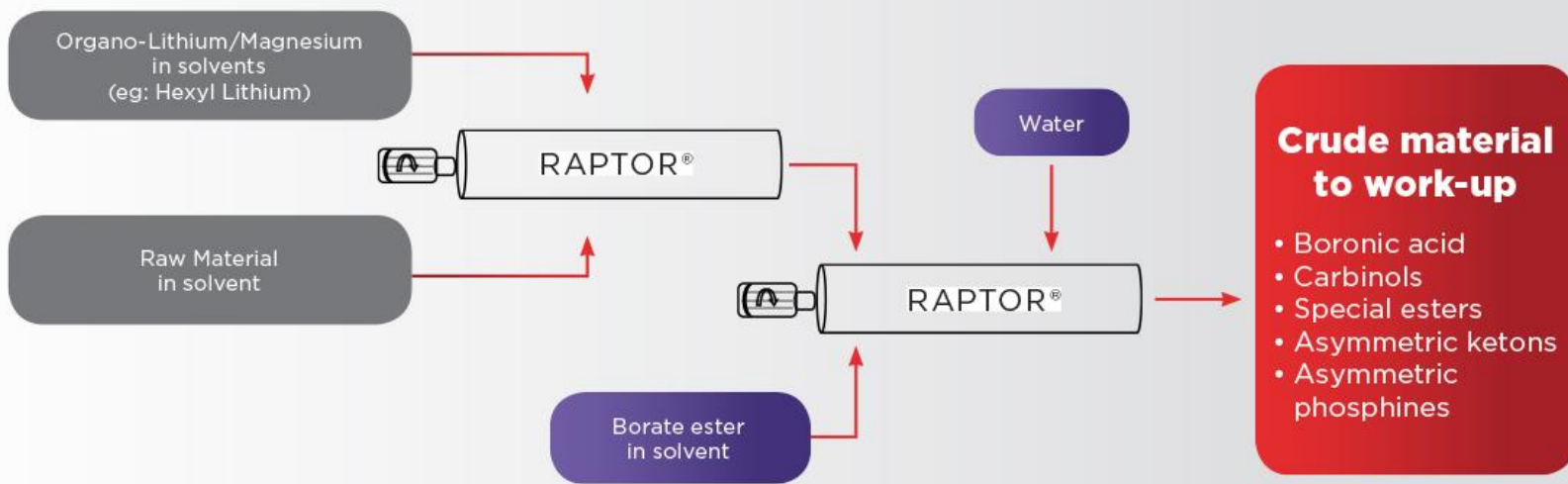


# CRYOGENIC IN CONTINUOUS

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**Very low temperature  
is not necessary  
in continuous !**



# PHOSGENE REACTIONS

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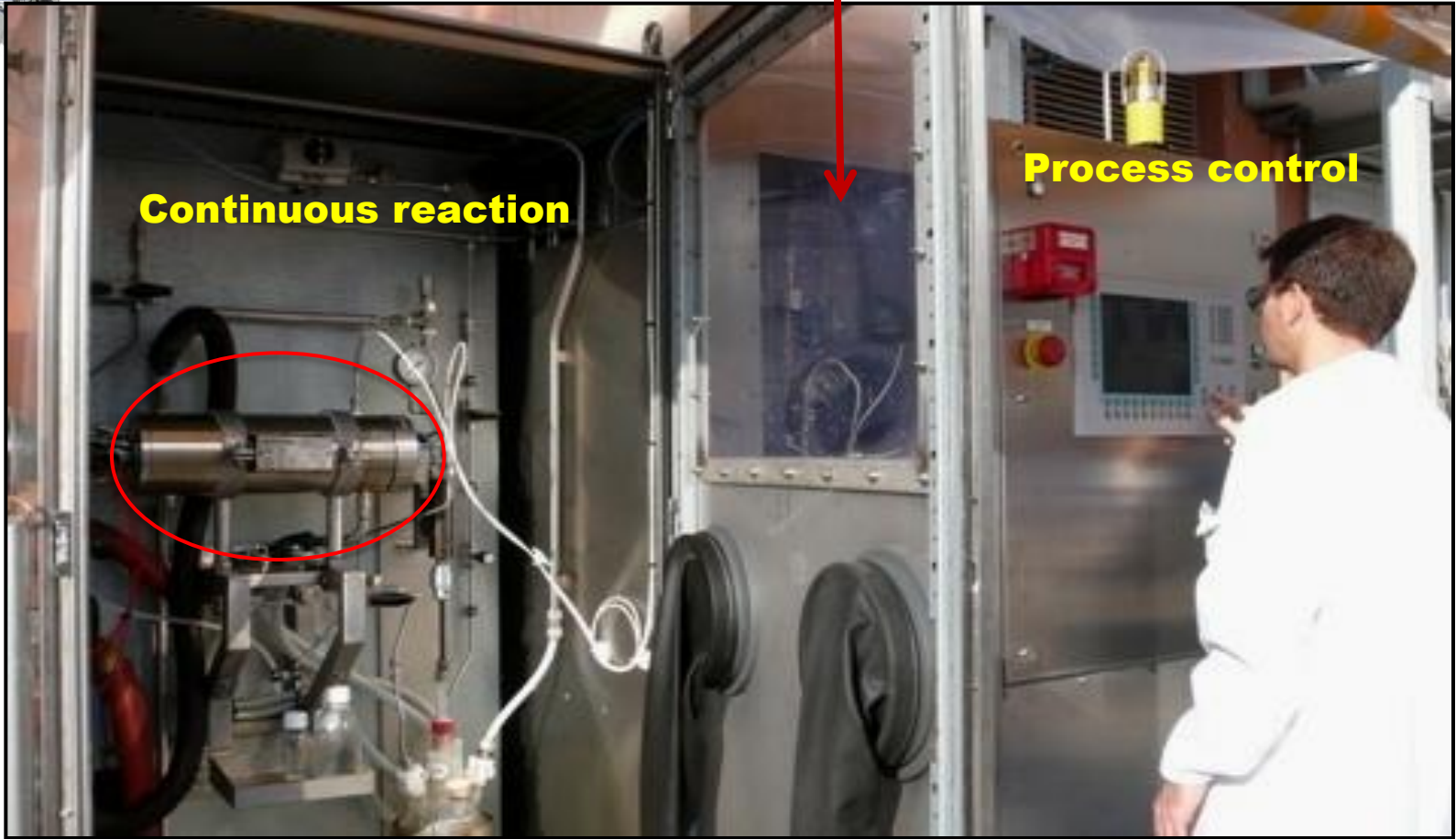
**Phosgene generation**



**Continuous reaction**



**Process control**



# PHOSGENE GENERATOR

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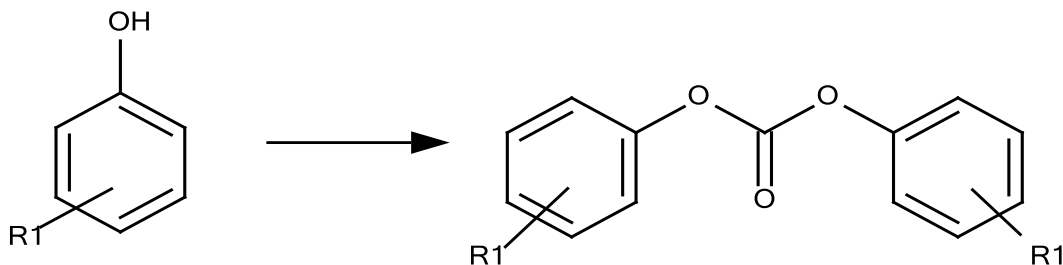
- **Process:**  $\text{CO} + \text{Cl}_2 + \text{Active Carbon at } 150^\circ \text{C}$
- **Production:** *up to 12kg / hour*  
*up to 40kg / hour*
- **Quality:**  $\text{CCl}_4$  max 49-56ppm

***No Phosgene on stock***

*On demand generation and continuous consumption*

# PHOSGENATION

***Last step of an API synthesis performed under cGMP***



<i>Temperature</i>	<i>35-45°C</i>
<i>Pressure COCl<sub>2</sub></i>	<i>0 bar</i>
<i>Phosgene Excess</i>	<i>5% mole</i>
<i>Residence Time</i>	<i>0.2min</i>
<i>Productivity</i>	<i>16 kg/h</i>
<i>Conversion</i>	<i>complete</i>



# DOWNSTREAM IN CONTINUOUS

- ❑ ***PROVED the EFFICIENCY of the RAPTOR***
- ❑ ***NEXT STEP: DOWSTREAM in CONTINUOUS***

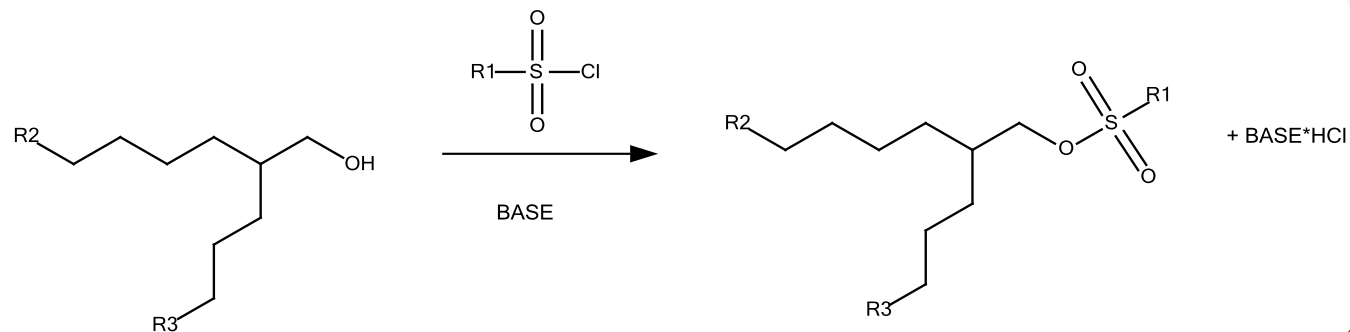
- ❑ ***Washing – Separation in Continuous***
- ❑ ***Distillation in continuous (THIN FILM EVAPORATOR)***
- ❑ ***Crystallization and filtration in batch***

- ❑ ***DEDICATED AREA TO THE CONTINUOUS PROCESS***
- ❑ ***WORKSHOP is in PROGRESS (SEPT. 2016)***

# EXOTHERMIC REACTIONS

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## SULFONIC ESTERS



Annual production 60 MT / year

**New continuous workshop in 2016**

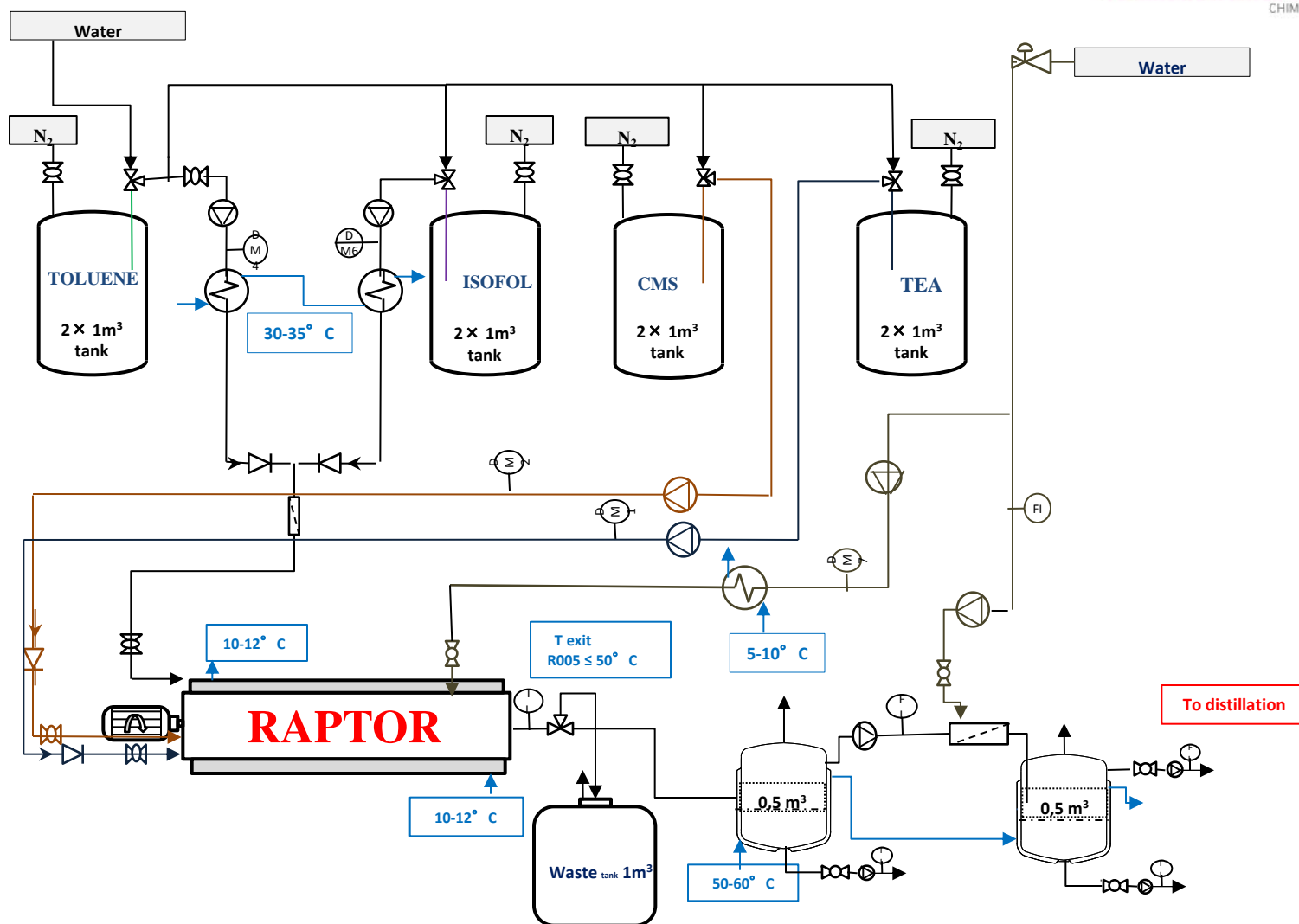
# DOWNSTREAM IN CONTINUOUS

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# CONTINUOUS LAYOUT

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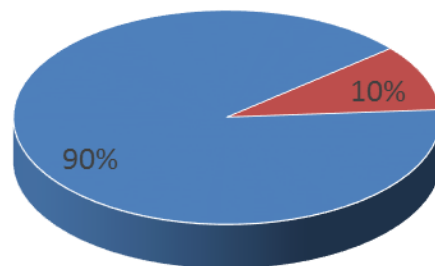


# CONTINUOUS VS BATCH

	BATCH	CONTINUOUS
Annual production	<b>60 MT</b>	
Equipment used	Vessel (6 m <sup>3</sup> ) + tanks	Raptor (0,001m <sup>3</sup> ) + tanks
Duration of Production	25 weeks	6 weeks
Productivity	42 kg/h	100 kg/h
Productivity x week	2,4 MT	6 MT
Reaction temperature	10 – 15°C	45°C
Toluene	3,5 vol	1,75 vol
Water (washing)	4 vol	2 vol
Excess CMS & TEA	30%	10%
Product Quality	Orange (purification step needed)	Pale yellow
Disposal	6,2 kg /kg	3kg / kg

# RAPTOR SUMMARY

- ❑ **PROJECTS TESTED IN RAPTOR: 48**
- ❑ **PROJECTS MOVED AT LEAST TO PILOT / PRODUCTION: 15**
- ❑ **MORE THAN 100 MT PRODUCED USING RAPTOR TECHNOLOGY**



■ Standard Chemistry

■ Raptor Chemistry

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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