



# Green Chemistry at Pfizer



James Long  
Pfizer Green Chemistry Team



# Agenda

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- **Introduction to Green Chemistry at Pfizer**
  - ✓ Engagement and alignment across the company
  - ✓ Supporting and influencing external environment
  
- **Making a Difference through Green Chemistry**
  - ✓ Internal tools – helping chemists “go green”
    - ✓ Solvent Selection Guide
    - ✓ Reagent Selection Guide
  - ✓ Case Study – Pregabalin Process Development Program



# Engagement and alignment across Pfizer

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- Spans whole company from Medicinal Chemistry to Manufacturing
  - ✓ Green Chemistry Team covers Med Chem, Process Development, Pilot Plant Manufacture, EHS and Full Scale Manufacturing
  - ✓ Early engagement of medicinal chemists ensures green concepts are installed early in the development life cycle
  - ✓ Engineering solutions are employed (e.g. PAT, Continuous Processing, Biocatalysis etc)
- Hold **Green Chemistry seminars** at all our research sites - by chemists for chemists with prominent chemistry speakers



# Engagement and alignment across Pfizer

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- Hold annual Green Chemistry Awards
  - Focused on core topics from the 12 Principles of Green Chemistry
    - Prevention and reduction of waste products including energy.
    - Maximisation of atom economy.
    - Develop less hazardous chemical synthesis with safer reagents and solvents.
    - Use of catalysts including enzymes
    - Use of renewable feedstocks with the potential for solvent recycling.
  - Winners nominated a University (which ideally supports and champions GC research) for a £3,000 donation



# Supporting and influencing external environment

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- Membership in the ACS GCI Pharmaceutical Roundtable
  - Let Academics and Govt agencies know the key challenges in Pharmaceutical Manufacturing so they can be addressed
- Academia – Aim to positively shape today's research to solve industry (*and society's*) needs. Much of our chemistry is based on reactions established 50-100 years ago!
  - Amide Formation with high economy
  - Amide Reduction (through the Roundtable)
  - Oxidations without chlorinated solvents
  - Suzuki Reactions without halogenation (through the roundtable)
  - Solvent Recovery using membrane technology
- Work with other pharmaceutical companies to deliver **Green Chemistry workshops** for university students in the UK and Ireland



# Internal Tools

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- **Solvent Selection Guide**
  - Solvent Reduction Program
- **Reagent Selection Guide**



# Use of Internal Tools – Pfizer Solvent Selection Guide

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## Preferred

Water  
Acetone  
Ethanol  
2-Propanol  
1-Propanol  
Ethyl Acetate  
Isopropyl acetate  
Methanol  
Methyl Ethyl Ketone  
1-Butanol  
*t*-Butanol

## Usable

Cyclohexane  
Heptane  
Toluene  
Methylcyclohexane  
*t*-Butylmethyl Ether  
Isooctane  
Acetonitrile  
2-Me Tetrahydrofuran  
Tetrahydrofuran  
Xylenes  
Dimethyl Sulfoxide  
Acetic Acid  
Ethylene Glycol

## Undesirable

Pentane  
Hexane(s)  
Diisopropyl ether  
Diethyl ether  
Dichloromethane  
Dichloroethane  
Chloroform  
N-Methylpyrrolidinone  
Dimethyl Formamide  
Pyridine  
Dimethyl Acetamide  
Dioxane  
Dimethoxyethane



GREEN CHEMISTRY

# Pfizer Solvent Replacement Table

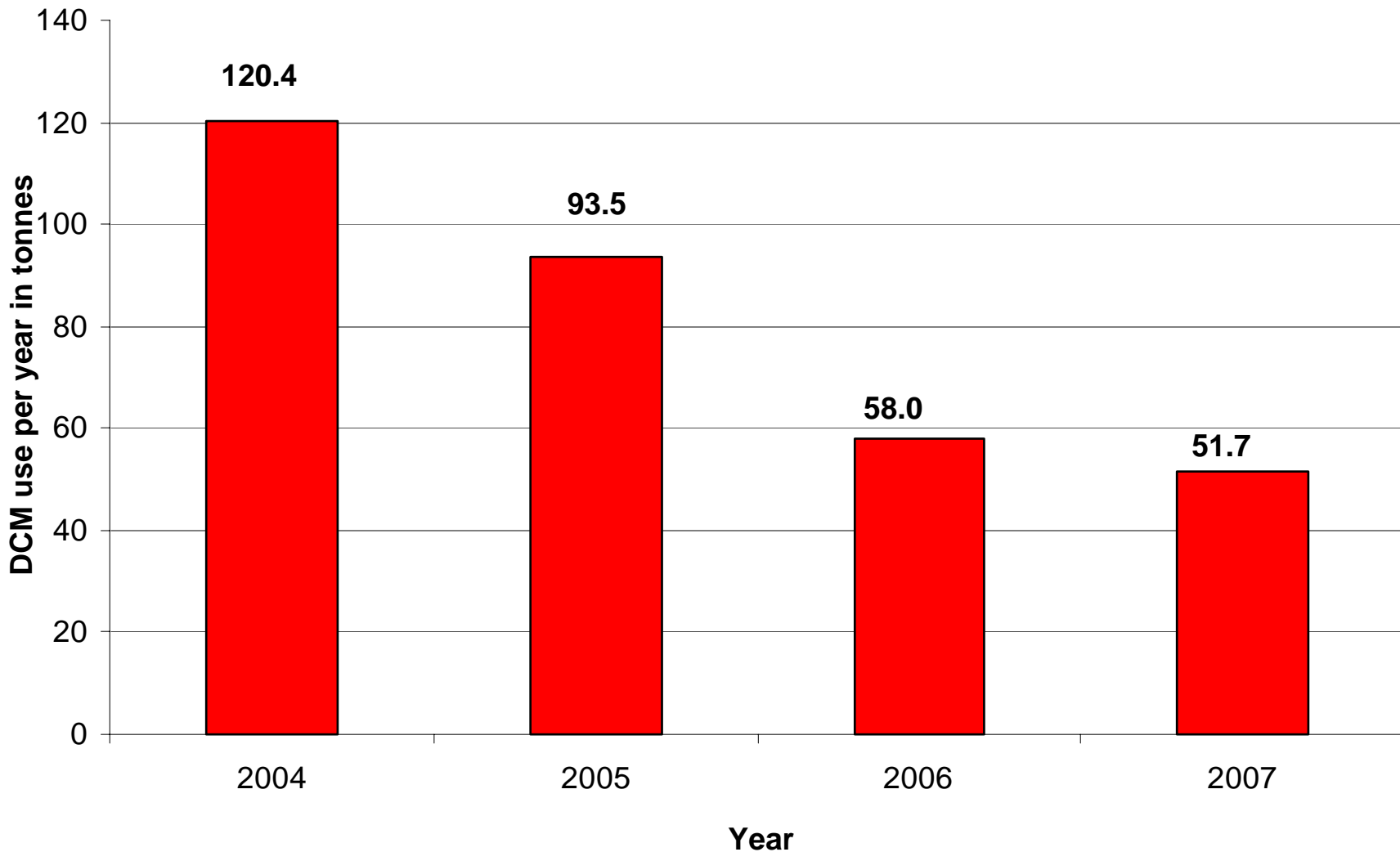
<b>Red Solvents</b>	<b>Alternative</b>
<b>Pentane</b>	<b>Heptane</b>
<b>Hexane(s)</b>	<b>Heptane</b>
<b>Diisopropyl ether or ether</b>	<b>2-MeTetrahydrofuran (2-MeTHF) or t-Butyl methyl ether (TBME)</b>
<b>DCM (extractions)</b>	<b>EtOAc, TBME, Toluene, 2-MeTHF</b>
<b>DCM (chromatography)</b>	<b>EtOAc, Heptane</b>
<b>Dioxane or dimethoxyethane</b>	<b>2-MeTHF or TBME</b>
<b>Chloroform, dichloroethane or carbon tetrachloride</b>	<b>Dichloromethane</b>
<b>DMF, NMP or DMAc</b>	<b>Acetonitrile</b>
<b>Pyridine</b>	<b>Et<sub>3</sub>N (if pyridine used as base)</b>
<b>Benzene</b>	<b>Toluene</b>





# Pfizer Green Chemistry Results – Some Examples

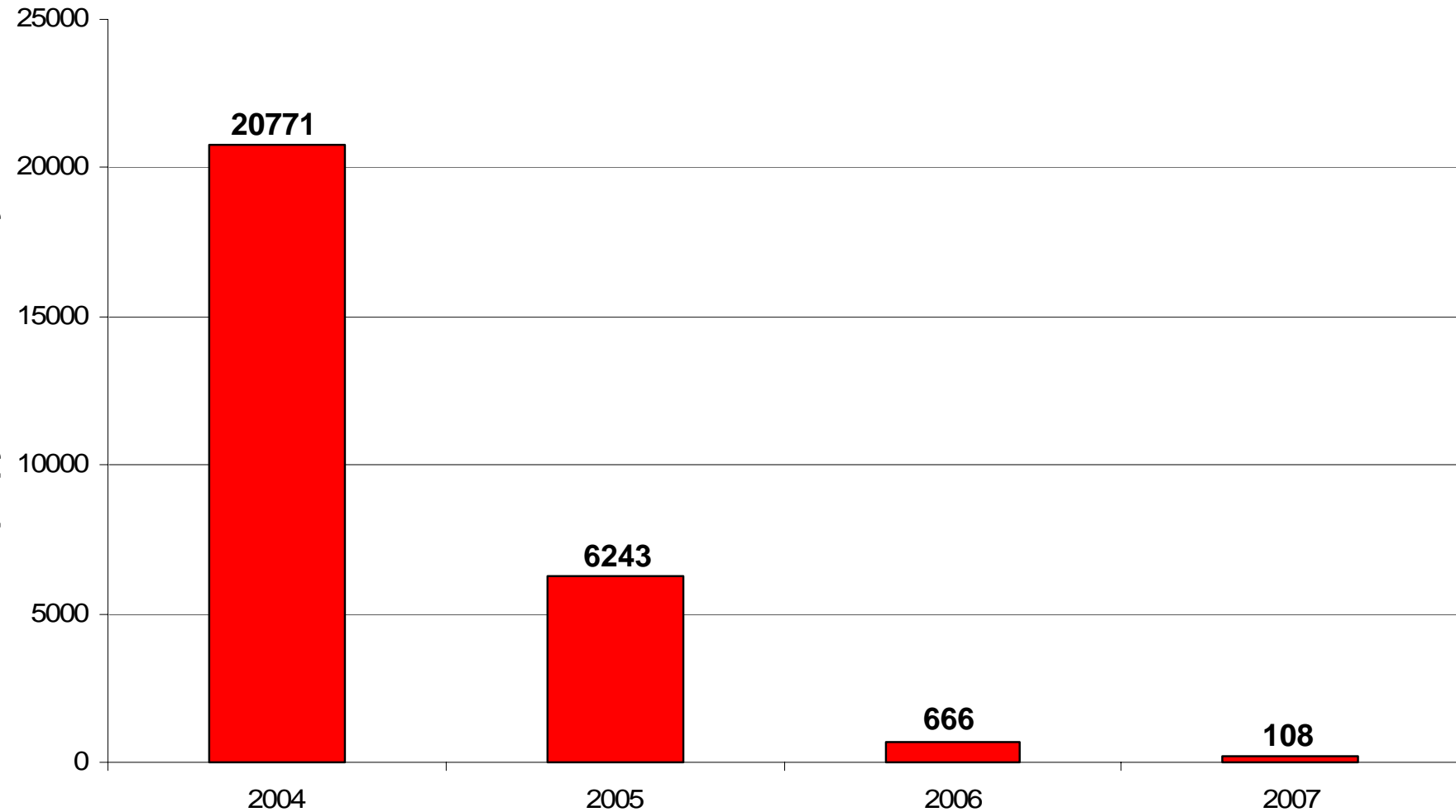
Combined Groton, Sandwich and La Jolla DCM use 2004 - 2007





# Pfizer Solvent Switching Program

## PGRD Global Diisopropyl Ether Use





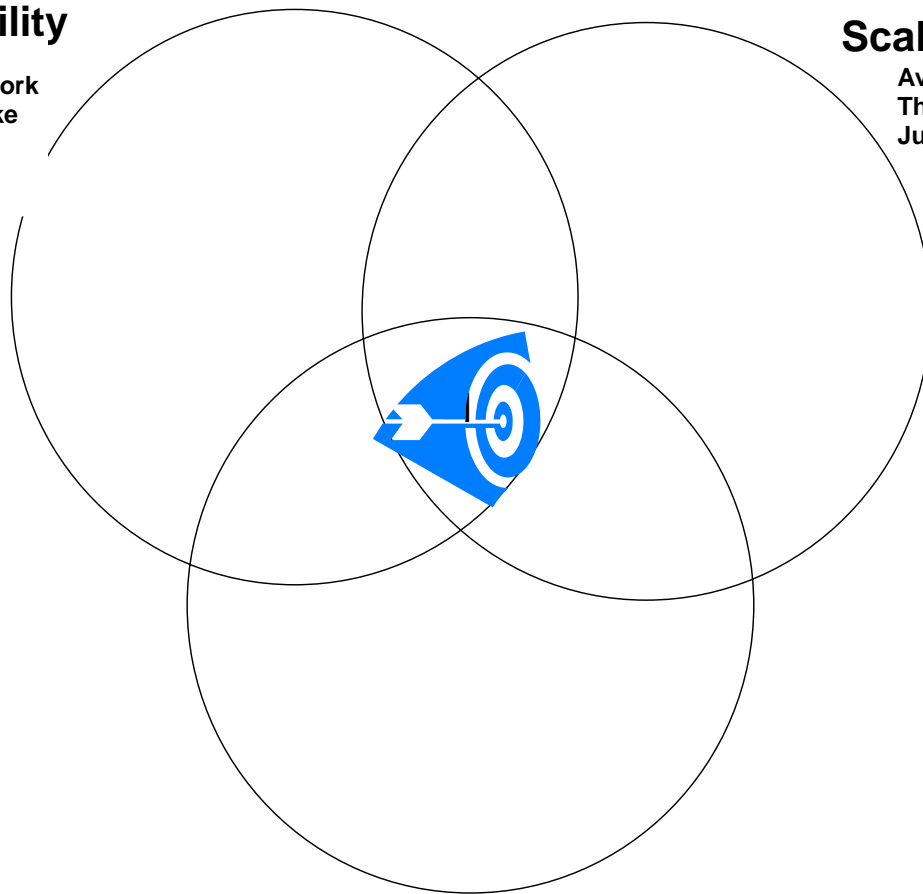
# Pfizer Green Chemistry – Reagent Selection Guide

## Wide Utility

The ability of a reagent to work On a wide variety of drug like Molecules. As judged by experienced Discovery Scientists

## Scalability

Availability, Lack of Major Thermal or Tox Hazards. As Judged by API-Supply Chain



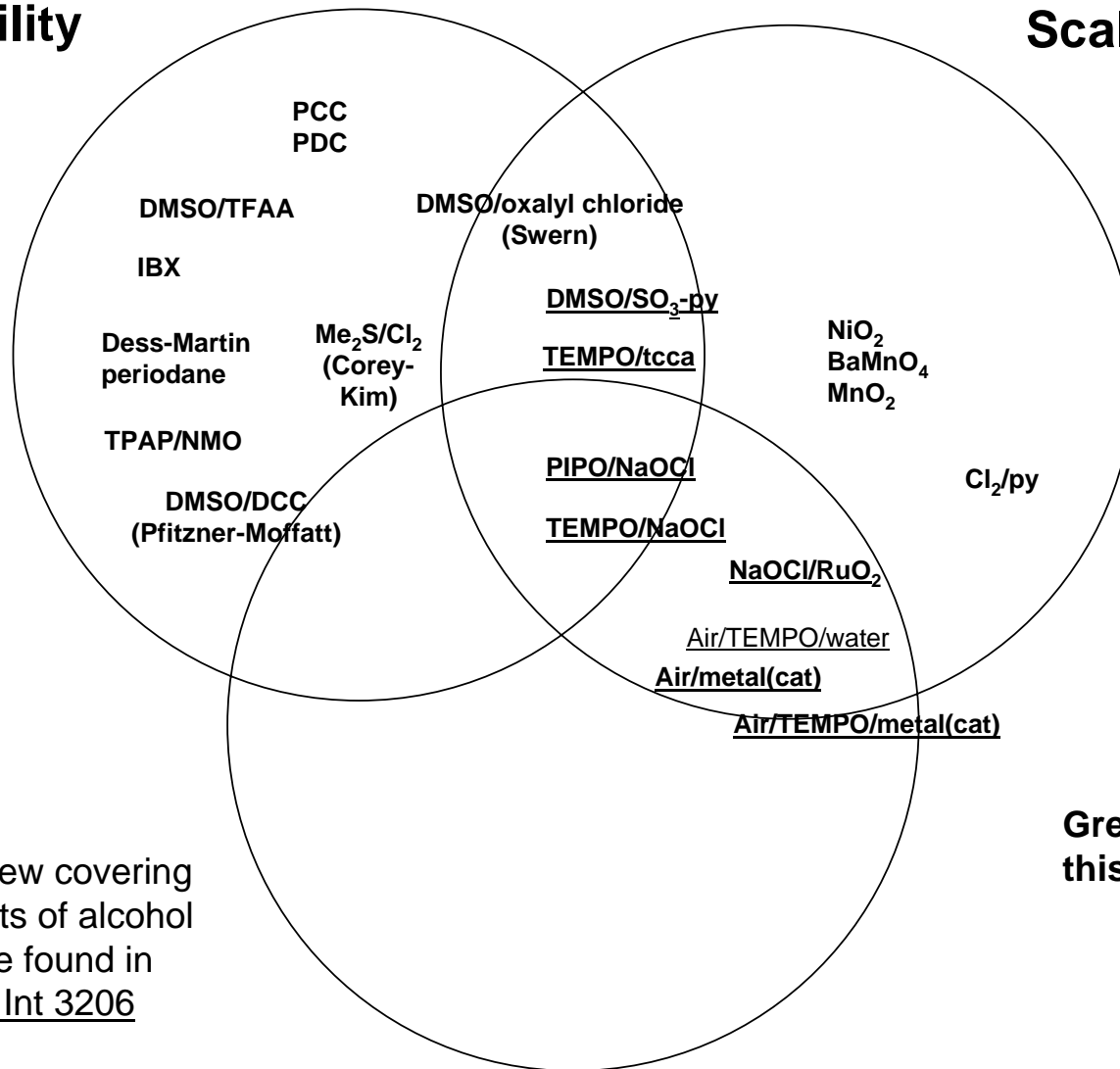
**"Greenness"** Criteria clearly laid out For each transformation



# Example: Oxidation of Primary Alcohol to Aldehyde

Wide Utility

Scalability



An excellent review covering the Green aspects of alcohol oxidations can be found in 2006 Ang Chem Int 3206

Green Criteria for this Transformation



Microsoft Word Document

"Greenness"



# List of Transformations

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- Alcohol to Aldehyde
- Alcohol to Ketone
- Ester to aldehyde
- Reductive Amination
- Amide coupling (achiral)
- Amide coupling (chiral)
- Redn of primary amide
- Redn of secondary amide
- Redn of tertiary amide
- Alkyl-OH to Alkyl-N
- Het.Aryl-OH to Het.Aryl-N
- Aryl-OH to Aryl-N
- Suzuki
- Heck
- Aldol
- Grignard Formation and Rxn
- Sonogashira Reaction
- Ketones to Chiral Alcohols



# Green Chemistry Results

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- **Case Study - Pregabalin**



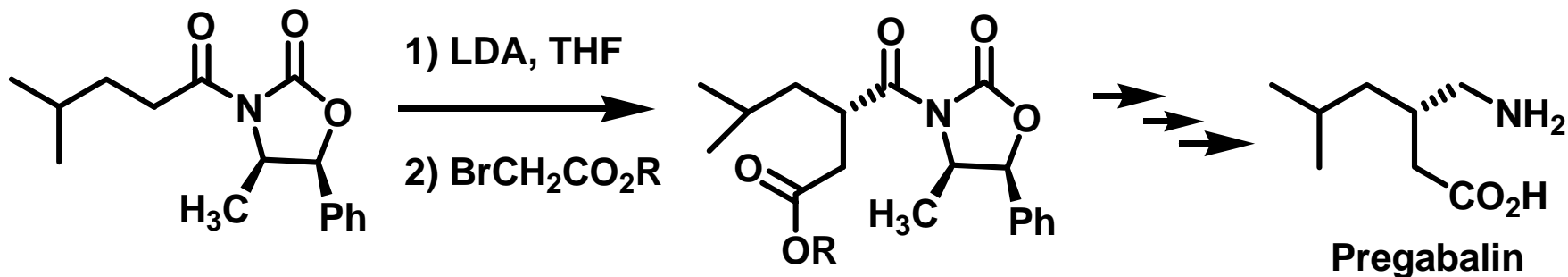
# Green Chemistry in Process Dev.



- Exemplified by the Pregabalin Process Dev. Program
- Pregabalin (Lyrica®) is a Drug for the treatment of Neuropathic Pain
- Launched in the US in September 2005
- Sales \$1.16 billion (2006) \$1.8 billion (2007)



# Medicinal Chem. Pregabalin Synthesis

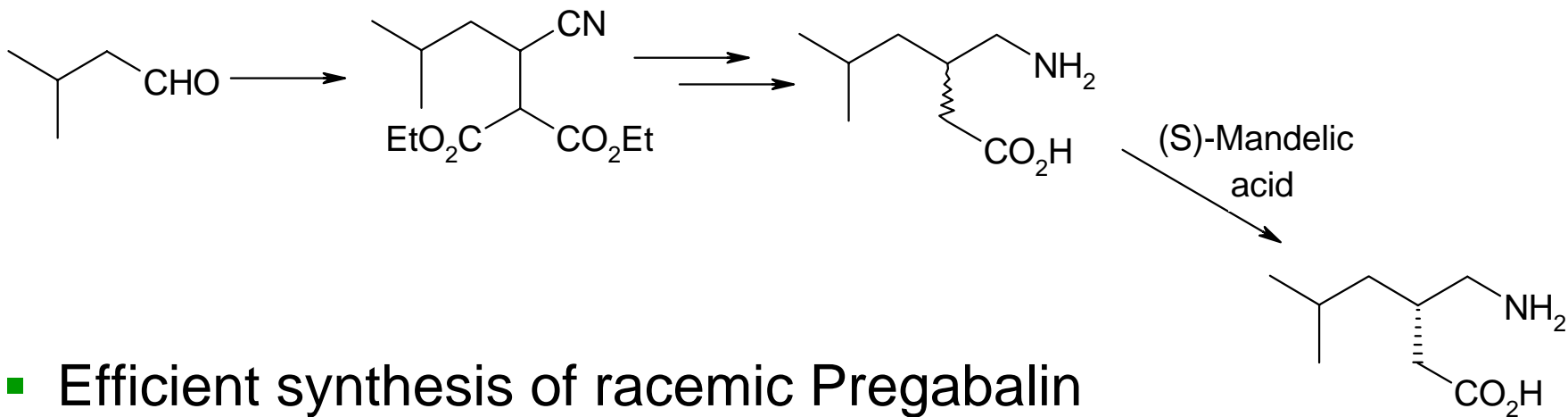


- 10 steps, 33% overall yield
- Cost was 6x target





# Pregabalin (Lyrica™) Launch Process

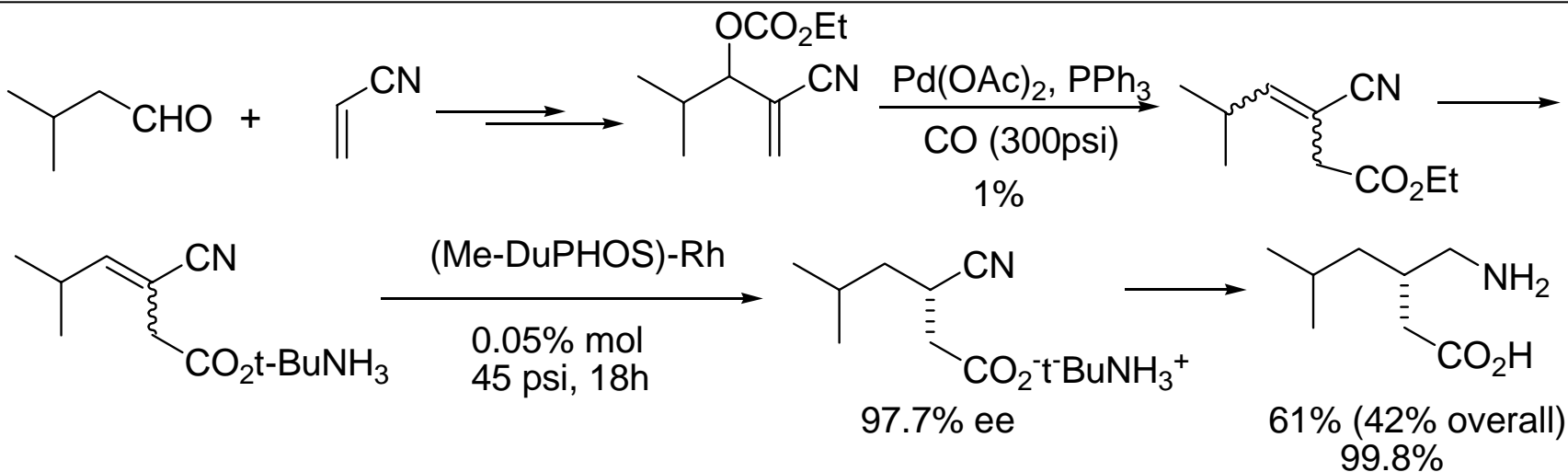


- Efficient synthesis of racemic Pregabalin
- Final Step Classical Resolution
- Wrong enantiomer difficult to recycle
- E-Factor 86
- Significantly cheaper than the Medicinal Chemistry route

25-29 % overall  
> 99.5 % ee



# Asymmetric Hydrogenation Route



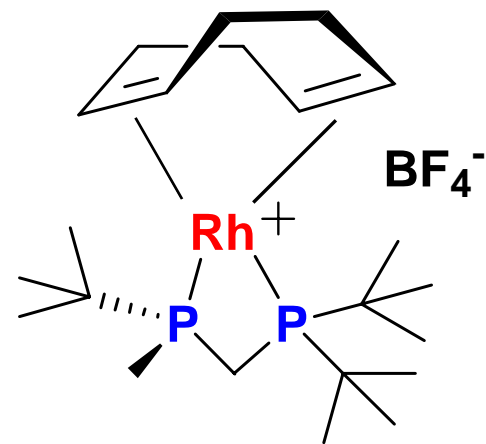
**Higher yield (42% overall)**

**Original Catalyst (1% Pd, 0.05% DuPHOS-Rh)**

**Licensed chiral ligand expensive**

**In-house chiral ligand developed – even lower costs**

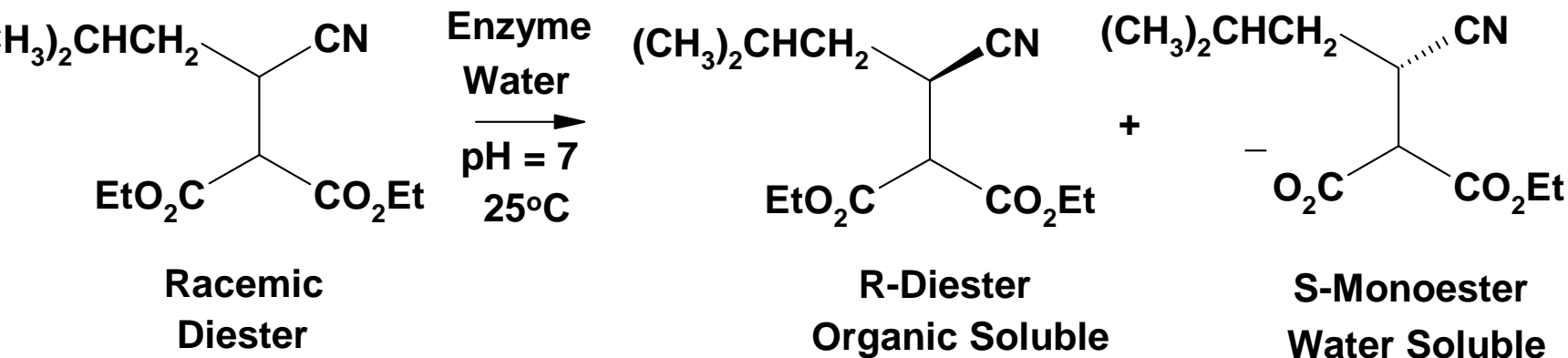
**Much improved environmental profile but similar cost to resolution route.**



(S)-[Rh-Trichickenfootphos]



# Enzymatic Resolution of CNDE



Enzymatic hydrolysis of Cyano diester enabled **early resolution of chiral center**

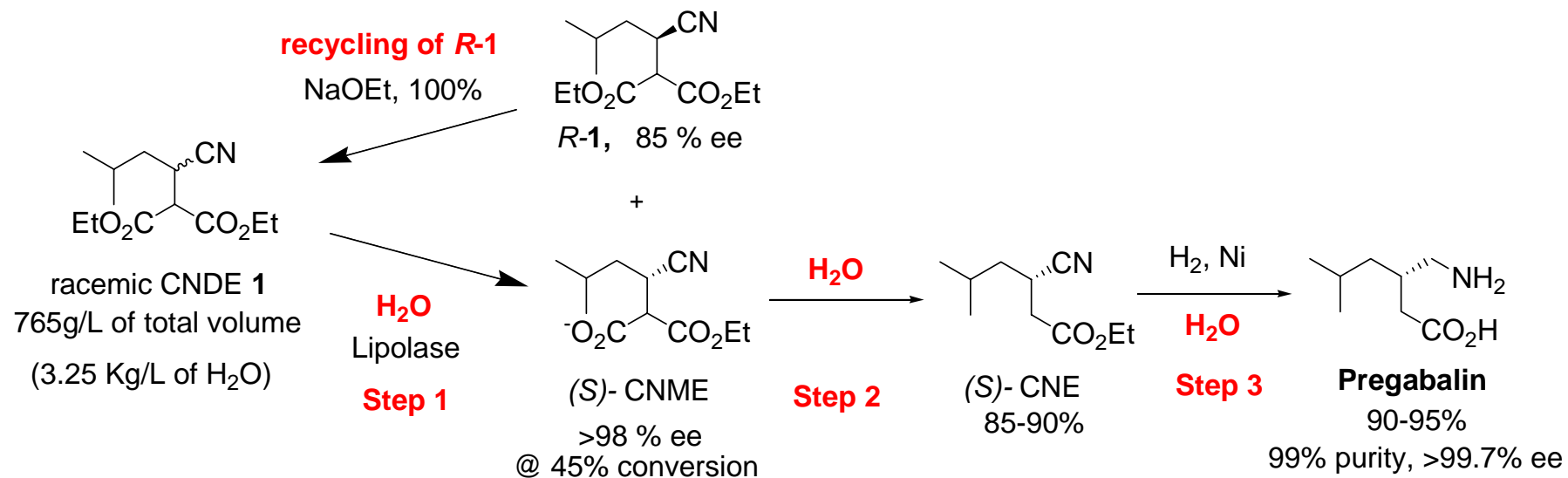
Hydrolase screen revealed 2 (S)-selective hits with E>200:

- *Thermomyces lanuginosus* lipase (Novozymes)
- *Rhizopus delemar* lipase (Amano)





# Biocatalytic Kinetic Resolution Route

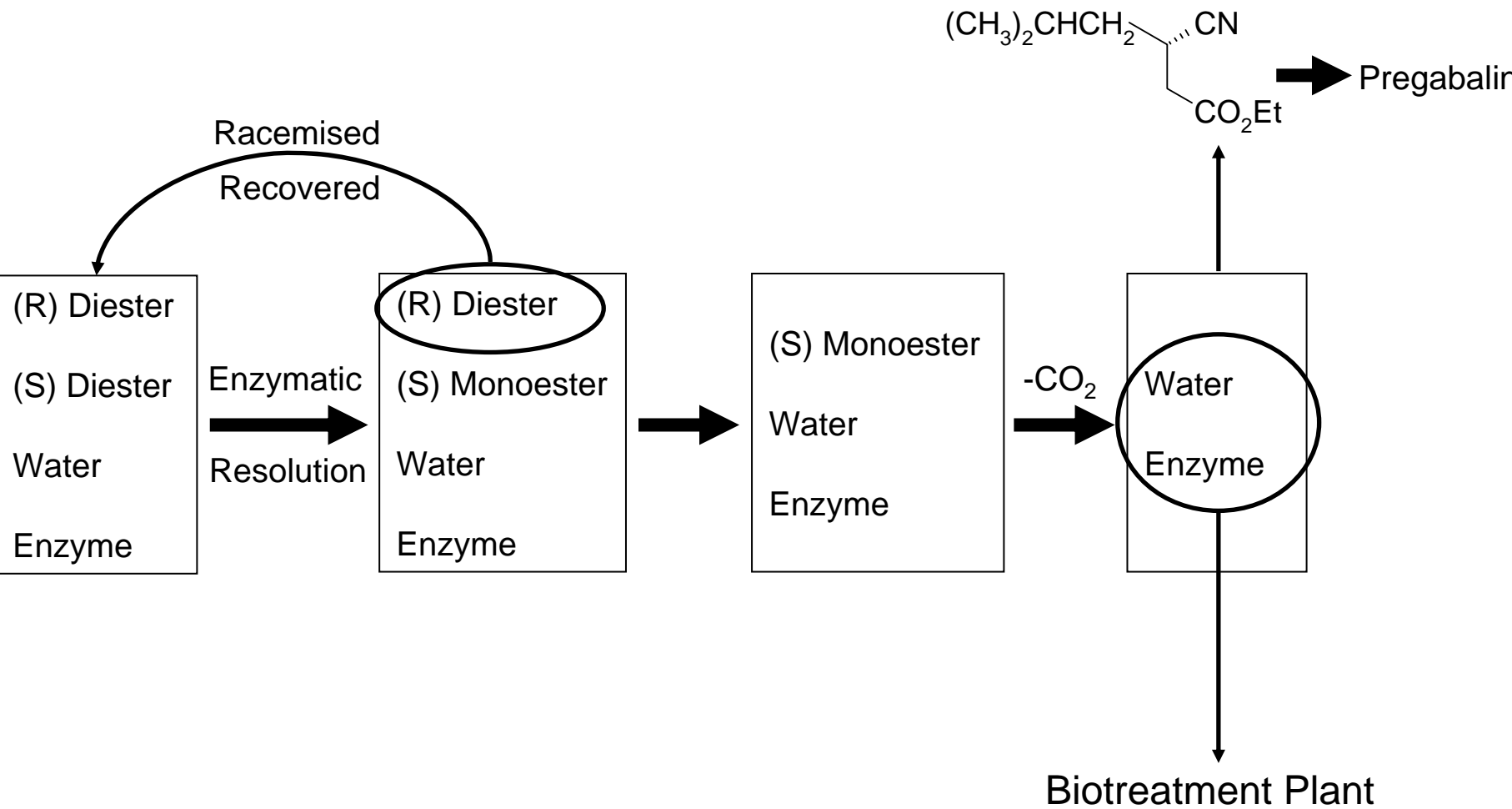


- Biocatalytic with low (~0.8%) protein loading
- Resolution at first step (wrong enantiomer recycled)
- High throughput; simple operations
- All three reactions conducted in water
- Yield increased to 40% to 45% (after 1 recycle)
- Enzymatic Step scaled up to 10 MT scale
- E Factor improved from 86 to 17





# The Pregabalin Process





# Pregabalin Process Comparison

**Table 1. Inputs for 1000 kg Pregabalin via 1st Generation and New Routes**

<b>Kilograms</b>		
<b>Inputs</b>	<b>1st Generation Route</b>	<b>New Route</b>
<b>CNDE</b>	<b>6212</b>	<b>4798</b>
<b>Enzyme</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>574</b>
<b>(S)-Mandelic acid</b>	<b>1135</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Raney nickel</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>79.5</b>
<b>Solvents</b>	<b>50042</b>	<b>6230</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>57920</b>	<b>11681.5</b>

- Chemoenzymatic route uses >5x less inputs than 1<sup>st</sup> generation route



# Pregabalin Synthetic Improvements

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- By replacing all reaction solvents with water, bringing the Resolution to the beginning, and the Raney nickel reduction to the end, the proposed improvements will yield **annual** improvements of:
  - Starting material usage reduction of 800 tons
  - Solvent reductions:
    - Methanol - 1 million gallons
    - Ethanol - 0.4 million gallons
    - Tetrahydrofuran - 2.2 million gallons
    - Isopropanol - 2 million gallons
  - Mandelic Acid usage eliminated – 500 tons
  - Energy Use reduced by 83 %



# Pregabalin Summary

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- New Enzymatic Chemistry successfully manufactured on 10MT scale.
- Process was switched in 3Q2006
- By making the switch to optimal route very early in the product lifetime, Pfizer ensures close to maximum benefits to the environment.
- In 2006 Pfizer received the AstraZeneca Award for Excellence in Green Chemistry and Engineering for its work on Pregabalin
- Chemistry published Martinez et al (OPRD 2008, 11, 392)





# Take Away Messages

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- Green Chemistry starts in Medicinal Chemistry with early engagement of laboratory chemists
- Integrating Green Chemistry as part of the core of our business ensures successes are recognised and rewarded
- Green Chemistry initiatives have resulted in significant environmental benefits
  - 60% reduction in Dichloromethane usage
  - Elimination of Diisopropyl Ether as a solvent in Med Chem
- Provides cost effective solutions
  - Even at lab scale cost savings can be realized
  - Manufacturing scale process changes save \$MMs



# Thanks and Acknowledgment

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# Thank You!

- Pregabalin Team
- Members of the Pfizer Green Chemistry teams
- Pete Dunn – Pfizer’s “Green Guru”
- Partners in education and research
- To YOU – today’s audience!