

**WACKER**

CREATING TOMORROW'S SOLUTIONS

## SynCo Bio Partners B.V. & Wacker Biotech GmbH: THE **MICROBIAL** CMO

**Human Microbiota: Proof of Concept to Production**

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Process Engineer Technical Operations  
SynCo Bio Partners B.V.

 **SynCo**  
Bio Partners

# The Wacker Group – Over 100 Years of Success



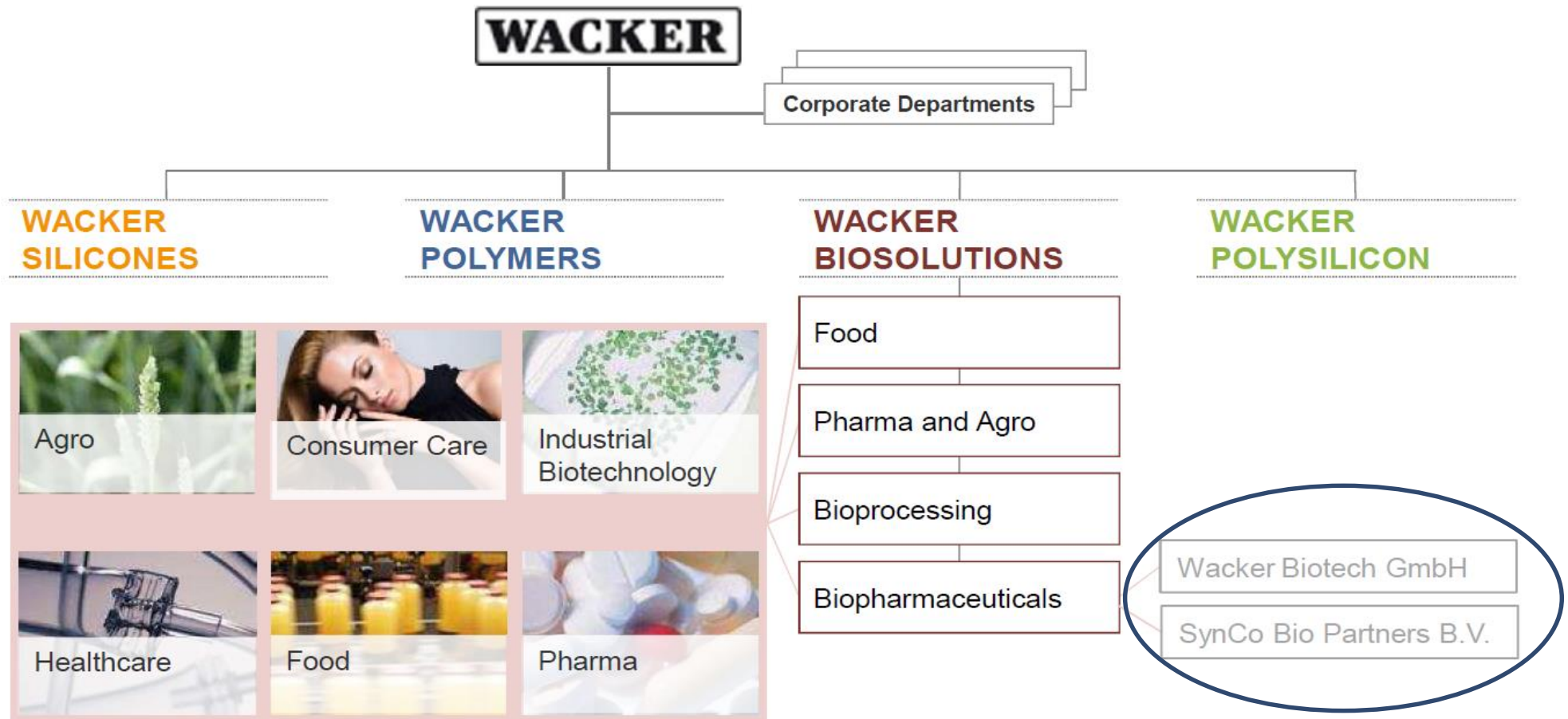
## Wacker Chemie AG

- ▶ Founded in 1914 by Dr. Alexander Wacker
- ▶ Headquartered in Munich

## WACKER Group (2017)

- ▶ Sales: €4.92 billion
- ▶ EBITDA: €1.01 billion
- ▶ R&D: €153 million
- ▶ Investments: €327 million
- ▶ Employees: 13,811

# Wacker Biosolutions Division



# Wacker Biotech & SynCo Bio Partners

## Operate 3 State-of-the-art GMP Facilities in Europe

### Amsterdam Site

- ▶ ~110 FTEs
- ▶ 1,500 & 270 L line
- ▶ Live bacteria
- ▶ Fill & Finish
- ▶ EMA approved
- ▶ FDA approved
- ▶ ANVISA approved



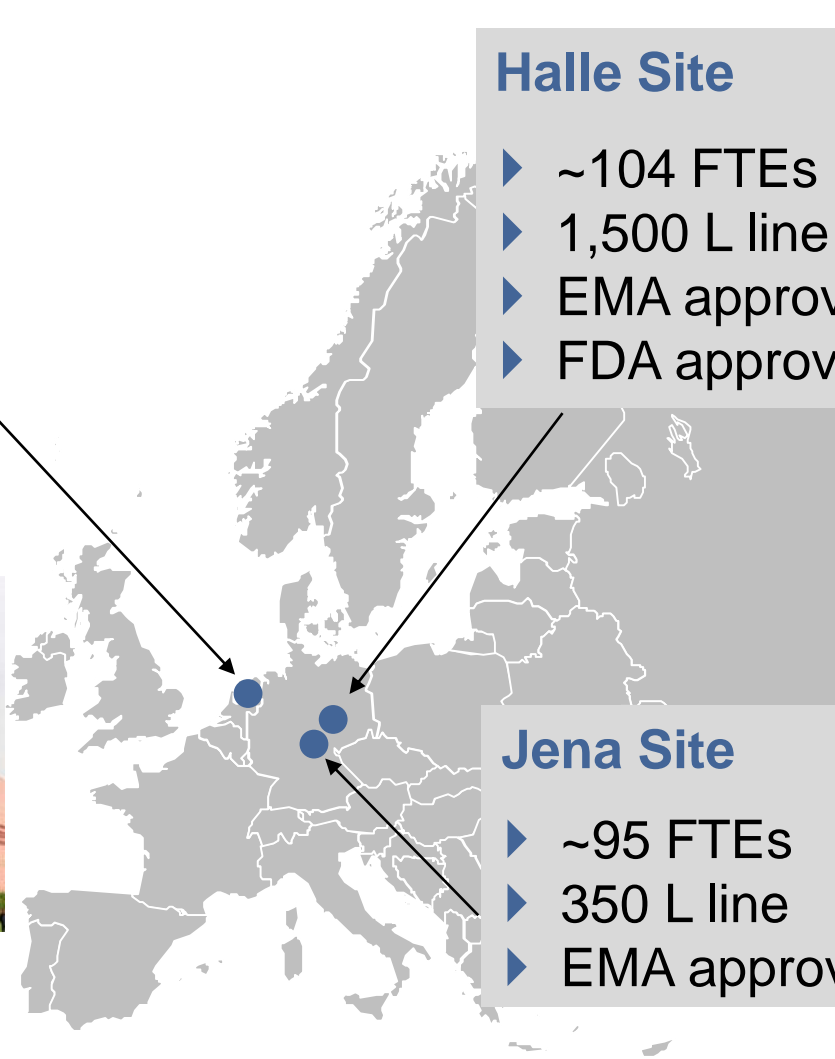
### Halle Site

- ▶ ~104 FTEs
- ▶ 1,500 L line
- ▶ EMA approved
- ▶ FDA approved



### Jena Site

- ▶ ~95 FTEs
- ▶ 350 L line
- ▶ EMA approved



# SynCo Bio Partners B.V. Amsterdam



We are **THE MICROBIAL CMO** with a solid track record and strong customer focus

- ▶ We are a 100 % subsidiary of Wacker Chemie AG having a high **financial** and **long-term stability**
- ▶ Located in Amsterdam, the Netherlands
- ▶ GMP licensed for clinical & commercial supply
- ▶ Production of **Vaccines, Proteins** and **Live Microbial Products**

# SynCo Bio Partners B.V. Amsterdam

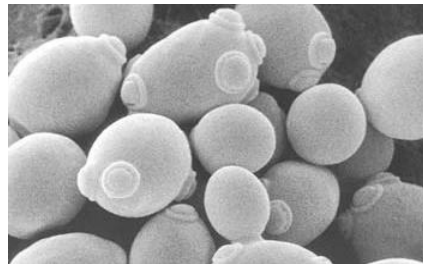
- ▶ Licensed cGMP CMO, approved by worldwide regulatory bodies (FDA, EMA, ANVISA, MFDS, Health Canada)
- ▶ Production Bulk Drug Substance (20 – 1500L)
  - ▶ Live microbial products (LMPs) and microbial derived biopharmaceuticals
  - ▶ Oral & parenteral
- ▶ Aseptic fill finish & lyophilization
  - ▶ Up to 20,000 vials
  - ▶ Bulk lyophilization up to 70L
- ▶ In house QC testing & QA release, stability studies, regulatory support



# Microorganism Experience

## Live Microbial Products

- ▶ *Bifidobacterium spp.*
- ▶ *Lactobacillus spp.*
- ▶ *Lactococcus lactis*
- ▶ *Oxalobacter formigenes*
  - ▶ *Salmonella typhi*
  - ▶ *Vibrio cholerae*
  - ▶ *Listeria monocytogenes*
  - ▶ *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*
- ▶ Others (non-disclosed)



## Production Organisms

- ▶ *Escherichia coli*
- ▶ *Pseudomonas fluorescens*
- ▶ *Haemophilus influenzae type B*
- ▶ *Corynebacterium diphtheriae*
- ▶ *Neisseria meningitidis (group A, C)*
- ▶ *Bordetella pertussis*
  
- ▶ *Pichia pastoris*
- ▶ *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*

- ▶ ***Cultured under anaerobic conditions***
  - ▶ **Cultured under aerobic conditions**

# The Objective

- ▶ Share experiences & approaches from various Live Microbial Product cGMP projects
- ▶ Early considerations for process development

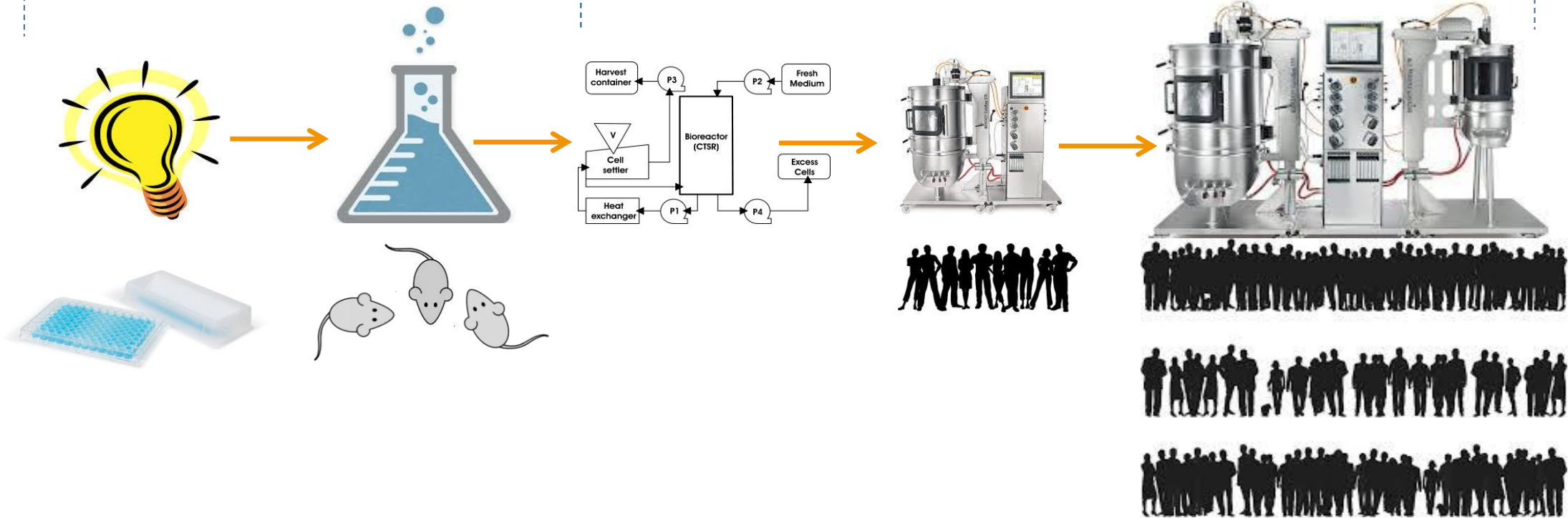




# From Idea to Live Microbial Product

Product Company

Contract Manufacturer



# Criteria for GMP Production

## Requirements GMP Production

- ▶ All equipment calibrated
- ▶ All personnel trained for the actions performed
- ▶ All raw materials according specifications
- ▶ Controlled area
- ▶ Execution according to protocol



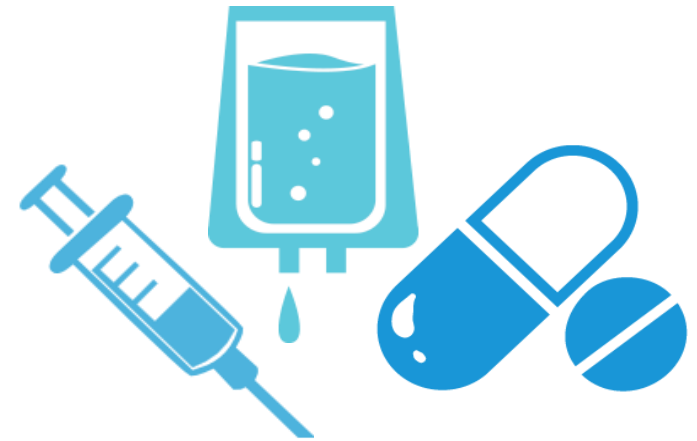
## Analytical Testing: Content, Chemical and Biological Contamination

Assays qualified/validated

## GMP Release of Batch by Qualified Person

# The Live Product: Production Process

- ▶ Parenteral/sterile product: Closed, monoseptic process
  - ▶ Oral/non-sterile product: Aseptic process
- ↓
- ▶ List of objectionable organisms based on patient population
- ↓
- ▶ Closed, monoseptic process desirable



# Typical Process Setup for LMPs

- ▶ Inoculation
- ▶ Precultures
- ▶ Fermentation
- ▶ Concentrate + wash cells (TFF)
- ▶ Formulation



Open, aseptic handling (BHC)

Disposable (sterile) systems

- ▶ Filling in vials/trays
- ▶ Freeze drying / Liquid formulation



Open, aseptic handling

Class A; Clean Room

# Growing the Live Product: Precultures & Fermentation

## Production Organism

- ▶ Potential pathogen (Class I, II, III)
- ▶ Genetically modified (GMO, origin of insert)
- ▶ Master Cell Bank / Working Cell Bank

} GMO License

## Growth Medium GMP Compatible

- ▶ Free of animal derived components
- ▶ All components pharmacopoeia grade
- ▶ No antibiotics (definitely no  $\beta$ -lactams)
- ▶ Incl. cell bank medium



# Growing the Live Product: Fermentation – Choice of Reactor

## Wave Bag



- ▶ Ease of use
- ▶ Closed system
- ▶ Cleaning (validation)

## Single-use Bioreactor



- ▶ Best of both worlds

## Stainless Steel Reactor



- ▶ Aeration
- ▶ Mixing
- ▶ Volume

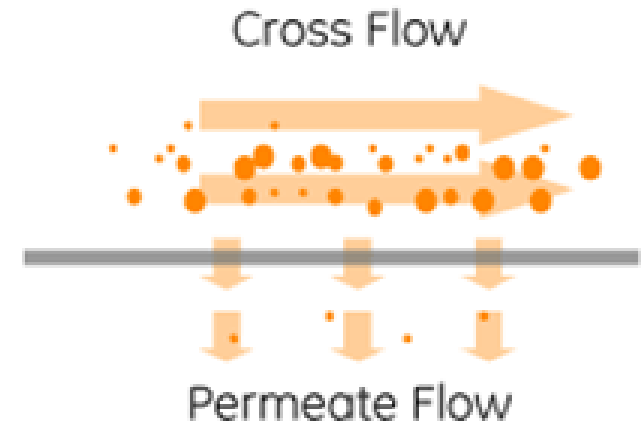
# Purification and Concentration of the Live Product

## Centrifugation

- ▶ Open handling / process
- ▶ Large product loss

## Ultrafiltration / Tangential Flow Filtration (TFF)

- ▶ Closed process
- ▶ Concentrate cells
- ▶ Wash out contaminants



▶ **Implement TFF at early stage: Change from centrifugation to TFF will affect the impurity profile**

# Stabilizing the Live Product:

## Viability Will Be Key!

### Dilute Product with Cryoprotective Buffer

- ▶ Target specific range live cells (e.g.  $10^8$  –  $10^{10}$  cfu/ml); think of potential loss in viability during freezing / freeze-drying
- ▶ Cryoprotectant buffer composition plays vital role in minimizing loss of viability

### Fill

- ▶ Open handlings with Live Microbes in Cleanroom / Class A
- ▶ Aseptic process validation / process simulation for sterile products

### Freezing / Freeze-drying

- ▶ Viable cell loss 50-95% (depending on organism + cycle)
- ▶ Target specific range live cells (e.g.  $10^7$  –  $10^9$  cfu/vial) based on clinical requirement



# When Preparing for Clinical Trials

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## Avoid Delays in Clinical Trials!

- ▶ Be aware of the requirements
- ▶ Think ahead during process development
  
- ▶ If a contract manufacturer is required;  
start looking for suitable partners well in time!

# Thank You for Your Attention!



**SynCo Bio Partners B.V. & Wacker Biotech GmbH: THE MICROBIAL CMO**  
Your partner in microbial biologics production: [contact@syncobiopartners.com](mailto:contact@syncobiopartners.com)



SynCo Bio Partners & Wacker Biotech – The Microbial CMO  
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