

A breakthrough high-performance viral vaccines biomanufacturing platform to countermeasure epidemic threats

Webinar

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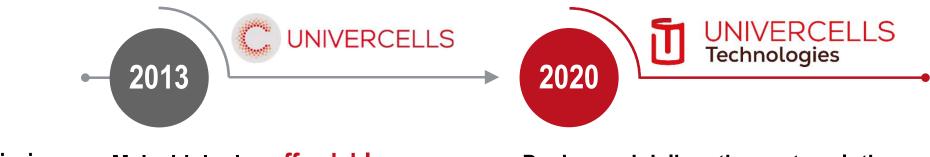
Brussels, May 2020





#### Univercells Technologies designs and delivers state-of-the-art highperformance, scalable bioproduction technologies for viral products

Univercells Technologies genesis



#### **Mission**

### Make biologics affordable and available to all!

#### History

- > Created in 2013 in Belgium
- Capitalizing on unmatched bioprocessing and engineering expertise

### Design and deliver the next evolution of biomanufacturing

- > Univercells subsidiary created in 2020
- > Revolutionizing bioprocess by commercializing next generation viral manufacturing technologies

#### **Focus**

- Offering technologies, services and turnkey solutions to alleviate the industry's current shortfall in supply of cell and gene therapies, vaccines and biotherapeutics
- Intensification of high-performance operations & chaining of unit steps into an integrated process
- > Key assets: **NevoLine™** platform & **scale-X™** bioreactor



### Univercells technologies capitalizes on a strong team of experts and a global footprint for equipment dissemination and client support

and maintenance

Services



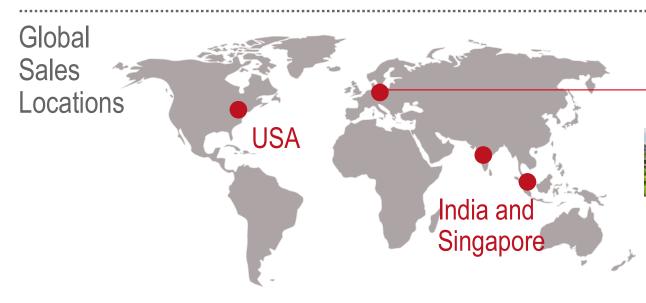


R&D



- > Assembly, manufacturing
- > Validation (FAT)
- > Supply and Logistics

Manufacturing and Supply Chain



#### Belgium

**Nivelles** 

#### **Brussels**





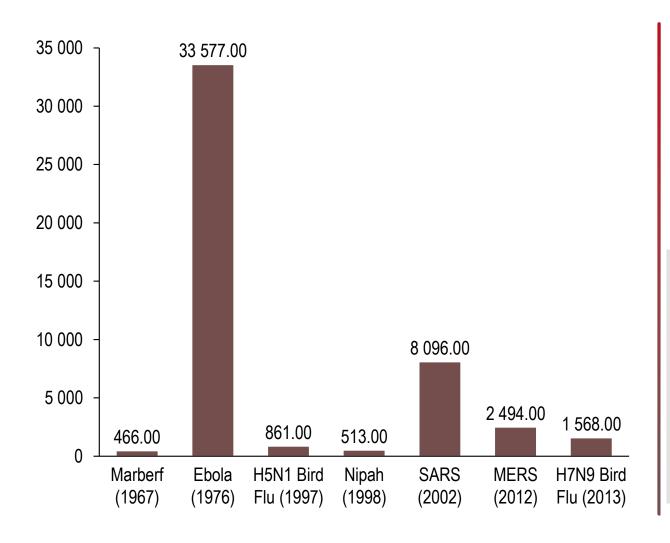
**Head Office** 

R&D and Manufacturing



### Variable viral outbreaks are observed throughout the years directly affecting the healthcare systems of the concerned countries

Infection of viruses involved in outbreaks worldwide as of 2020



- Variable number of infections and fatality rates depending on the outbreaks
- > Re-occurring and punctual behavior outbreaks (seasonal Flu)

### **Challenges** in outbreak management

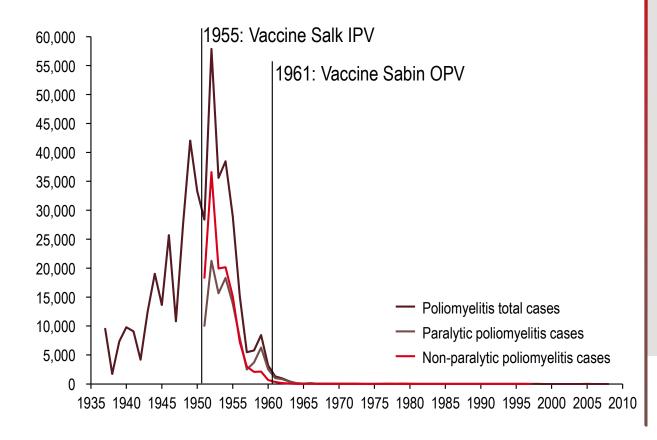
- Need for fast development of effective vaccines
- Lack of funding opportunities due to prioritization of diseases



### Vaccines are one of the most cost-effective healthcare interventions ever invented

Poliomyelitis cases after vaccines introduction

### Poliomyelitis reported cases after IPV and OPV vaccines introduction (USA, 1935 - 2008)

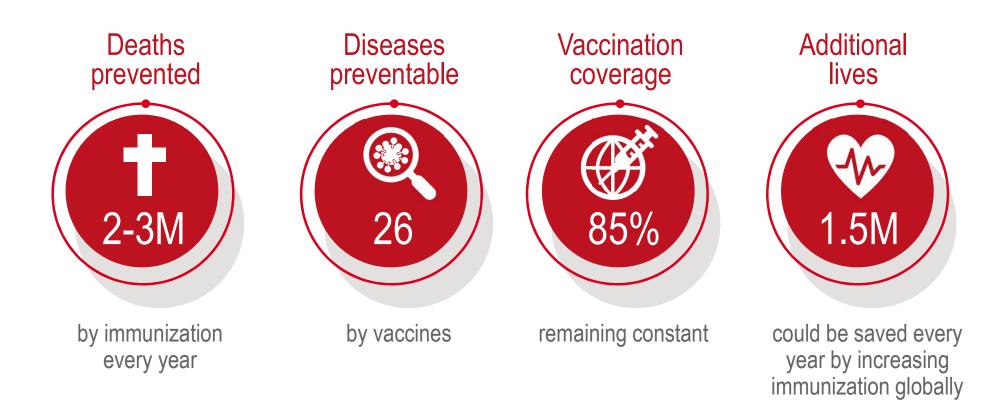


- The introduction of vaccination led to a drop of poliomyelitis cases within a few decades
- Only global immunization campaigns can lead to polio eradication



### Vaccines are an effective intervention reducing mortality caused by infectious diseases

Key figures



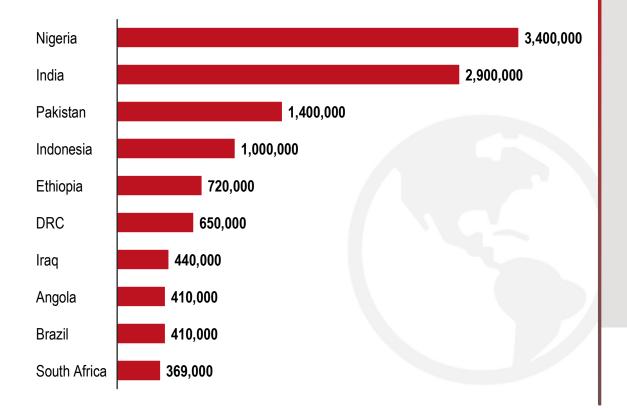


### Global vaccination coverage remains constant over the past few years, requiring increased efforts in LMICs for a full immunization

Global vaccination coverage and gaps

Over 19 million children still miss out.

About 60% of these live in 10 countries



Vaccines are a miracle because with three doses,

mostly given in the first two years of life, you can prevent deadly diseases for an entire lifetime.

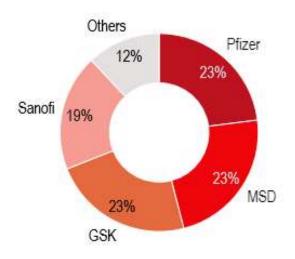
Bill Gates Annual Letter (2010)



### The vaccine industry has hit a turning point, as the traditional approach cannot solve present and upcoming demand

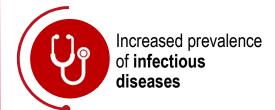
Vaccine industry at a turning point

#### Historic **oligopoly**



- > 88% of the market is owned by Big Four vaccine manufacturers that are situated in developed countries
- > **Historically**, these four have **driven most innovation**
- > In recent years, **small biotechs and emerging-market** players have become the most important source of new vaccine development
- Most outbreaks occur in LMICs that need to reply on 3<sup>rd</sup> party supply of vaccines

#### An increasing global market growth







Increase **funding** from governments and international organizations

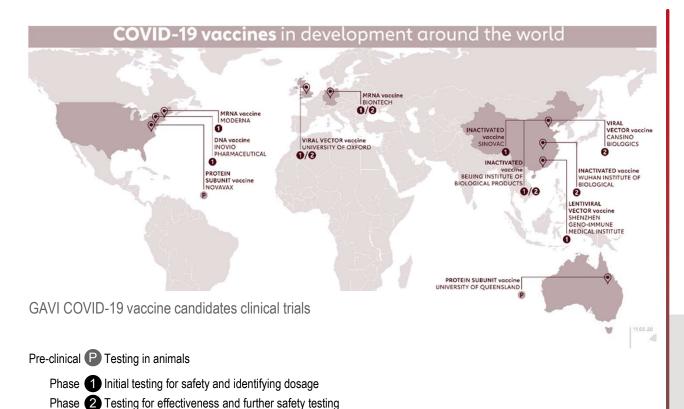


- > The global market size for vaccines was valued at **38.5 billion USD in 2018**
- > Growth in the market is expected to exceed 7% CAGR by 2025
- Vaccination coverage is rising, especially in emerging countries as a result of vaccination efforts by UNCEF/GAVI



### Race against the clock for vaccine development and manufacture in response to coronavirus outbreak

Global epidemic outbreaks – case of COVID-19



- > SARS-CoV-2 have reached 4.9 million cases worldwide and 210 countries impacted
- > 118 candidate vaccines with 9 tested in clinical trials
- > Various **type of vaccines** investigated:
  - Non-replicating viral vector
  - RNA
  - DNA
  - Inactivated
  - Live attenuated virus
  - Protein subunit
  - Virus-Like Particle (VLP)
- Clinical trials for vaccine candidates have to be compressed for a rapid epidemic response (e.g. rVSV-ZEBOV Ebola vaccine)
- Preclinical phases are reduced or suppressed to accelerate the delivery of the vaccine

Phase 3 Confirm and assess effectiveness, and look for side effects



### Rapid response to disease outbreaks requires flexible technologies and facility concepts able to accommodate different targets

Technology-related factors affecting the response to new disease outbreaks



#### Capacity

Through highly productive scalable technologies that are able to supply the adequate number of doses for local and global immunization campaigns

Enabling the use of representative scale-down models for process development activities that facilitate scale-up to the final target scale and enable the prediction of the final manufacturing scales during the early stages of process development







Minimizing risks by accommodating multiple potential vaccine candidates entering the drug development pathway while being able to accommodate other vaccine targets once the new outbreak is managed

Allowing for capabilities for rapid commercial-scale GMP manufacture and distribution of vaccine products for local and global immunization campaigns





### Traditional technologies for vaccine manufacture require significant capital investment

#### Scale-UD

GSK inaugure ce matin la plus grosse unité mondiale de production de ce vaccin à Wavre, dans un énorme bâtiment ultra-sécurisé. L'investissement est de 340 millions.



Mis en ligne le 24/10/2018 à 06:05 par Frédéric Soumois



- Vaccine production using a scale-up approach typically rely of large bioreactors in larger facilities with very high CAPEX
- > Such high capital investments are incompatible with smaller vaccine producers
- Moreover, these large facilities may lack flexibility to accommodate different process designs

#### Scale-Out

## T-Flasks Roller Bottles



- Over 80% of viral vaccines are still manufactured by the scaling out of lab-scale systems
- In order to manufacture large quantities very high CAPEX is needed
- > The high number of **asceptic manual operations** associated with this practice increases **risks of failure**
- > The inefficiency and manual nature of these processes result in low production capacity and high COG



### Univercells Technologies seeks to address the common manufacturing challenges in virus production for vaccines

Restraints restricting rapid vaccine development



- > Process complexity: many steps and need for know-how
- > Capacity: manufacturing unit with high footprint
- > Costs: high capital and operational investments



- > Unforeseen events: disease outbreaks with variable needs
- > Rapid deployment: from development to commercialization
- > Available capabilities: GMP-certified facilities



- > Out-scaled process: most conventional technologies
- > Adapted scaling: deliver the needed amount of doses
- > Flexibility: One shot process and modular technologies



### Technology principle combines process intensification and chaining, delivering high-performance process achieving low CAPEX/OPEX

Technology-driven affordability by applying chemical engineering rules



#### Intensification

- Very high cell-density fixed-bed bioreactor technology, and highperformance chromatography columns
- Achieving superior yield characteristics and resulting cost savings for customers



#### Chaining

All unit steps are linked into an integrated process, allowing continuous operation from cell culture to clarification and capture

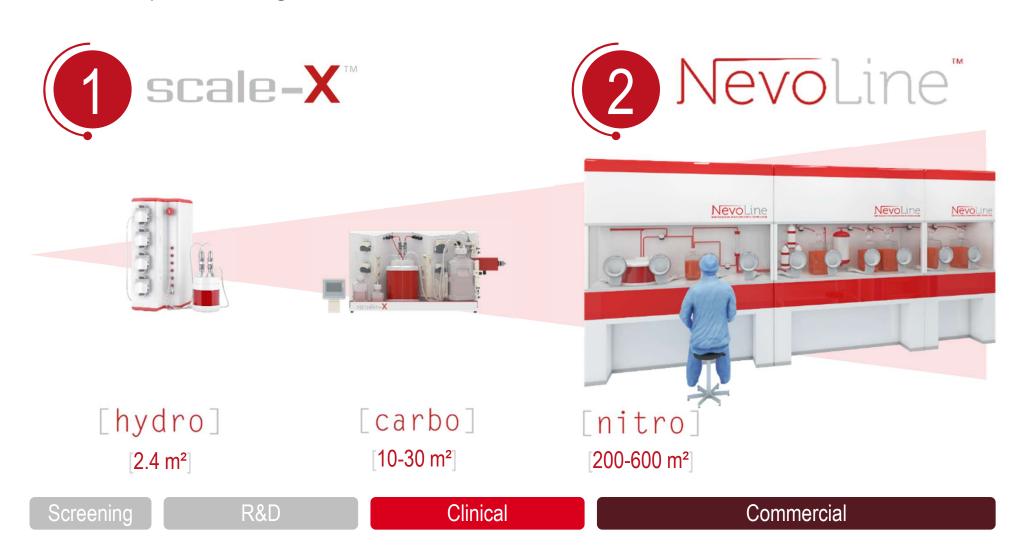
# Value creation

Designing and delivering high performance, low footprint bioprocessing technologies for dramatic reduction of CAPEX & OPEX



### The scale-X bioreactor and NevoLine platform offer a range of configurations supporting vaccines development

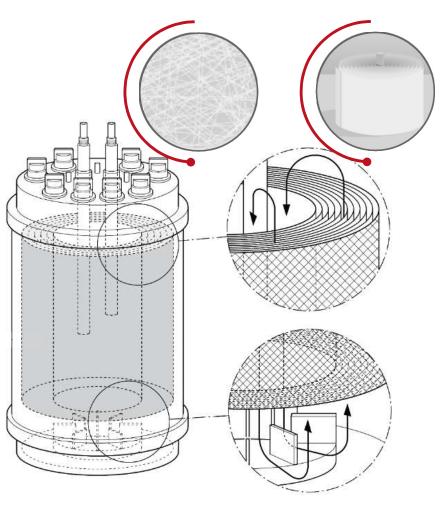
Bioreactor product range





### Process intensification is enabled by our scale-X fixed-bed bioreactor, a scalable solution for low COG virus manufacture

Proprietary fixed-bed technology



### Structured packing of rolled membrane

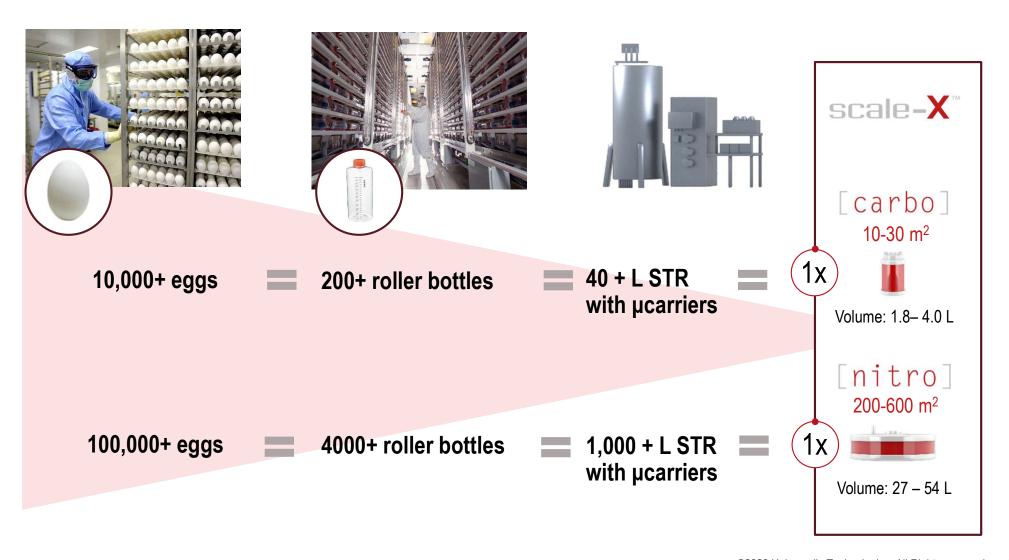
- > Unique dual layer structure
  - PET, non-woven fabric layer for cell adhesion
  - Polypropylene mesh spacer layer for structure and fluid flow path
- > Ensuring homogeneity and reproducibility of the culture:
  - In cell entrapment & distribution
  - In media circulation & nutrients availability
- > Adapted to a variety of cell line & viral products

High density
Homogeneous cell distribution



### scale-X bioreactor dramatically reduces CAPEX & OPEX by replacing traditional manufacturing & associated large footprints

scale-X bioreactor replacing conventional technologies

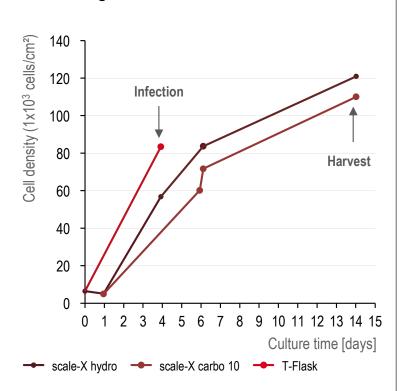




### scale-X bioreactor's spiral-wound fixed-bed enables high cell densities on a small footprint for several vaccines cell lines

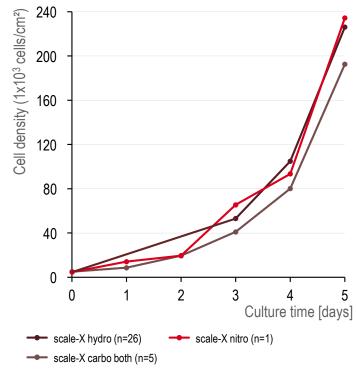
scale-X hydro | Cell growth examples (MRC5 & Vero)

#### MRC5 cell growth



- > **Equivalent** MRC5 cell growth profile between scale-X and classic flatware technology
- > High cell density harvested of 120,000 cells/cm2

#### Scalability of cell growth Vero



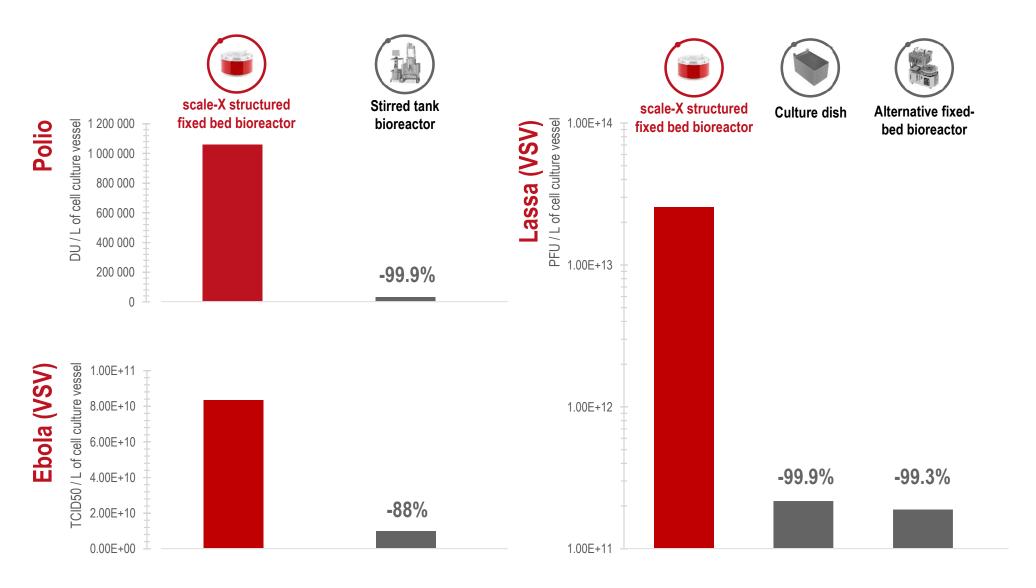
- > Reproducible cell growth during process scale-up
- > High cell density at infection 200,000+ cells/cm², or ~30 M/mL

### Other biological systems grown in fixed-bed

- Vero Influenza, Newcastle, Rabies, Rotavirus
- > MRC5 Hepatitis A
- > MDBK Bovine Herpes Virus
- > CEF MVA
- > **A549** rAAV, Adenovirus
- > **HEK 293** Adeno, AAV, Lentivirus, Retrovirus



### The scale-X<sup>™</sup> bioreactor enables up to 99% higher titres compared to other technologies for Polio & VSV production





#### Our technology-driven approach to produce affordable vaccines enables significant reductions in equipment footprint

Equipment requirements for traditional vaccine processes versus NevoLine platform



#### **Process intensification**

replacing large stainless steel bioreactors with high cell density fixed-bed bioreactors

Chaining and integration reducing the number and size of intermediate hold tanks

#### **Process optimization** reducing the number of process steps without

compromising product quality



### NevoLine™ system for cost-effective viral production, chaining scale-X™ bioreactor with downstream processing

Intensified & automated viral production in 10m<sup>2</sup>



#### Culture

scale-X<sup>™</sup> high-performance fixed-bed bioreactor

#### Purification

In-line clarification and purification

#### Inactivation

In contained cabinet



#### Containment and safety

Low-footprint, closed system for process & environment safety

#### **Cost-effective production**

Low CAPEX & COGS, Simplified infrastructure

#### **Automated operations**

And high containment for process reliability & safety

#### **Flexible**

Modular system capable of accommodating different process configurations and product-specific micro-environments

#### Scalable

Using of process intensification to increase manufacturing capacity within a low footprint

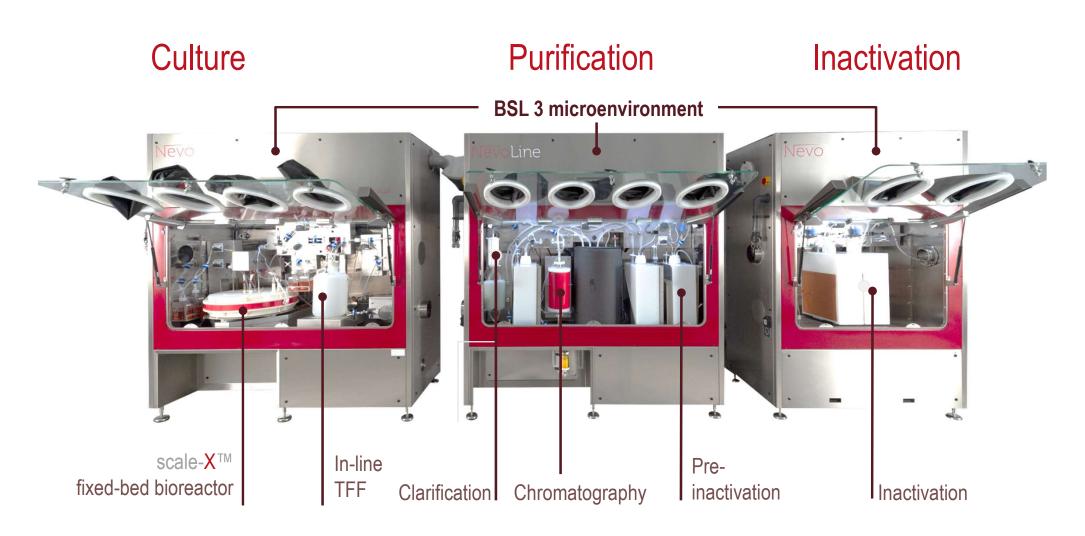
#### Rapid deployment

In new or existing facility, reducing time-to-market



### NevoLine™ system comprises all the unit operations required for "end to end" bulk drug substance manufcatre

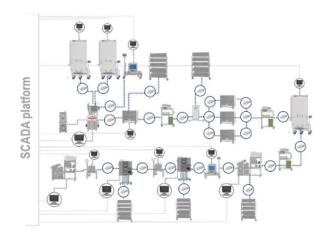
Intensified and automated viral production in 10m<sup>2</sup>





### NevoLine is a streamlined, user friendly integrated manufacturing platform simplifying single-use design and process control

Automated, Ergonomic, Intuitive





### **Nevoline**

- Integrated USP & DSP automation controllers in the module and across different modules
- > Single audit trail for the total process, USP & DSP
- > Single consolidated automatic batch record for the total process
- > Accessible connections
- > Manifolds supported inside the cabinet on a fixed frame
- > Short single-use fluid transfer Lines between unit operations.



- Standalone automation controllers per unit operation and/or between USP & DSP
- > Audit trail per automated unit operation
- > Batch record per unit operation
- > Low-level connections and manipulations, below waist height
- Unsupported manifolds often drag on the floor
- > Long fluid transfer lines between unit operations



### NevoLine™ represents the next generation of vaccine manufacturing, transforming production economics & global access

Simplified equipment & facility – Trivalent Polio vaccine (50M doses/y)

### **Production equipment Facility** 10,000 m<sup>2</sup> Convention Complex process & equipment High investment & operational cost 1,500 m<sup>2</sup> Simplified infrastructure Intensified & contained for 6-fold footprint reduction reduced footprint & CAPEX

### **Impact**

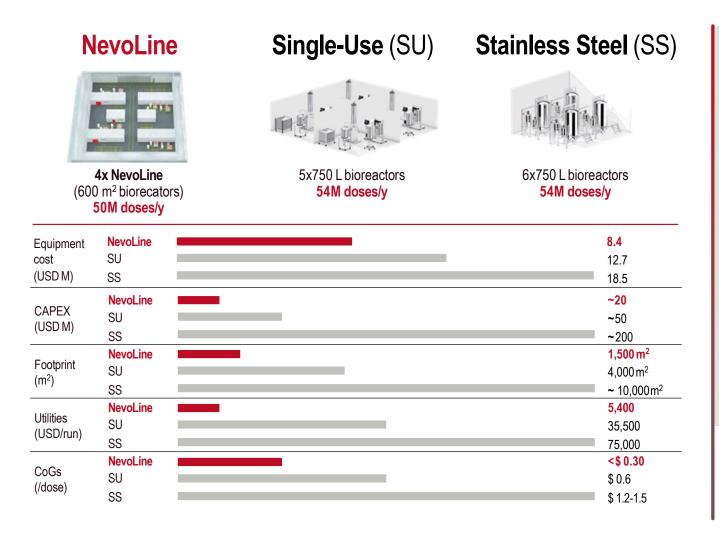
Novel bioproduction model transforming vaccine production economics

<sup>\*</sup> Target values, scaled-up process under development



### Overall savings in equipment costs & footprint promotes significant reduction in CAPEX and OPEX

Comparison with SU & SS – Case study with a trivalent polio vaccine



### Impact

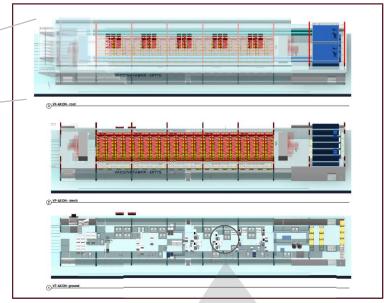
- Intensification and chaining leading to reduced equipment costs
- Lower footprint leading to reduced facility CAPEX and operating costs
- Radical reduction in drug product cost of goods



### The compact design of the NevoLine™ enables a seamless integration into novel facility concepts including prefabricated facilities

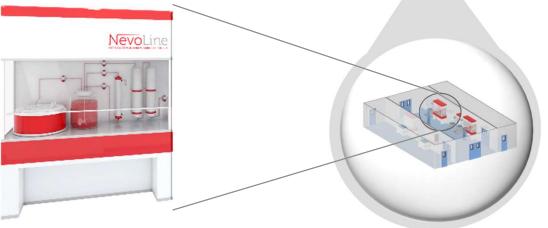
Pre-fabricated facility design integrating the NevoLine platform





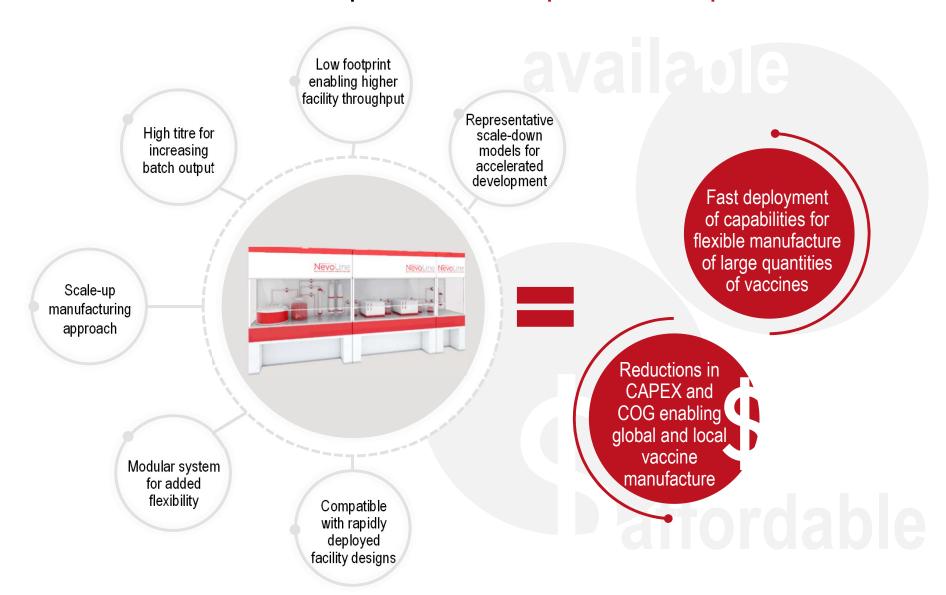
#### The NevoLine platform

is highly compatible with pre-fabricated facility designs that reduce deployment time to 6-18 months from 30-36 months





### The NevoLine™ was designed to promote rapid deployment of vaccine manufacture capabilities for epidemic response





Thank you for your attention www.univercellstech.com

The next evolution of biomanufacturing