

FILLING YOUR NEEDS



# ASEPTIC BLOW-FILL-SEAL FILL/FINISH TECHNOLOGY AND VACCINES

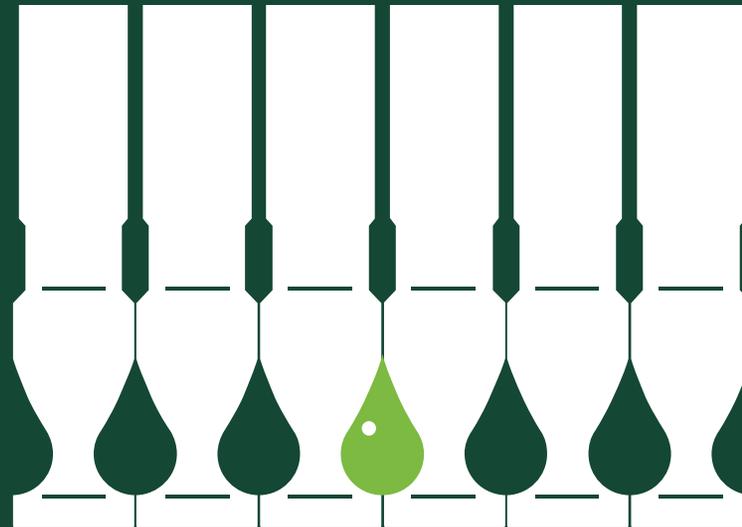
## Developing Countries Vaccine Manufacturers' Network

DCVMN 20<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> October 2019

Tim Kram, General Manager,  
Rommelag USA, Inc.



## Disclaimer:

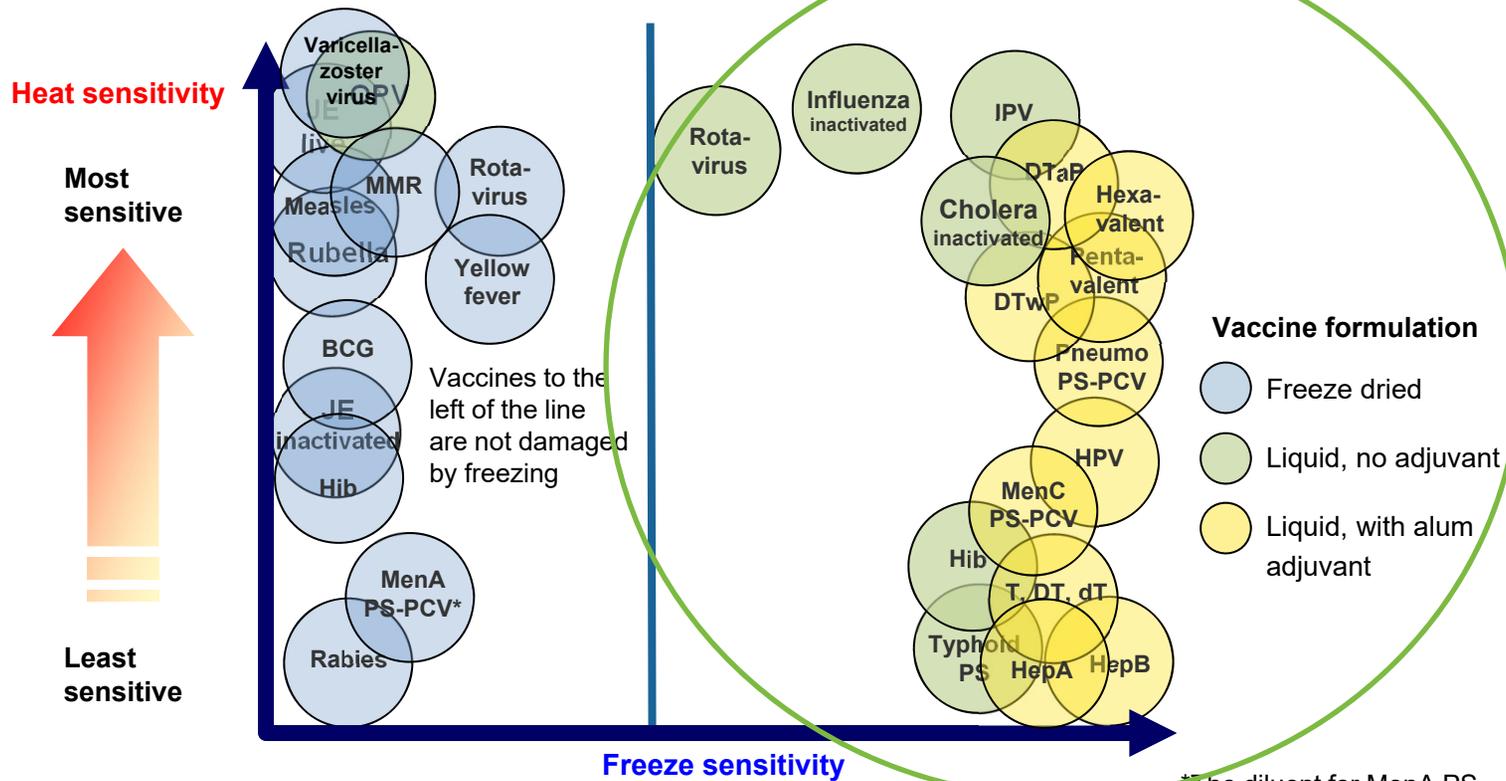
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## PRESENTATION OVER VIEW

- 1. General Introduction to Blow/Fill/Seal  
Advanced Aseptic technology**
- 2. Blow/Fill/Seal, a world wide technology**
- 3. Current status: Vaccines and Blow/Fill/Seal**
- 4. Testing Capabilities**

# TEMPERATURE SENSITIVITY VACCINES

Aseptic Fill  
Liquid Vaccines



\*The diluent for MenA PS-PCV contains alum adjuvant and is freeze sensitive.

<sup>12</sup> Darin Zehrung  
Next-Generation Vaccine Delivery  
Technology Meeting  
Geneva, Switzerland, Feb. 2014



## WHY BLOW/FILL/SEAL

Reduce the cost of the delivered dose

- Current standard is multi-dose glass vials
- Breakage – 10 doses lost
- Wastage - 6 hours to use all 10 doses

Goal → Lower cost for *Dose Delivered* to GAVI countries

Practical industry considerations:

- Glass quality going down – higher rejection rate in production
- High quality glass cost going up – increased manufacturing cost

## WHY BLOW/FILL/SEAL

Reduce the cost of the delivered dose

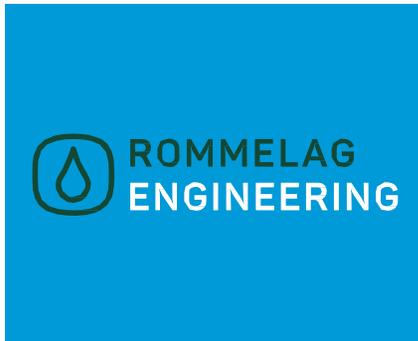
- BFS is a known technology
  - 50 years in pharmaceutical manufacturing
- Very high aseptic assurance
  - Recognized *Advanced Aseptic Technology*\*
- High capacity, low cost production
  - +4 billion aseptically filled drug products supplied to US market today

- \* USP and US FDA

# ROMMELAG BLOW/FILL/SEAL TECHNOLOGY

## TIM KRAM

Commitment to Aseptic Fill/Finish Technology



Innovators  
Blow/Fill/Seal  
Technology

850 People



Contract  
Manufacturing  
utilizing  
Blow/Fill/Seal  
950 People

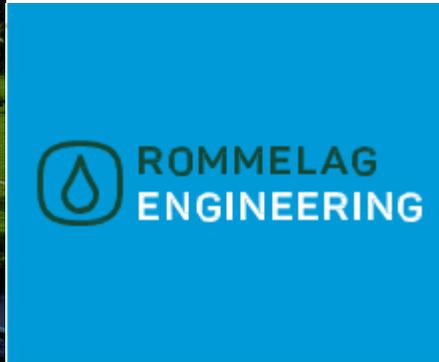
Bill and Melinda Gates  
foundation grant

Develop New Delivery  
Systems

Bill and Melinda Gates  
foundation grant

Test Vaccines for  
Compatibility

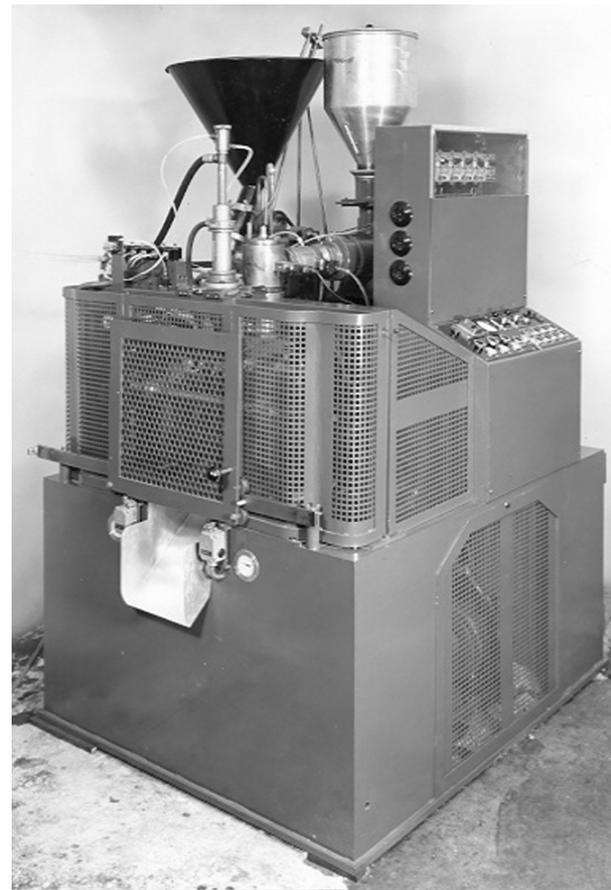






# BLOW/FILL/SEAL BASICS

# 1962 – GERHARD HANSEN AND BLOW FILL SEAL



# REGULATORY ACCEPTANCE FOR ADVANCED ASEPTIC BFS TECHNOLOGY

## US FDA 2004 Aseptic Guidance

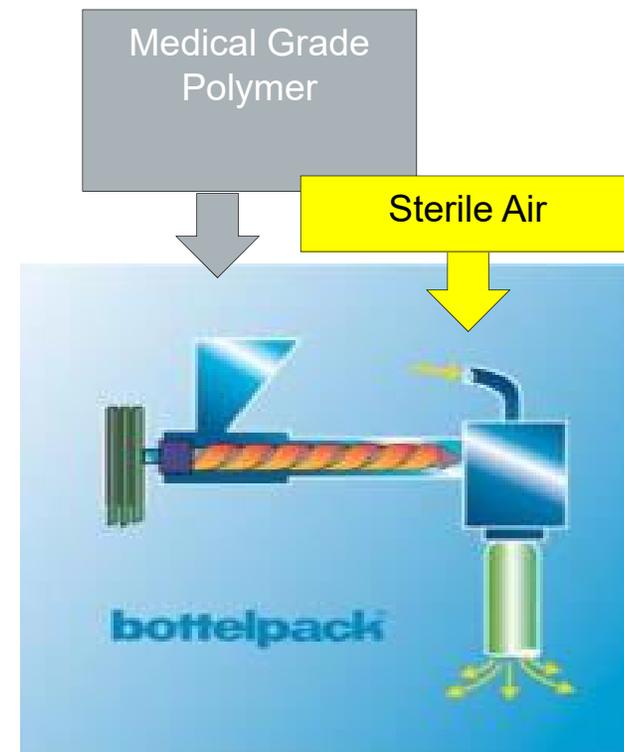
*Blow-fill-seal (BFS) technology is an automated process by which containers are formed, filled, and sealed in a continuous operation. This manufacturing technology includes economies in container closure processing and reduced human intervention and is often used for filling and packaging ophthalmics, respiratory care products, and, less frequently, injectables. This appendix discusses some of the critical control points of this technology.*

*Guidance for Industry, Sterile Drug Products Produced by Aseptic Processing — Current Good Manufacturing Practice, September 2004*

## BLOW-FILL-SEAL (BFS) PROCESS: PARISON FORMATION

Blow/Fill/Seal Process: 4-13 seconds

- Medical Grade Polymer fed to a extrusion blow molding system
- Parison formed – empty plastic tube
- Sterile filtered air prevents empty parison from collapsing

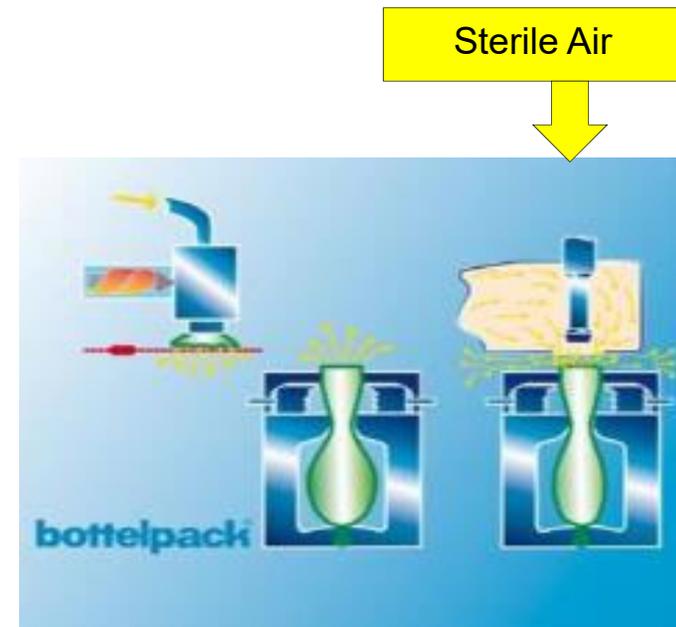


Melting polymer & extrusion of parison with sterile air

## BLOW-FILL-SEAL (BFS) PROCESS: SHUTTLING

Blow/Fill/Seal Process: 4-13 seconds

- Container is formed
- The container is moved to the point of fill
- The point-of-fill is protected by overpressure sterile filtered air

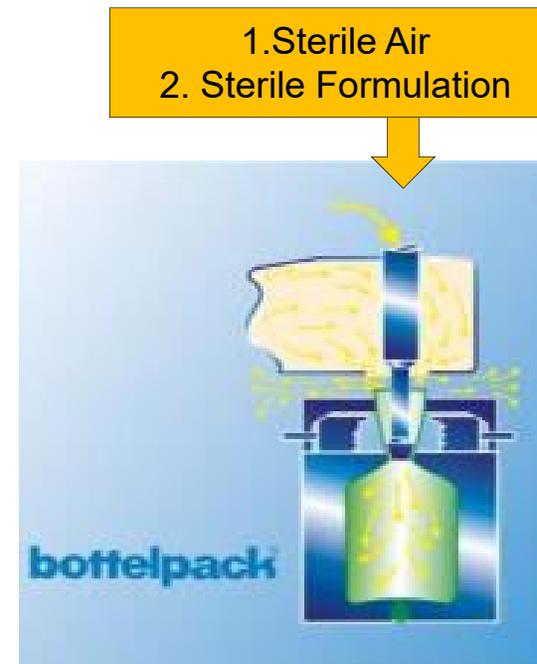


Transfer in mould  
and cutting (overpressure  
of sterile air)

## BLOW-FILL-SEAL (BFS) PROCESS: BLOWING

Blow/Fill/Seal Process: 4-13 seconds

- Sterile filtered air blown into bottle to complete formation

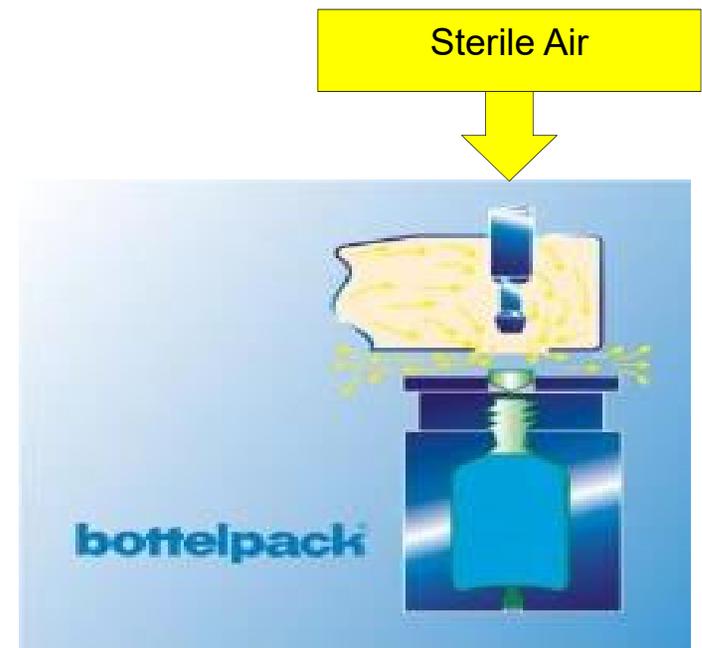


Container blow moulding  
with sterile air & filling

## BLOW-FILL-SEAL (BFS) PROCESS: FILLING AND SEALING

Blow/Fill/Seal Process: 4-13 seconds

- Container is filled
- “head” mould closes and seals the container



Filling and Container closing

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# PRODUCTS UTILIZING BFS TECHNOLOGY

Rommelag

# TRADITIONAL INJECTION METHODS WITH BFS AMPOULE WITH LUER CONNECTION



# COMMON APPLICATIONS



Large Volume Parenterals LVP



Injectables - Small Volume Parenterals SVP



Respiratory Care Products, Inhalations



Multi-dose Ampoules  
Unit-dose Ampoules



Eye Care, Nose Care, Ear Care,  
Contact Lense Cleaning



Ointments, Enemas, Gels

# COMMON BFS PRODUCTS



# COMMERCIAL CONTAINERS FOR INJECTABLE PRODUCTS

## LUER CONNECTION FOR SYRINGE

Rommelag CMO

- <1 mL
- Advanced Aseptic
- Other designs being developed
- Glass ampoule replacement



# HISTORY OF BLOW/FILL/SEAL WITH VACCINES

# DILUENT PRODUCTS

## Sterile Water for Injection



# VACCINE COMPATIBILITY – NASAL LAV VACCINE

2007-2010

DOI:10.1111/irv.12027  
www.influenzajournal.com

Original Article

## Immunogenicity of a quadrivalent Ann Arbor strain live attenuated influenza vaccine delivered using a blow-fill-seal device in adults: a randomized, active-controlled study\*

Eric A. Sheldon,<sup>a</sup> Robert Jeanfreau,<sup>b</sup> Joseph A. Sliman,<sup>c,†</sup> Supoat Charenkavanich,<sup>d,†</sup> Matthew D. Rousculp,<sup>e,†</sup> Filip Dubovsky,<sup>f</sup> Raburn M. Mallory<sup>f</sup>

# VACCINE COMPATIBILITY – NASAL LAV VACCINE

## 2007-2010

**Results:** Q/LAIV-BFS was immunologically noninferior to T/LAIV because the upper bounds for all four 95% confidence intervals (CIs) for post-dose strain-specific GMT ratios were less than the predefined margin of  $\leq 1.5$ . Secondary immunogenicity outcomes, solicited symptoms, and AEs were also comparable.

Post Dose Ratio of Geometric Mean Titers (GMTs) of Hemagglutination Inhibition (HAI) Antibody						
Strain	Q/LAIV		T/LAIV		GMT Ratio (T/LAIV / Q/LAIV)	
	N	GMT	N	GMT	Ratio	95% CI
A/H1N1	1176	8.1	586	7.7	0.95	0.87, 1.03
A/H3N2	1176	8.3	586	7.7	0.93	0.85, 1.00
B Yamagata	1176	60.3	294	54.1	0.90	0.79, 1.02
B Victoria	1176	27.4	292	26.7	0.97	0.87, 1.10

H1N1 & H3N2 data from 2 T/LAIV arms were combined for analysis

**Conclusion:** The immunogenicity and safety of Q/LAIV-BFS, as defined in this study, were comparable to those of T/LAIV in adults.

This study was sponsored by MedImmune.

# VACCINE COMPATIBILITY – ORAL ROTA LAV

2012

- Multiple vaccines tested
- Statistically no difference between BFS and existing packaging
- Existing prefilled plastic tube
- GSK Australia converting to BFS

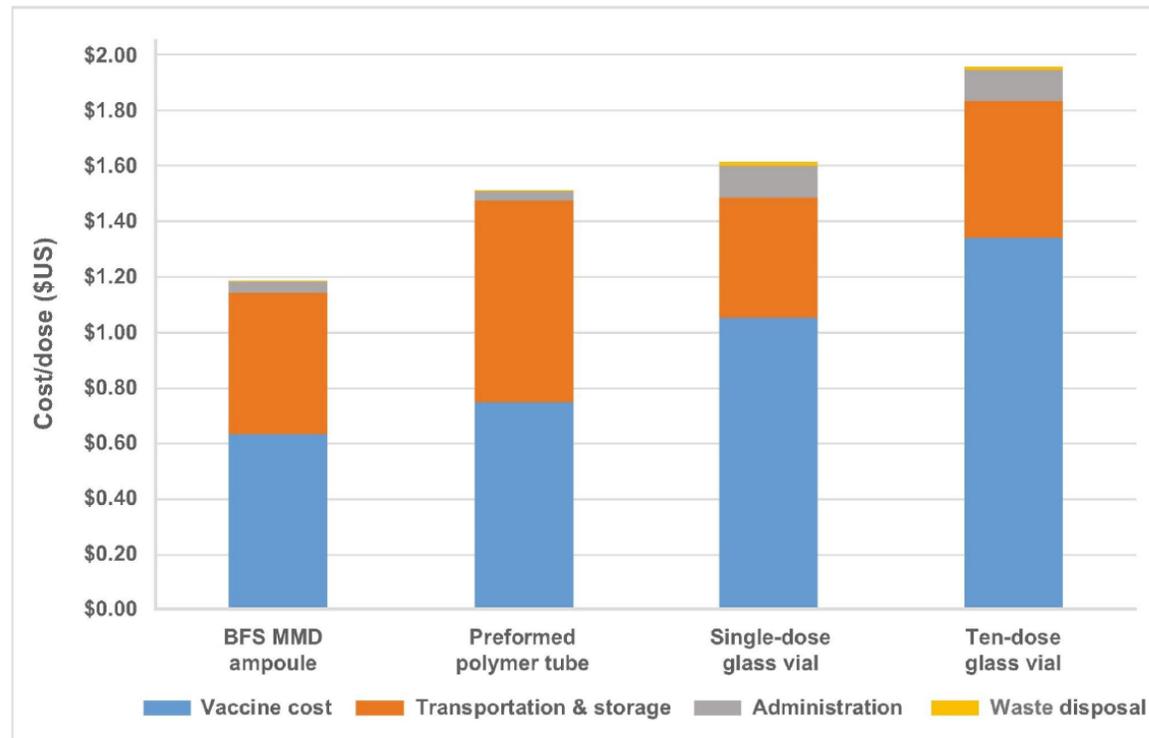


GlaxoSmithKline Australia VP and General Manager Geoff McDonald in the new vaccine facility. Picture Aaron Francis

# BILL AND MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION GRANTS

# PATH DEVELOPED PRODUCTION COSTS

## Total cost of delivery – Rotavirus vaccine



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Abbreviations: BFS, blow-fill-seal; MMD, multi-mono-dose.



Updates on Packaging and Delivery for Rotavirus and Oral Vaccines Presentation for the Ninth ARVAC Rotavirus Vaccine Manufacturers' Meeting Bangkok, Thailand, Jeff Sedita –PATH, June 22, 2017



# VACCINES: WHY BLOW FILL SEAL

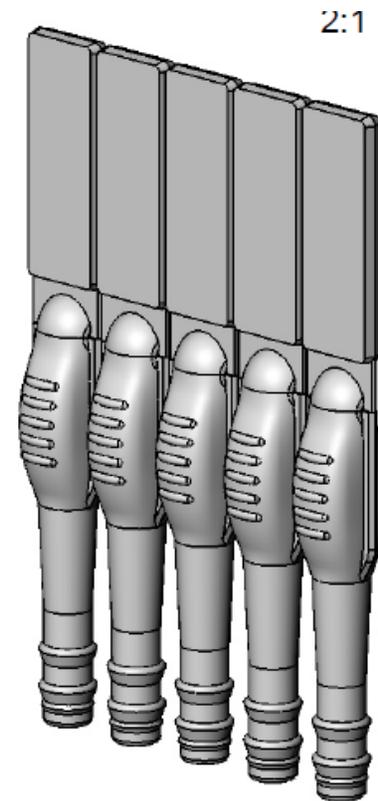
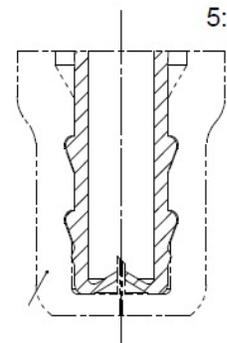
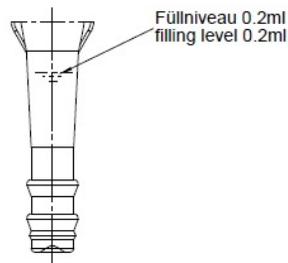
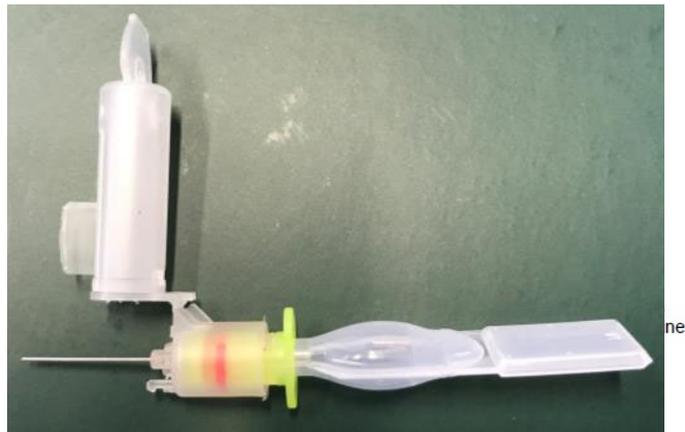
## Container development grant

- Single dose per container:
  - No preservatives
  - Low wastage
  - Low breakage
  - Small cold chain footprint
- Low Cost of Goods
- Vaccine compatibility



# CPAD DEVELOPMENT GRANT

- **ApiJect Concept container**
  - Double needle design
  - Existing BFS container design



# GLOBAL GOOD DESIGN – REDUCED CONTAINER SIZE OPTIMIZED FOR COLD CHAIN



# GRANT TO DEVELOP NEW DELIVERY FORMS

## Rommelag Engineering

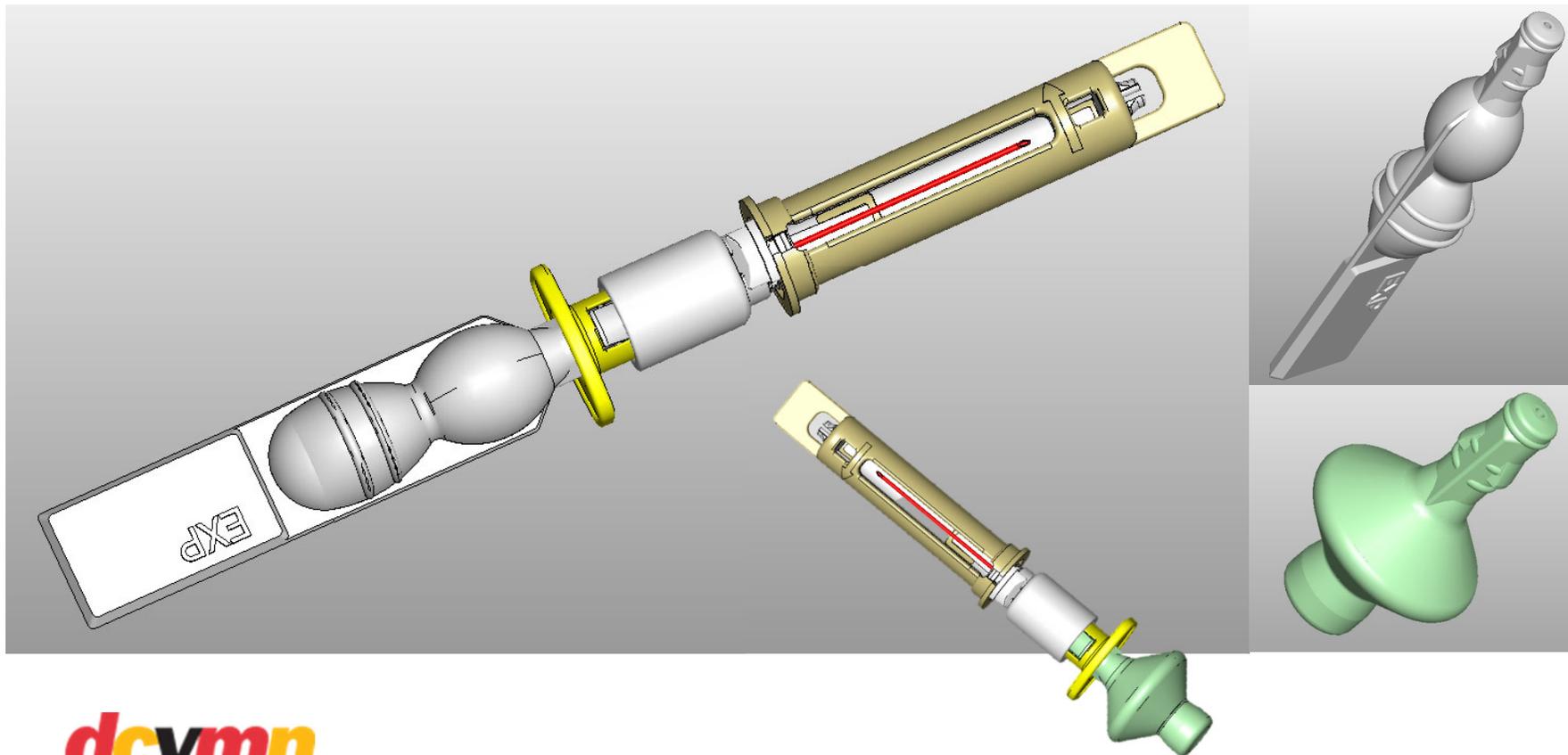
- CPAD – Compact Auto Disable Device
- Replacement for single dose glass vial
- Rommelag Multi-Mono Dose Design



# NEXT STEPS – NEW GRANT WORK

## CPAD DEVICE – COMPACT AUTO DISABLE DEVICE

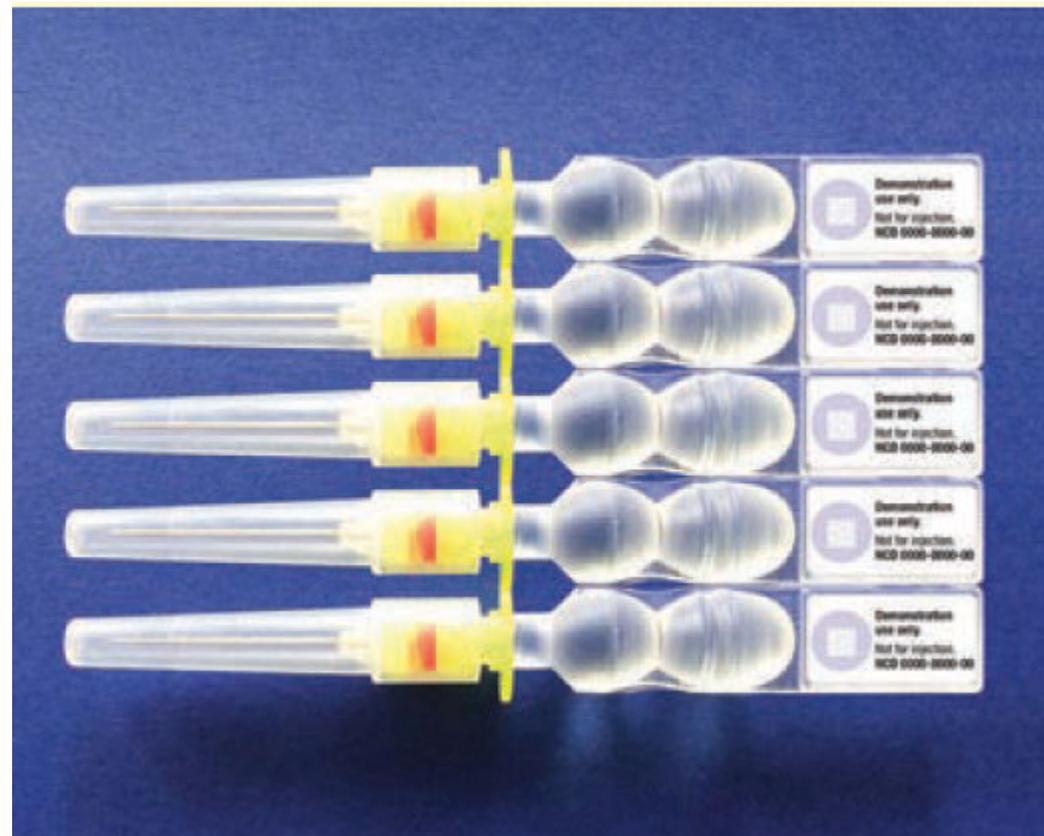
ApiJect development



## GRANT TO DEVELOP NEW DELIVERY FORMS

Rommelag Engineering

- ApiJect current design



# VACCINE COMPATIBILITY – INJECTABLE

## Feasibility Assessment of Novavax RSV F vaccine with Maropack Cold BFS Process in Global Good Design Ampule

- Objective
  - Provide feasibility assessment on aluminum phosphate adjuvanted RSV F vaccine in BFS as a potential WHO product presentation, with funding from Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to Rommelag and Maropack.
- Scope
  - Primary: Evaluate aluminum phosphate adjuvanted RSV F vaccine compatibility/stability, potential leachables with BFS containers.
  - Stretch: Evaluate BFS fill system compatibility with recirculation system
- Outcome: Recommending further developing BFS as a potential WHO Product Presentation
  - RSV F vaccine stability profile in BFS similar to profiles in glass vials and syringes
  - Minimal concern on potential leachables in simulated leachable study
  - BFS fill process compatible with a recirculation system critical for uniformity control



# VACCINE COMPATIBILITY – INJECTABLE

## Feasibility Assessment of Novavax RSV F vaccine with Maropack Cold BFS Process in Global Good Design Ampule

- Feasibility study with Global Good BFS ampule design
  - 9 month/2-8 °C stability testing completed; continuing to 24 months
    - Stability profile in BFS, by ELISA, RP-HPLC, SDS-PAGE, similar to profiles in glass vial and PFS
- Further development of BFS container
  - Modify design to fit with WHO pre-qualified auto-disable syringes
  - Design target: similar use experience to glass vial
    - User Requirements Specification based on
      - Lesson learned from current BFS field study
      - WHO Generic Preferred Product Profile for Vaccines
      - Assessing programmatic suitability of vaccine candidates for WHO prequalification
      - WHO Immunization in Practice
      - WHO Cold chain preference & vaccine vial monitor implementation

## INVENTPRISE VACCINE TESTING

Rommelag CMO

- Successful stability trial
- Injectable vaccine
- Containing adjuvant
  
- Supported by Global Good



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