

Unlocking Efficiency & Flexibility

The Power of Modular Automation in Process Development Labs

ISPE Boston Product Show 2024

October 2nd , 2024

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ISPE Pharma 4.0 CoP – Plug&Produce Working Group
GAMP Italy CoP - Steering Committee



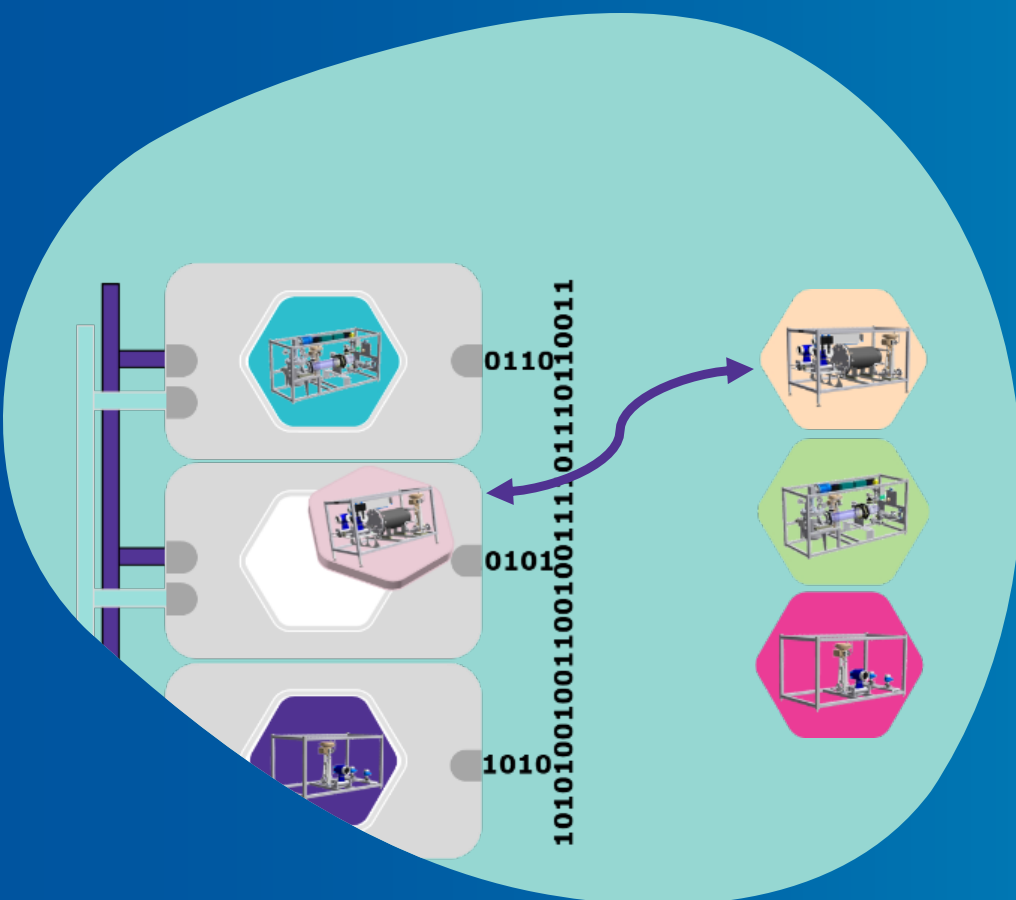
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Chapter

PRODUCT SHOW





A vibrant science and technology company

Every day, our more than **66,000 employees** work in **66 countries** to make a positive difference to millions of people's lives by creating more joyful and sustainable ways to live.

We are known as **Merck** internationally except for the United States and Canada, where we operate as **EMD Serono** in the biopharmaceutical business, **MilliporeSigma** in the life science business and **EMD Electronics** in the high-tech materials business.



Healthcare

- Pioneer in cancer treatment
- Advancing care in immunology
- Global market leader in **fertility treatments**
- Robust R&D pipeline
- We deliver **personalized treatments** for serious diseases

Life Science

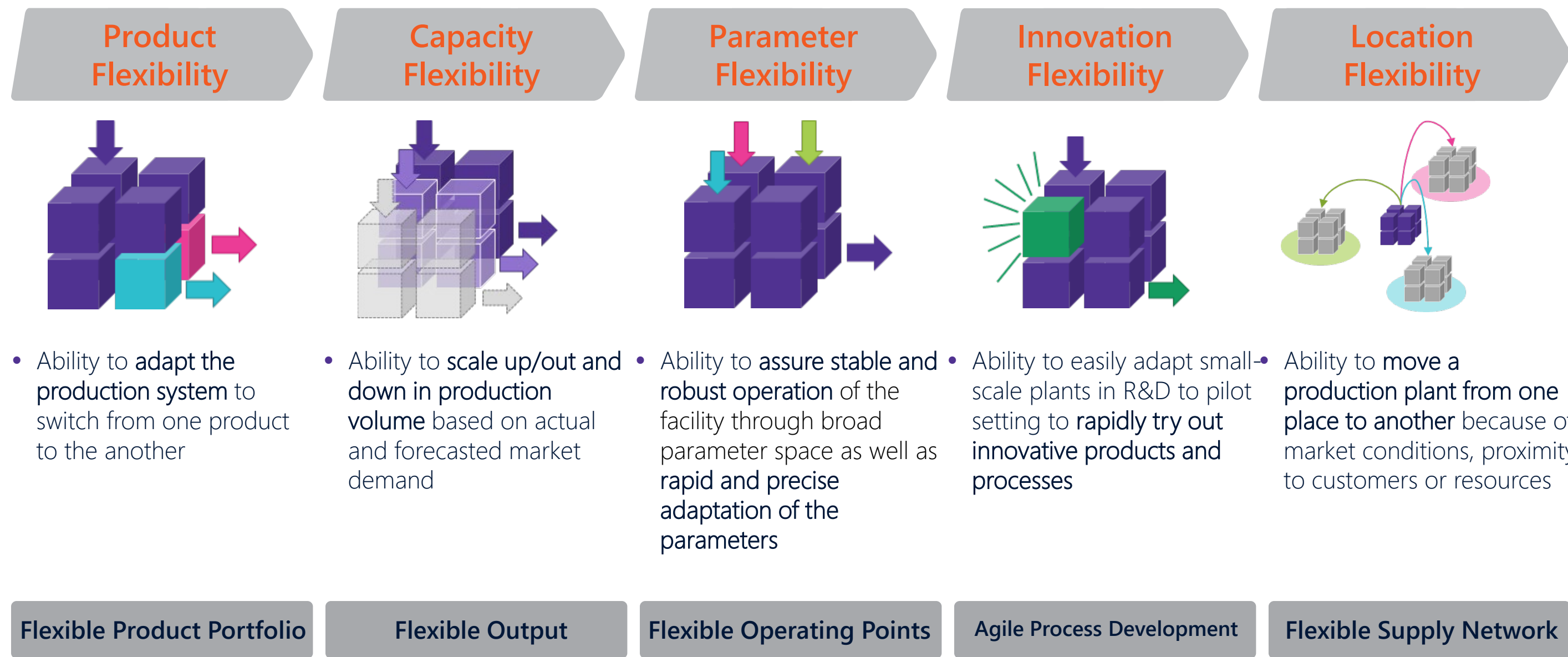
- Trusted supplier and partner for the scientific community
- From research to large scale production with **>300,000 products**
- Novel technologies and world-class solutions driving discoveries

Electronics

- Innovations to change the way we access, store, process and display data
- Enabler of **new generation** electronic products for our everyday lives
- Supplier of innovative, functional and decorative pigments

Different Dimensions of Flexibility

Flexibly Adapt Operations to Changing Demands



Source: TNO 2015 R10756: Small-scale flexible plants – Towards a more agile and competitive EU chemical industry, 08. June 2015

How to fulfill flexibility demands from labs to production?

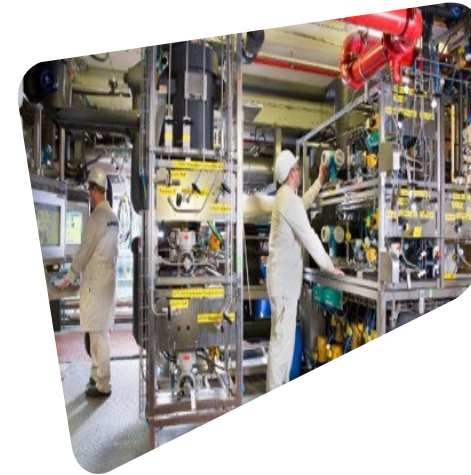
**Early development:
Route Scouting**



**Lab Scale:
Proof of Concept**



**Pilot Scale:
Proof of Process**



**Production Scale:
Standard Production**

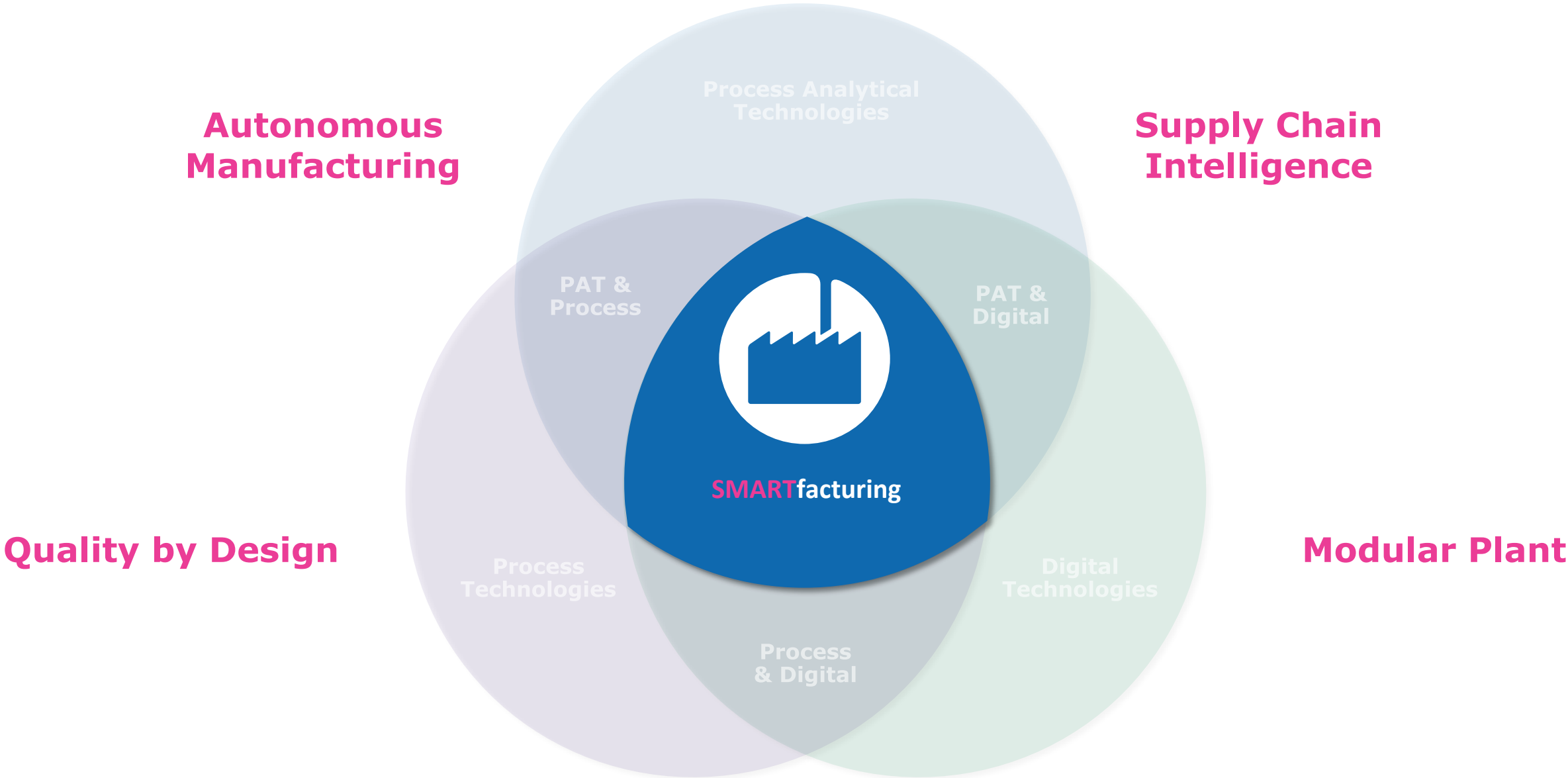


Classical Automation solutions are inadequate:

- ▶ Customized integrations / Vendors locks / low interoperability
- ▶ Requires high automation skills
- ▶ Complex scale-up: lab → pilot → production
- ▶ Qualification/Validation cost

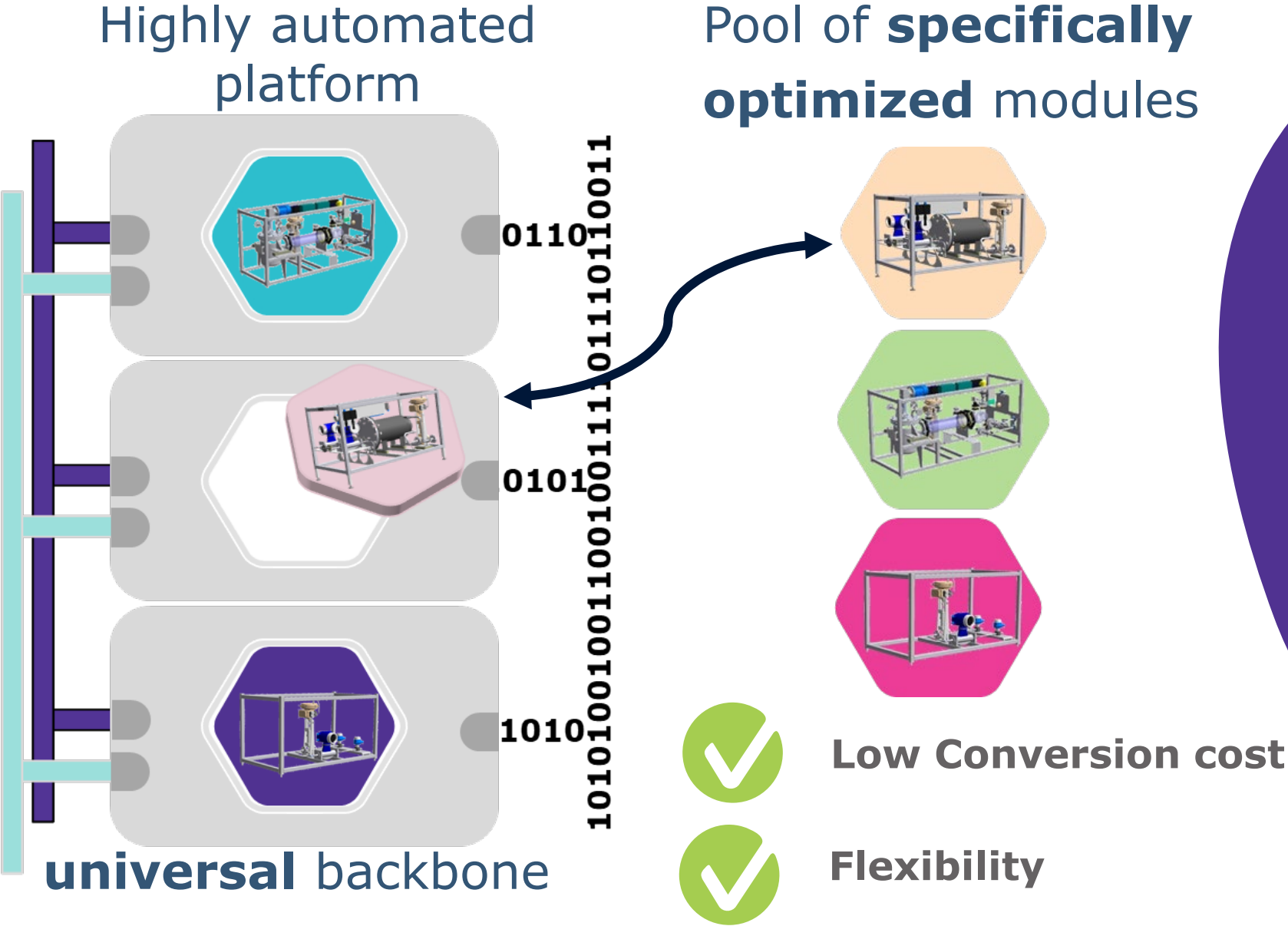
Evolution from MANUfacturing to SMARTfacturing

1. Foundation 2. Convergence



Modular Plant concept

Over 100
modules built



Break the paradox

between **flexibility** and **efficiency**.

pre-qualified modules are hooked into the production eco system

Darmstadt Technology Center goes digital

60 hoods equipped with Modular Automation MTP in process development



- Modular approach enables the necessary flexibility and diversity in the laboratory environment
- Automation software platform enables more efficient interaction between R&D and production in pilot plant
 - **Vendor independent** software for modules and process orchestration
- Market launches of new products accelerated by up to 50%

Key project figures

Number of sites	3
Users involved	Process Development & IT (overall for 3 sites: 50-70 users)
Installed Modules types	Over 100
Number of connected Devices	Pilot project: 10, Final Deployment: 150
Overall realization time	Pilot: 6 Months Final deployment after 1 ½ years Schedule timeline: 2019 .. 2021

<https://www.merckgroup.com/en/news/introduction-of-modular-automation-for-laboratories-14-07-2022.html>

Advantages of modularization

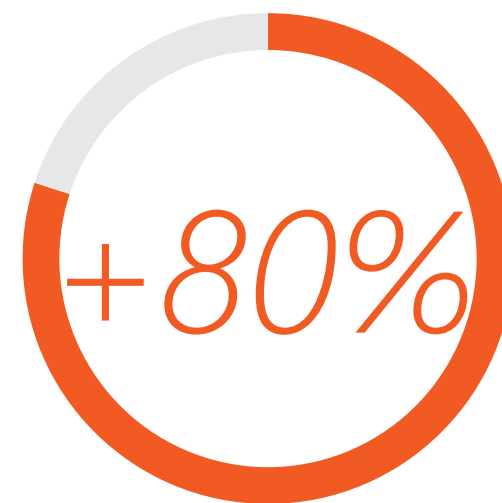
Modularization combines the flexibility of production with high efficiency and low cost



FASTER
TIME-TO-MARKET



ENGINEERING
EFFORT



INCREASED
FLEXIBILITY



CARBON FOOTPRINT
REDUCTION

Source: NAMUR, ZVEI, Merck

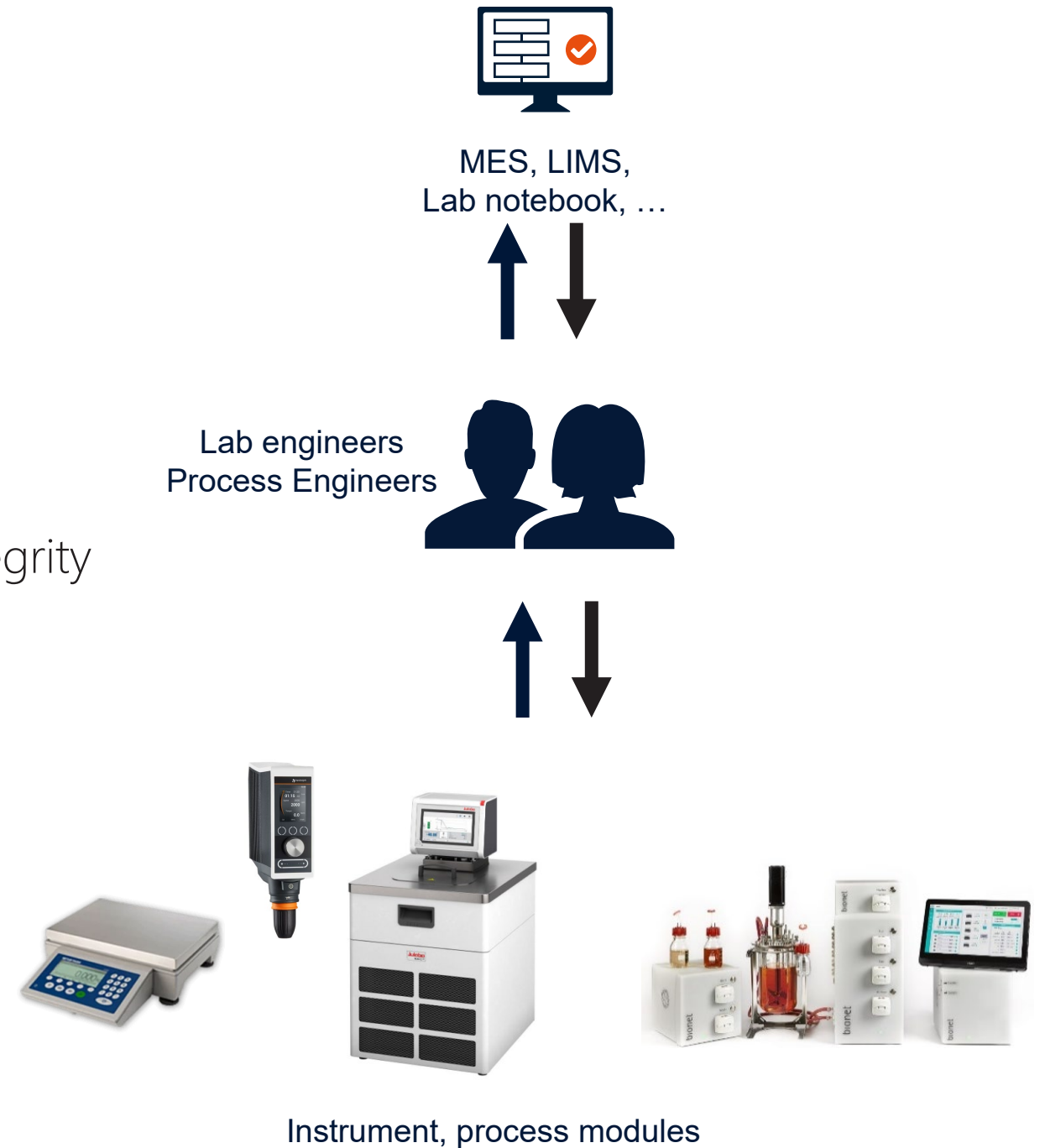


Modular Automation With MTP (Module Type Package)

At Merck Darmstadt.

Challenges integrating lab devices.


- ▶ Lab engineers, follow work instructions:
 - ▶ must manually set instrument configuration
 - ▶ read the result
 - ▶ copy the values on paper or on PC application.
 - ▶ A “**Paper on Glass**” approach that could generate Data Integrity issues.
- ▶ Instruments can be used for different test / experiments:
frequent reconfiguration of instrument setup.



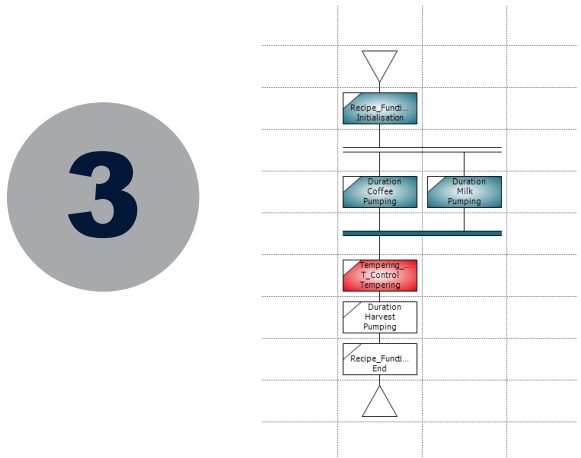
General requirements digitalizing a laboratory or a pilot plant

Sequential execution
of modules operation

2



Common HMI



4



Archive Lot information:

- ▶ Process values
- ▶ Alarms
- ▶ Audit Trails

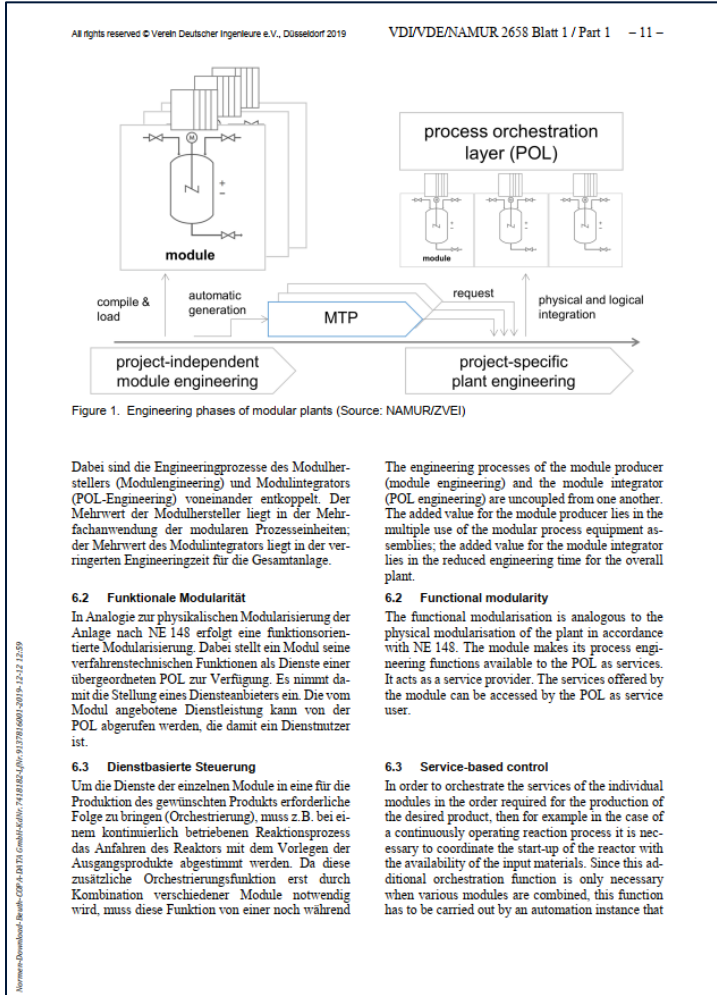


What is MTP (Module Type Package)?



- ▶ MTP is a vendor independent description of production modules.
- ▶ It is the foundation for modular plant engineering by a «Plug & Produce» approach.
- ▶ Concept defined and promoted by NAMUR, an international association of companies active in process industry.
- ▶ Ref: VDI/VDE/NAMUR 2658 - IEC 63280

ICS 35.240.50		VDI/VDE/NAMUR-RICHTLINIEN		Oktober 2019 October 2019	
VEREIN DEUTSCHER INGENIEURE VERBAND DER ELEKTROTECHNIK INFORMATIONSTECHNIK INTERESSEN- GEMEINSCHAFT AUTOMATISIERUNG- TECHNIK DER PROZESSINDUSTRIE		Automatisierungstechnisches Engineering modularer Anlagen in der Prozessindustrie Allgemeines Konzept und Schnittstellen Automation engineering of modular systems in the process industry General concept and interfaces		VDI/VDE/ NAMUR 2658 Blatt 1 / Part 1 Ausg. deutsch/englisch Issue German/English	
Die deutsche Version dieser Richtlinie ist verbindlich. The German version of this standard shall be taken as authoritative. No guarantee can be given with respect to the English translation.					
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VDI/VDE-Gesellschaft Mess- und Automatisierungstechnik (GMA) Fachbereich Industrielle Informationstechnik					
VDI-Handbuch Informationstechnik, Band 1: Angewandte Informationstechnik VDI/VDE-Handbuch Automatisierungstechnik					

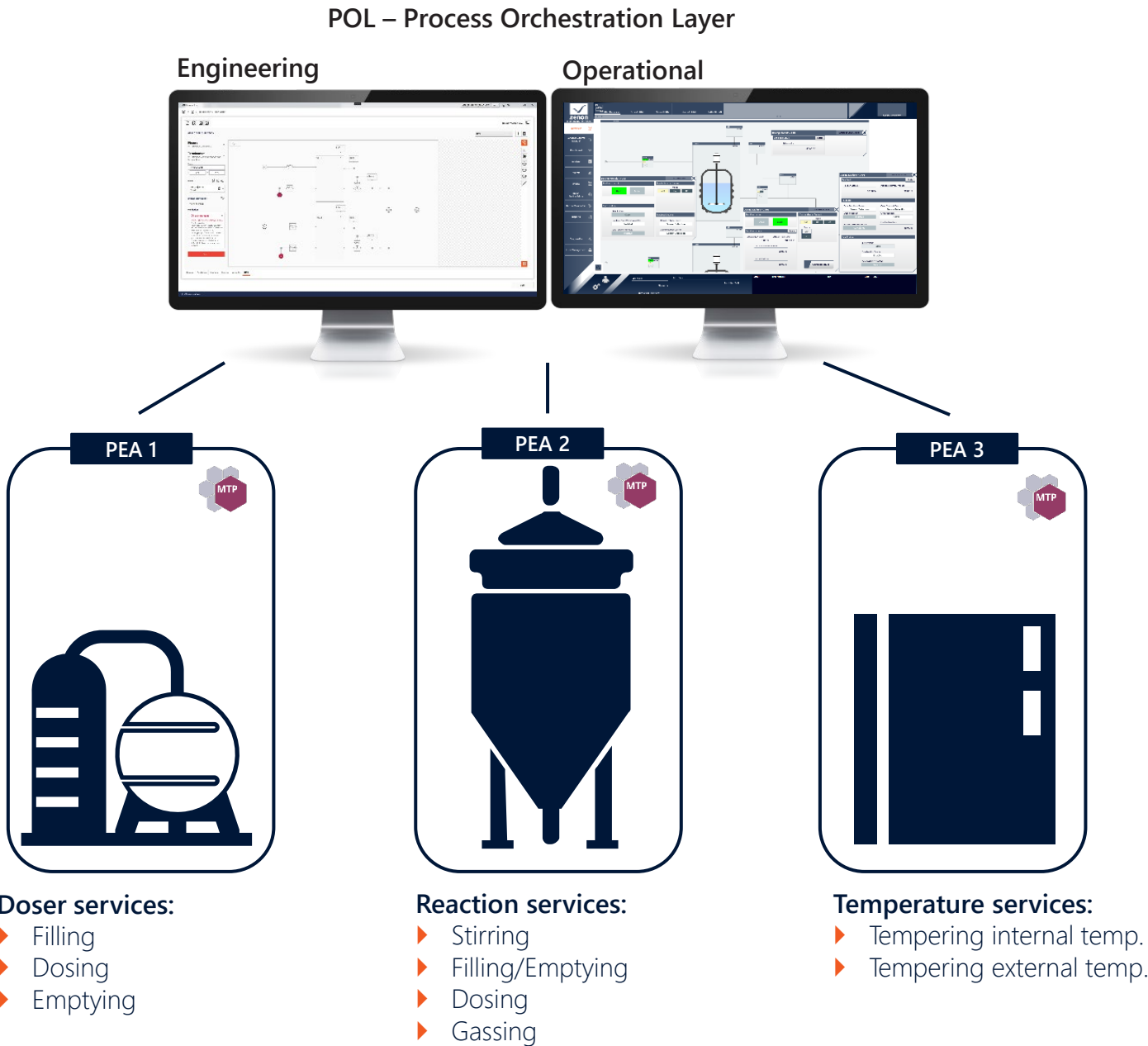


Module Type Package: The components



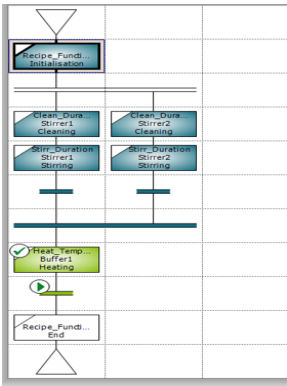
POL
Process Orchestration Layer

PEA
Process Equipment Assembly

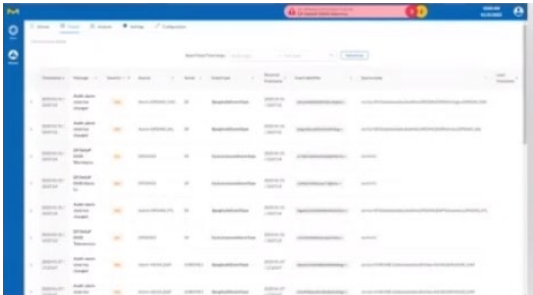


MTP Manifest: the “passport” of the PEA module

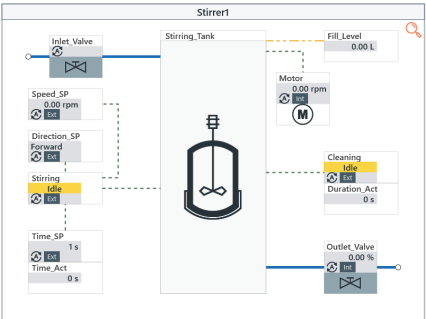
MTP file describes the module characteristics in a standard form.



PEA Services & Control parameters
(e.g. for Recipes)



PEA Alarms & Events



PEA Human Machine Interface
(e.g. Description of P&IDs)



PEA Diagnosis & Maintenance
information
(NAMUR standard in progress)

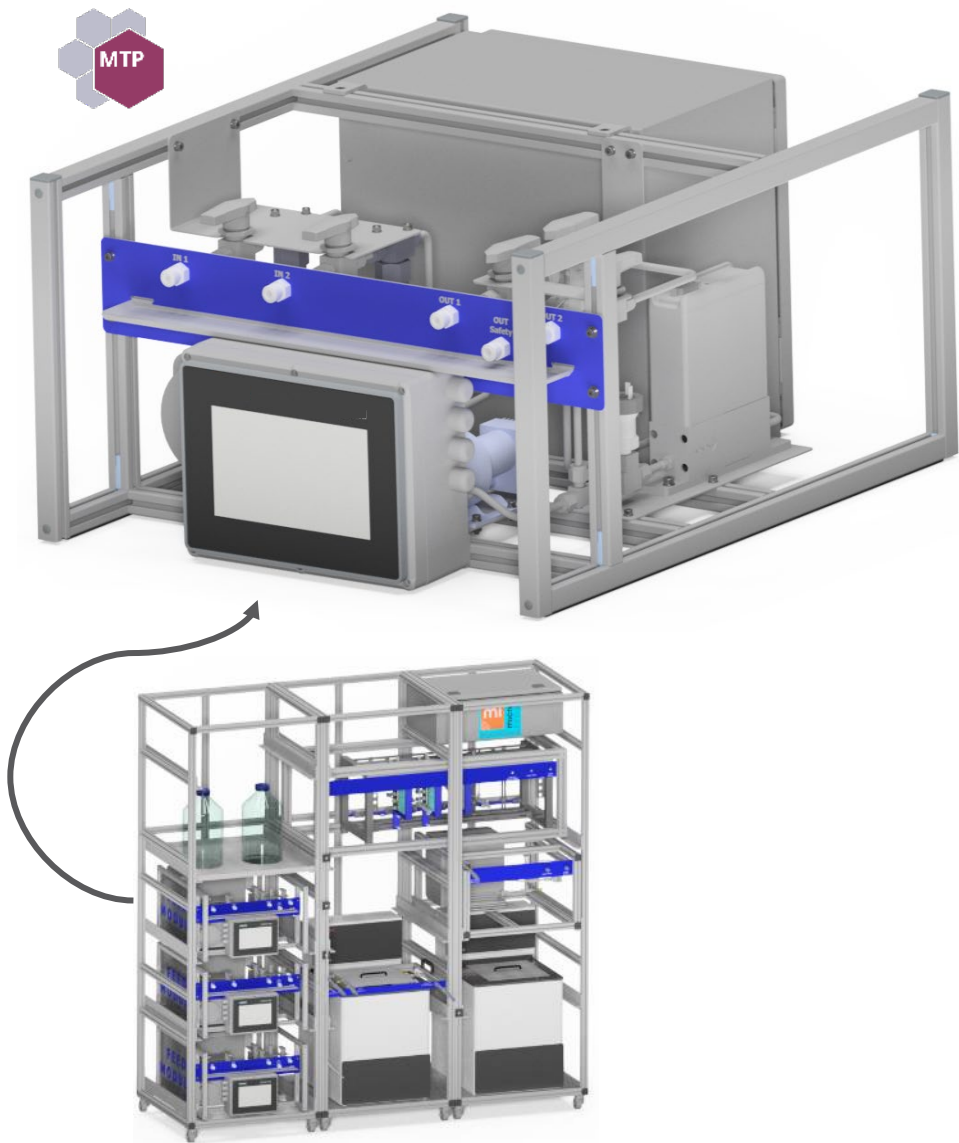
Further aspects for
standardization

PEA Safety & Security Information
(NAMUR standard in progress)

Source: VDI/VDE/NAMUR 2658

PEA example: Microinnova FlowKiloLab

Information defined in the MTP Manifest file.



SERVICES

Q

ContinuousPumping

Service

ContinuousPumping_FixedSpeed

Service Procedure

ContinuousPumping_FixedSpeed_Speed

Procedure Parameter

Type: Analogue Service Parameter

ContinuousPumping_FixedSpeed_Time

Procedure Parameter

Type: Digital Service Parameter

ContinuousPumping_FlowRegulation

Service Procedure

ContinuousPumping_FlowRegulation_Flow

Procedure Parameter

Type: Analogue Service Parameter

ContinuousPumping_FlowRegulation_Time

Procedure Parameter

Type: Digital Service Parameter

General

Revisions

SERVICES

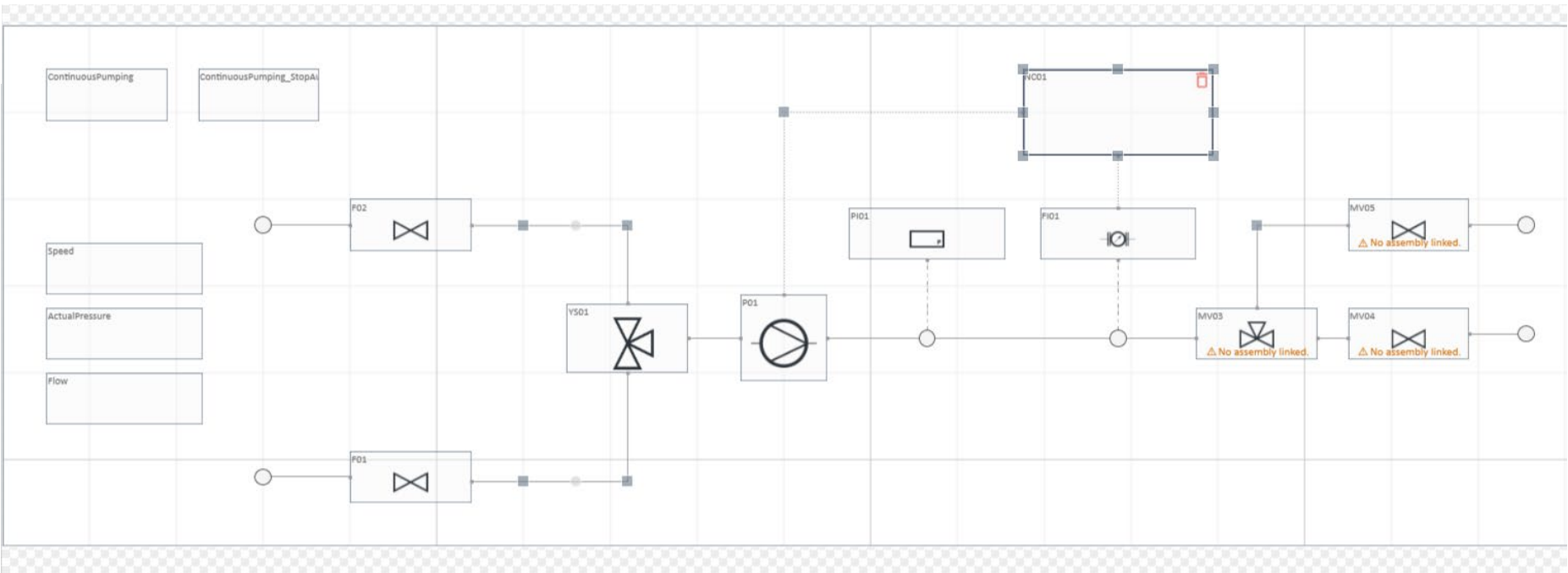
Process Values

Variables

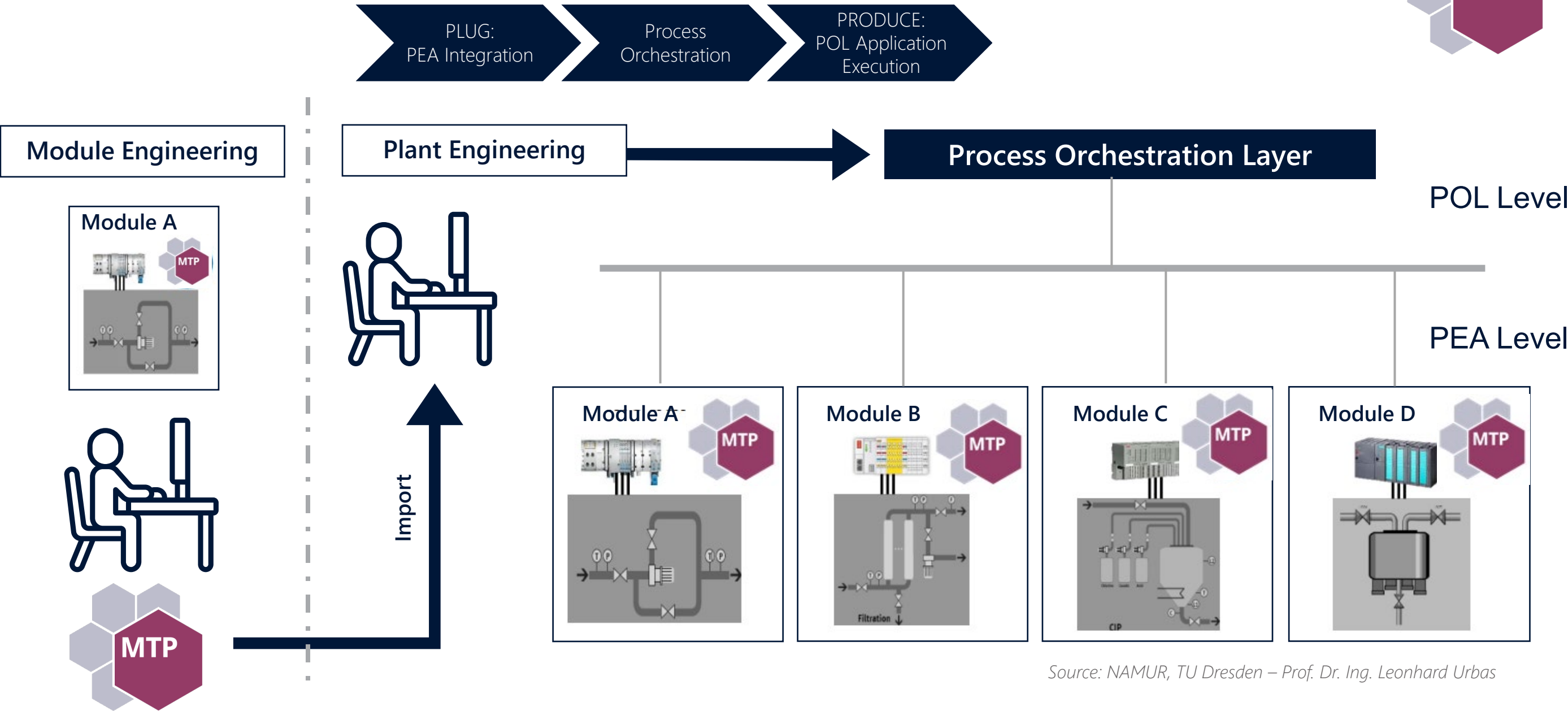
Servers

Texts

HMI



The engineering steps



Source: NAMUR, TU Dresden – Prof. Dr. Ing. Leonhard Urbas



PEA



POL



API Production - Modular Plant 30l/h



PEA1
2 Dosing Unit

PEA2
2 Dosing Unit



PEA3
Reaction Module

PEA4
Product Module
Temp. / Press. ctrl

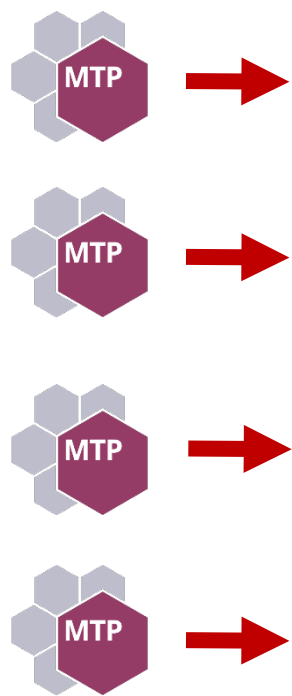


How to generate a Process Orchestration Application?

MTP POL application generation in 3 steps

Plug & Produce

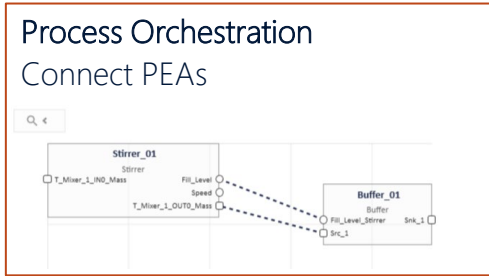
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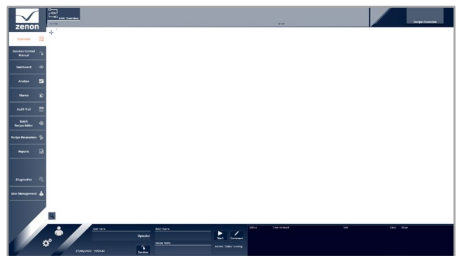
Import PEA MTP files
PEA instances configuration

Variable to be shared with POL
Variables for historian configuration
OPC UA server setting
...

2



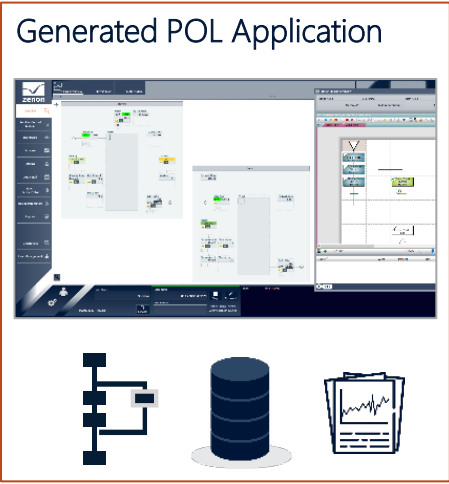
3



POL Template Project
zenon prj including
basic settings, functions
and common configuration.


POL Application Generation

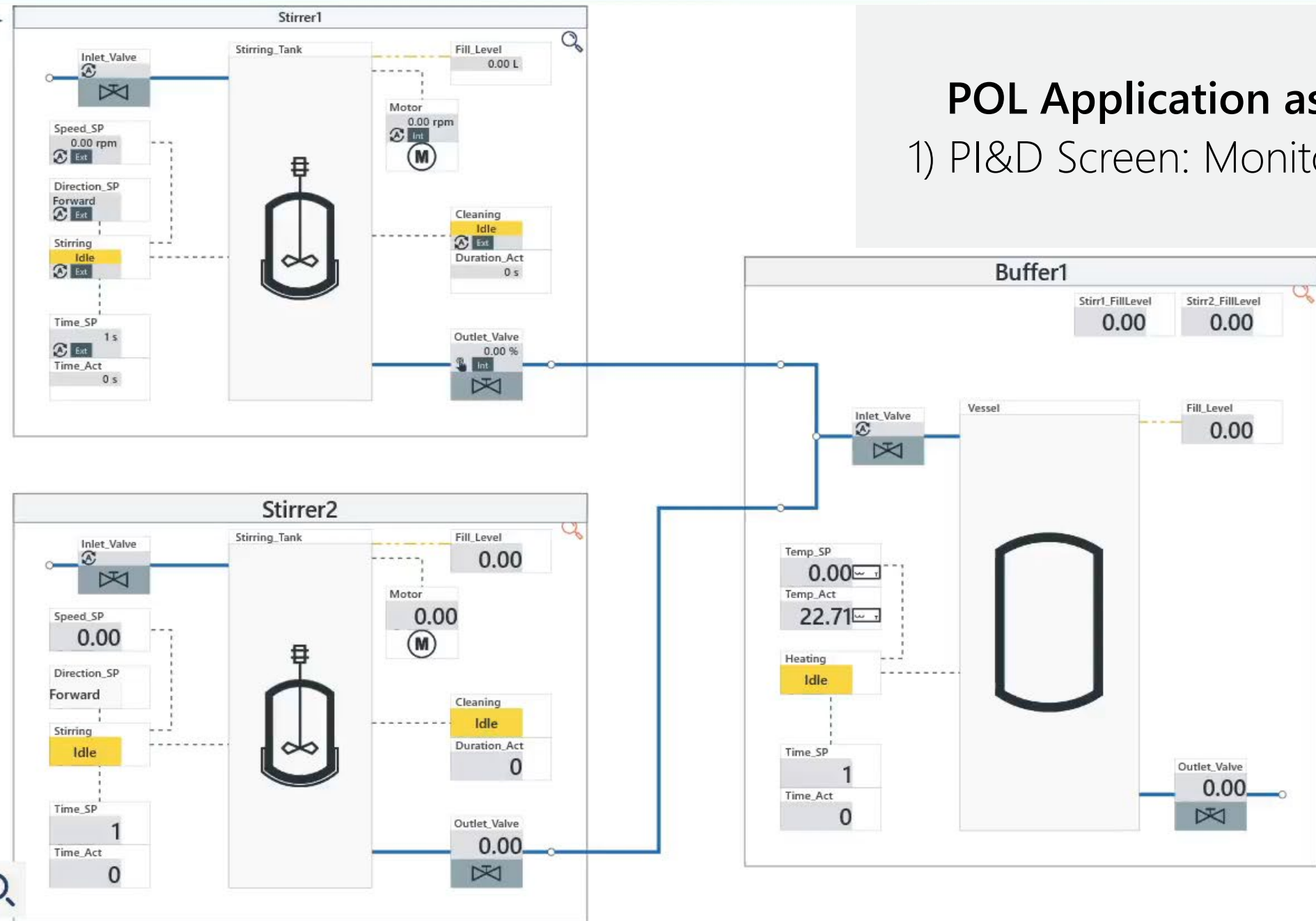
Smart Objects integration & config.
PI&D screens
PEA Manual control faceplates
ISA88 phases generation
ISA88 batch engine
Historian Configuration
Alarm
Audit Trail
Reporting




📄	MTP Editor
📦	Template Management
☰	Device Management
🎭	Orchestration
⚙️	Settings

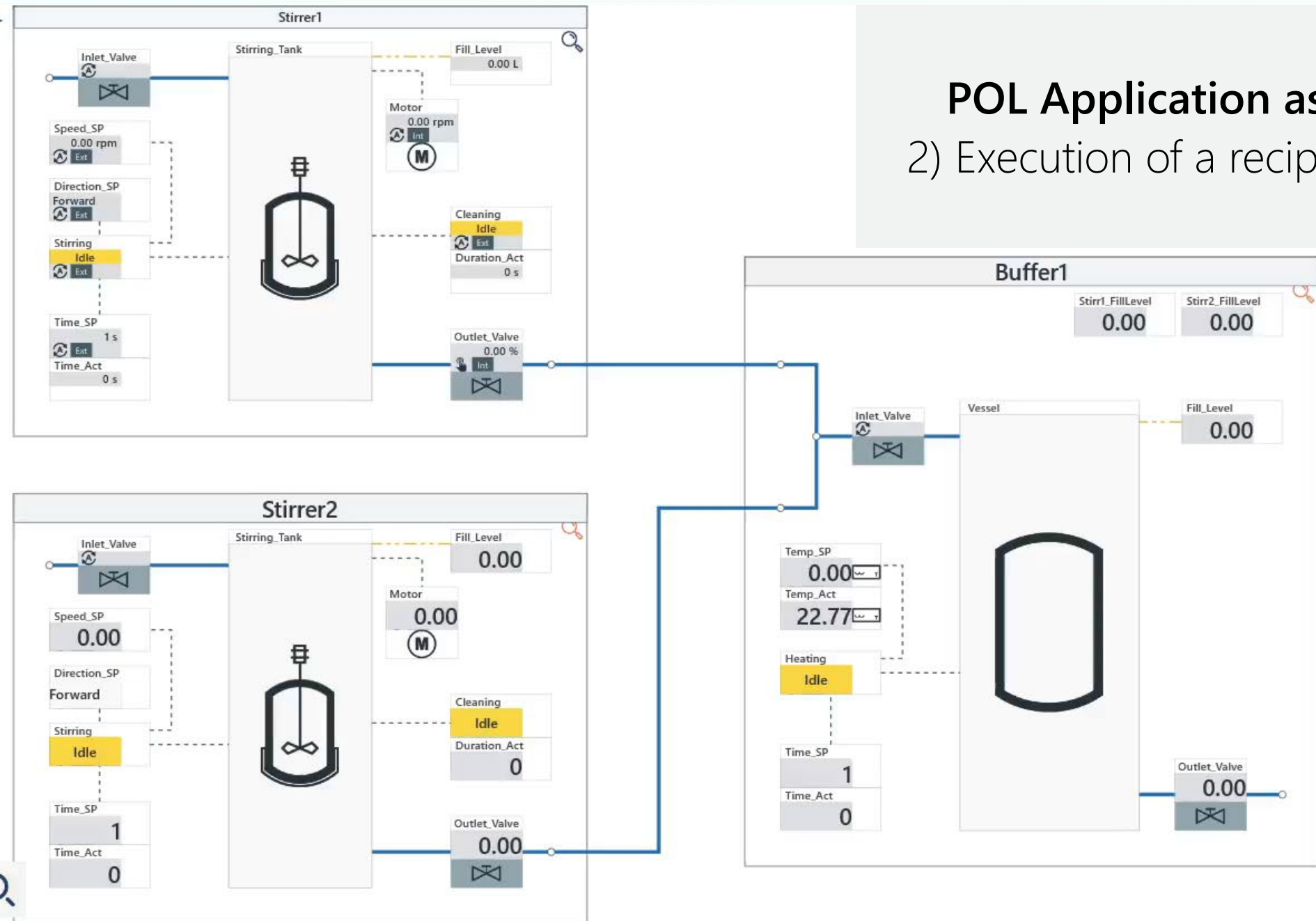
Example of Orchestration

- Overview 
- Batch Control 
- Services Control 
- Audit Trail 
- Alarms 
- Analyze 
- Reports 
- Dashboard 
- Toolbox 



POL Application as result of “orchestration”
1) PI&D Screen: Monitoring and Manual Operations

- Overview 
- Batch Control 
- Services Control 
- Audit Trail 
- Alarms 
- Analyze 
- Reports 
- Dashboard 
- Toolbox 



POL Application as result of "orchestration"

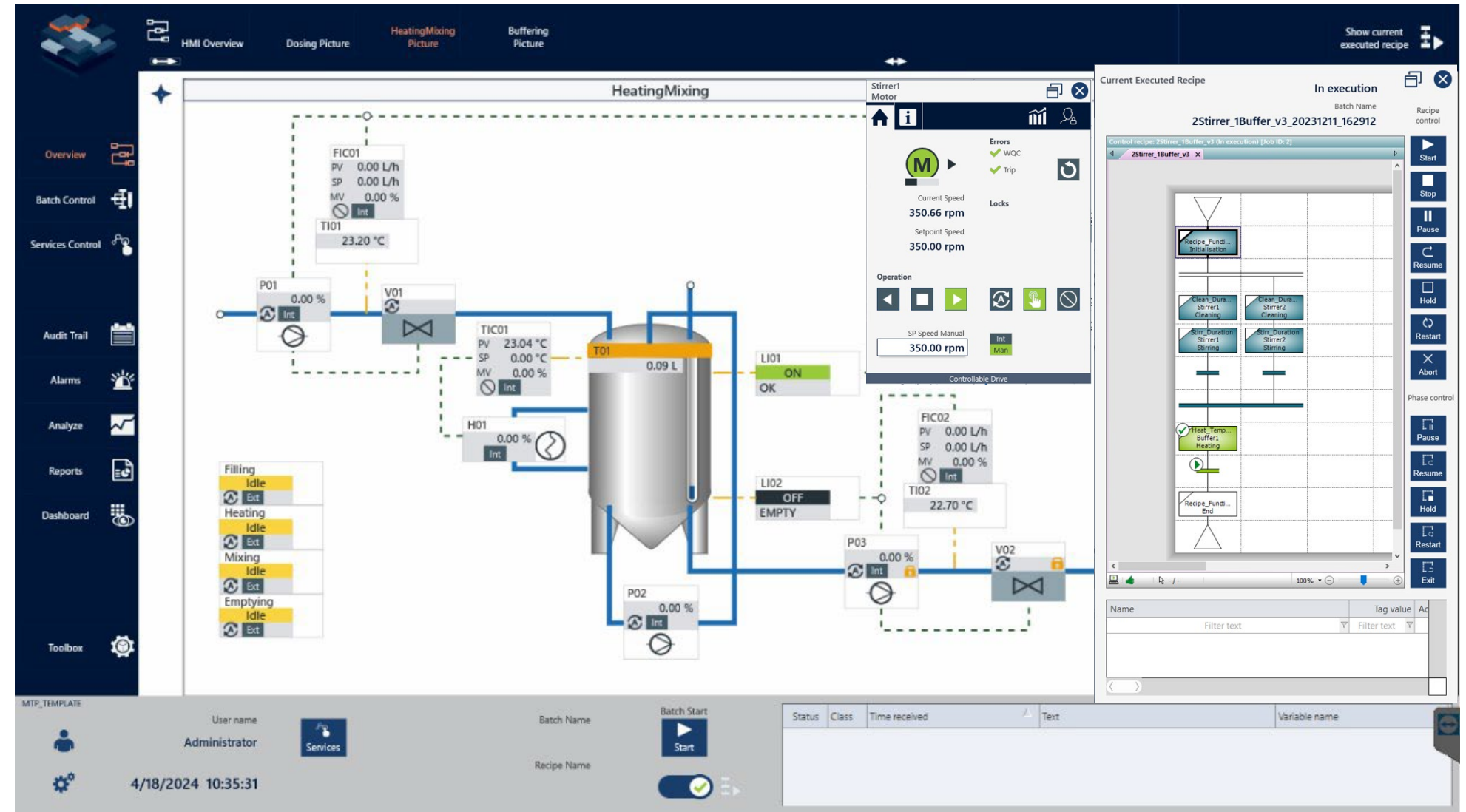
2) Execution of a recipe calling several PEA Services

Process Orchestration Layer

Example of automated generated „Modular Plant“: Overall process screen + ISA88 Batch Recipe

► Automatic generation of the "Modular Plant" application:

- PI&D / Process pictures
- Services for Batch ISA S88
- Dashboards
- Alarm management
- Audit trail
- Historian / Trending
- Reporting
- ...



What if my devices are not ready for MTP?

How to integrate legacy equipment?

Process Development lab -> Pilot Plant -> Industrial scale



Scale



Vacuum controller



Mixer



Temperature Controller



Pilot size crystallizers



Ph meters



Peristaltic pumps



chromatography system
for small-scale manufacturing

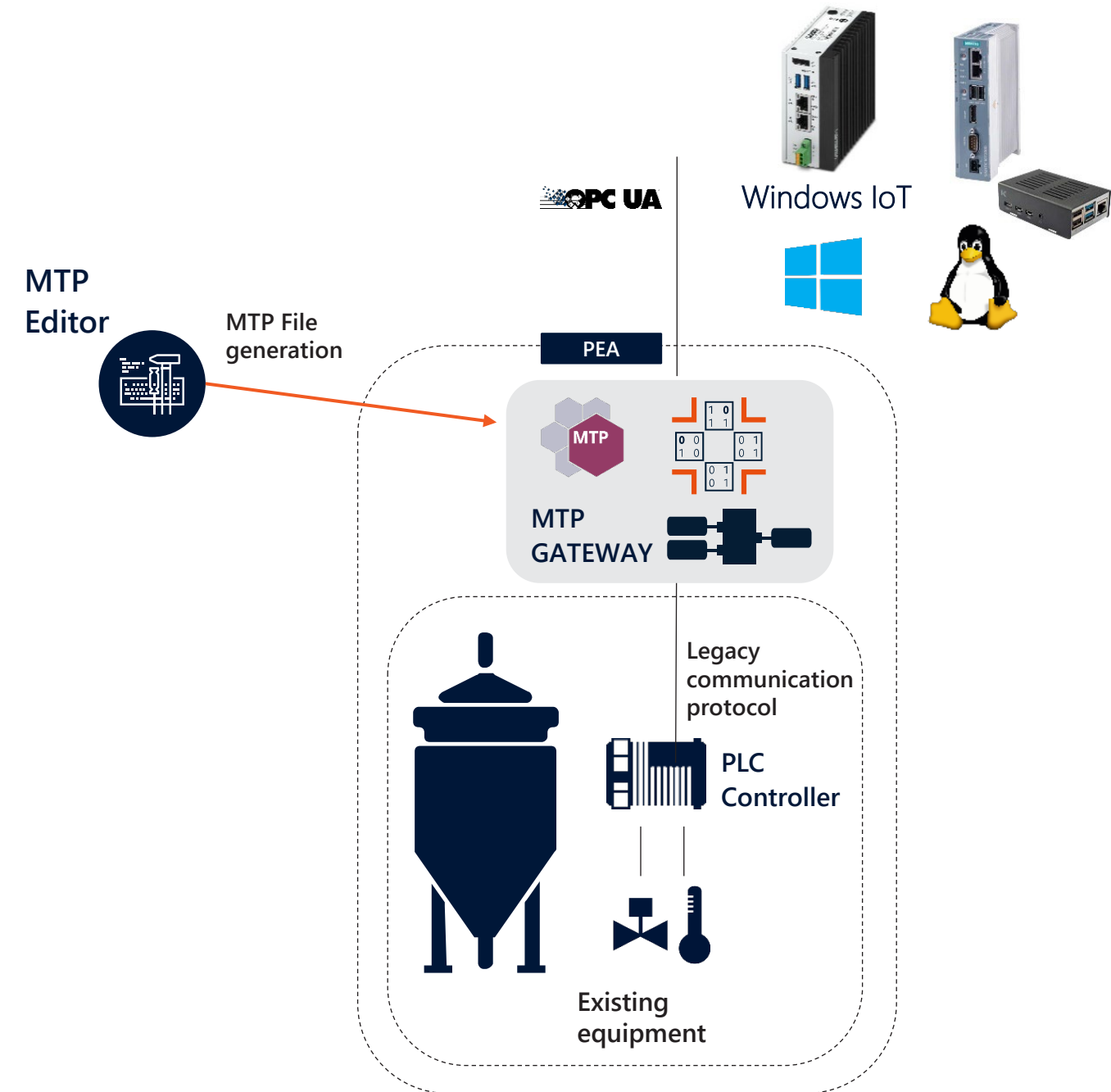


Pilot size Bioreactor

How to integrate existing modules?

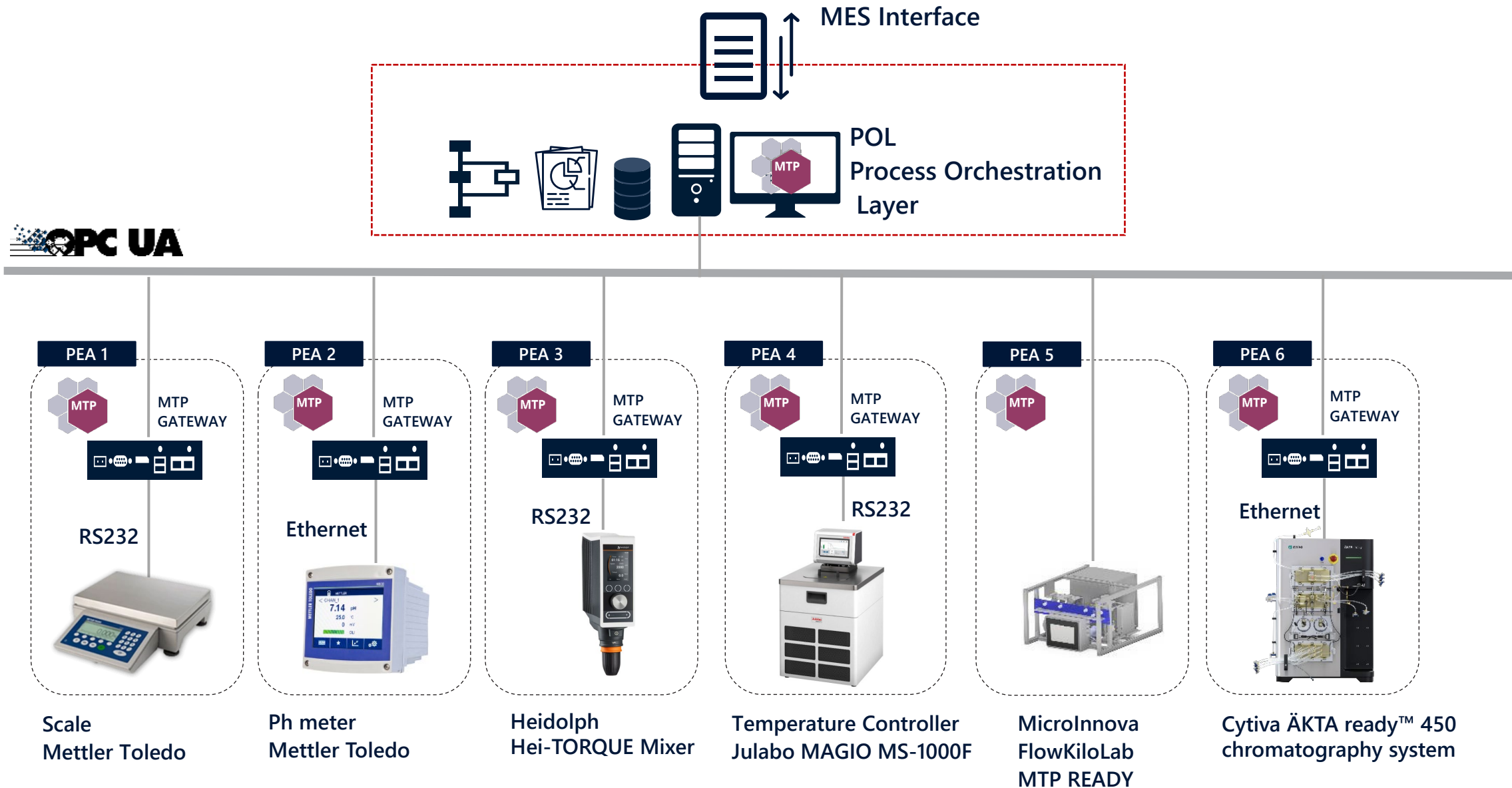
MTP Gateway

- ▶ The MTP Gateway supports you integrating existing production modules and get them MTP ready
- ▶ Functions:
 - Connection to existing PLC or controller
 - Communication towards POL as OPC UA server
 - PLC Logic IEC 61131-3:
 - Data aggregation, context.
 - Mapping module variables in OPC UA Variables
 - MTP State Model / MTP services
 - MTP file generation by using the MTP Editor



Architecture example

Simple configuration. Integration of existing devices by MTP Gateway.



Merck Case Study in ISPE Pharma 4.0 Baseline Guide



11.22 Case Study Number 308: Modular Automation for R&D Laboratories

11.22.1 Short Description

- **Problem:** R&D laboratory facility typically contains numerous fume hoods equipped with laboratory equipment such as pumps, stirrers, and dosing modules. Experiments with the different modules are carried out either manually or using a conventional laboratory management system. The frequent reconfiguration of the laboratory setup to support the needs of different product process development requests including FAIR (Findable Accessible Interoperable Repeatable) data collection is crucial. In contrast to production, everyday work in a research laboratory uses systems that regularly must be reconfigured and working steps continually changed. This makes the laboratory an environment that, at first glance, appears to have little automation potential.
- **Solution:** The company has found the key to success in modular production and is relying on an industry standard called MTP – Module Type Package (VDI/VDE/NAMUR 2658 [137]). MTP is a solution approach that enables all equipment within a central control system to communicate independently of the typically fragmented hardware and software landscape in use. Individual work steps are saved in completed modules and researchers can repeatedly and quickly combine them into new applications and processes using graphical tools without the need for programming knowledge.
- **Benefits:**
 - **Plug & Produce:** By introducing a central system, all instrument functions can be integrated automatically as MTP modules (PEA – Process Equipment Assembly). Central system is a software platform called POL – Process Orchestration Layer: is able to monitor and control PEA from different vendors.
 - **Focus on experiment thanks to laboratory operations automation:** The core competence of a laboratory technician, namely the planning and execution of experiments, is thus once again in the foreground and not the manual integration of devices or the transfer of written experiment data into Excel tables.
 - **Paperless operations:** Process values, measurement, deviations and execution log are automatically stored in an electronic format, no longer written in notebooks or excel files improving data integrity. These points apply especially to laboratories in the process and pharmaceutical industries, where processes (upstream as well as downstream) are tested, and data collected for implementation later on a large scale.
 - **Fast reconfiguration:** Thanks to modular approach and MTP orchestration, laboratory engineers can quickly reconfigure modules, process flow, and execution steps using graphical tools without programming knowledge.
 - **Tech Transfer:** From the point of view of plant operators in the process industry, it is very important that upscaling from the laboratory to production plants can be done quickly and efficiently without manual adjustments. This can be simplified when the same automation concept is used in the laboratory as well as in the pilot plant and finally in production. If the POL used complies with the MTP standard, manufacturer independence is also achieved.
 - **Time to market:** Standardization of modules following the two important guidelines (VDI/VDE/NAMUR 2658 [137]) (VDI/VDE/NAMUR 2776 [138]) enables a fast and resilient product supply as a worldwide network of production capabilities can easily exchange equipment and recipes.
 - **GxP compliance:** Prequalified modules (PEA) can transfer these benefits into the Pharma 4.0 environment



Benefits of Modular Production:

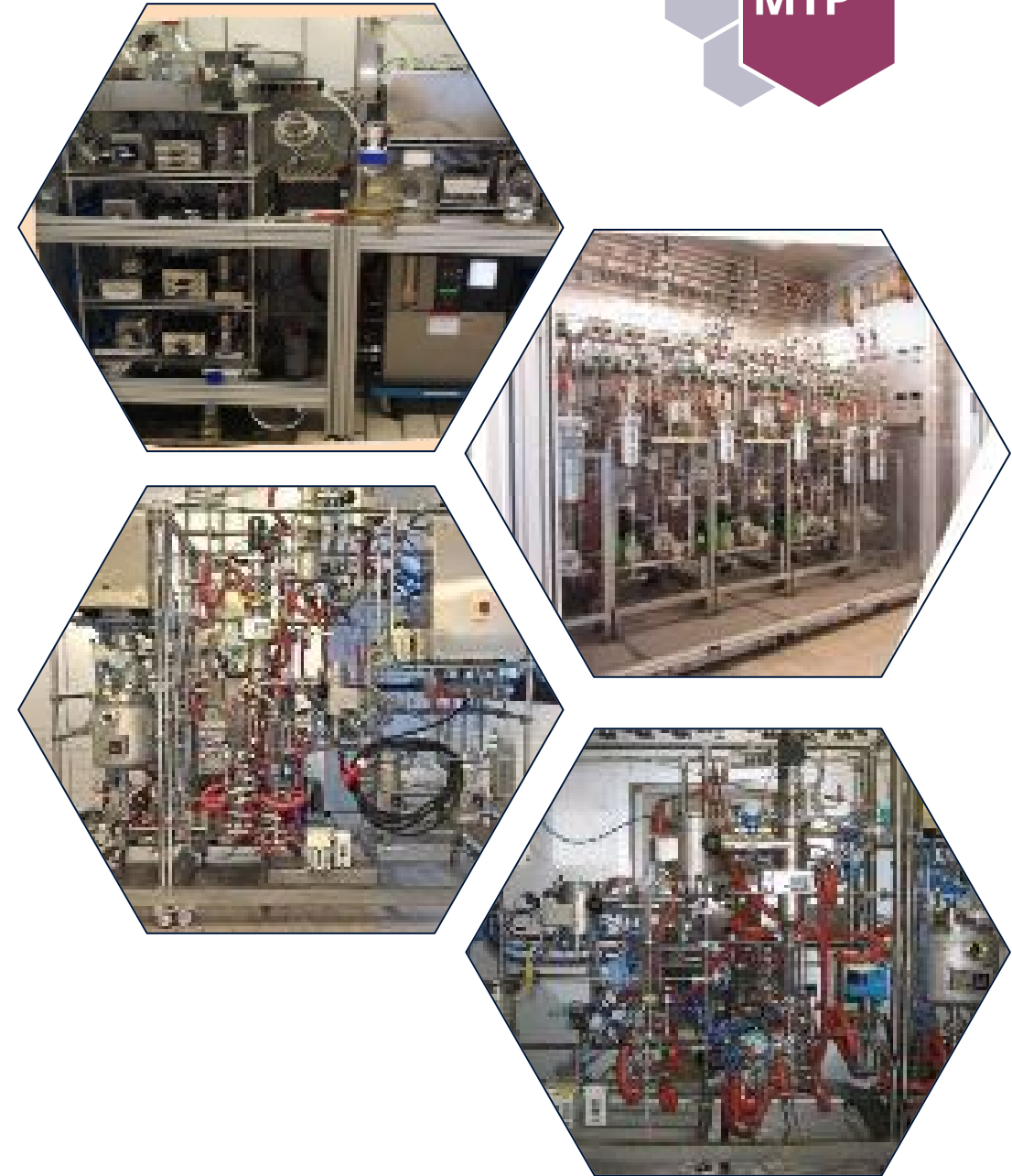
- ▶ Requires less automation competence for equipment integration & process setup
- ▶ Interoperability: use same integration concept across different module suppliers
- ▶ Easy scale-up: Labs → Pilot Plants → Large scale
- ▶ Process Orchestrator (POL) fulfills Pharma 4.0 requirements:
 - Plug & Produce
 - Digital Recipe execution
 - Data acquisition, Electronic records, IT integration
 - Simpler validation
- ▶ Supported by an international standard:
MTP - VDI/VDE/NAMUR 2658 - IEC 63280

How can I get started with Modular Automation MTP ?

A digital journey



- ▶ Identify the potential use case in your organization.
- ▶ Separate process in modules (PEA)
- ▶ Define functionalities in modules (PEA Services)
- ▶ Adapt existing module to be MTP ready
Automation job: MTP gateway + MTP File
- ▶ Train the people:
 - ▶ How to generate a Process Orchestration application: PLUG
 - ▶ How to use Process Orchestration Layer: PRODUCE
- ▶ Select a technology partner supporting your MTP Digital Journey



Thank you!

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