The GEA Pharma Solids Center

Improving your Products, Optimizing your Processes, Making Science Work
COMMITTED TO OUR CUSTOMERS
With our unparalleled history of expertise in processing OSDs, from pills and pellets to MUPS, and our tried and tested technologies, our focus is on price-performance leadership, safety and quality.
How do we do this? By making science work.
Investing in the Future of Pharma

Test, develop and optimize your products and processes with cutting-edge batch and continuous technologies

The GEA Pharma Solids Center (GPSC) represents our continued commitment to and our ongoing support for the current and future pharmaceutical industry. With a total footprint of 1100 m², including 200 m² of technical space, the GPSC epitomizes the state-of-the-art in oral solid dosage (OSD) form testing, development and optimization, and offers a full range of batch and continuous manufacturing technologies. From process enhancement to real-life simulations and test and loan machines, we provide a unique range of services that are designed to improve production and enhance the quality of your product.

By delivering everything from technical know-how and process insight to project management and the service you need to meet your objectives and bring your plans to fruition, we supply the added value and the deep-rooted knowledge that counts.

Whatever the scale of your operation or application, we have the capability to make your concept a reality, enhance your process, improve your production efficiency and deliver the ongoing support to make your business a success. How do we do this?

By making science work.

The new center offers a wealth of opportunity for GEA’s clients, including customer demonstrations and trials, training sessions and hands-on lab experience, as well as CQA evaluation and updates on what can be achieved with our equipment.
A Wealth of Opportunity

Get on the fast track to product success and discover new opportunities

A well-established expert in the pharmaceutical processing and manufacturing industry with a long history of experience, GEA has developed a deep and thorough understanding of the challenges you face, the hurdles you need to overcome and the goals you want to achieve.

At the GPSC, we combine advanced in-house technology with a thorough understanding of the processing industries to help customers maximize their development results, gain more know-how and discover additional opportunities for their applications.

The GPSC supports the development of new technologies and increase the fundamental understanding of existing pharmaceutical processes and technologies.

Furthermore, we can help with new installations by providing unit-specific operator training. This on-site hands-on guidance is critical to understanding the functionality of the equipment and provides a solid foundation in terms of operation and maintaining optimum manufacturing conditions.

Additionally, we provide a unique range of services that are designed to enhance production and expedite time-to-market, such as testing new concepts (equipment/advanced controls), developing and refining new procedures to increase both our understanding and the capabilities of our equipment.

We can help with process development of:
- tablets
- pellets
- effervescents
- MUPS
- inhalable fine powders
- granules, dragées and crystals.
WE BELIEVE OUR SERVICES GREATLY BENEFIT ANYONE INVOLVED IN PHARMACEUTICAL R&D, EQUIPMENT SELECTION, PROCESS OPTIMIZATION AND PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT
Batch Processing Capabilities

From powder to coated tablet and from R&D to full-scale manufacturing, GEA supplies a comprehensive range of batch-based technologies for oral solid dosage form production.

Whatever your application, no matter how challenging, GEA’s powder handling, granulating, pelletizing, drying, compression and coating solutions will meet and exceed your individual requirements.

The GPSC enables you to investigate all the batch-based solid dosage production techniques offered by GEA, at laboratory, pilot or production scale. Our experts are available to provide objective, unbiased advice on the merits and implications of each process and to help you to choose the best solution for your specific application. Some of the key application areas that are on offer at the GPSC include the following:

- IBC blending
- high shear granulation (top and bottom drive)
- fluid bed FlexStream® granulation, drying and coating
- fluid bed top spray granulation and precision coating
- containment measures (BUCK® valves, Hicoflex®).
- single-pot processing
- extrusion/spheronization
- tablet compression
- milling/calibration
INCREASING KNOWLEDGE
Our permanent staff of experienced engineers, technicians, and industrial pharmacists can assist with any production problems, new developments and the modification of GEA technology to meet specific needs.
Batch Processing Capabilities

The quest for continuous innovation is the force that drives us every day, and flexibility, performance, accuracy and control are the criteria that focus our thinking.

Everything we do is aimed at improving these key factors to help you to make better products and improve productivity.

Below you can find of examples of the innovative solutions that can be tested in the GPSC:

**Integrated Small-Scale Granulation and Drying:** At the heart of GEA’s small-scale and R&D portfolio is PharmaConnect®, which allows a number of diverse process modules to be docked to a single control unit. The GPSC offers both a mobile and a permanently installed PharmaConnect® system with high shear granulation modules.

**Flexible Fluid Bed Processing:** FlexStream® is a multipurpose processor that addresses the current shortfalls of traditional fluid bed processing, including linear scale-up, and fully contained loading and unloading for pharmaceutical applications. In the GPSC, this technology can be tested and demonstrated at lab, pilot and production scale.

**Optimized Pellet and MUPS Formulations:** Pharmaceutical pellets offer many additional features compared with conventional tablets. GEA is able to offer all the typically used pelletization processes and help you to select the one that best suits your needs, including powder and liquid layering, melt and wet granulation processes, and innovative MUPS production technology that eliminates segregation and significantly increases process yields.

**WHATEVER YOUR APPLICATION**

Whether it’s high shear granulation or inhalation blending, extrusion and spheronization or IBC blending, safety, containment, product flow and building requirements are in-built for full integration and optimum process efficiency.
At GEA, we believe that continuous processing improves the quality of pharmaceutical end products by focusing on quality during the whole product lifecycle — not just “tested in” quality — and by understanding the capability of your processes, managing sources of variability and decreasing any associated risks.

The ConsiGma® concept enables small amounts of product to be processed and developed quickly and efficiently. And, once a formulation has been optimized, it can be reliably reproduced in pilot, clinical or production batches, simply by running the machine for longer, avoiding scale-up problems and the lengthy validation processes that hinder bringing new products to market faster.

ConsiGma® is a Six Sigma-inspired manufacturing platform, incorporating different technologies to produce oral solid dosage forms in a continuous, cost-efficient way:

- by collecting more information during R&D in a short time with less product
- by excluding risky, time- and product-consuming scale-up exercises
- by introducing online measurement and closed loop control for real-time release (Six Sigma production)
- by incorporating flexible batch sizes (JIT production) and reducing inventory
- by decreasing the energy cost per tablet, reducing the environmental impact.

The GPSC enables you to investigate the possibilities that continuous manufacturing can offer for your production. In the GPSC, the following technologies are available for testing:

- ConsiGma® 1 for initial continuous wet granulation trials, feasibility and first DoE tests.
- Continuous Tableting Line CTL 25: a continuous wet granulation and drying production line, able to operate at a nominal throughput of 25 kg/h. Tablet compression and tablet coating can immediately be linked to the granulation and drying process, to evaluate the full continuous process.
- Offline Compact Feeder (CF): to investigate the right set-up of the feeder for your ingredients before moving to the full production line.
- ConsiGma CDC50 for continuous direct compression
- ConsiGma Coater Continuous Coating of tablets produced by the CTL25 or CDC50
FLEXIBLE, SAFE AND COST-EFFECTIVE

ConsiGma® provides maximum output in an energy efficient way, has been tested using a wide variety of formulations and over 60 ConsiGma® units are currently in use in pharmaceutical research and manufacturing centers worldwide.
COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE
GEA combines advanced in-house technology with a thorough understanding of the process industries to help customers maximize their development results, gain more know-how and discover additional opportunities for their applications.
Continuous Processing Capabilities

Continuous Direct Compression:
Available in the GPSC for product trials, the ConsiGma® CDC is a complete tablet production facility with embedded quality control in one machine, integrating four key GEA technologies — accurate loss-in-weight feeding, continuous blending, GEA compression technology and the online measurement of CQAs (Critical Quality Attributes) with a Lighthouse Probe™.

High Performance Tablet Coating Technology:
The ConsiGma® coater is a revolutionary, high performance tablet coating technology that accurately deposits controlled amounts of coating materials on tablets. Designed specifically to be an integral part of the ConsiGma® continuous tableting lines, the ConsiGma® coater is able to process small quantities of tablets at very high rates, offering improved heat and mass transfer.

The Exchangeable Compression Module (ECM) enables extremely short changeover times that improve both productivity and flexibility.

Advanced Control Systems enhance better understanding and control of the process.

The revolutionary, high performance ConsiGma® coater.
PROCESS OPTIMIZATION

GEA is pioneering the implementation of smaller, more flexible, continuous processing technologies that will transform the future of pharmaceutical development and manufacturing — and deliver customized quantities of drugs to patients in need in a quick and efficient way.
Making Science Work

At our technology centers, interested parties can test any unit operation, from lab- to pilot-scale, or perform comparative process studies with our skilled operators by testing complete process trains.

In addition, our permanent staff of experienced engineers, technicians and industrial pharmacists can assist with any production problems, new developments and the modification of GEA technology to meet specific needs.

Our personnel remain constantly up to date with the most recent developments in the industry to be able to provide you with the best assistance possible.

Committed to advancing our customers’ research and development activities, GEA’s pharmaceutical technology test centers in Belgium, Denmark, Germany, the UK, the USA, Singapore, China and South Korea provide global technical support and know-how to the pharmaceutical industry.

Plus, often in collaboration with universities and independent research facilities, GEA engages in scientific experimentation to better understand the procedures and processes involved in manufacturing.

With a long history of solid dosage form expertise, including hundreds of formulations, everyone at the GPSC is committed to going the extra mile to meet customer expectations. Wherever you are in the world, whatever your application, we’ll take you further, faster.

GEA recognizes the important role that training plays in the proper use of its equipment. Whether the need is theory, general operational training or tuition on a specific process, GEA can helping you to learn to use our technology to the fullest.

To support the needs of our customer base, regular training courses are scheduled at the GPSC. Custom classes can also be arranged, either at the customer’s own facility or at the GPSC.

Currently available courses include:

- Understanding Continuous Processing
- Successful Tableting: How to Achieve Operational Excellence
- Tableting Technology Seminars (operator, maintenance and process level)
- Customized training, etc.
A view of our training facilities

IBC blending at the GPSC

FURTHER INFORMATION
To discover more or organize a test, demonstration or training session, contact our dedicated, passionate and experienced team INFOGPSC@GEA.COM
## Available Services

### Applications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FD</th>
<th>Formulation Development**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>Hormones*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACT</td>
<td>Anti-Cancer Treatments*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IFP</td>
<td>Inhalable Fine Powders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AA</td>
<td>Antibiotics* &amp; Anti-Infectives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>MUPS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Effervescents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P</td>
<td>Pellets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HVP</td>
<td>High Volume Production</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T</td>
<td>Tablets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HPA</td>
<td>Highly Potent APIs*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Core Technologies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DPP</th>
<th>Drying &amp; Particle Processing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>Granulation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PH</td>
<td>Product Handling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TC</td>
<td>Tablet Compression</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Addition of Liquid & Ingredients
- Continuous Blending (NEW)
- Continuous Granulation
- Dry Powder Blending
- Fluid Bed Granulation
- Fluidized Spray Drying
- High Shear Mixing
- High Shear Granulation
- Integrated Granulation
- Liquid Mixing & Blending
- Melt Granulation
- Dispensing & Dosing
- Dry Bonding
- Extrusion
- Fluid Bed Drying
- Layering
- Melt Pelletizing
- Microwave Drying
- Particle Pellet Coating
- Pelletizing
- Single-Pot Processing
- Spheronization
- Spray Drying
- Vacuum Drying
- Wet Pelletizing

Available services will depend on the location of the test center. Please enquire for details.

* Acceptance of API depend on the risk analysis by the EH&S department.

** In collaboration with our partners.
Applications Core Technologies

**FD**
Formulation

**HH**
Hormones

**TC**
Tablet Compression

- Contained Tableting
- Continuous Coating
- Continuous Direct Compression
- Continuous Tableting DC & WG
- Industrial Compression
- Tablet Coating
- Tablet Compression

**PH**
Product Handling

- Contained Materials Handling
- Containment
- Dispensing & Dosing
- Dispensing & Weighing
- Handling of Bulk Ingredients
- Mixing & Blending
- Tablet Handling

**G**
Granulation

- Addition of Liquid & Ingredients
- Continuous Blending (NEW)
- Continuous Granulation
- Dry Powder Blending
- Fluid Bed Granulation
- Fluidized Spray Drying
- High Shear Mixing
- High Shear Granulation
- Integrated Granulation
- Liquid Mixing & Blending
- Melt Granulation

**DPP**
Drying & Particle Processing

- Dispensing & Dosing
- Dry Bonding
- Extrusion
- Fluid Bed Drying
- Layering
- Melt Pelletizing
- Microwave Drying
- Particle Pellet Coating
- Pelletizing
- Single-Pot Processing
- Spheronization
- Spray Drying
- Vacuum Drying
- Wet Pelletizing

**ACT**
Anti-Cancer Treatments

**IFP**
Inhalable Fine Powders

**AA**
Antibiotics & Anti-Infectives

**M**
MUPS

**E**
Effervescents

**P**
Pellets

**HVP**
High Volume Production

**T**
Tablets

**PTD**
Product Testing & Development

**SUA**
Start-Up Assistance

**PO**
Process Optimization

**AD**
Application Development

**F**
Formulation**

**PPL**
Price-Performance Leadership

**CT**
Customer Trials

**HQ**
Higher Quality

**TE**
Training & Education

**FTM**
Faster Time-to-Market

**PO**
Process Optimization

**AD**
Application Development

**F**
Formulation**

**PPL**
Price-Performance Leadership

**CT**
Customer Trials

**HQ**
Higher Quality

**TE**
Training & Education

**FTM**
Faster Time-to-Market

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**Expertise**

PTD
Product Testing & Development

SUA
Start-Up Assistance

PO
Process Optimization

AD
Application Development

F
Formulation**

PPL
Price-Performance Leadership

CT
Customer Trials

HQ
Higher Quality

TE
Training & Education

FTM
Faster Time-to-Market
We live our values.
Excellence • Passion • Integrity • Responsibility • GEA-versity

GEA is a global technology company with multi-billion euro sales operations in more than 50 countries. Founded in 1881 the company is one of the largest providers of innovative equipment and process technology. GEA is listed in the STOXX® Europe 600 Index. In addition, the company is included in selected MSCI Global Sustainability Indexes.