GAPPeptides®

Transforming peptide synthesis for the 21st century

Driving Efficiency and Green Chemistry in Peptide Synthesis

The Call for Innovation

While significant advances have been made in synthetic peptide manufacturing, the industry still is facing challenges that call for pushing the development envelope. Ever evolving applications, growing consumer needs and pricing pressures intensify the demand for competitive advantages that enable domestic manufacturers to compete with offshore providers for market share at home.

Attaining these advantages and winning new business requires, in part, innovation in production technology. For peptide synthesis, goals may include increasing efficiency of raw material inputs, optimizing asset utilization, avoiding hazardous reagents and reactions, using inexpensive, available raw materials and increasing throughput to produce more product in less time and in smaller reaction vessels. And, manufacturers must do this with an eye on achieving and or exceeding quality and regulatory standards.

The call for innovation in synthetic peptide production demands reliable and robust advanced technologies that embrace the principles for synthetic efficiency and of green chemistry, both of which have a positive impact on regulatory compliance, price pressure and the environment. In this 2nd article of our series, GAP Peptides shares more brief insights from recent research on an efficient, cost-effective innovative approach to peptide synthesis.

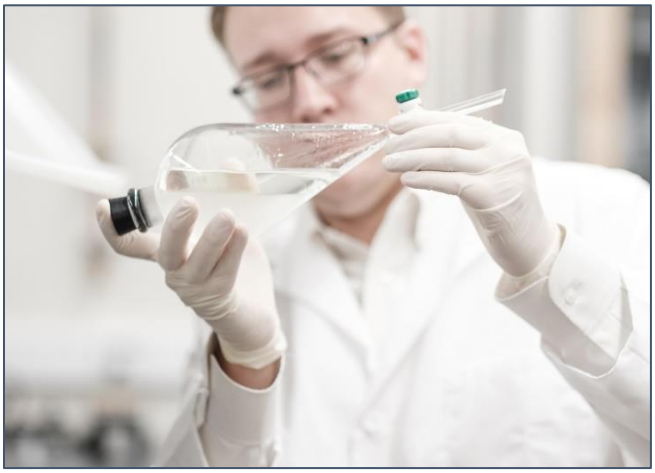
Greener Solvent, Less Waste

GAP-PS (Group Assisted Purification Peptide Synthesis) delivers benefits that can significantly improve the environmental impact of peptide manufacturing. Solvent choice is critical for environmental impact; it is the bulk of the mass to be handled and disposed. GAP-PS utilizes 2-MeTHF, CMPE, and water for synthesis solvents instead of DMF and Ethyl Ether. Benefits of using 2-MeTHF include its synthesis from renewable sources. This benefit, among others, has been recognized by recent peptide industry guidance that lists 2-MeTHF and CPME as green, alternative solvents for peptide synthesis.

During workup, GAP-PS uses a solution-phase liquid extraction process to wash the 2-MeTHF/peptide layer with aqueous solution that removes byproducts and impurities. GAP-PS replaces DMF with water as the solvent for byproduct removal, thus eliminating environmentally harmful solvent and drastically reducing overall solvent use. In a comparative case study with SPPS, GAP-PS reduced estimated solvent consumption during synthesis by > 80%. GAP-PS also reduced total combined raw material and solvent consumption by > 50%. In short, GAP-PS offers a manufacturing option that is environmentally sensitive and requires less raw material and solvent.

Increasing Efficiency, Increasing Value

The measurable advantages found in GAP-PS are evidence that the solution-phase process provides greater efficiency in several areas when compared to SPPS. The novel process runs in homogenous solution rather than a resin suspension, which results in increased reactivity and efficiency, and less energy and wastes. Increases in output and throughput of the peptide synthesis process provides more product from a smaller working footprint than legacy methods. In addition to the solvent savings, the GAP-PS anchor molecule has a high loading > 3 mmol / g. Depending on the SPPS resin used for comparison, this allows GAP-PS to produce 2-to-3 times the amount of peptide product in the same size reaction vessel. And, this approach results in rapid phase separation that compares favorably with time needed for SPPS washing and filtration steps. The increase in reactor utilization, combined with rapid phase separation, serves to increase production throughput and reduce cost and environmental overhead. These are just a few examples of the drivers leading to the synthetic efficiency of GAP-PS.



Answering the Call

Recently, several U.S. drug manufacturers announced expanded capacity in response to the pandemic crisis. But most of the capacity and best pricing is found offshore. Nevertheless, CMOs, CDMOs and Big Pharma continue to seek flexible, break-through technologies that enable more efficient, cost-effective and greener synthesis approaches for competitive manufacturing options. GAP Peptide Synthesis offers a platform approach to achieve scalable production of high-quality synthetic peptides at the lowest cost, and the least amount of waste in a low hazard environment.

Our next article in the series offers insights into how GAP-PS has evolved for large-scale manufacturing. Look for it in August.

To learn more about GAP Peptides' research and collaborative approach to sub-licensing GAP technology, visit our website at www.GAPPeptides.com or email Dr. Cole Seifert at TheScientist@gappeptides.com

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