To Flow or Not to Flow?

A discussion of some basics and application of flow chemistry in the fine chemical and pharmaceutical industries will be used to illustrate a few types of reactions that can benefit from the use of flow. The capabilities of flow chemistry ultimately need to be used for large scale production in these industries. However, there is some disagreement as to which conditions are best for the synthesis of a final product, batch or flow. The aim of this presentation is to bring about a basic understanding of the major benefits of utilizing flow for chemistry on small to large scales and to determine if flow chemistry is a useful tool in the chemist's toolbox.