

## South Australian DIT Field Trial Underway

### HIGHLIGHTS

- DIT's Streaky Bay Jetty remediation project set to commence
- Successful delivery of the **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup> enhanced coating has been made ready for application on steel during June 2024
- Positive discussions continue with other asset owners for **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup> field trials, driven by the potential for maintenance cost savings, environmental and sustainability benefits

Sparc Technologies Limited (ASX: SPN) (Sparc, Sparc Technologies or the Company) is pleased to announce the commencement of **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup> field trials with the South Australian Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) ([www.dit.sa.gov.au/](http://www.dit.sa.gov.au/)).

The steel piles for the Streaky Bay Jetty remediation project have been delivered to DIT for blasting and coating. Sparc has provided both the **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup> enhanced and control coating to DIT and agreed the arrangement of the steel piles on the project. Piles pertaining to the field trial will be placed at three locations along the jetty covering the full range of conditions and exposure on the asset. These piles will be monitored throughout the life of the trial, with a particular focus on adhesion over the first 6 months. Sparc's expectation is that coating and curing will take place during June with transport and erection of the piles onsite during Q3 2024. Sparc expects to progress works for the second trial with DIT at West Beach Bridge in Adelaide later this year. Other details pertaining to the DIT field trials are as per Sparc's announcement in [March 2024](#).



Figure 1: Denis Wright (Sparc GM Graphene Materials) and Nick O'Loughlin (Sparc Managing Director) in front of steel piles for the Streaky Bay Jetty remediation project

The primary objective of the field trials is to evaluate the application and performance of an **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup> enhanced coating under real-world conditions. Sparc has noted the strong demand for field trials of **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup> from asset owners as evidence that there is a market demand for better performing anti-corrosive coatings. Results from the independent life cycle assessment completed in Q3 2023 (see ASX Announcement [12 September 2023](#)) indicated that **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup> enhanced coatings can reduce the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and costs associated with the maintenance of steel assets by 18 - 21%<sup>1</sup> and 19 - 23%<sup>1</sup> respectively, when benchmarked against the same non-enhanced epoxy based protective coatings.<sup>2</sup> Sparc believes that successful field trials will encourage market demand for **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup> enhanced coatings from large steel infrastructure owners on a commercial basis.

### **About **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup> - A performance additive for Protective Coatings**

Sparc Technologies has conducted over 5 years of research and development on **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup>, its flagship graphene based additive product. The addition of very small quantities of **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup> to conventional protective coatings has demonstrated up to 40% anti-corrosion improvement in commercially available epoxy-based coatings, ensuring the reliability, longevity, safety and cost-effectiveness of the steel infrastructure they cover.

In 2023, the Company commissioned its **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup> commercial production facility. The facility enables Sparc to provide commercial quantities of graphene based additive product for the coatings industry and to support field trials. Multiple global coatings companies continue to undertake product evaluation of **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup> in their anti-corrosive coatings. Further to this, Sparc is progressing with a campaign targeting asset owners with a view to conducting field trials utilising **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup> enhanced coatings on key steel infrastructure such as frames, tanks and structures in a variety of corrosive environments. Infrastructure owners being targeted include government, defence, mining, and oil and gas companies.



**-ENDS-**

**Authorised for release by:** Nick O'Loughlin, Managing Director.

#### **For more information:**

Nick O'Loughlin

**Managing Director**

[info@sparctechnologies.com.au](mailto:info@sparctechnologies.com.au)

Mark Flynn

**Investor Relations**

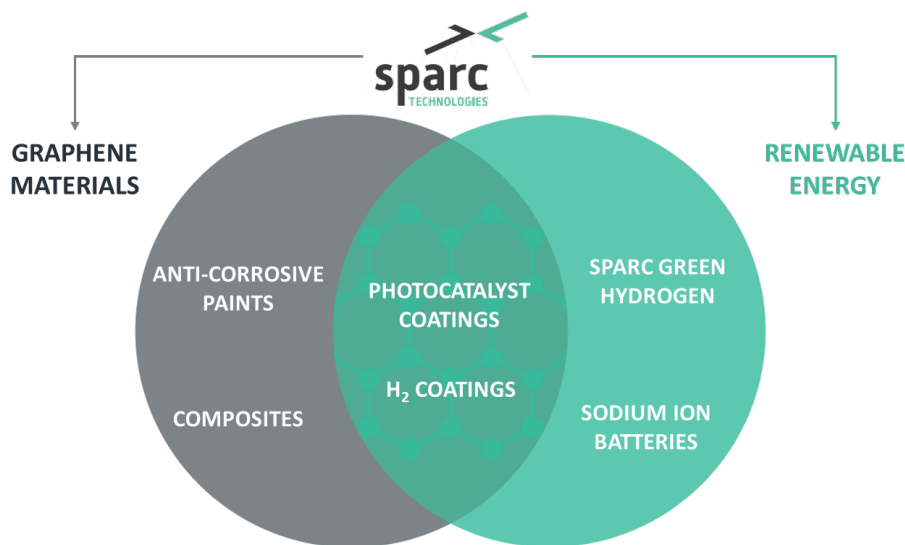
[mark.flynn@sparctechnologies.com.au](mailto:mark.flynn@sparctechnologies.com.au)

+61 416 068 733

<sup>1</sup> Bontinck, P, A (2023), Carbon footprint of **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup> graphene additive for protective coating applications, Lifecycles, Melbourne, Australia.

<sup>2</sup> Investors are encouraged to refer to the Company's ASX Announcement of [12 September 2023](#) for further information regarding the independent life cycle assessment.

## About Sparc Technologies



Sparc Technologies Limited ('Sparc', ASX: SPN) is an Australian company pioneering new technologies to disrupt and transform industry while seeking to deliver a more sustainable world. Sparc has established offices in Australia, Europe and North America and is focused on three core areas of technology development.

1. Sparc has spent over 5 years developing a **graphene based additive** product, **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup>, which has demonstrated up to 40% anti-corrosion improvement in commercially available epoxy-based coatings. Sparc recently commissioned a manufacturing facility to produce **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup> and is engaging with global coatings companies to commercialise the technology.
2. Sparc is a majority shareholder of **Sparc Hydrogen** which is a company pioneering the development of **photocatalytic water splitting** ('PWS') green hydrogen production technology. PWS is an alternative to producing green hydrogen via electrolysis, using only sunlight, water and a photocatalyst. Given lower infrastructure requirements and energy use, the process has the potential to deliver a cost and flexibility advantage over electrolysis.
3. Sparc is also developing sustainable **sodium ion battery anode technology** derived from agricultural bio-waste materials.

For more information please visit: [sparctechnologies.com.au](https://sparctechnologies.com.au)

For more information about **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup> please visit: [ecosparc.com.au](https://ecosparc.com.au)

For more information about Sparc Hydrogen please visit: [sparchydrogen.com](https://sparchydrogen.com)

