

Sparc Receives Regulatory Approval to Enable Commercial Trials of ecosparc®

HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ **ecosparc® receives Commercial Evaluation Authorisation from the Australian Industrial Chemicals Introduction Scheme (AICIS)**
- ▶ **Enables the progression of ecosparc® from lab trials to commercial sales**
- ▶ **Sparc engaged in discussions with several multinational asset owners to trial the use of ecosparc® in protective coatings**

Sparc Technologies Limited (**ASX: SPN**) (**Sparc, Sparc Technologies** or the **Company**) is pleased to announce it has received Commercial Evaluation Authorisation (**CEA**) for Sparc's **ecosparc®** product from the Australian Industrial Chemicals Introduction Scheme (**AICIS**).

Following on from the recently completed fully independent lifecycle assessment (LCA) ([ASX Announcement 30 August 2023](#)) and further evidence of cracking and corrosion mitigation ([ASX Announcement 17 August 2023](#)), the CEA allows Sparc to produce larger quantities of Sparc's **ecosparc®** graphene product for commercial trials. This is a critical step in enabling the transition of **ecosparc®** from lab trials to commercial sales.

The AICIS approval will enable targeted **ecosparc®** trials on steel infrastructure assets in Australia. The regulatory approval process for both Europe and North America has also commenced.

Sparc Technologies is currently engaged in discussions with several significant industrial asset owners to trial the use of **ecosparc®** in protective coatings, aiming to improve the coating's crack resistance and corrosion mitigation.

Sparc Technologies General Manager – Graphene Materials, Dr. Denis Wright commented:

*"This is an exciting progression in the business which will see the realisation of **ecosparc®** being used in protective coatings in real world trials which are relevant to our target markets. The cost savings and positive environmental outcomes for our customers will be substantial."*

Sparc Technologies Executive Chairman – Stephen Hunt commented:

*"We are delighted to announce that **ecosparc®** has received complete and definitive regulatory approval from AICIS. This milestone allows Sparc to progress into the next stage of its commercial growth, where we can concentrate on the development, marketing, production and sales of **ecosparc®**."*

About AICIS

The Australian Industrial Chemicals Introduction Scheme helps protect Australians and the environment by assessing the risks of industrial chemicals and providing information to promote their safer use. AICIS is the national regulator of the importation and manufacture of industrial chemicals in Australia. AICIS is an agency within the Department of Health.

About **ecosparc**[®] - A performance additive Protective Coatings

Sparc Technologies has developed additives that exploit the power of graphene for a wide range of protective coating applications. The addition of a very small quantity of **ecosparc**[®] to conventional paints leads to a substantial enhancement in anti-corrosive performance, ensuring the reliability, longevity, safety and cost-effectiveness of the infrastructure they cover.



In March 2023, the Company commissioned its **ecosparc**[®] commercial production facility. (See ASX Announcement 30 March 2023) The state of the art facility enables Sparc to produce commercial quantities of its graphene additive product. Target markets for **ecosparc**[®] include the global protective coatings industry and other graphene additive applications.

Figure 1: **ecosparc**[®] is underpinned by rigorous product testing over four (4) years to ISO standards.

The **ecosparc**[®] production facility enables Sparc to provide commercial quantities of graphene additive product for trials with global coatings companies. Multiple global and domestic coating companies continue to undertake product evaluation of **ecosparc**[®] in anti-corrosion coatings. Results from testing and qualification work with these companies will continue into H1 2024. Further to this, Sparc has commenced a campaign targeting asset owners with a view to conducting field trials utilising graphene containing coatings on key infrastructure such as steel frames, tanks and steel structures close to the ocean. Infrastructure owners being targeted include government, defence, mining, and oil and gas companies.

Enhancing coating performance



The specialist **ecosparc**[®] formula is added to existing paint products



at the point of production by leading global manufacturers



to produce **graphene enhanced high performance coatings**

Figure 2: **ecosparc**[®] is a performance additive for Marine and Protective Coatings

-ENDS-



Authorised for release by: Stephen Hunt, Executive Chairman.

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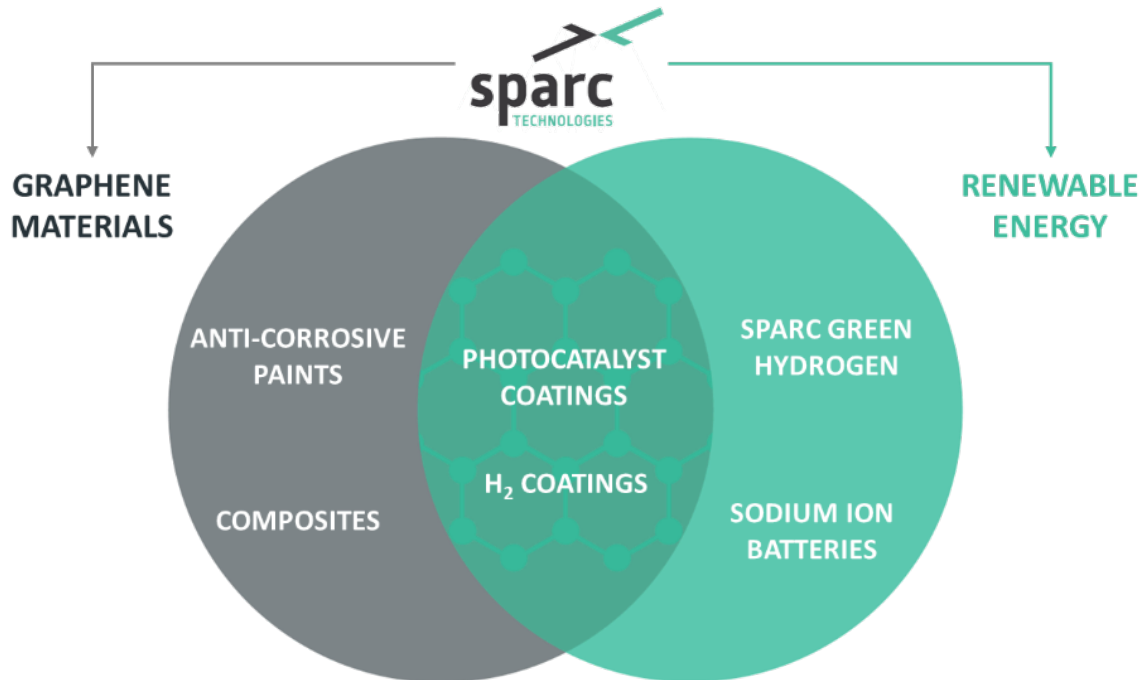
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About Sparc Technologies



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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 4 years developing a **graphene based additive** product, **ecosparc®**, which has demonstrated up to 40% anti-corrosion improvement in commercially available epoxy coatings. Sparc recently commissioned a manufacturing facility to produce **ecosparc®** and is engaging with global paint companies and end users to advance commercial scale trials.
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 **sodium ion battery technology** in partnership with Queensland University of Technology.

For more information please visit: sparctechnologies.com.au



Forward-Looking Statements & Disclaimer

Statements in this document regarding the Company's business or proposed business, which are not historical facts, are forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties, such as estimates and statements that describe the Company's future plans, objectives or goals, including words to the effect that the Company or management expects a stated condition or result to occur. Since forward looking statements address future events and conditions, by their very nature, they involve inherent risks and uncertainties. Actual results in each case could differ materially from those currently anticipated in such statements. Investors are cautioned not to place undue reliance on forward-looking statements.

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