



Transformational Technologies for Global Industries

September 2024

ASX: SPN

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Corporate Snapshot



96m

Shares on issue

\$16m

Market Cap*

\$0.17

Share price*

\$2.7m

Cash**

~35%

Top 20 s/holders

6.8%

University of Adelaide

Board & Management



Nick O'Loughlin
Managing Director



Stephen Hunt
Non-Exec Chair



Daniel Eddington
NED



Dr Denis Wright
GM Graphene



Kristen Kubank
CFO



Paul Baccanello
Innov., Growth & Sustainability

Key Partners



* As at 17 September 2024

** As at 30 June 2024

Unique Technology Portfolio

- ▶ Sparc is advancing a portfolio **innovative technologies** that align with global **sustainability** and **environmental** priorities

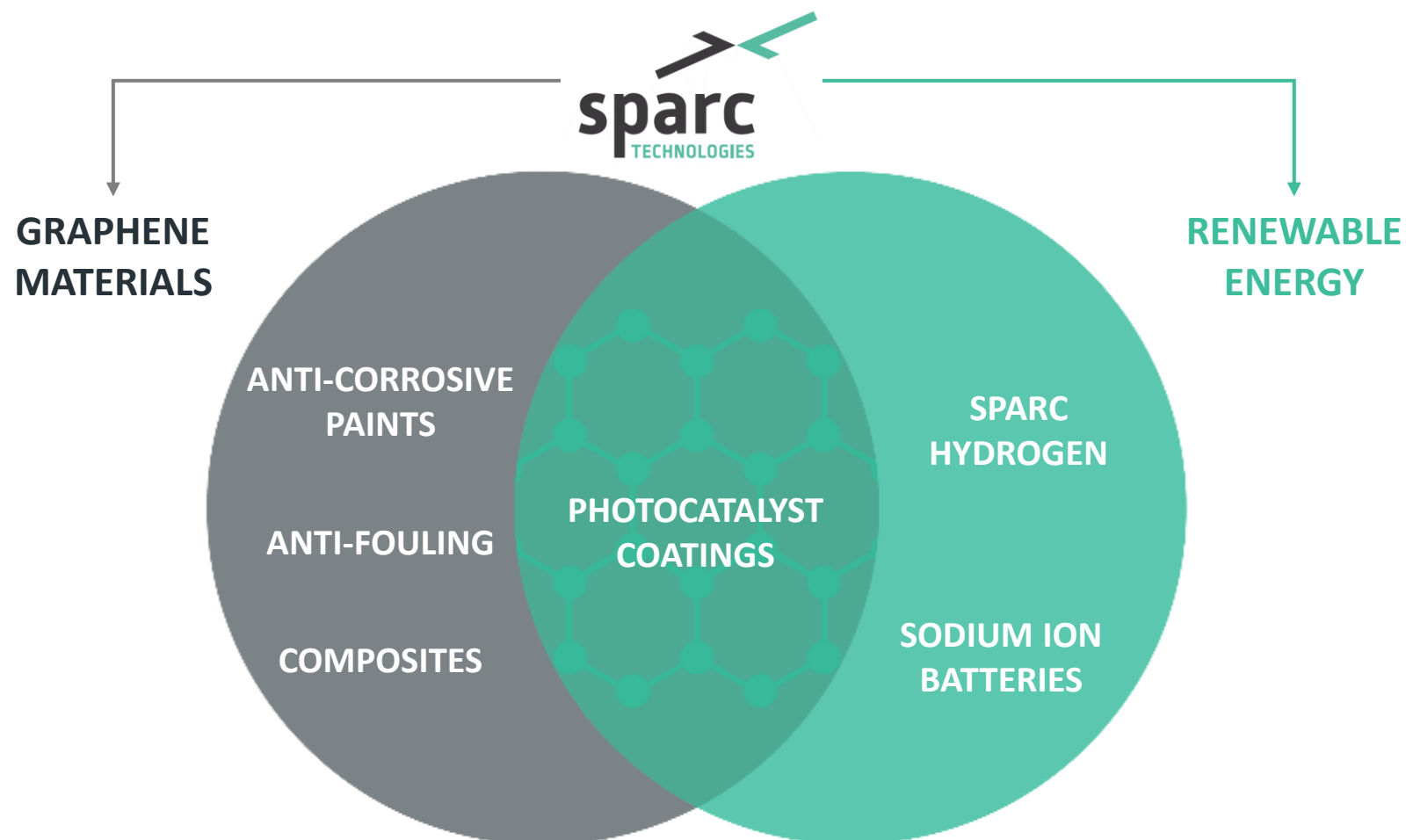
- ▶ **Core Technology Areas:**

Graphene Materials

High-performance additives for anticorrosive paints, protective coatings and composites

Renewable Energy

Novel green hydrogen production and sustainable anode materials for sodium-ion batteries



SPARC HYDROGEN

Next Generation Green Hydrogen Technology





Sparc Hydrogen: Key Highlights

- ▶ **Innovative Technology:** Unique green hydrogen production technology with no electrolyzers or electricity required to split water into hydrogen and oxygen.
- ▶ **Advantages Over Electrolysis:** Simple, cost-effective, scalable alternative to electrolysis with lower energy and infrastructure requirements.
- ▶ **Extensive Testing:** ~10 years of R&D at the University of Adelaide & Flinders University and successful real-world prototype testing at CSIRO Energy Centre, completed in 2024.
- ▶ **Pilot Plant Progressing:** First-of-its-kind pilot plant development underway; construction decision in Q4 2024.
- ▶ **Strong Partners:** Joint venture with industry leaders Fortescue Limited and the University of Adelaide.
- ▶ **Existing Market Need:** Targeting the ~95 Mtpa global hydrogen market, which currently contributes over 1Gt of CO₂ emissions annually, similar to the entire aviation sector.
- ▶ **Significant Market Growth:** Low-cost green hydrogen will unlock demand from hard-to-abate industries driving a potential sixfold increase in demand by 2050¹.

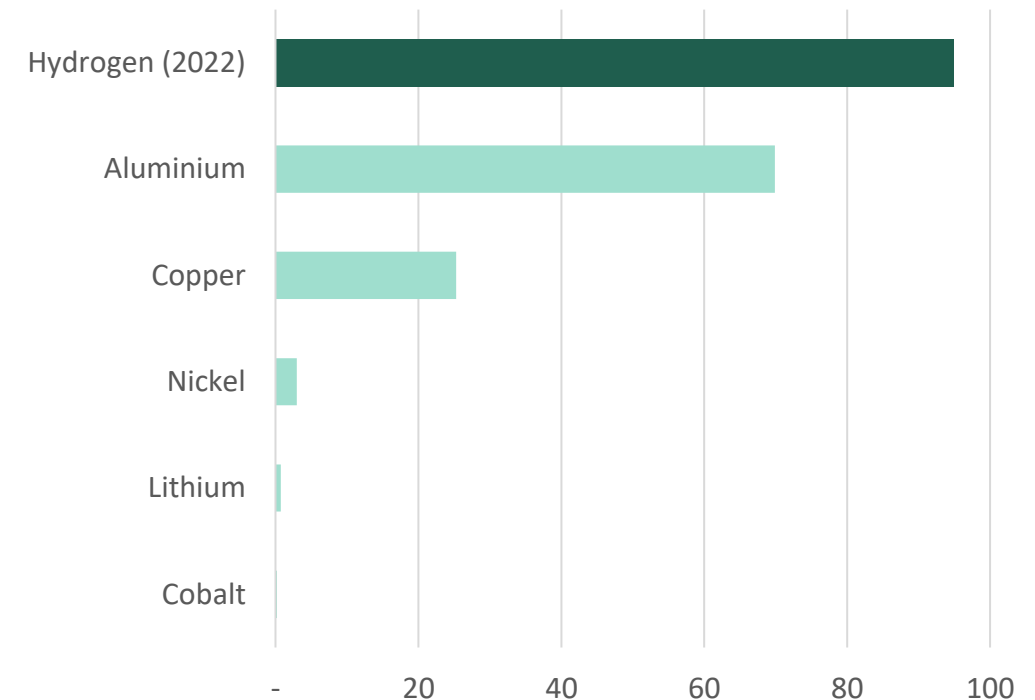
1. Green hydrogen: Energizing the path to net zero, Deloitte Economics Institute, 2023



Why is Green Hydrogen Required?

- ▶ **Current Market:** Hydrogen (H₂) is a ~95Mtpa global market, primarily used in ammonia production, petroleum refining, and heavy industry.
- ▶ **Environmental Impact:** Current hydrogen production generates over 1Gt of CO₂ emissions annually, accounting for 2.5% of global emissions—equivalent to the entire aviation sector.
- ▶ **Existing Need:** There is an urgent need to transition to green hydrogen to decarbonise the current hydrogen industry.
- ▶ **Key Role in Hard-to-Abate Sectors:** Green hydrogen is essential for decarbonising sectors like steelmaking, chemicals, cement, high-temperature heating, aviation, shipping, and heavy road transport, with demand projected to increase sixfold by 2050¹.

Commodity demand (Mtpa)



Source: Public filings



The Current Problem – Electrolysis

Green hydrogen from electrolysis still faces major challenges in achieving commercial and technical viability at scale.



Transmission lines

- Social licence issues
- Lengthy development times



Solar PV + Wind + Batteries

- Mature technologies
- Limited cost improvements
 - Social licence issues
 - Supply chain risks



Electrolyzers

- Expensive
- RE compatibility issues
- Yet to be effectively scaled
 - Supply chain risks



The Future – Photocatalysis



Zero-electricity

Photocatalysis produces H_2 from H_2O without electricity



Low cost

The simplicity of photocatalysis drives potential for very low costs



Solar driven

Sunlight is the only energy input driving the reaction



Scalable

Utilises a concentrated solar system which is inherently scalable



Emission-free

Water + sunlight = green hydrogen

Sparc Hydrogen



Our mission

Sparc Hydrogen is developing next generation green hydrogen production technology through photocatalytic water splitting (PWS), an innovative process that uses only sunlight, water, and a photocatalyst—offering a sustainable alternative to electrolysis.



Our technology

Our patent-pending solar reactor enhances the efficiency of photocatalytic water splitting by utilising concentrated sunlight. This innovative approach, with lower infrastructure and energy requirements, offers a potential cost and flexibility advantage over electrolysis.



Best-in-Class Partners



- ▶ 52% Sparc Hydrogen shareholder¹
- ▶ JV management and coordination
- ▶ Technology commercialisation expertise



- ▶ 20% Sparc Hydrogen shareholder¹
- ▶ Global leader in green hydrogen
- ▶ Substantial project development experience

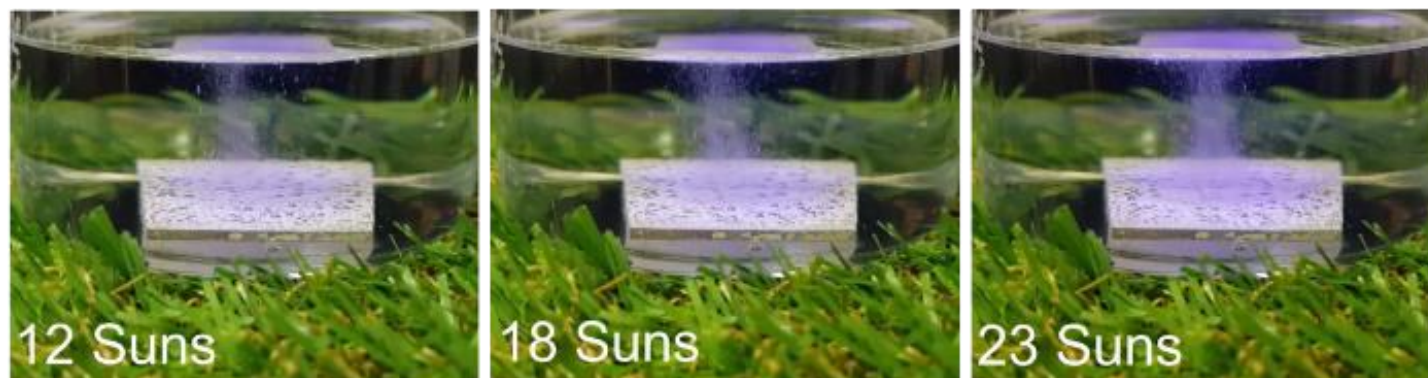
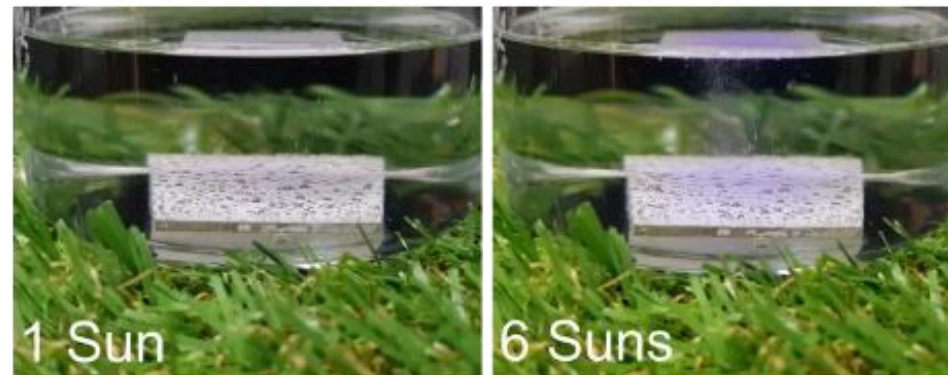


- ▶ 28% Sparc Hydrogen shareholder¹
- ▶ Developer and contributor of IP²
- ▶ Leading R&D work and providing lab facilities

Sparc Hydrogen's Unique Approach



- ▶ Sparc Hydrogen is one of the only companies combining concentrated solar with photocatalytic water splitting (PWS), advantages being:
 - Reduced photocatalyst use.
 - Modular and scalable mirror fields.
 - Increased efficiencies and heat generation.
- ▶ Sparc Hydrogen's reactor is being designed to:
 - Slot into an off-the-shelf linear Fresnel field.
 - Utilise by-product heat for industry use or power generation.
- ▶ Sparc Hydrogen is working with a leading photocatalyst developer incorporating their materials into reactor testing.



Prototype Testing at CSIRO Energy Centre



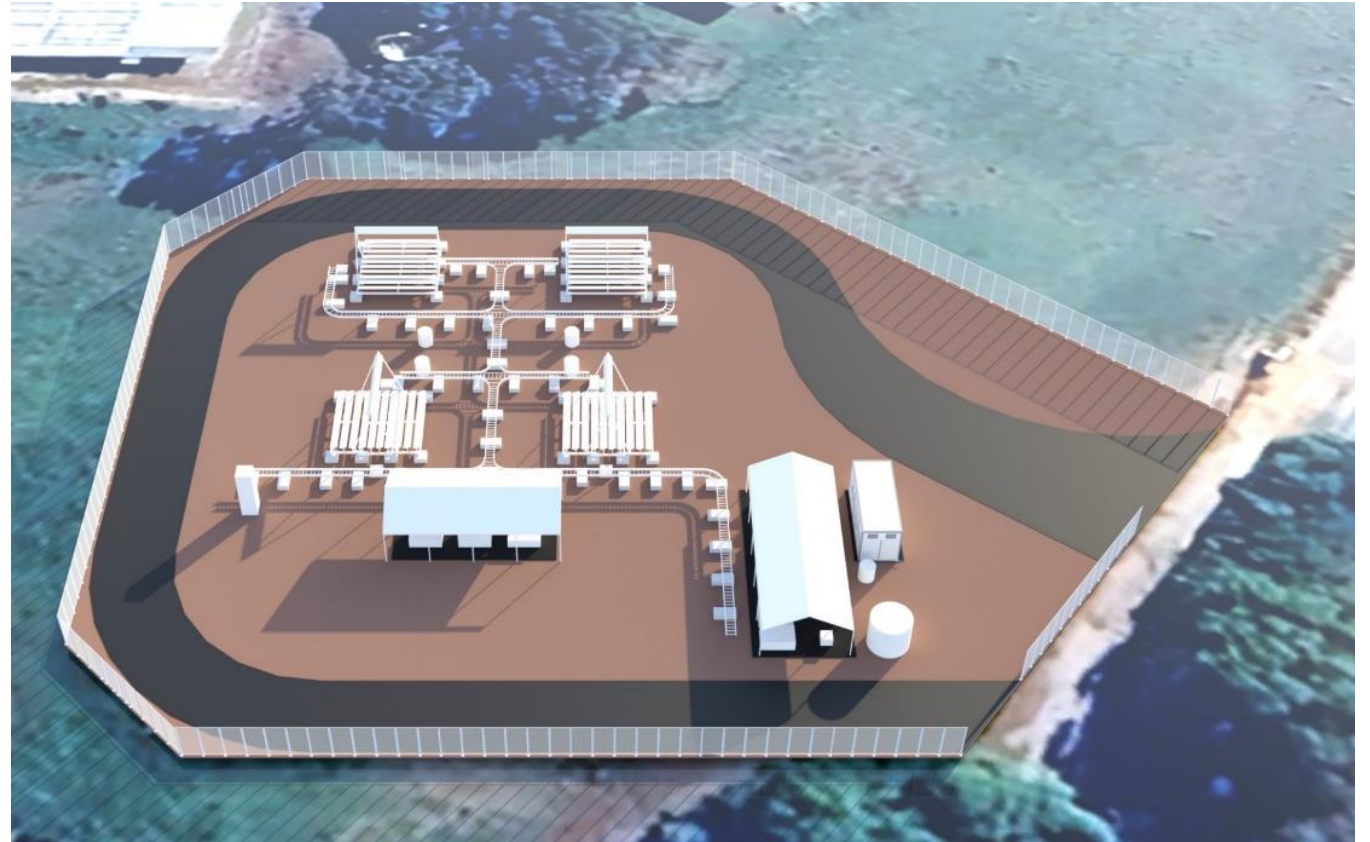
- ▶ Sparc Hydrogen successfully tested its PWS reactor prototype at the CSIRO Energy Centre in Newcastle, marking the first demonstration of the technology outside of the lab.
- ▶ Testing provided critical insights for scaling the reactor towards a pilot plant and advanced the Technology Readiness Level (TRL) from 4 to 5.
- ▶ The project received support and funding from CSIRO's Kick-Start Program and the Australian Government's AEA Seed Program.



Pilot Plant Development Underway



- ▶ Following encouraging results from lab testing and successful prototyping at CSIRO, development of a first-of-its-kind pilot plant utilizing Sparc Hydrogen's concentrated solar based PWS reactor is underway.
- ▶ The pilot plant will be located at the University of Adelaide's Roseworthy Campus, ~50km north of Adelaide in South Australia.
- ▶ The plant will utilize Sparc Hydrogen's scalable reactor design and will represent a key milestone in derisking the technology.
- ▶ FEED study is due for completion early in Q4 2024 and construction is expected to take <6 months.



Sparc Hydrogen 3D pilot plant model based on pre-FEED study

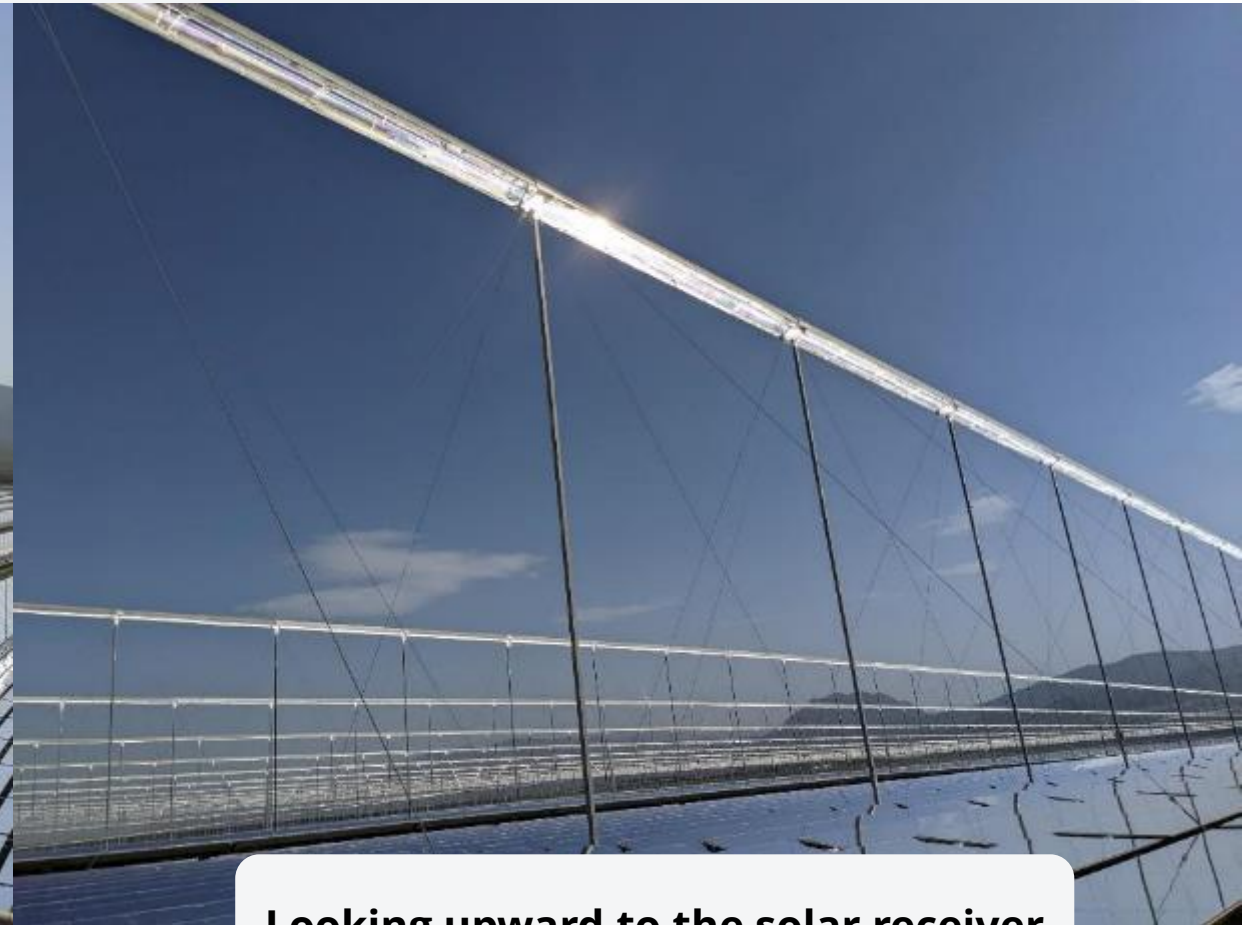
Modular and Scalable Infrastructure



**Site visit photos from a
linear Fresnel field in Europe**



View overlooking the mirror field



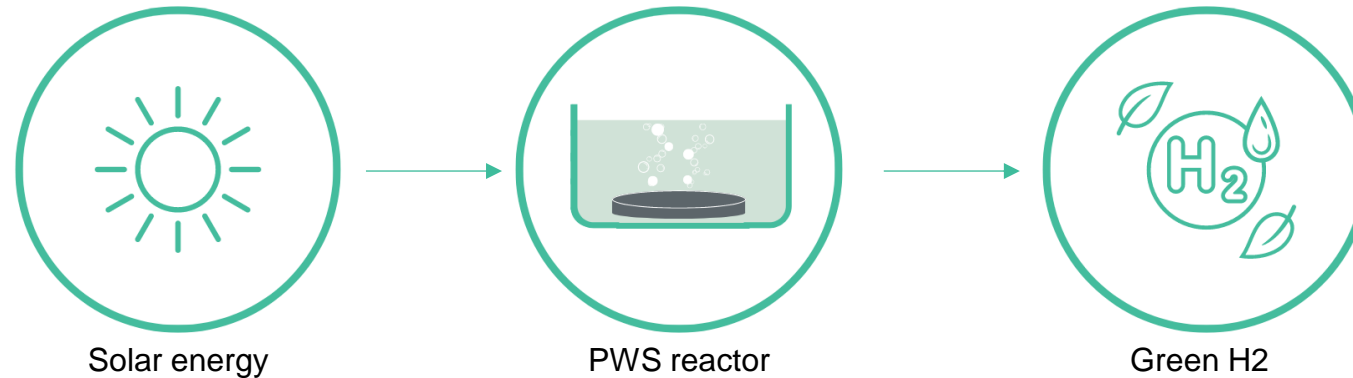
Looking upward to the solar receiver

Simplicity Drives Low-Cost Potential

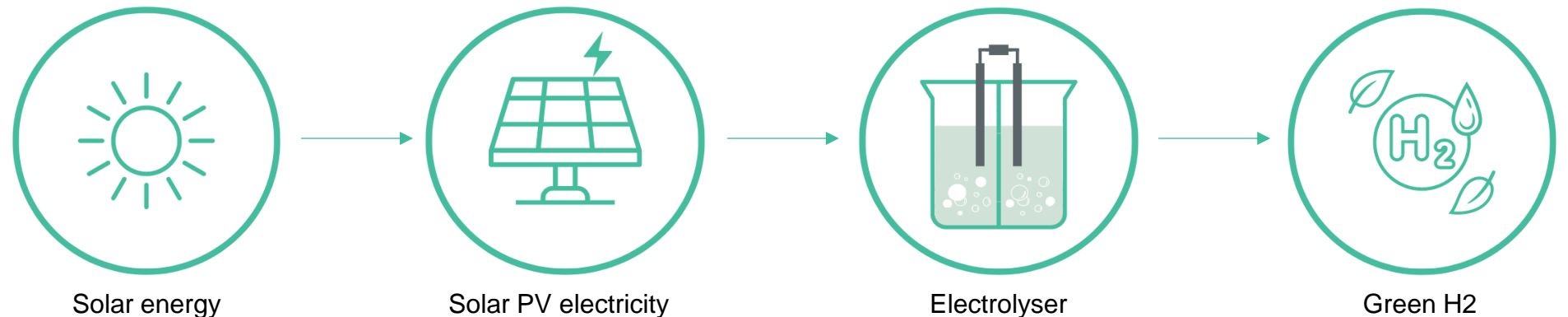


*"Such systems (**PWS**) offer great potential for cost reduction of electrolytic hydrogen, compared with conventional two-step technologies." (CSIRO)¹*

Photocatalysis



Solar PV Electrolysis





Broad Potential Use Cases

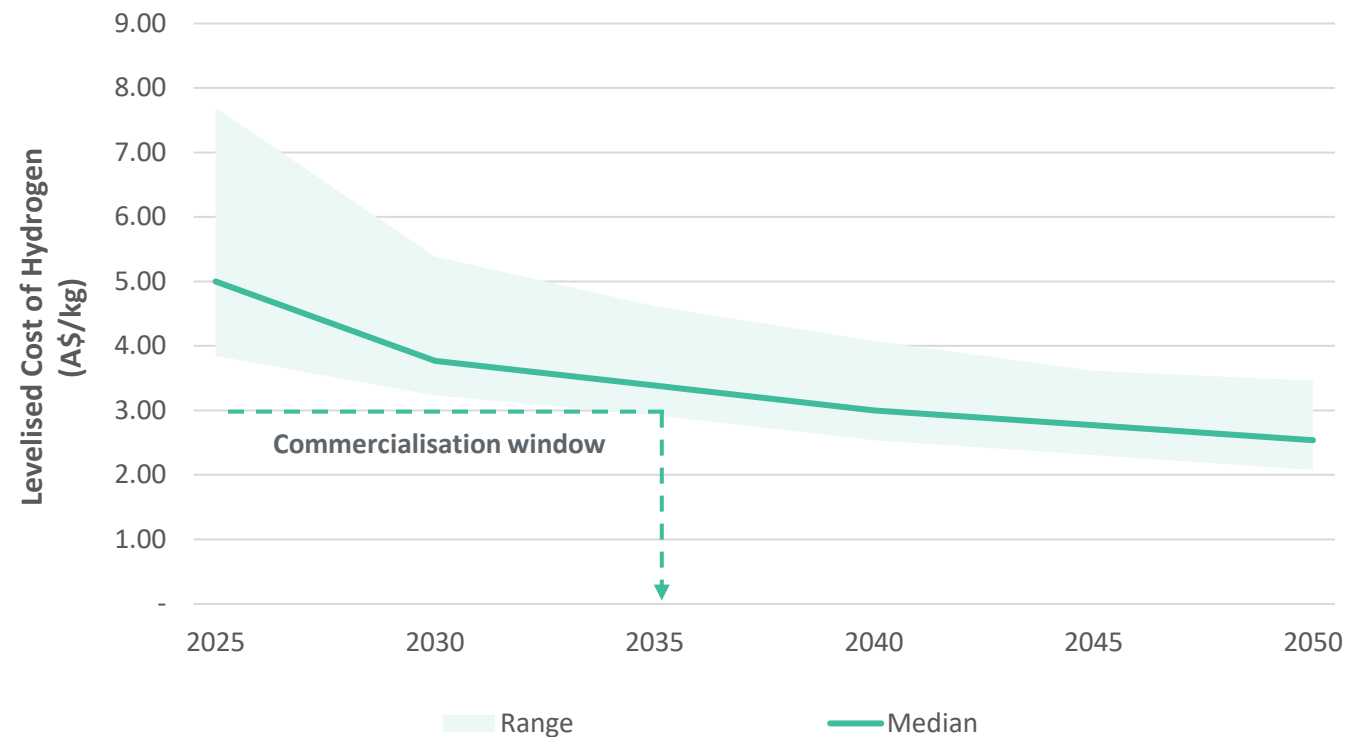
		Sparc Hydrogen Photocatalysis	Solar PV Electrolysis	Implications for potential end uses
Use case determinants	High solar resource	✓	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lowest cost production is suited to high solar (DNI) regions
	Remote and/or off-grid	✓	✗	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Photocatalysis can serve mine sites, remote power & refuelling, agriculture
	Flexible scale & modularity	✓	✗	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Photocatalysis is better suited to onsite / near site industrial uses
	Industrial heat co-product	✓	✗	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dual product users may include alumina, paper & pulp, ammonia

The Green Hydrogen Race is On...



- ▶ Conventional green hydrogen (electrolysis) projects will not reach industry and Government cost targets until well into the mid 2030s, at best.
- ▶ There is a **substantial window of opportunity** for **new technologies** such as Sparc Hydrogen to commercialise **low-cost hydrogen** production.
- ▶ Sparc Hydrogen is well placed to benefit from funding support from Australia, the US, EU and other jurisdictions with clean hydrogen policies.

Forecast cost of green hydrogen via electrolysis¹



1. Green hydrogen: Energizing the path to net zero, Deloitte Economics Institute, 2023

GRAPHENE

Unique Approach to
a Next Generation
Super-material



ecosparc® : Key Highlights



- ▶ **Addressing a Global Challenge:** Corrosion costs ~US\$6 trillion per annum and corroded steel replacement accounts for up to 3.4% of global GHG emissions¹.
- ▶ **Revolutionary Additive:** ecosparc® is a graphene-based additive that significantly enhances the anti-corrosive properties of existing marine and protective coatings for steel infrastructure.
- ▶ **Significant Value-in-use:** Extended maintenance intervals corresponds to cost, emissions, productivity and safety benefits for asset owners.
- ▶ **Market Opportunity:** Targeting the growing global anti-corrosion coatings market, projected to reach nearly US\$43 billion by 2029².
- ▶ **Real-World Validation:** Growing list of global coatings companies testing in their products and field trials underway with the SA Government and 29Metals on relevant steel infrastructure.
- ▶ **Platform Technology:** Sparc's expertise in graphene and coatings for anti-corrosion is leading to other opportunities in fast growing areas such as bioplastics and anti-fouling.

The Problem – Corrosion of Steel



The Cost and Carbon Problem

- ▶ ~**US\$6 trillion** direct and indirect costs associated with the impact of corrosion globally per annum¹
- ▶ Corroded steel replacement accounts for up to **3.4% of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions**¹

The Business Interruption Problem

Asset shutdowns

Productivity loss

Safety risks

About **ecosparc**[®]



What is it?: **ecosparc**[®] is a graphene-based additive additive - Sparc is not a paint company.

Performance Boost: Added in small amounts, **ecosparc**[®] significantly enhances existing protective coatings used on steel assets to combat corrosion.

Key Benefits: By extending the time between maintenance cycles, **ecosparc**[®] delivers substantial cost, emissions, productivity and safety benefits.



lower maintenance costs¹

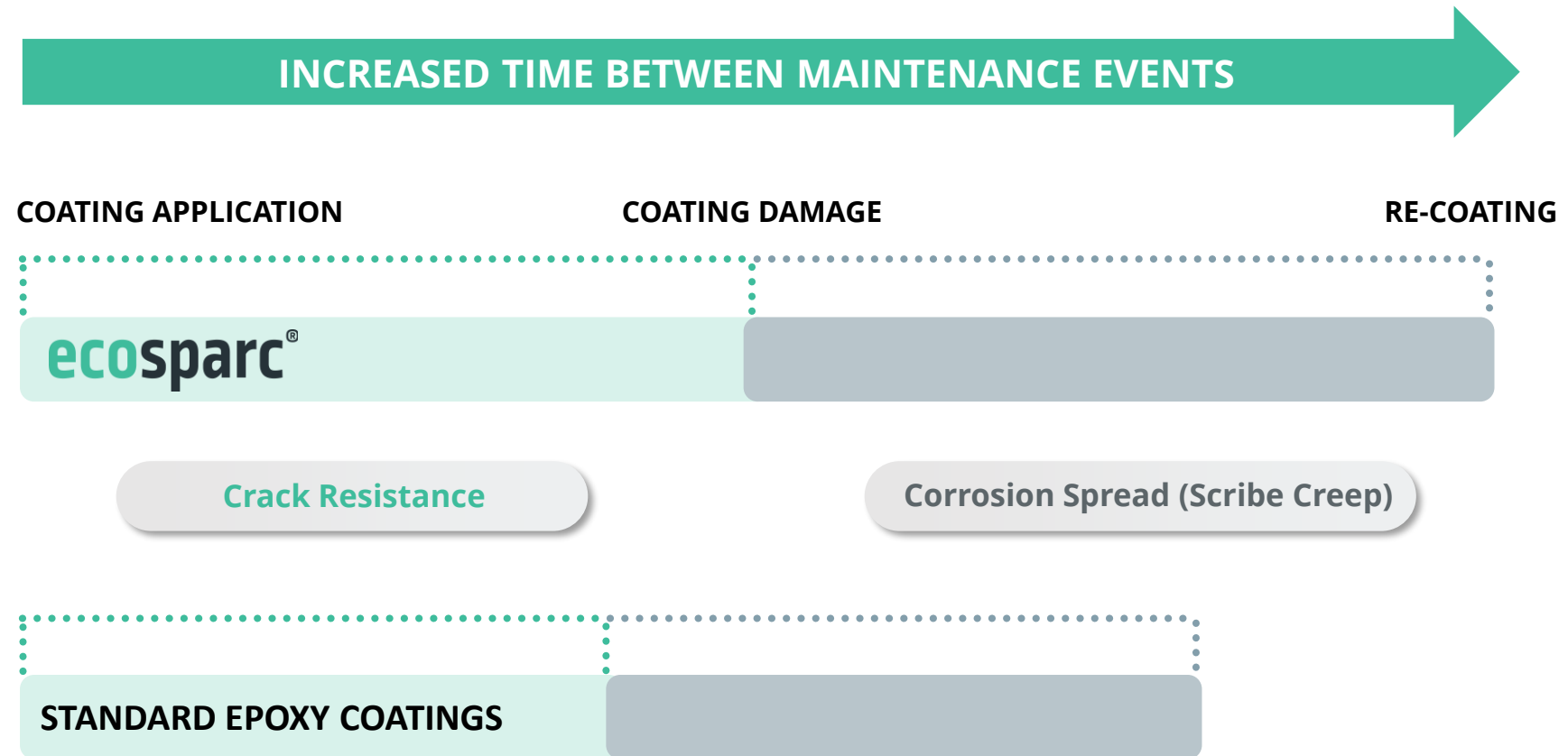


reduction in carbon emissions¹

Dual Anti-Corrosion Mechanism

ecosparc® enhanced epoxy-based coatings:

- ▶ Demonstrate increased strength and flexibility leading to less cracking.
- ▶ When cracking does eventually occur, corrosion spread is reduced by **26% - 79%** based on internally formulated and commercially available coatings¹.



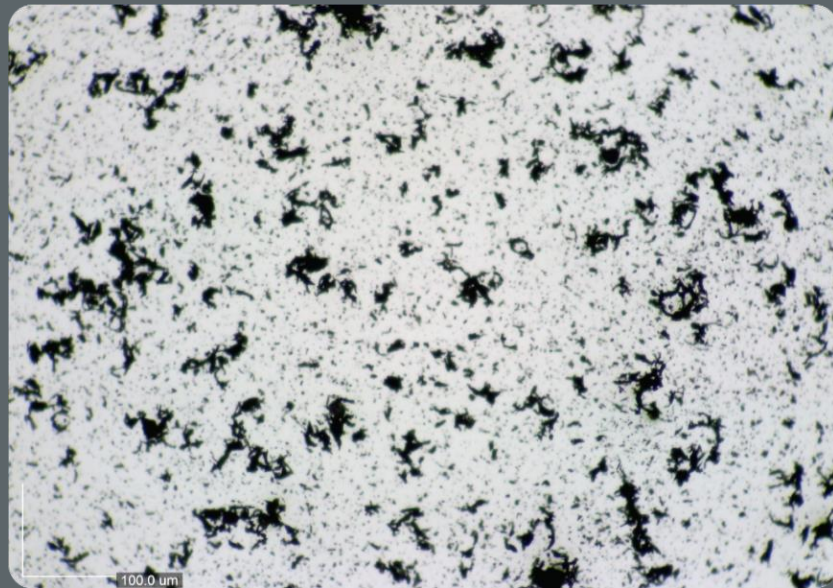
1. Based on scribe creep data from ISO 12944 cyclic corrosion testing. Summary results shown on slide 26.

Overcoming the Graphene Challenge



*Sparc Technologies are world leaders in the **long-term stable dispersion** of graphene to facilitate its effective integration into polymer-based materials.*

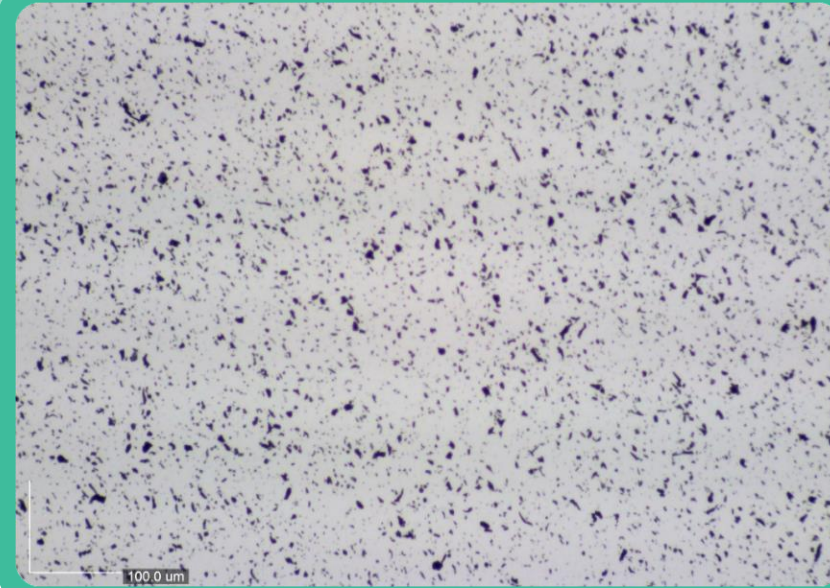
Reagglomerated Graphene Post Dispersion



Dispersion
Level

< 20%

ecosparc®

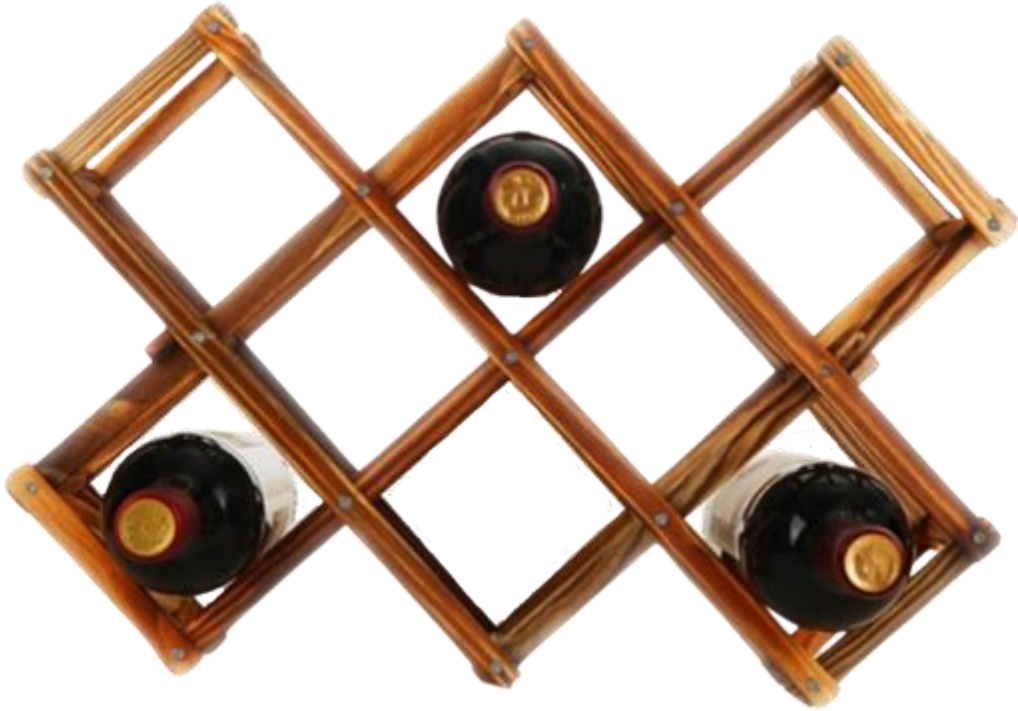


Dispersion
Level

94%

Effective dispersion of graphene particles has been a significant problem for the graphene industry since 2004

How Graphene Inhibits Cracking



- ▶ Wine rack analogy – graphene flexes laterally and takes up stress from the polymer matrix, increasing resiliency.



○ Crack termination

- ▶ Fractured surface of graphene modified epoxy at high magnification shows cracks terminating at graphene particles.

Repeatable Improvement in Scribe Creep



- Scribe creep is the standard industry metric used to assess anti-corrosion performance.
- Sparc has completed **eight rounds** of cyclic corrosion testing on **over 4,200** panels to ISO standards, demonstrating significantly improved scribe creep compared to control panels without graphene.
- Sparc's extensive and consistent corrosion data with graphene-based additives is believed to be unmatched in the industry.

Round	Standard	Duration (hrs)	Relative improvement	Benchmark
A	ISO 9227	1,000	34% (1 coat) 79% (2 coat)	Test bed formula
B	ISO 12944	1,680	72%	Test bed formula
C	ISO 12944	4,200	42%	Commercially available
D	ISO 12944	1,680	**	Commercially available
E	ISO 12944	4,200	26%	Commercially available
F	ISO 12944	1,680	47%	Commercially available
G	ISO 12944	4,200	32%	Commercially available
H	ISO 12944	4,200	31%	Commercially available

** Inconsistent data which was repeated in subsequent rounds

Ease of Manufacture and Use



- ▶ Sparc has commissioned a commercial additive production facility in Adelaide.
- ▶ **ecosparc**® is simple and easy to incorporate into existing coatings with only 2% w/w of additive required at the point of manufacture.
- ▶ No change to current paint application or removal methods.



The specialist **ecosparc**® formula is manufactured at our Adelaide facility



Ecosparc is added to conventional coatings at the point of paint manufacture

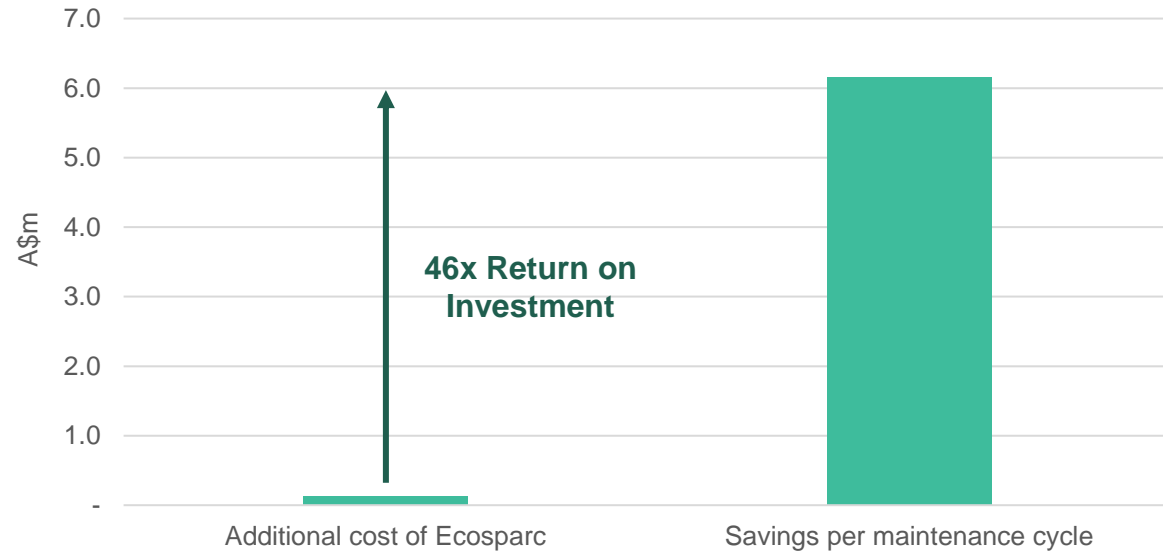


To produce **graphene** enhanced high performance coatings

Significant Value-in-Use for Asset Owners



- ▶ Independent **lifecycle assessment** (LCA)³ completed in August 2023.
- ▶ Modelled impact of using **ecosparc**[®] enhanced paint on a major Australian port with 57,883m² of re-coatable steel.
- ▶ Cost and emissions savings over 50-year asset life were based on a conservative 26% improvement in corrosion resistance⁴.
- ▶ The analysis did not include any benefits from the potential for life extensions of steel infrastructure.



~750t

Lifetime reduction in carbon emissions¹



~A\$34m

Lifetime savings in steel recoating costs^{1,2}

1. Bontick, P.A. (2023), Carbon footprint of ecosparc graphene additive for protective coating applications, Lifecycles, Melbourne, Australia
2. Cost savings accruing from both the reduction in paint use and fewer maintenance events

3. See ASX Announcement [30 August 2023](#)
4. See ASX Announcement [12 September 2023](#)

Field Trials Underway

- ▶ Sparc has recently commenced collaborative field trials using **ecosparc**® enhanced coatings on relevant steel infrastructure in a variety of operational environments including:
 - At Streaky Bay Jetty and West Beach Bridge with the South Australian Department for Infrastructure and Transport; and
 - 29Metals' processing plant infrastructure at the Golden Grove mine in Western Australia.



Streaky Bay Jetty, Eyre Peninsula, SA



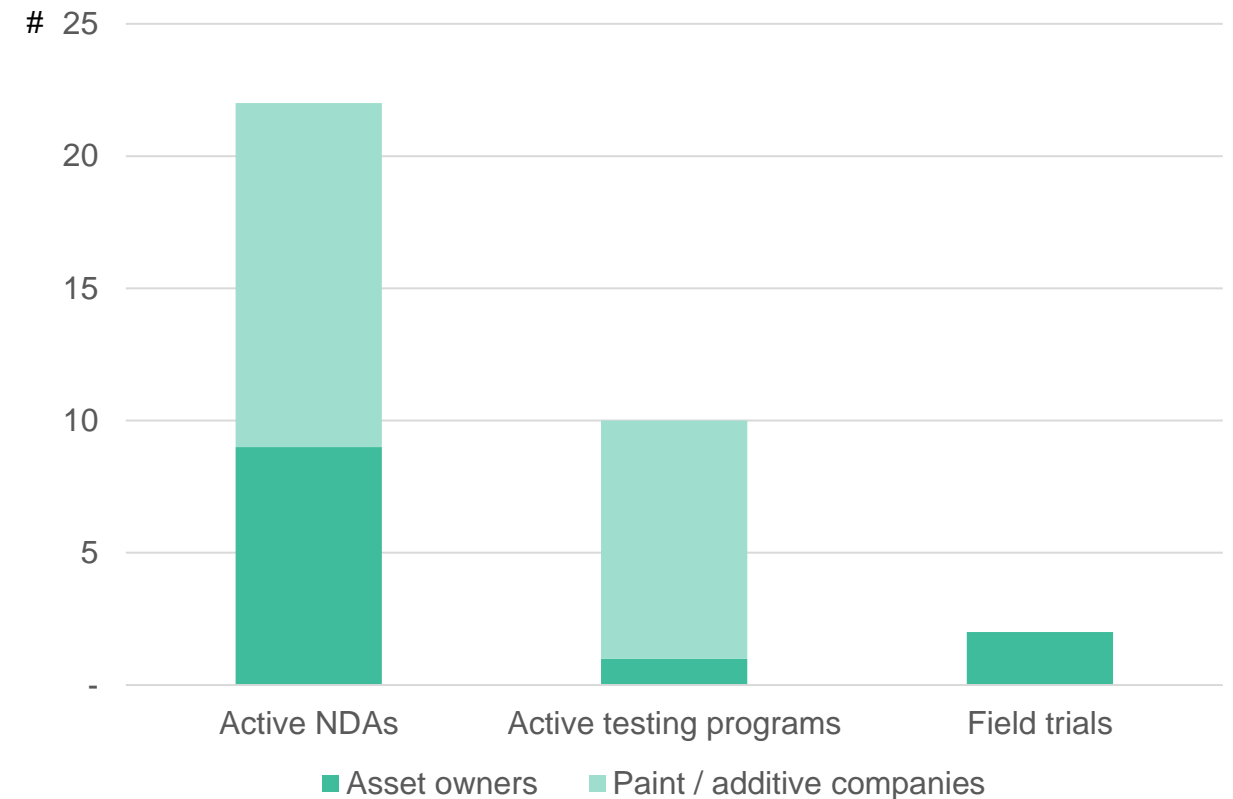
Golden Grove Processing Plant, Yalgoo, WA

Pathway to Market

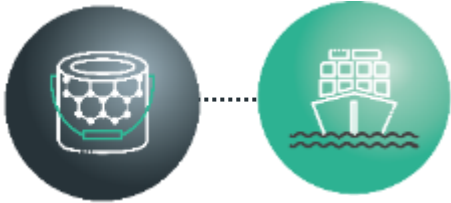
Dual track approach to commercialising **ecosparc®** within the US\$43 billion¹ global anti-corrosive coatings market:

1. Sparc is actively working with global coatings companies, regional coatings companies and additive suppliers on testing and trials.
2. Partnering with large **asset owners** to test **ecosparc®** on relevant steel infrastructure under real-world conditions via field trials. Infrastructure owners being targeted include government, defence, mining, and oil and gas companies.

Customer Engagement Status²



Other Target Applications



Anti-fouling Coatings

- ▶ Fouling is the result of accumulation of marine growth, resulting in reduced vessel speed, increased bunker consumption and the accrual of cleaning costs.
- ▶ Sparc is developing antifouling technology (**biosparc™**) which substantially reduces fouling on marine vessels and structures.
- ▶ Global market size is estimated to be growing at 8.2% CAGR reaching US\$13.5bn in 2028¹.



Composites & Bioplastics

- ▶ Composites are two or more distinct materials that, when combined, create a new material with enhanced properties.
- ▶ Bioplastics are sourced from non-fossil fuel-based polymers and are being designed for compostability.
- ▶ Sparc's graphene additives are being tested in multiple applications in composites and bioplastics targeting improved flexibility, strength, conductivity and elasticity.

Sparc's Value Proposition

Sparc has tested 100's of grades of graphene, the vast majority of which do not work in anti-corrosive coatings

Sparc only works with the right grades, in the right dispersions, to produce industry relevant additives

Sparc is among the only companies globally with extensive coatings data to support product performance



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