



# Transformational Technologies for Global Industries

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October 2023

ASX: SPN

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# Corporate Snapshot

**85m**

Shares on issue

**\$18m**

Market Cap\*

**\$0.21**

Share price\*

**\$3m**

Cash (30 June 2023)

**~38.5%**

Top 20 s/holders

**7.7%**

University of Adelaide

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**Stephen Hunt**  
Executive Chairman



**Adrien Wing**  
Non-Executive Director



**Daniel Eddington**  
Non-Executive Director

## EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM



**Denis Wright**  
General Manager  
Graphene Materials



**Nick O'Loughlin**  
General Manager  
Renewable Energy



**Kristen Kubank**  
Chief Financial Officer

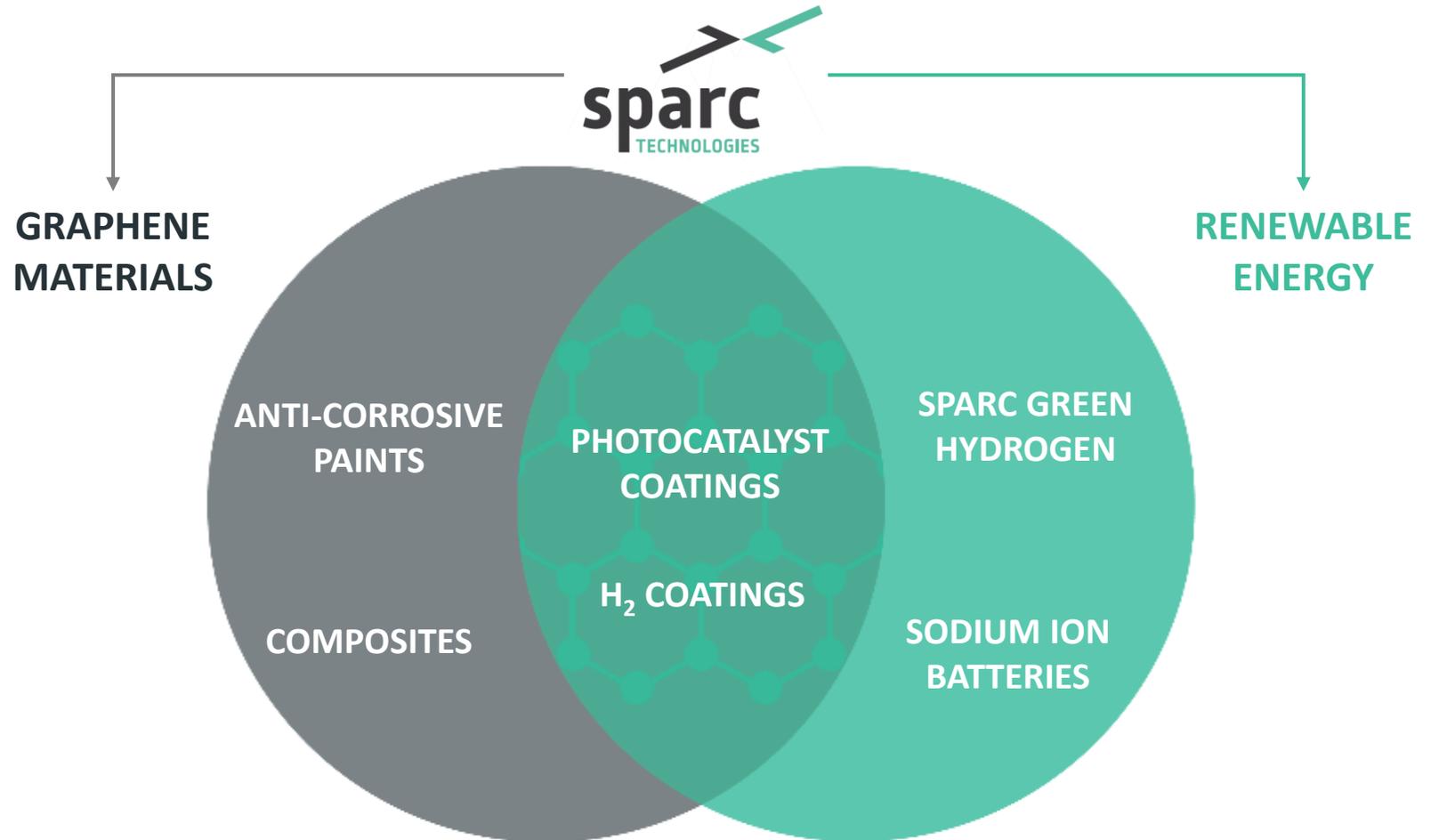
# Unique Technology Portfolio

- ▶ Sparc is developing a **portfolio of technologies** that target a world increasingly focused on **sustainability** and **environmental outcomes**

- ▶ Sparc has two core business lines:

**Graphene Materials** focusing on developing high performance anticorrosive paints and other protective coatings

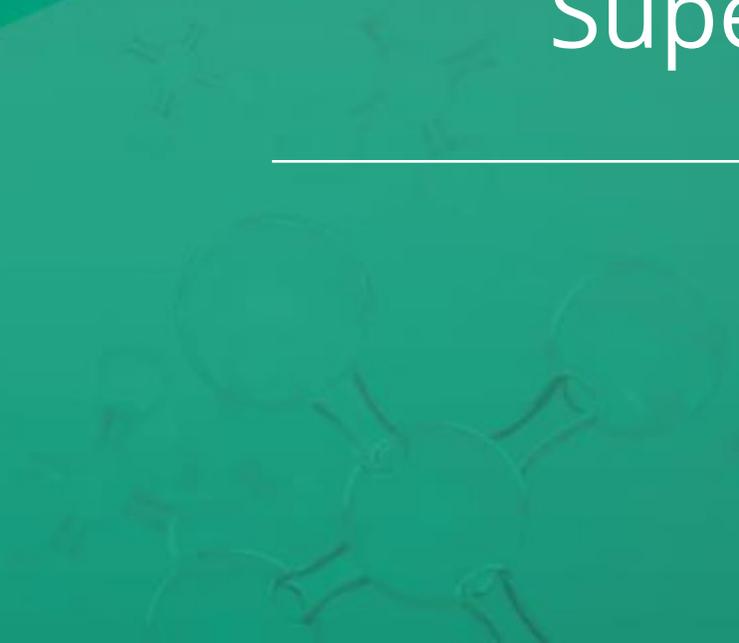
**Renewable Energy** with a majority shareholding in Sparc Hydrogen and an emerging project in sodium ion batteries



# GRAPHENE

Unique Approach to  
a Next Generation  
Super-material

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# Next Generation Super-material



## WHAT IS GRAPHENE?

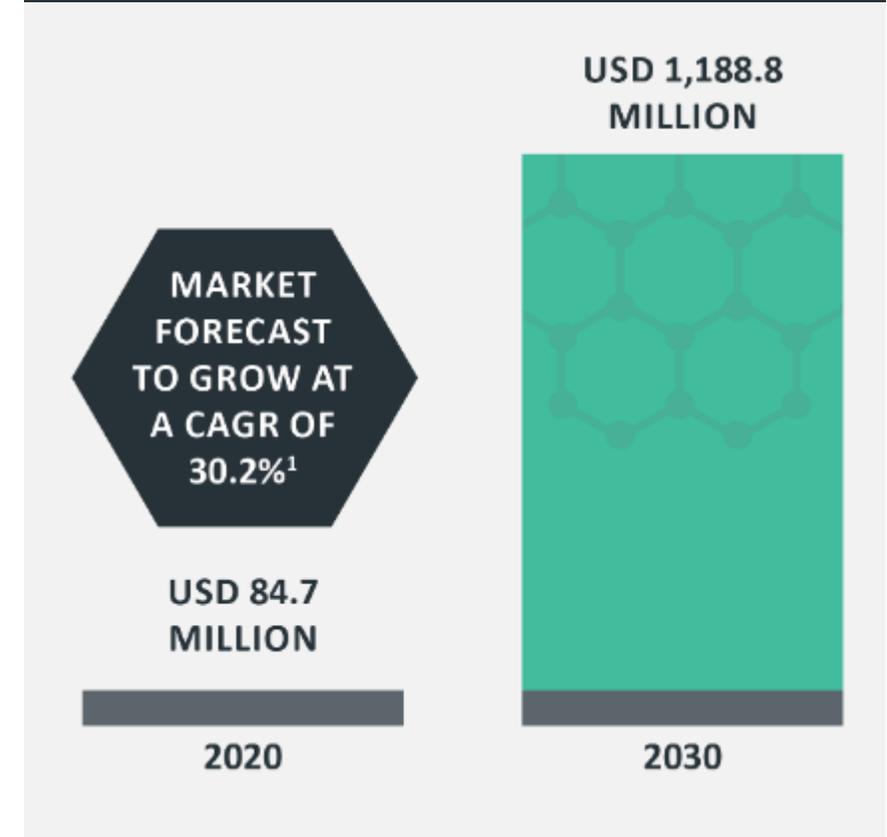
Graphene is a 2D material made of carbon atoms arranged in a hexagonal lattice which creates unique and powerful properties capable of transforming and disrupting global industries.



## PROPERTIES OF GRAPHENE

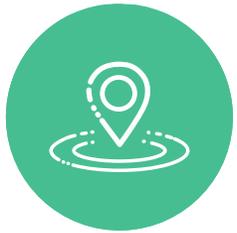


## GRAPHENE MARKET



1 <https://www.researchandmarkets.com/reports/5128907>

# Sparc's Unique Graphene Position



Based in Kent  
Town, Adelaide



Production of  
commercially  
applicable graphene-  
based materials



World leading  
'Graphene in  
Coatings' R&D team



Patent application  
for graphene-based  
additive filed

# The **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup> solution

Significant improvement in coating performance across our entire suite of ISO coatings testing

- ▶ Significant improvement in crack resistance
- ▶ Proven up to **40%** improvement in anti-corrosive performance
- ▶ Resulting in an industry leading high-performance coating

Significant improvement in crack resistance after 252 cycles of thermal testing



# About ecosparc



Ecosparc is not a paint. Ecosparc, when added in tiny amounts, supercharges coatings currently used to protect steel assets from corrosion.

The benefits of Ecosparc including cost and emissions savings are the direct result of Ecosparc extending the time between maintenance events by **18-21%**.



**18-23%**

reduction in carbon emissions



**25%+**

savings in maintenance costs

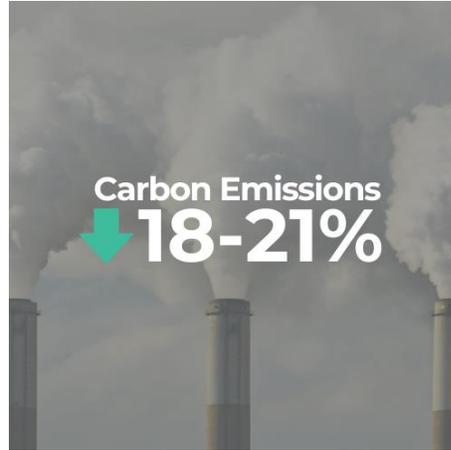


# Why Choose ecosparc?



## Cost Savings

Enhancing conventional coatings with ecosparc results in a minimum saving in re-coatable steel maintenance costs of 25%.



## Reduced Carbon Emissions

Enhancing conventional coatings with ecosparc results in a reduction of carbon emissions associated with asset maintenance of 18-21%.



## Easier Maintenance

- Reduced maintenance events
- Fewer on-site check-ups
- Reduced asset downtime
- Increased productivity



## Increased Safety

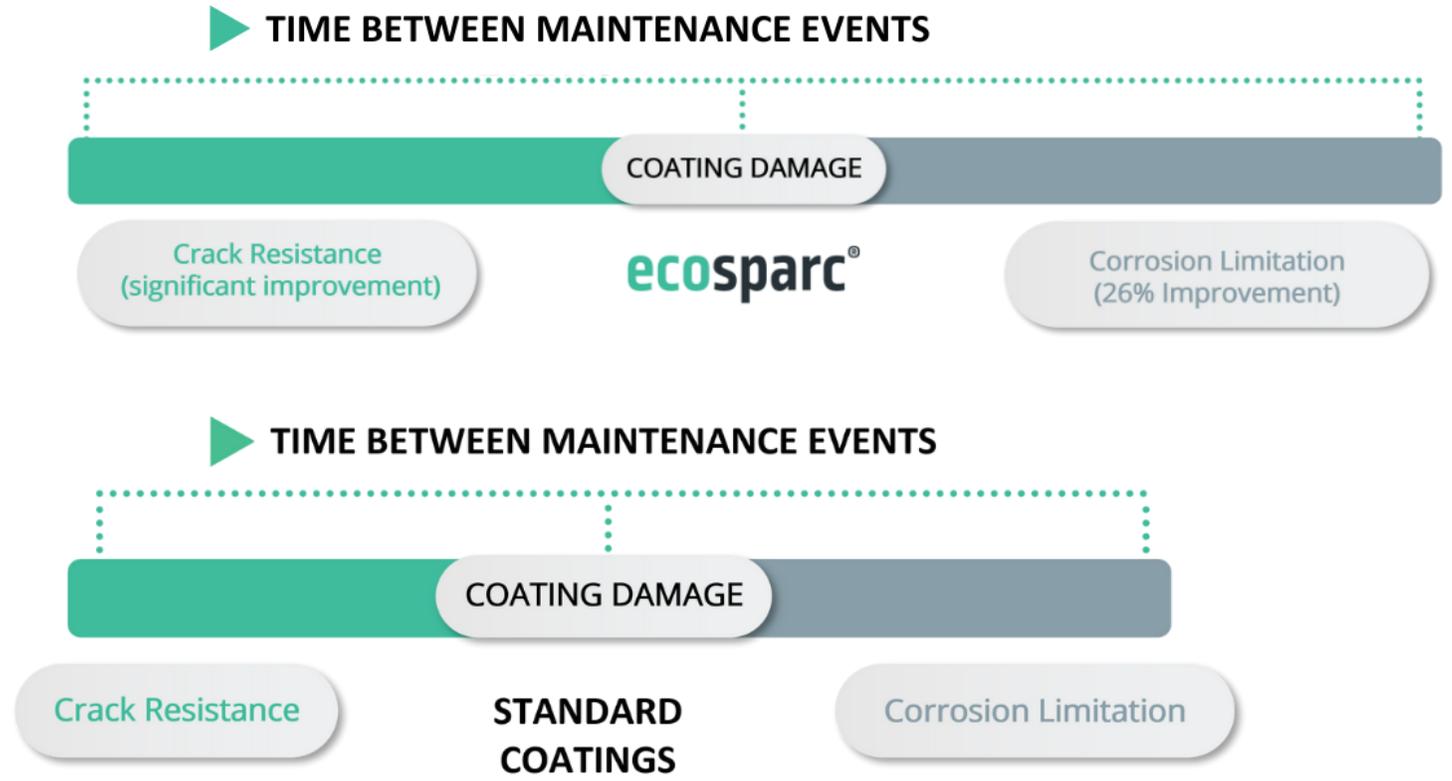
Enhancing conventional coatings with Ecosparc will help to protect your workforce.

# The Dual Anti-Corrosion Mechanism



## Ecosparc enhanced coatings:

- ▶ Delay coating cracking. This delays the onset of corrosion.
- ▶ When damage does finally occur ecosparc further limits corrosion spread by a further >25%.

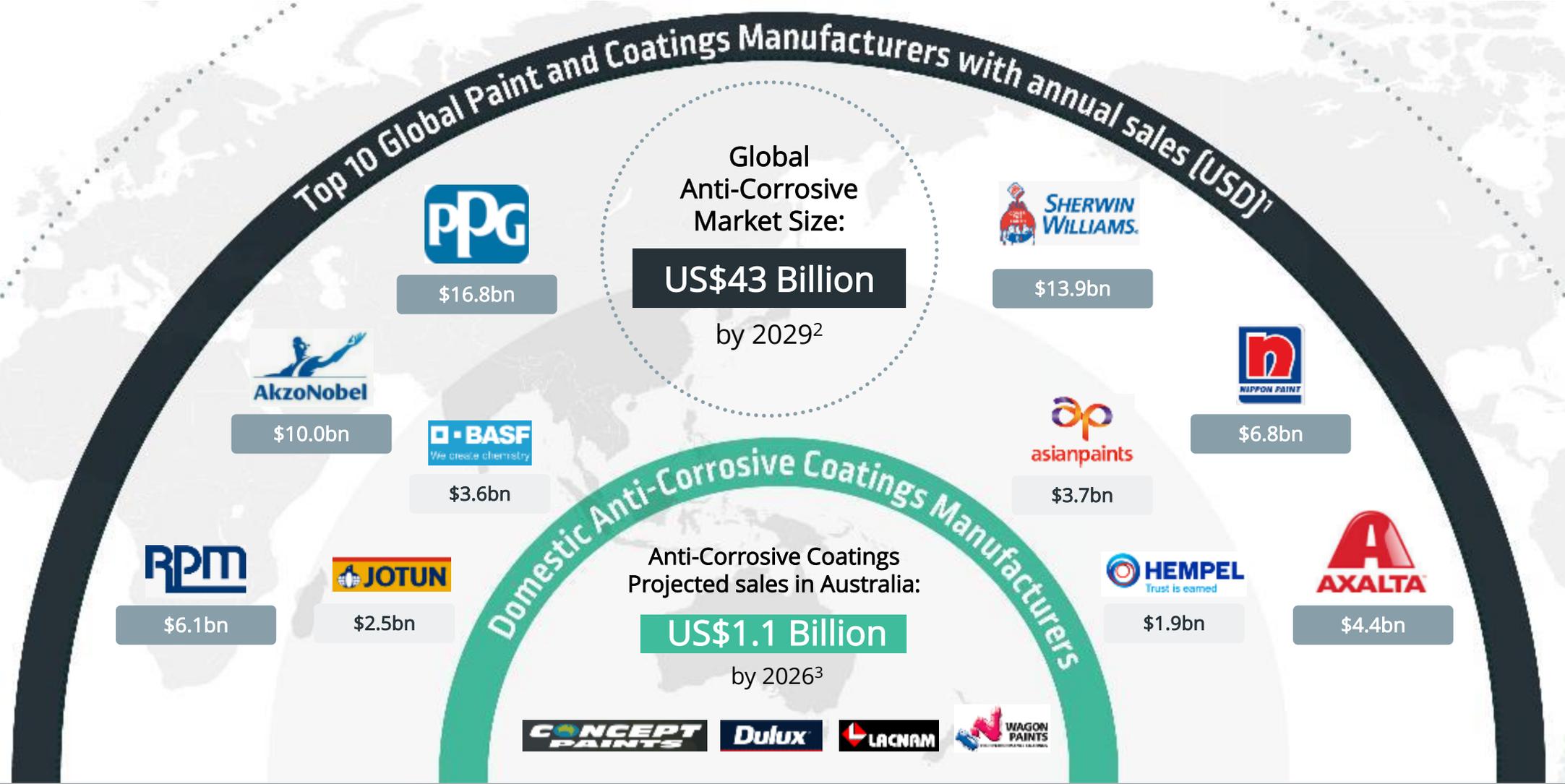


# Path to Market – Moving to Commercialisation

- ▶ Partnering with asset owners to trial ecosparc on steel infrastructure.
- ▶ Ecosparc is currently under trial with several of the world's largest coatings companies.



# Significant Addressable Markets



1. Sourced from Coatings World 2022 <https://www.coatingsworld.com/heaps/view/10269/1/>  
 2. Sourced from Exactitude Consultancy <https://exactitudeconsultancy.com/reports/3960/anti-corrosion-coatings-market/>  
 3. Sourced from Research and Markets 2016 <https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/australia-us11-billion-corrosion-protective-coatings-cpc-acid-proof-lining-apl-market-analysis-and-opportunity-assessment-2016-2026---research-and-markets-300345758.html>

SPARC  
GREEN  
HYDROGEN

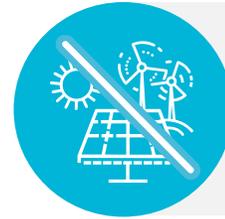


# Next Generation Green Hydrogen Technology

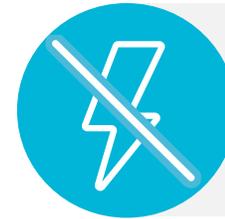


# Technology Highlights

- ▶ Globally disruptive green hydrogen technology
- ▶ NO ELECTRICITY REQUIRED to split water
- ▶ Opportunity for scalable deployment and efficient resource use
- ▶ Prototyping and pilot development underway
- ▶ Targeting a system with industry leading costs



No Wind or Solar  
PV Farms



No Electrolysers

The bottom right section of the slide features a light blue rounded rectangle containing four logos. At the top left is the SPARC Technologies logo, which includes a stylized black and green arrow graphic above the text 'sparc' in bold lowercase and 'TECHNOLOGIES' in smaller uppercase. To its right is the Fortescue Future Industries logo, consisting of the text 'FORTESCUE FUTURE INDUSTRIES' in green uppercase next to a large green circle. Below these are the logos for The University of Adelaide and Flinders University. The University of Adelaide logo features a crest with a book and stars above the text 'THE UNIVERSITY of ADELAIDE'. The Flinders University logo features a crest with a ship and a sun above the text 'Flinders UNIVERSITY'.

# Sparc Green Hydrogen Advantages



*“Such systems (photocatalytic water splitting) offer great potential for cost reduction of electrolytic hydrogen, compared with conventional two-step technologies.” (CSIRO National Hydrogen Roadmap<sup>1</sup>)*

	Sparc Green H <sub>2</sub>	Green H <sub>2</sub>	Blue H <sub>2</sub>	Grey H <sub>2</sub>
<i>Description</i>	Photocatalysis	Wind and solar farms with electrolysis	Using SMR with CCS*	Steam methane reforming
<i>Feedstock</i>	✓ Water	✓ Water	✗ Natural gas, Water	✗ Natural gas, Water
<i>By-product</i>	✓ Oxygen	✓ Oxygen	• Emissions sequestered	✗ CO <sub>2</sub> , NO <sub>x</sub> , SO <sub>x</sub> , PM
<i>Scope 1 &amp; 2 emissions<sup>2</sup></i>	✓ Nil	✓ Nil	✗ 0.76kg CO <sub>2</sub> / 1kg H <sub>2</sub>	✗ 8.5kg CO <sub>2</sub> / 1kg H <sub>2</sub>
<i>Location</i>	✓ Solar resource	✗ Solar +/- wind & HV infrastructure	✗ Natural gas source and suitable storage	✗ Natural gas source
<i>Requisite scale</i>	✓ Scalable	✗ Very large	✗ Very large	✗ Large

\* Carbon capture and storage

<sup>1</sup> Sourced from Bruce S, Temminghoff M, Hayward J, Schmidt E, Munnings C, Palfreyman D, Hartley P (2018) National Hydrogen Roadmap. CSIRO, Australia

<sup>2</sup> Sourced from Commonwealth of Australia, 'Australia's National Hydrogen Strategy', 2019



# PWS Prototype Testing at CSIRO Energy Centre

- ▶ Commencement of testing of Sparc Hydrogen's photocatalytic water splitting reactor at the CSIRO Energy Centre in Newcastle, NSW.
- ▶ World leading demonstration of on-sun photocatalytic water splitting under concentrated sunlight.
- ▶ Prototype testing will provide valuable information for ongoing R&D and pilot plant design.



# Development Pathway



Sparc Hydrogen JV established in Q1 2022



Preliminary TEA confirms commercial potential in Q4 2022



Development of solar reactor prototype for on-sun testing in Q3 2023



Pilot plant development; construction decision due late 2023 / early 2024





# Best-in-Class Partners



- ▶ 52% Sparc Hydrogen shareholder<sup>1</sup>
- ▶ JV management and coordination
- ▶ Technology commercialisation expertise



- ▶ 20% Sparc Hydrogen shareholder<sup>1</sup>
- ▶ Global leader in green hydrogen
- ▶ Substantial project development experience



- ▶ 28% Sparc Hydrogen shareholder<sup>1</sup>
- ▶ Contributor of IP<sup>2</sup>
- ▶ Leading R&D work and facilities

1. Stage 1 shareholdings; refer to SPN ASX release 2 February 2022  
2. Together with Flinders University

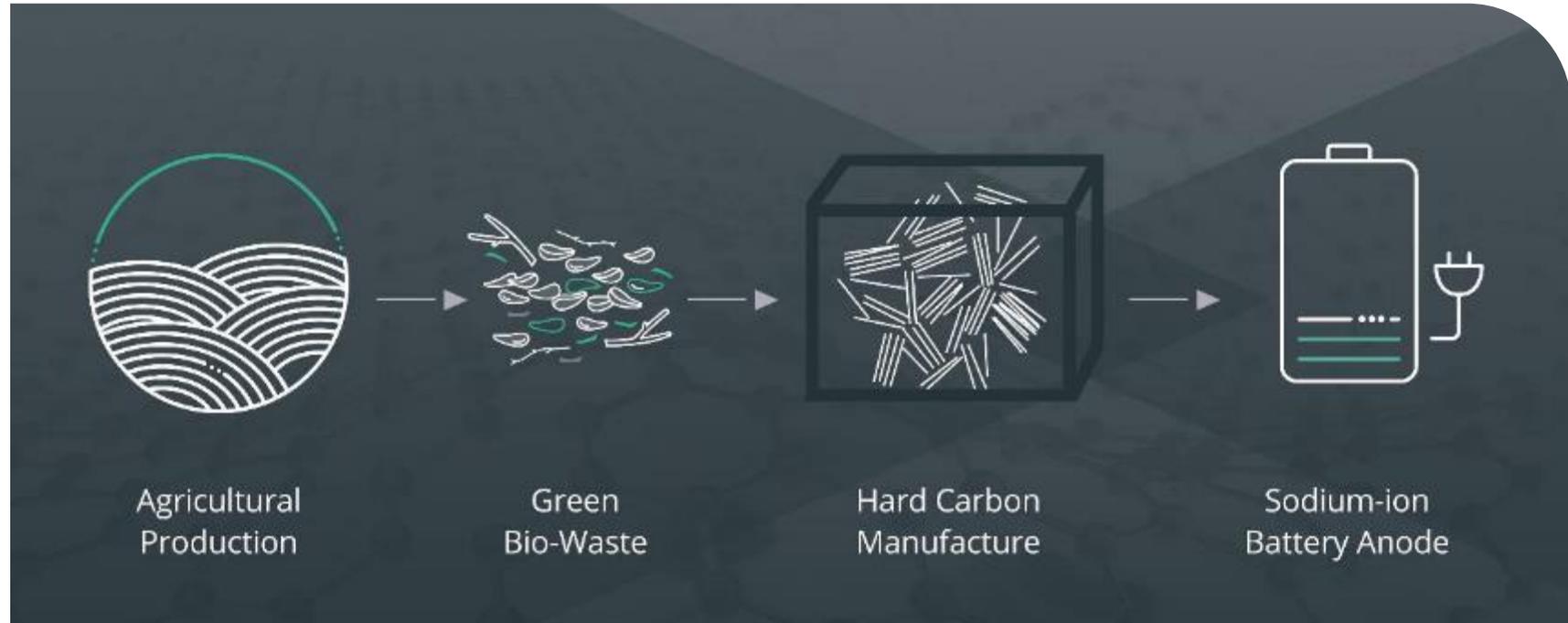
# SODIUM ION BATTERIES

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# Hard Carbon Anode Project

- ▶ Sparc, in collaboration with QUT, is developing a hard carbon material using low cost, **sustainably sourced** green bio-waste for the **sodium ion battery** industry. Current HC feed sources which are largely from the petroleum industry.
- ▶ Production process significantly reduces processing time and energy use compared to existing methods
- ▶ Sodium ion batteries have been identified by Sparc as an attractive future battery technology competitor to LIB with advantages in grid, industrial scale and emerging EVs.



**Lower cost** and  
no **scarcity** of raw  
materials

**Safety** and  
ease of transport

Similar manufacturing  
techniques to Li-ion

# Sodium-Ion Battery Advantages

- ▶ Increasing interest in US, EU and Asia in developing sodium-ion battery technology as an alternative to lithium-ion
- ▶ The use of lower cost, sustainable, abundant materials in sodium-ion batteries is a key advantage
- ▶ Commercialisation is expected in 2023 from large battery producers including CATL, BYD, Reliance Industries and HiNa
- ▶ Sparc's exposure to sodium-ion batteries is a differentiator in the Australian market

Parameters	Lead Acid	Lithium ion	Sodium ion
Materials Cost	Low	High	Low ✓
Energy Density	Low	High	Moderate/High
Safety	Moderate	Low	High ✓
Materials Availability	Toxic	Scarce / Critical Minerals	Earth-abundant ✓
Stability	Moderate (high self-discharge)	High (negligible self-discharge)	High (negligible self-discharge) ✓
Round Trip Energy Efficiency	Low (< 75%)	High (> 90%)	High (> 90%) ✓
Temperature Range	-40 °C to 60 °C	-25 °C to 40 °C	-40 °C to 60 °C ✓
Remarks	Mature technology; fast charging not possible	Transportation restrictions; critical materials	Less mature but developing as an alternative to Li-ion

Source: adapted from [www.evreporter.com](http://www.evreporter.com)

# Positive results for sodium-ion battery materials project



- ▶ Additional testing benchmarked against commercial hard carbon materials completed showing **up to 63%** improvement in reversible capacities.
- ▶ Reproducibility across alternative bio-waste feedstock sources demonstrated.
- ▶ Acceleration of R&D planned and techno-economic analysis underway.



# Momentum Building in Sodium-Ion



**Reliance**  
Industries Limited

*"acquires battery tech firm Faradion for GBP100m"*

Dec-21



MERCURIA

*"Invests in Natron Energy's Sodium-Ion Battery Technology"*

Nov-22



*"BYD to launch electric hatchbacks with new Sodium-ion batteries"*

Dec-22



*"begins operation of NAS batteries for self-wheeling of renewable energy"*

Jan-23



Jul-21



*"Unveils Its Latest Breakthrough Technology by Releasing Its First Generation of Sodium-ion Batteries"*

Oct-22



*"Will Mass Produce Sodium-Ion Batteries in 2023"*

Dec-22



*"United Airlines is investing in sodium-ion battery development"*

Feb-23



*"Hina Battery becomes 1st battery maker to put sodium-ion batteries in EVs in China"*

# Contacts



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