



Spartel Pty Ltd is a Research and Development company specialising in waste management and environmental sustainability. The company was founded by Dr Henricus Hofstede in order to commercialise the first patent he developed with Murdoch University. Dr Hofstede has a PhD in Environmental Science and worked as a researcher and lecturer at Murdoch University, specialising in Waste Management and Pollution Control. Dr Hofstede made a huge contribution to the University during his 17 year involvement by establishing the Centre for Organic Waste Management in 1999 with \$ 800,000 worth of grants, and a large number of industry grants totalling \$1,5 million and attracting several International Conferences.

He is on a number of Government and Private Sector Boards and acts as an expert technical advisor to IPO's. Dr Hofstede has a global reputation in Environmental technologies, Sustainability and has significant commercial experience.

He has productive commercial associations with Alcoa, CSBP, BHP, SMRC, State and Federal Government specially Dept. Agriculture, Australian Greenhouse Office and AUSAID, and International Organisations.

Dr Hofstede is a Regional Representative of ORBIT which attracts significant International interest from Organisations and Commerce. In addition, he holds an Honorary Research Fellowship position at the Institute of Sustainability and Technology Policy, which is the leading research institute for sustainability in Australia.

There exists a significant mutually beneficial relationship between Spartel and Murdoch University. University students are offered temporary positions, work experience, and student group projects on projects within Spartel, providing them with invaluable experience and knowledge that gives them a competitive advantage in the graduate marketplace: Dr Hofstede has facilitated employment for numerous Murdoch graduates.

This opportunity attracts much interest from Environmental Science, Marketing, Commerce, MBA Biotechnology and ISTP students, including International students. Since the beginning of 2000, Spartel has been host to 19 work experience students and employed 11 Murdoch graduates for major projects which were supported by State and Federal Governments. Some of the projects include the Carbon Credit Feasibility study in Bangladesh for the World Bank, Hare Krishna WaterWise Project, Sustainable Poultry Litter Management in Horticulture, Market feasibility studies for Collex and SITA, etc.

Several of the students employed by Spartel have stated that this opportunity for hands-on paid experience in conjunction with their degree was a major factor in their decision to come to Murdoch University. Several of these

students have proceeded to complete Honours, MSc. and MBA's, with Dr Hofstede providing mentoring and academic support. In 2006 Dr Hofstede supervised an Honours student who was initially awarded the coveted State Summer Science Scholarship to work with Spartel and Murdoch; he then enrolled in Honours at ISTP supervised by Dr Hofstede, and received an award for 'Best Honours in Sustainability'; and an MBA student who received the 'Best MBA' 2007 Award, for which Dr Hofstede received professional acknowledgement for his contribution. Spartel currently employs 2 Murdoch graduates, (Marketing and Media, and Environmental Technology).

Spartel Pty Ltd and Dr Hofstede continue to provide valuable opportunities for current and graduate students in the life, social science and business disciplines. The company has several exciting commercial projects in the works, including the Parmelia Hilton Sustainability Project, Waterwise projects, Organic fertilisers development and marketing, and Waste Glass Recovery and Management.

Spartel provides \$12,000 a year towards Guild scholarships in return for office space on campus which allows disadvantaged students to enrol at Murdoch University.