



# Sustainable & Responsible Innovation

## **Sustainability - The Key to Future Value**

Sustainability means leaving a clean, safe world for future generations by reducing pollutants, avoiding the depletion of natural resources, and maintaining healthy, balanced ecosystems. Here at Spartech, we place sustainability at the center of innovation and incorporate ESG considerations into everything we do.



While we expertly engineer materials and solutions for the most demanding markets, we have a more far-reaching vision for innovation, responsibility, and sustainability. Spartech strives to be a strong steward of natural resources and focuses on developing solutions and product lines designed for sustainability using recycled, bio-based, and compostable materials. We incorporate recycled materials into our products and continuously find ways to save energy, reduce waste, and reuse water in our production processes.

## Creating a Circular Economy for a Healthier Environment

In a Circular Economy, waste material does not become waste – it is recycled, reused, or composted. Spartech has created circularity for over 50 years. One of the most simple and cost-effective ways has been the use of regrind whenever and wherever performance requirements allow.

## How Spartech Creates a Circular Economy\*

115.9 Million Lbs

Total Regrind Lbs Consumed

94.1 Million Lbs

Outside Regrind Purchased and Used

More than

50%

of Spartech products contain recycled content

16.4 Million Lbs

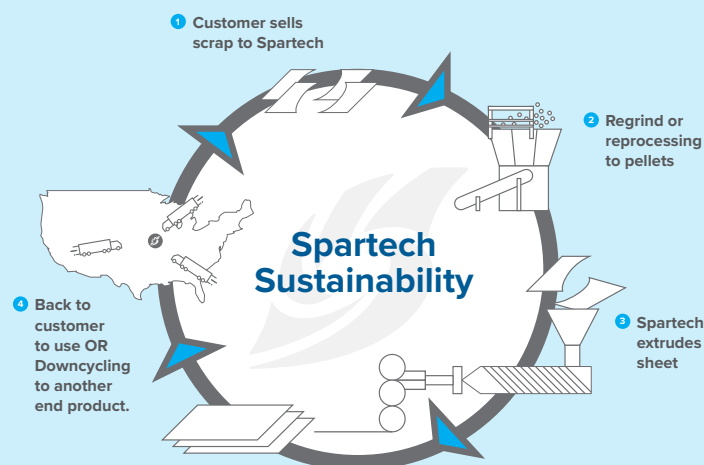
Customer Regrind Buyback LBS

100+ customers

Customer Regrind Buyback number

\*2023 statistics

## But How Does This Help Your Sustainability Goals?



**SUSTAINABLE SOLUTION DEVELOPMENTS**

**LIGHTWEIGHTING**

**IMPROVED PRODUCT RECYCLABILITY**

**INCLUSION OF POST-CONSUMER CONTENT**

PCR – Post-Consumer Recyclate	PIR – Post-Industrial Recyclate	Virgin Resin
Spartech has sources of certified PCR resin for nearly all our products, keeping consumer plastic waste out of landfills and effectively re-used in new commercial products.	Spartech embraces PIR as clean, consistent feed streams readily usable in commercial products and as a strategy for keeping scrap out of landfills.	Spartech understands certain applications require virgin resins to maintain product performance and works to innovate in order to reduce use wherever possible.

## Helping You Close the Loop

Spartech acquired Sherman Plastics to provide a ready supply of consistently high-quality recycled materials, which helps our customers close the loop. *How?*



- Expand regrind utilization with higher quality feed streams.
- Run all materials through our equipment and lab ensuring exactness and consistency.
- Manufacture high-quality recycled resins with capabilities including grinding, material blending and homogenization, and reprocessing.
- Leverage tolling services to assist customers in reducing part and scrap size.
- Ensure high quality resins and full supply chain accountability through lot traceability.

## Case Studies

### Innovations



**Finding a sustainable solution for an industry need.**  
Innovation led to the creation of PreservaPak® ULTRA, a custom barrier solution Spartech designed to meet the recycling goals and processing requirements for on-the-go, dairy, fresh foods, or extended shelf-life products. PreservaPak® ULTRA's flat sheet and rollstock structure met or exceeded the strictest APR PET-CG-01 Critical Guidance criteria for Clear PET Resin and Molded Articles.

**Helping to create an energy-efficient auto part.**  
A design-for-sustainability project sought solutions for an automotive part that enabled energy savings in passenger vehicles. Our lenticular designs enabled a reduction in the number of LED lights in headlamps, reducing vehicle weight and enabling energy savings. Weight and energy savings are key design innovations required for increasing fuel efficiency and enabling electric vehicles.

### Meeting Zero-Waste Goals

**Reducing landfill materials two ways.** Spartech wants to help you meet your sustainability goals and can do that in two ways, depending on your quality and regulatory requirements.

#### Recycling

We take back customer scrap and regrind, then engineer quality solutions to work those materials back into the customer's products while meeting stringent quality and performance criteria. For decades, Spartech has had a presence in the automotive, RV, and marine industries, where customers send their scrap back to us for recycling and reuse. We have extensive experience formulating it back into their products in percentages that maintain optimal part performance.

#### Downcycling

Plastic is not endlessly recyclable when customers require certain key physical properties and performance. In those applications, virgin resin may still be needed in the mix. However, if the application cannot use regrind because it requires 100% virgin resin content, Spartech is a sustainable solutions provider offering downcycling opportunities. We buy back customer regrind and incorporate it into other applications, ensuring the material does not go to landfill. For example, we repurpose multi-layer packaging regrind into sheet used in concrete forms, which are reusable and have a long lifespan.



## Key Initiatives for a Sustainable Future

New and ongoing projects in Spartech's operations help us reduce materials, waste, water, and energy use.

- Converting to LED lighting across the business
- Converting large motors used in production from AC to DC
- Waste reduction:
  - Recirculating system water that cools forming equipment
  - Ongoing clean-sweep procedures keep scrap resin pellets out of wastewater streams
  - Recycling and reusing cardboard and shrink films
- Sourcing raw materials from suppliers based in North America, requiring less energy and fuel consumption for transport to our manufacturing locations
- Seventeen manufacturing locations means we are geographically located near our customer base which helps lower fuel use to deliver products



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## Your Next Step to a Sustainability Solution

We can design for sustainability up front. Our Innovation Center is built to partner with you, helping you meet all your product requirements and explore sustainable solutions.

### Product Solutions

- Developing solutions that incorporate higher levels of post-consumer regrind (PCR) and renewable fillers
- Downgauging or lightweighting
- Assisting your transition to greener, more sustainable polymers
- Considering compostable materials such as PLA for uses requiring higher heat resistance, and PHA which is saltwater and soil compostable in as little as 6 months
- Utilizing printing solutions that incorporate compostable inks

### Questions About Our Sustainability Practices?

Call 800-677-4338 or email [marketing@spartech.com](mailto:marketing@spartech.com) to learn more.

Spartech is a strong steward of the environment, focused on developing more solutions and product lines that are designed for sustainability using recycled bio-based and compostable materials.

[www.spartech.com](http://www.spartech.com)

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