



## **Ohio State sustainability expert to work with U.S. EPA U.S. Business Council for Sustainable Development September 7, 2010**

Joseph Fiksel, Executive Director of the Center for Resilience at The Ohio State University (OSU), has accepted a part-time appointment as Special Assistant to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Office of Research and Development (ORD), National Risk Management Research Laboratory (NRMRL).

In this capacity, Fiksel will advise the NRMRL Director, the ORD Assistant Administrator, ORD senior management, and their senior scientists regarding the integration of a transdisciplinary, systems-based research approach that will provide sustainable solutions for the complex environmental problems confronting the Agency. He is currently a research faculty member in the Department of Integrated Systems Engineering at OSU, and an internationally recognized expert in sustainable business practices. "I am excited about this unique opportunity to help foster broader understanding and adoption of sustainability principles, and to encourage productive collaboration between EPA and its many stakeholder groups," he said.

Dr. Fiksel's expertise and extensive practical experience in the field of sustainability is an asset to the ORD team, acknowledged NRMRL Director, Sally Gutierrez. "He will be an important asset in our path forward as we transform our programs toward an integrated, sustainability-centric approach."

Fiksel has worked for more than 20 years on applied research and consulting for Fortune 500 companies, government agencies, and international consortia such as the Global Environmental Management Initiative and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development. He served as Director of Decision and Risk Management at Arthur D. Little, Inc., Vice President for Life Cycle Management at Battelle, and Principal of Eco-Nomics LLC prior to launching the OSU Center for Resilience.

Fiksel will continue to devote time to the Center for Resilience during his tenure at EPA, working on key OSU projects, including:

- Dow Chemical project on improving global supply chain resilience, in collaboration with the Fisher College of Business and the Air Force Institute of Technology
- Ohio Department of Development project on modeling the economic and environmental impacts of potential climate policies, in collaboration with the Voinovich School at Ohio University and the Millennium Institute

- Ohio By-Product Synergy Network for converting waste into profit, in collaboration with the U.S. Business Council for Sustainable Development, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, and the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

The Center for Resilience is an interdisciplinary research center based in the College of Engineering, dedicated to improving the continuity, adaptability, and long-term sustainability of industrial enterprises and the environments in which they operate. The Co-Directors are Joseph Fiksel, Department of Integrated Systems Engineering, and Bhavik Bakshi, Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering. For more information see <http://www.resilience.osu.edu/>.