

The Ohio By-Product Synergy Network

A PROJECT OF THE U.S. BUSINESS COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Information for Prospective Members

By-Product Synergy (BPS) is defined as the practice of matching under-valued waste or by-product streams with potential users, helping to create new revenues or savings. By applying “cradle-to-cradle” design BPS helps companies to reduce energy use and environmental impacts, while stimulating the regional economy.

The Ohio By-Product Synergy (BPS) Network is a collaborative project launched in 2009 by the U.S. Business Council for Sustainable Development (US BCSD) together with the Center for Resilience at The Ohio State University and other Ohio-based organizations.

The purpose of this project is to help businesses convert wastes into profits while creating both environmental and economic benefits for stakeholders and communities. The network will follow the standard US BCSD process that has been used to establish BPS networks in other regions including Chicago, Mobile, Kansas City, Puget Sound, Houston, New Orleans and New England.

Benefits of BPS Networks

By working together in a BPS Network, companies can realize benefits such as:

- **Increased revenue from by-products**
- **Reduction in waste disposal costs**
- Substitution of lower-cost, locally sourced recycled feedstocks
- Reduction in solid waste and other environmental burdens
- Reduction in energy use and greenhouse gas emissions
- Reduced demand for virgin materials leading to resource conservation
- Stimulation of entrepreneurship and economic development
- Enhanced corporate reputation for sustainable practices
- Interaction with other leading companies and technical experts.

Four Keys to Success

- **Diversity:** Participants represent a wide variety of industry sectors and organizations, thereby broadening the markets in which participants can find by-product synergy opportunities.
- **Communication:** The network offers a safe, confidential forum to share innovative ideas without fear of exposure. This stimulates creative thinking about BPS opportunities beyond company fence lines.
- **Partnerships:** By leveraging technical consultants, regulatory agencies, and additional funding sources, the BPS network can help participating firms overcome barriers to implementation of the synergies discovered.
- **Quantifiable Benefits:** All US BCSD projects carefully track progress in terms of economic, environmental, and social benefits. This provides current and future participants, as well as funders and other stakeholders, with a continuing incentive to maintain and expand the program.

How Do I Join?

The Ohio BPS network is open to any company or other organization in the Ohio region that wishes to explore opportunities to (a) transform waste materials into byproducts, or (b) secure recycled material streams in place of virgin feedstocks. The network also welcomes affiliate members who wish to share their knowledge or expertise related to by-product synergy.

Learn more at www.OhioBPS.org



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