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N E W S R E L E A S E

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## **Ocean Champions Announces Mike Dunmyer as Executive Director Dunmyer Brings Strategic Insight to Ocean Conservation Movement**

Ocean Champions – the only national political organization focused solely on oceans and ocean wildlife – strengthened its organizational and marketing depth with the hiring of veteran business strategist Mike Dunmyer as Executive Director. Mike joins President and Co-Founder Dr. David Wilmot to lead the organization.

“Mike Dunmyer’s appointment highlights Ocean Champions commitment to continued expansion and innovative leadership,” said Dr. Rob Moir, Ocean Champions Chairman of the Board of Directors. “Mike will help us continue to build the political power in Washington, D.C. needed to protect our marine resources and save our oceans.”

Before joining Ocean Champions, Mike was a serial entrepreneur, creating, developing and leading strategy, finance, marketing and operations organizations as a Vice President in the Fortune 500 world. During the past three years, Mike also served on the Ocean Champions’ Board of Directors where he led a successful strategic planning and implementation effort and also managed the Board’s Executive Committee. Mike has an MBA from Duke University’s Fuqua School of Business, and a BA in Economics from Washington and Lee University.

“Mike joins Ocean Champions as my partner at a pivotal moment for ocean conservation,” said Wilmot. “Between the election of President Obama and the ascension of some of our closest allies to key positions in Congress, there is an opportunity to dramatically reshape how we manage and protect the oceans. Ocean Champions is working with political leaders to make the most of it.”

“Ocean Champions is an outstanding organization that has elevated ocean conservation as a political issue and is making a difference on Capitol Hill,” said California Congressman Sam Farr. “I look forward to continuing to work together to advance a strong ocean agenda.”

Mike has a great love for the ocean that comes from growing up in California and Hawaii, and living around the Delaware shore. He is a surfer and a grassroots activist for the Surfrider Foundation’s Capitol Chapter.

“I am honored and excited to join David Wilmot and the Ocean Champions’ team. Building a presence for the oceans on Capitol Hill is critical, and Ocean Champions is the leading political voice in ocean conservation,” says Dunmyer. “I believe passionately in a bipartisan and pragmatic approach to getting real results for ocean conservation in the policy arena.”

*Ocean Champions is the only nonprofit political organization that endorses pro-ocean Congressional candidates and lobbies members of Congress on behalf of the oceans. To learn more about Ocean Champions or any of the candidates endorsed by Ocean Champions, visit [www.oceanchampions.org](http://www.oceanchampions.org).*

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