PRESS RELEASES

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Leslie S. Biller Elected To Ecolab Board Of Directors

ST. PAUL, MINN., August 15, 1997: Leslie S. Biller, 49, president and chief operating officer of Norwest Corporation, was elected a director of Ecolab Inc. by the Ecolab Board of Directors. Mr. Biller will serve as a Class II director and his first term will expire in May 2000.

Mr. Biller joined Norwest Corporation in August 1987 as executive vice president, in charge of strategic planning and acquisitions for Norwest Banking. He became head of South Central Community Banking in July 1990, and has been responsible for Norwest community banking in Iowa and Nevada, Norwest Mortgage, Norwest Card Services, Norwest Direct and community bank marketing. In February 1997, Biller was named president and chief operating officer of Norwest Corporation.

Prior to joining Norwest, Mr. Biller spent two years at Bank of America as a senior vice president in charge of international consumer markets and later as executive vice president and head of consumer markets. Before joining Bank of America in 1985, Mr. Biller was with Citicorp for 12 years, serving in several management positions.

A native of New York City, Mr. Biller earned a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from City College of New York and a master's degree in business administration from Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Ecolab is the leading global developer and marketer of premium cleaning, sanitizing, maintenance and pest elimination products and services for the hospitality, institutional and industrial markets. For the year ended December 31, 1996, Ecolab reported sales of $1.5 billion; including European joint venture sales of $0.9 billion, Ecolab's global sales coverage was $2.4 billion. Ecolab shares are traded on the New York Stock Exchange and the Pacific Exchange under the symbol ECL.

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