PRESS RELEASES

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Ecolab's TurboRev

ST. PAUL, Minn., July 27, 1998: After just one year on the market, Ecolab Inc.'s TurboRev is proving that its low-temperature technology provides excellent results on even the most difficult industrial laundry stains – while offering significant time, water and energy savings.

Developed by Ecolab's Textile Care Division, TurboRev was specially designed to eliminate tough stains such as grease, dirty motor oil and food soils at just 120 degrees Fahrenheit. This results in substantial energy savings, compared to the typical 160 degree F temperature of conventional methods.

Ecolab recently completed several case studies illustrating just how dramatic those savings are. One plant using conventional methods, for example, was spending $142,000 per year on energy, water and sewer costs to process 6.7 million pounds of industrial garments, mats and shop towels – and was getting unsatisfactory results. After switching to TurboRev, those same costs dropped to just $96,500 – a 32 percent savings. TurboRev's lower pH also eliminated the need for pretreatment and for a $20,000 acid drip system. In addition, the plant's rating on its company's internal corporate quality scale improved dramatically, and the plant manager describes the whites as being "better than at anytime in the past." The plant's production hours also decreased by 15 percent, and water usage dropped by more than 18 percent.

Ecolab's Paul Mattia explains why TurboRev is so successful.

"TurboRev's unique patented chemistry allows it to combine break/suds cycles in the wash and eliminates the need for several rinses, resulting in substantial time and water savings," says Paul, Textile Care's director of research. "It also helps solve wastewater treatment problems that some customers might be experiencing."

The benefits don't stop there. TurboRev's low temperatures and alkalinity also help prolong garment life by reducing linting, fading and thread degradation. In addition, the lower temperature eliminates thermal shock, resulting in an excellent finishing quality with no wrinkling.

In 1997, TurboRev earned recognition from the Environmental Protection Agency, which called the product an "innovative detergent" that should be considered "an advance in environmentally friendly, affordable technology" for industrial laundries.

Textile Care is the leading supplier of industrial and institutional laundry chemicals and dispensing equipment in North America, and is committed to conserving resources and preserving the quality of the environment. For more information about TurboRev, contact Steve Tinker, Textile Care, Ecolab Center, 370 Wabasha St. N., St. Paul, MN 55102, 1-800-553-8683.

Ecolab Inc. is the leading worldwide developer and marketer of premium cleaning, sanitizing and maintenance products and services for the healthcare, hospitality, institutional and industrial markets. For additional information about Ecolab, visit the company's Web site at www.ecolab.com.

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