PRESS RELEASES

Oct 1, 1998

Ecolab Sells New Zealand Adhesives Unit

ST. PAUL, Minn., October 1, 1998: Ecolab Inc. announced it has sold the Peterson Chemicals Adhesives business to a New Zealand subsidiary of H. B. Fuller Company of St. Paul, Minnesota. The Peterson Chemicals Adhesives business was a unit of Gibson Chemical Industries, which Ecolab acquired in January 1998. The product lines sold included hot melts and polymers and had annual sales of approximately NZ$5 million in New Zealand. Terms of the transaction were not disclosed.

The Peterson sale completes Ecolab's divestiture of the non-core businesses it acquired with Gibson's core institutional, food & beverage and water care businesses. Previously divested non-core Gibson units were Gibson-Chemetall and the Maxwell Retail Group and Automotive businesses.

Ecolab is the leading global developer and marketer of premium cleaning, sanitizing, maintenance and pest elimination products and services for the hospitality, health care and light industrial markets. For the year ended December 31, 1997 Ecolab reported sales of $1.6 billion; including European joint venture sales of $0.9 billion, Ecolab's global sales coverage was $2.5 billion. Ecolab shares are traded on the New York Stock Exchange and the Pacific Exchange under the symbol ECL.

Back to Press Releases