PRESS RELEASES

Dec 18, 1998

Ecolab Raises Dividend 11 Percent

ST. PAUL, Minn., December 18, 1998: The Board of Directors of Ecolab Inc. today increased the company's quarterly cash dividend by 11% to $0.105 per common share, to be paid January 15, 1999 to shareholders of record at the close of business on December 29, 1998. This results in a new indicated annual cash dividend of $0.42 per share. It is the seventh consecutive annual dividend rate increase.

Ecolab has paid cash dividends on its common stock for 62 consecutive years. Ecolab last increased its dividend in December 1997.

Ecolab is the leading global developer and marketer of premium cleaning, sanitizing, maintenance and pest elimination products and services for the hospitality, healthcare 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