PRESS RELEASES

Aug 13, 1999

Robert L. Lumpkins Elected To Ecolab Board Of Directors

ST. PAUL, MINN., August 13, 1999: Ecolab Inc. announced that Robert L. Lumpkins, 55, Vice Chairman of the Board and Chief Financial Officer of Cargill, Inc., was elected a director of Ecolab Inc. by the Ecolab Board of Directors.

Mr. Lumpkins joined Cargill in 1968. After holding various domestic and international financial and operating positions with Cargill, Mr. Lumpkins was appointed Chief Financial Officer in 1989. He became a member of Cargill's Board of Directors in 1991 assuming the position of Vice Chairman in 1995. In 1996 he was appointed President for North America. Cargill, a privately held company headquartered in Minneapolis, Minnesota, is an international marketer, processor and distributor of agricultural, food, financial and industrial products. Cargill operates in 59 countries and has 82,000 employees. A native of Lawrenceburg, Tennessee, Mr. Lumpkins earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics from the University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana, and a Master's Degree in Business Administration from Stanford University, Palo Alto, California.

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, 1998, Ecolab reported sales of $1.9 billion; including European joint venture sales of $0.9 billion, Ecolab's global sales coverage was $2.8 billion. Ecolab shares are traded on the New York Stock Exchange and the Pacific Exchange under the symbol ECL.

Ecolab news releases and other investor information are available on the Internet at http://www.ecolab.com; and by telephone at 1-800-FACT-ECL.

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