PRESS RELEASES

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Improved Pathogen Control For Meat Processors

St. Paul, Minn., July 14, 2000: Two food industry experts today signed a partnership agreement to bring meat processors greater in-plant pathogen control. Ecolab Inc., the industry leader in sanitation systems and products will partner with CHAD Inc., the leading manufacturer of spray cabinets for red meat processing operations, to create the most effective carcass treatment system available to processors.

The two companies will work together to develop and promote the new system which offers processors maximum antimicrobial control using chemical concentrations 100 times lower than carcass treatments currently available. The partnership follows Ecolab's recent filing with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) of a food additive petition to use peroxyacetic acid as a red meat carcass antimicrobial treatment. Under the terms of the new agreement, Ecolab will supply their proprietary antimicrobial program for use in spray cabinets designed and manufactured by CHAD.

"We are excited to be working with a company of CHAD's reputation in the red meat industry, " says Dr. Richard Higby, Ecolab senior marketing manager for meat and poultry. "They are experts in providing leading edge technology for the application of antimicrobial treatments that enhance the processors' ability to control pathogens in their operations. Our joint effort with Chad is an important part of offering our customers a multiple interventions approach against pathogens. The antimicrobial treatment, along with irradiation and sanitation, are critical tools in our effort to enhance food safety."

"The most effective food safety systems combine both chemical and mechanical systems to deliver superior pathogen control," added Mike Gangel, president of CHAD. "By combining the best available antimicrobial treatment, which offers greater efficacy at lower concentrations, with the most advanced applicator process, we will be offering processors the highest quality, most efficient program available."

Ecolab is the leading global developer and marketer of critical environment sanitation systems and products for the institutional, food processing and pharmaceutical markets. Ecolab news releases and other investor information are available on the Internet at www.ecolab.com and by telephone at 1-800-FACT-ECL.

CHAD Inc. is the industry leader in automated washing and pasteurizing systems for the meat industry. Information on the company is available at 800-444-8360 and at www.chadcompany.com.

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