PRESS RELEASES

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Ecolab Repeats As One Of Industry Week's '100 Best-Managed Companies'

ST. PAUL, Minn. – August 16, 2000 – For the second year in a row, Ecolab Inc. has been named one of the 100 best-managed companies by INDUSTRY WEEK magazine, a 30-year-old publication that focuses on global manufacturing enterprises. A special report highlighting the winners will appear in the August 21 issue.
Winning companies were selected from the INDUSTRY WEEK 1000, a list of the world's largest publicly held manufacturing companies based on revenues. Waltham, Mass.-based Primark supplied the data for the IW 1000, which was published in June. Companies receiving this year's award represent 13 countries.

Ecolab's Chairman, President and CEO Allan L. Schuman said: "We are honored to be chosen again among such a illustrious group of companies. It is a tribute to all of our Ecolab associates, who by their outstanding performance every day, earn the trust of our customers and the acknowledgement from independent observers like Industry Week. We will continue to work hard at raising the management and performance standards that have won us the award – and have made our company the industry leader."

Selections were made by Industry Week's editors and a panel of international experts after a lengthy evaluation that included: an analysis of the company's financial performance; review of a questionnaire that each INDUSTRY WEEK 1000 company was given an opportunity to fill out; research into each company's practices in areas such as philanthropy and safety; and voting by a panel of more than 90 business leaders, analysts, and academicians.

"INDUSTRY WEEK'S 100 Best-Managed companies are the world's leaders in innovative management strategies," says John Brandt, publisher and editor-in-chief of IW. "Their emphasis on long-term growth makes them models for every corporation."

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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